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The Japan Weekly Mail.

"FAIS CE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL," must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith. It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, JULY 7TH, 1883.

BIRTH.

On the 2nd instant, at No. 203, Bluff, the wife of EDWARD J. MOSS of a Son.

WEEKLY NOTES.

THE situation in Tonquin remains unchanged, but although nothing definitive with regard to the negotiations between France and China is announced, the prospect of a peaceful solution has unquestionably improved. The cause of this growing assurance is doubtless to be sought in the fact that public opinion recognises the entire absence of any valid *casus belli*. The arrangement concluded between M. Bourée and the Tsung-li Yamén—though not endorsed by the Cabinet at Paris—taken in conjunction with the semi-official manifesto recently published in the Shanghai journals, shows plainly that China has absolutely nothing to fight about. She has virtually declared her willingness to surrender her so-called suzerain rights over Annam, for the sake of interposing between herself and France's proposed acquisition a neutral zone in-

habited by lawless tribes, and it is a reasonable inference that she will be willing to surrender the neutral zone for the sake of avoiding a war which must be disastrous and might mean the dismemberment—of the "mummy empire." If this is really her mood, and there seems no reason to doubt that it is, an appeal to arms can only be the alternative of exceedingly bungling diplomacy. M. Tricou has a much easier task to perform than was formerly supposed, and under the circumstances his success is not impossible. Meanwhile, we are not likely to hear anything of moment until the result of M. Kergardec's Mission to the Court of Hué is known. It appears that the envoy's instructions are to notify the Indo-Chinese monarch that since he cannot keep order in Tonquin, France feels constrained to undertake the task for him. He has only to abstain from opposition and keep his mandarins at their posts until the emissaries of the new republic have established themselves definitively in the country. He will further be required to sign a protocol recognizing a French protectorate over the whole of Annam and the right of France to impose customs duties and taxes. In return for thus effacing himself, he is to be guaranteed the integrity of his dominions and a third of the revenues, approximately. The financiers of Paris calculate that with skilful management they will be able to collect nearly 7 millions of dollars per annum, one-third of which will be devoted to the expenses of administration, one-third to public works, and the residue to pension the King. Of course the alternative to all this arrangement is war, with a view to which contingency General Bouet is concentrating troops at Hanoi. Probably by this time he has from four to five thousand men under his command and three batteries of artillery, but under no circumstances is it likely that any extensive operations will be undertaken during the heat of mid-summer. If China means to be troublesome she will have plenty of time to push her forces southward, and she requires time, for apart from her natural lack of promptitude, the nature of the country on her southern frontier is said to be very unfavorable to the passage of troops. Public sympathy is not with France in this business. Some of her writers profess to think that the source of Chinese opposition is to be sought in German and English counsels, but a war between China and France would scarcely be more disastrous to the Middle Kingdom than to English and German interests in the Far East. The plain truth is that, however civilization and commerce would be benefited by the establishment

of French rule on the Fleuve Rouge, national morality would suffer severely by such a conjuncture. M. Challemeil Lacour has virtually confessed that the reverses of 1871, compel France "to make her influence felt among distant populations, which have been misled as to her situation." This is perhaps an entirely erroneous statement of motives, but it obtains pretty general credence, and the public may be pardoned if they fail to applaud the spectacle of a great Power seeking to recover its lost laurels in conquests that may entail disgrace but cannot possibly confer renown.

THE Financial estimates for the fiscal year ending June 30th, 1884, have been published. They put the total revenue at yen 75,606,059, against 66,814,122 last year, the increase—yen 8,791,937—being derived from an augmentation of the taxes on patent medicines, exchanges (rice and stock), tobacco, and *sakk*. The whole of the increment is devoted to military preparations, a supplementary war fund, and public works. The paper money in circulation, independent of that issued by the National Banks, is shown as 98,290,352 yen against 105,639,238 in 1882. The revenue and expenditure balance.

THE illness of His Excellency Iwakura does not mend. Much anxiety is felt on his account, and special enquiries for his health are daily made by His Majesty the Mikado.

A RUMOUR has been circulated to the effect that China's extensive military preparations, though ostensibly intended for the protection of Tonquin, are in reality destined to be employed against Japan. Improbable as the idea seems, it is not entirely beyond the range of possibility. Li Hung-chang's patience is known to have been tried almost beyond endurance by a succession of real or imaginary insults to which his country has been subjected, and should his negotiations with France result in anything resembling fresh humiliation and consequent disgrace to himself, the *pis aller* of a sudden descent upon Riukiu might present undue attractions. China's chances of ultimate success in a campaign beyond her borders are exceedingly small. If she succeeded in landing an army in the Okinawa Prefecture, to be driven out again with ignominy would be its fate. We do not for a moment believe that she will attempt anything so rash, but it is plain that Japan has felt uneasy about her designs for some time. Thus, among other preparations, we hear of increased coast-defences—including

the restoration of the forts at Shimonoseki—which are to be placed under the charge of a French engineer. China and Japan have nothing to fight about, but it cannot safely be said that that is their best reason for not fighting.

THE appointment of Sir Harry Parkes to represent Her Majesty at Peking, and that of the Honorable F. R. Plunkett to succeed him in Japan, are now officially announced. The date of Sir Harry's departure for his new post is still uncertain, but it is probable that he will not delay it longer than necessary, as his presence at Peking is universally desired in the interests of peace. The high reputation which Mr. Plunkett earned during his previous term of service in this country renders his appointment exceedingly popular, though the community feel that in Sir Harry Parkes they lose a Minister whose place can never be entirely filled.

THE site of the offices of the Prefecture which were destroyed by fire last year, have been sold for a sum of *yen* 67,707. The extent of the lot is 2,480 *tsubo*, so the price obtained is only 27½ *yen* per *tsubo*, which is considerably less than the market value of land in that neighbourhood. The purchasers are an association of silk merchants who propose to employ the ground as the site for a central market and conditioning house. We learn, however, that they have no intention of commencing operations yet, but have secured the land of the Kencho because such a lot is not likely to come into the market again.

It is stated that the sums contributed for the construction of the Emperor's new Palace amount to 300,000 *yen*, besides large presents of wood, stone, and other building materials. The style of the main building does not appear to have been definitely determined as yet, some conservative members of the Government stoutly supporting the adoption of Japanese designs. We confess that this difficulty of selection seems a little unaccountable. The Japanese style of architecture has many picturesque features, but it is not suited to an European style of living. Had the Court adhered to Japanese costumes and customs, then indeed to follow an European plan in building and furnishing the Palace would be somewhat incongruous, but the conditions being as they are, one is disposed to think that there ought to be no hesitation. Presumably, too, His Majesty will have more than one Palace, in which case conservatism might be conciliated by constructing the second on purely Japanese lines.

A VIOLENT storm, causing considerable damage, is reported to have visited the province of Higo, Kiushiu, on the 30th ultimo. From the south and east exceedingly heavy rains are also reported. These were experienced to some extent in the Tokiye district on the 4th and 5th instant.

MR. TAKAHASHI, Consul for Japan at New York, has been nominated Commissioner for this country to the Boston Exhibition, and the

Government has granted a sum of \$10,000 to defray expenses.

THE Koreans appear to be turning to Japan for assistance to exploit their mines. A Korean official, charged with the superintendence of mining industries, recently visited Nagasaki and engaged there a number of Japanese miners for service in the peninsula. Something trustworthy ought soon to be known about the mineral resources of the Hermit Kingdom. Any expression of doubt as to their abundance seems to be resented by some of the Shanghai journalists as a personal libel, but it is a little difficult to persuade oneself that no disappointment is in store for marvel-mongers in this instance. Korea had once an art reputation based in part upon her bronzes, but it does not appear that her workmen, though borrowing their ideas in general without much compunction from China, followed the latter's example in employing the precious metals for bronze compositions or external decoration. That peculiarly beautiful compound known as *Shunleu*, or *Sentoku*, bronze, which is said to have been originally the result of an accidental melting of gold, copper, and silver ornaments, dates back nearly 500 years, and there does not seem to be any reason why imitations of it should not have been produced in Korea as well as in Japan. Such, however, was not the case, so far as we know, and the same may be said of the far older device of inlaying with gold and silver. History does not furnish many instances of countries where the precious metals, though abundantly procurable, found little if any employment at the hands of a tolerably refined civilization. Against this, however, must be set the continual export of gold dust from Korea to Japan, a fact which proves, as has been sapiently observed, that there is some gold in the country. Considering the doubts which exist as to Japanese mineral resources, we ought not, perhaps, to be surprised that everything connected with the same subject in Korea is still completely *in nubibus*.

AN enterprising Japanese, Mr. Asai Toshichi, has engaged troops of Japanese dancing girls—so, at any rate, his announcement says—to play the celebrated piece known as the “Chiu-shin-gura, or the Forty-seven Ronin,” at the Gaiety Theatre, in Yokohama. The scheme is a novel one for two reasons; first, that no Japanese theatrical company has ever performed in this settlement before, and second, that the notion of converting dancing girls into actresses is entirely at variance with Japanese stage traditions. Troops of female actresses do exist in Japan, and their performances are sometimes of a high order, but they are, nevertheless, regarded by their own people as a very second rate substitute for the real thing. Strange to say, the Japanese find it much less incongruous and unbecoming that a man should act a woman's part than that a woman should act a man's. Judged by Western canons of decency, they are right, for when a Japanese woman takes a man's part on the boards she is

“every inch” a man and shrinks from nothing that is considered appropriate to the stern sex. But, on the other hand, her theatrical training, though even more severe than that of her male confrère, does not enable her to personify a man with anything like the wonderful fidelity of representation which her own sex receives at the hands of male actors. In this, doubtless, the secret of her comparative failure is to be found. A foreign audience, however, will be less exacting, and we shall not be surprised to find that Mr. Asai's venture proves a marked success.

DR. A. GEERTS, Sanitary Adviser to His Imperial Majesty's Home Department, has addressed to the local press, a letter contradicting some statements embodied in the recently published Trade Report of Her Majesty's Consul for Kanagawa. These statements were two: first, that “the standard of purity sought to be imposed upon imported drugs, medicines, and chemicals at the Government Laboratories is too high when compared with that in force in most other countries, and manufacturers find it difficult to meet the Government requirements in this respect;” second, that owing to the long delay in examining and passing such articles, the foreign importer is subjected to a heavy loss in charges and interest. Dr. Geerts denies the latter statement altogether, pointing out that though delay sometimes occurs, it is unavoidable, as chemical analyses cannot be performed in a minute; while of the former he effectually disposes by explaining that pending the compilation of a Japanese pharmacopoeia the standards imposed at the Government Laboratories are those of the countries from whence the goods under examination have been exported, or where they were produced. It is to be observed that the Consul's statements are avowedly embodiments of complaints made to him, and in no sense a distinct assertion of fact. Before, however, admitting such complaints into an official document, some reference to the Government Laboratories would surely have been not less just than judicious.

NOTES.

It is stated that the Japanese troops will be withdrawn from Korea during the course of this month, and their places taken by policemen. The treaty, it will be remembered, provided that the troops should remain for one year certain, and that at the expiration of that time their withdrawal should be at the discretion of the Japanese Envoy. If the latter has decided that they can be removed, it may be presumed that the step involves no risk, but we find it very difficult to believe that the state of Korea warrants such a proceeding. Many considerations cannot fail to present themselves to those upon whom the responsibility of the decision devolves. There would naturally be an anxiety to save Korea as far as possible from the humiliation to which Japan herself was long subjected by the presence of a large body of foreign troops upon her soil. There would also be a scarcely less

efficient desire on the part of the Tokijo Government to escape from a position which after all can only be construed as an attempt to establish commercial relations under the ægis of bullets and bayonets; and there would finally be a very proper reluctance to establish a precedent which, if followed by other Powers, might convert the Korean Capital into a barrack for alien troops. Whatever may be said or written, the fact remains that to Japanese influence and example must be attributed not alone Korea's emergence from seclusion, but also everything of liberality or good faith she has exhibited in her foreign relations. It would be an unfortunate sequel to all this if Korea's new treaty friends, on coming to establish their Legations at Sôul, found that of Japan guarded by 500 Japanese soldiers. From every point of view, therefore, it is most desirable that the troops should be withdrawn, though we had scarcely hoped that the step would be deemed feasible. There was always a danger of collision between the Japanese guards and the Chinese braves, who, if half of what we hear be true, have by no means earned for themselves a high reputation among the law-abiding citizens of the Korean Capital. We shall be curious to see whether China follows Japan's example in this matter. Possibly some mutual understanding has been arrived at, for it is difficult to see how the Japanese Legation can dispense with a guard so long as the Government of Peking thinks the peninsula sufficiently unsettled to warrant the retention of a large Chinese garrison at Sôul.

We should probably be filled with amazement and indignation if the Japanese residents of Yokohama were to address to the Consular Board a remonstrance against the foreign system of firing salutes with big guns whenever officials of consequence visit a ship or make their appearance on public occasions. The Japanese, however, might justly urge that such a practice is eminently calculated to disturb peaceful folk and to shatter the nerves of delicate individuals; that a weak and offensively-smelling imitation of thunder is anything but a civilized fashion of polite greeting; that it would be much cheaper and far more musical to hang on the mainmast of every ship an enormous bell or gong which could be violently struck when a deafening din is desired; that a still more sensible device would be to train the men on watch to hoot or yell in unison nine, thirteen, seventeen, or twenty-one times according to the rank of the gentleman whose honour is at stake, and that finally such fashions not being recognized in Japan or provided for in the treaties, are open to valid objection. It is unnecessary to predict what sort of reception such a remonstrance would receive at our hands, or might have received had Japan herself been sufficiently well advised to reject the barbarisms, while adopting the refinements, of our civilization. Nevertheless, it is interesting to analyse the difference between firing salutes at sea and on shore. We do both ourselves. True the latter performance is generally confined

to parade grounds, but there are places, as for example Yokohama and Hongkong, where the parade grounds are surrounded by private houses. Salutes are also fired in barracks, when there happens to be a battery there, and we have very little doubt that the guns in the saluting battery at Hongkong used to cause the good people of that place, Chinese and foreigners alike, a great deal of annoyance in old times. But we never heard that anyone complained, and we can easily imagine how much satisfaction he would have obtained had he been so rash. It is to be hoped that people are at least sufficiently enlightened to refrain from remonstrating against things sanctioned by Her Majesty's Regulations and British custom. Chinese custom is a horse of another colour. In the Middle Kingdom there obtains an insane rule that the soldiers on guard at the residence of an Imperial Commissioner and Commander-in-Chief shall fire a certain number of blank cartridges with small arms when the great man enters or leaves his residence. Nothing can be more barbarous and grotesque. If the thing were done with big guns mounted in a battery or on board ship and capable of making a real row, it would be refined, polite, and proper. But small arms, and for a Chinese dignitary, and fired by Chinese soldiers! it is a pestilential burlesque. Therefore when the body-guard of His Excellency Li Hung-chang attempted the other day to indulge in such uncivilized practices in Shanghai, the foreign residents could not do less than offer a stout objection. The Grand Secretary, though belonging to a nation where such comedies constitute a part of sober every-day life, showed himself remarkably amenable to reason. He ordered his soldiers to fire no more small arms after sunset, that is to say between 7 p.m. and 7 a.m. But of course such a half-hearted concession to the laws of civilization was resolutely rejected. The Chairman of the Municipal Council, declining all compromise, addressed the following spirited letter to the Senior Consul:—

Shanghai, 7th June, 1883.
SIR,—I have the honour to acknowledge receipt of your letter of 6th inst., intimating that by order of the Taotai, the Mixed Court Magistrate had called on you and requested you to inform me that the soldiers in attendance on H.E. Li Hung-chang had received orders not to fire any more guns between 7 p.m. and 7 a.m., and that he at same time apologized for the disturbances that took place on the afternoon of the 5th inst.

From this I infer that the firing will not be discontinued between the hours of 7 a.m. and 7 p.m., but as the firing of guns in the streets of the Settlement, even during the day, is not only contrary to the Regulations, but likely to cause accidents and lead to further disturbances, the Council are desirous that you should communicate with the proper authorities with the view to having the firing discontinued altogether, and have requested me to write to you to that effect.

I have the honour to be,
&c., &c.

The Taotai, a timid man, whose conversion to sounder principles the Shanghai residents have still to accomplish, declined to forward this communication, and the Senior Consul accordingly addressed Li Hung-chang direct. Here is the Grand Secretary's answer:—

Shanghai, 14th June.
SIR,—I had the honour to receive your letter regarding the gun-firing which is a custom observed at the residence of an Imperial Chinese Emissary. It is stated by the Chairman of the Municipal

Council that according to an existing agreement even the highest foreign officials do not receive salutes, and it is requested by him to oblige the community by stopping the firing altogether.

I am of opinion that the (foreign) settlement, lying within the frontiers of the Chinese Empire, is not to be compared to a foreign place, and that I am at liberty to act as I please in this respect.

But as the salutes at my entering or leaving my residence are unimportant, and as I have now to fear that the community will be disturbed—which creates an uneasy feeling in me—I most willingly agree with the wishes of the community, and I shall give orders to have the salutes discontinued altogether.

I have, etc.,
Card of LI HUNG-CHANG.

It appears from this letter that Shanghai does not allow any nationals to employ gunpowder greetings within the confines of the Settlement. "Even the highest foreign officials do not receive salutes." If Li Hung-chang were not so very polite we might suspect him of sarcasm. As it is, we can only say that the sooner all the world follows Shanghai's example, the better.

We read that the Central Post Bureau is engaged in establishing seventy-one branch-offices throughout the Empire: that twenty-seven have been already completed, and that the remainder will be finished before next September, when the accounts for the 16th fiscal year of Meiji close. The Post Office has accomplished a great deal in Japan and its organization does much credit to the country. The delivery of letters at present in all the chief towns leaves nothing to be desired. Indeed, it would seem that the whole service is inspired with a desire to do well, and that from the Post-master-General down to the letter-carrier, who drags his little cart up hill and down hill at break-neck speed, there is a general consciousness of being under the eye of the public, and a prevailing anxiety to accomplish something worthy of Young Japan. None the less it would be idle to pretend that there is not room for improvement. For though the people who live on the main postal routes have nothing to complain of, the case is different with those in more remote districts. Thus while a letter posted in Fujisawa at noon is delivered in Tokijo the same evening, a letter posted at Yenosima, which is only an hour's walk from Fujisawa, takes sixty hours to reach the capital. This is a little out of due proportion. Possibly it will be one of the matters mended by the seventy-one branch-offices mentioned above. At all events it deserves looking after.

THE *North China Herald* writes thus:—"We hear from the best sources, which are remote and absolutely independent of each other, that the Chung-t'ang will not fight France. This is a plain statement which it is difficult to get over; for our sources of information are trustworthy, and we receive almost daily confirmation of the assurance. Yet military preparations are in active progress. Floating batteries are being hurriedly constructed, troops are being mobilised, and the Viceroy is strengthening his position every day. There are whispers in the air of another policy, which is at present being kept in the background. It is sufficiently clear that if the Viceroy does not fight France, France will not fight him; and the armaments and munitions

of war with which His Excellency is now fortifying himself may then possibly be put to some other and very unexpected use." There is nothing new about the suggestion this paragraph embodies. Rumours of a similar nature have long been finding their way across the water. Indeed, it is no longer any secret that the real cause of Japan's increased taxation and additional armaments is to be sought in an uneasy feeling created by whispers of China's hostile intentions. It is difficult to imagine such a picture as China impelled by a sudden vertigo to wreak armed revenge upon a neighbour whose chief fault is that she has distanced the Middle Kingdom in the race of progress. But stranger things than this have happened, and a nation cannot afford to entrust her safety to the keeping of probabilities. *Si vis pacem, para bellum.*

ACCORDING to M. Challemeil Lacour's latest announcement—made, however, prior to the disaster at Hanoi—France's present proceedings in Tonquin are simply "a demonstration to reassure the friends of the Republic and to coerce its adversaries into the performance of their duty." Whether, so far, it has had either the former effect or the latter they can judge best who have read the story of Commandant Rivière's disastrous "march out" on the 19th of May. But, in truth, M. Challemeil Lacour must have felt quite sure of the temper of his audience when he spoke to the Chamber of Deputies in one breath of "the open and disguised attacks of the Annamites," as well as of "the terrible vengeance" which, in the event of France's retreat from Tonquin would be wreaked on the populations which had shown sympathy for the foreigners, while in the next he declared that there is "nothing to conquer in the country, where the only enemies France has are the Annamite functionaries and the Black Flags." The possibility that China might prove a troublesome factor, he declined to contemplate. She is not a military empire, he said, and "it is not likely that her demonstrations will be more than platonic." Such utterances, as these, whether well or ill-founded, are certainly not calculated to smooth the path of diplomacy. They are as nothing, however, when compared with some other passages in M. Challemeil Lacour's speech. The plan to be pursued by France, he said, is "to establish her forces at a certain number of points of the country which are the most populated, and in such a manner as shall place the permanency of her occupation beyond a doubt." But, on the other hand, he explained that M. Bourrée had been recalled because the basis of his proposed treaty was in contradiction with the fundamental principle of French policy, the acknowledgment of the absolute independence of Annam." Certainly a new dictionary of diplomacy is required to reconcile these statements. An absolutely independent country in the permanent military occupation of a foreign power is a miracle to which the world is still strange. Many persons will be sufficiently sceptical to doubt its possibility, and many others will be disposed to

imagine that a second Tunisian farce is about to be acted in the Far East. At all events the solution of the difficulty does not promise to be so "prompt and facile" as M. Challemeil Lacour promised, neither is it reassuring to learn that France's resolution with regard to Tonquin has been "strengthened by considerations of general policy." So far as England is concerned, she can only gain by the peaceable extension of French influence in Indo-China, but the methods of extension at present adopted might be amended with considerable advantage.

Mr. A. R. COLQUHOUN, writing to the London Times on the subject of France and Tonquin, gives some interesting figures which show the real nature of M. Challemeil-Lacour's policy in the Indo-Chinese peninsula. It appears from his statement that the value of the trade which France is so anxious to protect and extend only amounts to £800,000, and of this only 21.5 per cent. is carried—or possibly carried—by French vessels, while nearly 60 per cent. is carried in English bottoms. Mr. Colquhoun consequently infers, and gives other arguments in support of his inference, that France's real object is not commerce, but conquest: she wants to occupy in eastern Indo-China the same position that England occupies in Western. If this estimate be correct, endless complications present themselves, and it is not impossible that the lever which is to overturn the Chinese empire found a fulcrum under the walls of Hanoi on the 19th of May. Mr. Colquhoun's letter is as follows:—

SIR,—According to the last Paris papers, alarm is being expressed by a certain section of the Press as to the result which French action in Tonquin may produce. It is feared that both China and Annam may resist the occupation of Tonquin. The English public seems to regard the French proceedings with apathy and with a feeling of simple curiosity—as a matter concerning the French alone. No greater mistake could be made. Should the French insist upon carrying out the annexation of Tonquin, France must eventually, and within a short time, come into collision with China. The effect which such a war would have upon all foreign relations, missionary and social, as well as upon commerce—especially that of this country—is worthy of close examination.

The annual import and export trade of China amounts to close upon £100,000,000, more than half of which is carried by British vessels. The trade of France with the ports of China and Indo-China is trifling; indeed, according to a statement made at the Académie des Sciences, it only amounted in 1881 to 165,000 tons, while our trade with China alone amounts to 22,000,000 tons. In Saigon the British tonnage was 179,534 and the French 13,614, out of a total of 290,440, excluding the Messageries steamers, which do not affect in any considerable degree the commerce of Saigon. From the outcry made as to the necessity for the protection and extension of French commerce in Tonquin, one would be led to expect in Haiphong, the principal port, a great volume of trade and a marked preponderance of French commerce. Statistics tell us, however, that the value of the trade does not exceed £800,000, and of this no less than 35 per cent. is carried by English vessels, 23.5 per cent. by Chinese (chiefly from Hongkong, and therefore British), and 20 per cent. by American, leaving only 21.5 per cent. for other nationalities. As the percentage of French trade with Shanghai only amounts to 3.64 per cent. of tonnage, and no French vessels call at Pakhoi, the port nearest to Haiphong, it is improbable that the French proportion of the 21.5 per cent. above-mentioned is considerable.

The fact is, as I pointed out some weeks ago in *The Times*, that the French action is not in the interests of trade extension, but to secure in Tonquin a northern base—Saigon being useless for the purpose, owing to the impracticability of the Mékong—for the acquisition of the whole of Indo-China up to our eastern frontier in British Burmah. As yet the popular cry is merely

"à Tonquin," but something more is intended by those who have the power to direct operations. M. Blancsbe, the Deputy of Cochinchina, is not the first Frenchman to indicate, though his language tells us with more directness than hitherto, what the French programme is, when he says:—"The mountains which separate the basin of the the Ménam from that of the Mékong divide this vast peninsula (of Indo-China) into two parts almost equal. All the western portion belongs, directly or indirectly, to England; the eastern portion must belong to France." M. Blancsbe proceeds to paint for his countrymen the touching picture of six millions of Tonquinese pining to give themselves and their fine country to France, and assures them in confident language that the idea of "an armed expedition, a campaign, an adventure" is preposterous, and that the French have only literally to appear in Tonquin for the country to be theirs.

There is a reverse to the medal, however. M. Dupuis, in the account of his adventurous exploration of the Songkoi, draws attention to the fact that the last Annamese town in Tonquin is Kouence, situated 115 miles below Lao-Kai, and that the country between these two places has remained independent of Annam ever since its conquest of Tonquin in 1802, although the mountain tribes inhabiting that region used to pay tribute to Tonquin before that year. It is worthy of notice that, though Garnier placed the boundary of Luang-Prabang, the northernmost Siamese tributary Shan State, on a line with the southern frontier of the Independent Shan States, De Carné, his political confidant, insisted that the territory of Luang-Prabang extended to Yunnan. It is evident that he desired it to be understood that the Shan country in the neighbourhood of the Songkoi, whose inhabitants are mentioned by Dupuis under the Shan names of Fai and Teen-Lao, belonged to the province of Luang-Prabang. Once established in Tonquin, the attempt of the French to open up the Songkoi will infallibly bring about disturbances among those tribes, which, no doubt, in time, will necessitate the occupation of the basin of the Mékong, including the Independent Shan States, as well as half of the kingdom of Siam lying south of these. This is the manner, there can be little doubt, in which the French programme for Indo-China is intended to be carried out.

The French seem to think that the mountain tribes of the region lying between Tonquin and China are of the same physique and character as the Tonquinese, whom they can, no doubt, easily subdue. The history of China teaches us a different lesson, however. In 1418 the Chinese took possession of Tonquin, but found it such a bed of thorns—not from the opposition encountered from the inhabitants of the plains, but from the harassing attacks of the two millions of hill people, living to the west of Tonquin—that they withdrew after ten years' occupation of that country and have never since attempted to subdue it, but have contented themselves with the tribute annually paid to China.

An important step in the French project has already been taken in the commencement of the first section, from Saigon to Pnom-Penh, the capital of Cambodia, of the Mékong Valley Railway, which is intended to unite Yunnan and Tonquin with French Cochinchina. The occupation of Tonquin will be the second move in the game. It seems certain that the French will have not only an "adventure" but one of a character with a very serious side to it. The French will have not only Annam, but probably China, to contend with in the first instance; and should they succeed in the occupation of Tonquin they will have between them and China a hardy, brave, and unsubdued hill people, who will wage a never-ceasing guerilla warfare upon them.

In the limited space of this letter I have indicated some of the important issues which are involved in the Tonquin expedition. I hope to bring the whole question of the interests of England and France in Indo-China fully before the public in the June number of one of the monthly reviews.

THE information furnished by the correspondent of the *Standard* in Madagascar conveys a new idea of Malagasy civilization. After toiling for a week up and down "rocky ridges covered with forests on the tops, which, running in seemingly endless succession due north and south, and at right angles to the path, render penetration into the interior very difficult," the correspondent came at last to the plateau of Imerina, the home of the Hovas, the ruling race of Madagascar. He describes the place as follows:—"Around us were numerous villages clustering on the hill

slopes. There were no trees, only rolling veldt, like that peculiar to South Africa. But the villages were not mere collections of bamboo-built huts, such as those to which we had hitherto been accustomed in Madagascar. Strong and substantially built houses of brick they were, not lacking in pretensions to architectural design, and superior in comfort and appearance to those which many a village in Britain and Ireland can boast of. And here, too, the townships had each its detached building, trim and neat, whose style of architecture at once indicated the other chapel. There were, moreover, indications of missionary work in the land. As we passed through the streets we could hear the hum of children busy at their lessons, and singing sometimes the morning hymn so well-known in many an English school. There could be no question that, so far as outward appearance went, the people of Imerina had reached a high level of civilization, and seemed in little need of protection from any European State. The capital of the Hovas is thus described:—The people were clustering along the footpaths on their way to church, or sitting on the grass outside waiting for the service to begin, as they do in villages at home. The women, who appeared to be in the majority, wore white cotton gowns, often neatly embroidered, and white, or black and white, striped lambas thrown gracefully over their shoulders. The men were clad also in cotton—white cotton pantaloons, cotton lambas, and straw hats, with broad black silk band. In the morning sun the play of colours over the landscape was peculiarly lovely. . . . It was difficult to imagine that this peaceful country, with its pretty cottages, its innumerable chapels whose bells were then calling the people to worship, and its troops of white-robed men and women answering the summons, was the barbarous Madagascar of twenty years ago. These reflections were somewhat rudely disturbed as our bearers entered the city. We had considered we had done with bad roads, with boulders, and with yawning fissures. But all these we encountered as we made our way up the main thoroughfare of Antananarivo. But the appearance of a substantial stone church with its bell clanging, and a clock in the steeple indicating the hour, with hand-bills on the opposite walls announcing sales by auction, reassured us that we had, indeed, reached the centre of Malagasy civilization. All this does not tally well with the stories told by French writers, who represent the Hovas as veritable barbarians, rulers who murder their subjects wholesale, and replace lawful trial by ordeals of the most inhuman nature. The correspondent of the *Standard* came to the conclusion that Sakalavas and Hovas alike are determined to resist French aggression to the bitter end; and as the forces at Queen Ranavalona's disposal amount to "twenty thousand well-drilled troops, partly armed with breech-loaders, besides a horde of fifty thousand spear-men," he is of opinion that, to make any real impression, an expedition of from ten to twenty thousand men would be necessary. He further

adds that. "the bombarding of Tamatave and Mojanga would not seriously affect the Hovas, but would merely have the effect of destroying foreign trade." Possibly that result may be exactly what the Hovas desire. If so, the latest telegrams announcing their failure to oppose the French Admiral may simply mean that they have retired into the interior and left him to follow over the "endless succession of rocky ridges," if he pleases.

Mr. W. A. WOOLLEY, late Acting Consul at Kobe during Mr. Aston's absence in Korea, has taken his departure for Hakodate, to be Acting Consul at that port during the absence of Mr. Enslic who goes home on leave.

We hear from Swatow that a sort of armistice has been declared for the present between the Mandarins and the German Vice-Consul. Advances as to further proceedings are daily awaited from Berlin, when the case will probably be resumed. The claim of Messrs. Dircks & Co., though not actively pressed at the present moment, still holds good, and we understand will shortly be re-argued in solemn conclave by representatives of both countries.

In the peroration of his speech before the Chamber of Deputies on May 15th, M. Challemeil Lacour said, and the statement was received with prolonged applause, that the operations in Tonquin are in accordance with the general policy of France. What that general policy is, we have no difficulty in divining, whether we look to Asia or to Africa for an explanation. In the former continent Tonquin, and in the latter, Madagascar and the Congo, seemed a very respectable list of outlets for that spirit of enterprise, which, as a French writer recently informed the world, has grown quite too large for European opportunities. Now, however, the list has to be supplemented by Bonny and Porto Novo. The first named place has been visited by the French frigate *Talligueur*, whose commander tried to induce the natives to enter into a treaty, and of the second, the following news is published:—The Commander of a French war-vessel in the Bight of Benin has been guilty of an act which may tend still further to aggravate the somewhat strained relations between this country and France. If there was any part of Western Africa which it might be thought the French annexation policy would leave untouched, it was the comparatively small extent of territory between the Gold Coast colony and Lagos. Yet into this tract French enterprise has penetrated, and that, too, in a spirit rarely to be found in a friendly nation. Near Porto Novo, and just outside our own possession of Badagry, a French force has landed and hoisted the tricolour. Judging from the report current at Cape Coast Castle, the specious pretext of a treaty with a savage potentate will be put forward in justification of this act of annexation. But our administration on the Gold Coast is little disposed to acquiesce in such an addition

to the French African possessions, which practically cuts our own colony in twain, and while Government officials have proceeded to Porto Novo to investigate the matter, her Majesty's ship *Stork* has been ordered to proceed from Cape Coast Castle to Lagos. It is a little difficult to see what England has to complain of if Frenchmen choose to make tricolour-hoisting expeditions to places which have hitherto escaped our own annexing mania. But that does not change the complexion of France's mood. She is apparently resolved to "go for" every spot on the surface of the earth capable of being employed as the basis of a colonial empire. Her conduct affords an interesting spectacle to onlookers, and one that ought to be particularly pleasing to Englishmen on account of the delicate flattery such imitation conveys. The only trouble is that the average Briton regards colonization as a business of which England has acquired the monopoly by right of prescription, and the average Briton is neither a very reasonable nor a very docile subject. If he learns to think that Frenchmen are encroaching on his domain, his own encroachments in the past on the domains of other people will render him all the more intolerant. It is not a perfectly reassuring outlook.

REFERRING the other day to a suggestion by a Russian paper that Irish immigration to Russia should be encouraged, we hazarded the opinion that the law-abiding classes in the United States would not be heart-broken, if a crowd of their Irish co-nationals, headed by O'Donovan Rossa, would make a peaceful exodus to Siberia or some more congenial climate. The *Spectator* of the 17th of May, analyzing respectable American opinion upon the Irish conspirators domiciled and harbored in the States, fully bears out our conjecture. It is clear, says the London weekly, that the proceedings of the Dynamiteurs are exciting the anger of Americans. "The Pennsylvanians have a terrible experience of Irish secret societies, the struggle with the Molly Maguires having been carried on the mining district of their own State, and consequently the State Senate has passed a Bill prohibiting the manufacture and sale of explosives under severe penalties. It has been sent down to the Lower House. General Grant, also, who represents an immense party, has made a speech directly menacing the Irish. He condemns 'adopted citizens of the Union' for refusing to feel the obligations placed upon them by their citizenship, and for claiming immunities not accorded to the native born, who, it must not be forgotten, by the latest census constitute 82 per cent. of the population of the Union. The greater journals are all favourable to extradition if murder is proved, and even General Butler, who has been elected Governor of Massachusetts by the Irish vote only, asks that the immigration of paupers shall be stopped. He does not venture in the face of public feeling to demand that the use of dynamite against the foreign friends of the Union shall be deemed praiseworthy, or even be protected. It is stated that the party of violence are convinced that they

have traitors in their midst, and are profoundly alarmed by the intimate knowledge which the British Government possesses of their plots. They suspect treachery, probably with justice, in very high quarters in their organisation." A correspondent in America of the *Western Daily News* confirms the two last sentences of the above quotation, and affirms that the Chief traitor is the arch villain and plotter, O'Donovan Rossa himself!

ACCORDING to the *Official Gazette*, the Mining Bureau at Kamaishi was closed on the 30th ultimo. The Kamaishi Mines have been a sad bungle, and we can well understand that the authorities feel disposed to abandon an enterprise which has cost so much and returned so little. But it is difficult to think that the scheme offers no prospect of profitable development. There is wisdom in a resolve not to throw good money after bad, and if it has been definitely ascertained that nothing can be made of the mines, then indeed to leave them alone altogether is the most sensible course. But foreign experts have given it as their opinion that the trouble had its source rather in the method of carrying out the project than in its original conception, and the public will scarcely be persuaded to believe that no method exists of recovering at least a fraction of the heavy sums which have been expended in the prefecture of Iwate.

FIGURES are sometimes startling, especially when they refer to matters which in themselves have no rational connection with arithmetic. Who would think of calculating, for example, how much young ladies in Japan spend in making cherries of their lips? The driest statistician in the universe could scarcely be accused of conceiving such a problem at the first blush. Nevertheless it is a problem of some importance, for if the *Jiyu Shimbun* may be credited, the yearly manufacture of rouge (*beni*) at Saikiyo and Osaka reaches a value of no less than 8 million *yen*. Is it possible to imagine money more utterly and hopelessly wasted? Nothing spoils the prettiness of the fair sex in Japan except their lavish use of *beni* and *oshiroi*, and they are not likely to mend their ways seeing that a brisk demand for this same rouge has sprung up in foreign countries. It has not yet appeared that Mrs. Spoonendyke uses cosmetics. When she begins to do so, Mr. S. will have a good many sweet things to say.

WHAT an outcry there would be from the foreign press in this neighbourhood if such a piece of legislation were enacted in Imperial Japan as has just been enacted in Republican France. For, at least, if *The Times'* correspondent in Paris is right, the Government of M. Jules Ferry has proposed an exceptionally severe law on seditious displays. To take part in an outdoor demonstration is made punishable with six months' imprisonment; while the sale, exhibition, or wearing of seditious emblems, the singing of seditious songs, or the utterance of seditious cries

will bring upon the offender from a fortnight's to two years' imprisonment. The offenders are, it is true, to be tried by a jury; but that is not much security in France. It is, probably necessary to prohibit mass "demonstrations," as, owing to the traditions of Paris, they are apt to end in a rush upon the Legislature or the Municipality, but songs, cries, and emblems might surely be let alone, or punished with fines only. At least that is the general opinion of Englishmen. The subject is hardly worth mentioning here, except as it might some time or other furnish an item for comment in the context of comparative legislation.

It is stated that seven cases of cholera have occurred in a village called Nakamura, in Sagami province, Kanagawa prefecture. Nakamura is a small village in the neighborhood of Ashi-no-yu (Hakone), a most unlikely place for the disease to break out. It appears, also, that no news of any such fact has reached the offices of the Prefecture, so that on the whole the rumour is probably false. We learn, however, on good authority that two cases were officially reported a few days ago as having occurred in Odawara, but the disease does not appear to be spreading.

IN H.B.M. Court on the 5th inst. His Honour delivered judgment in the case of Hirose Sima v. Blakeway, which was in favour of the plaintiff, who was awarded 1,000 *yen* damages. No costs, however, were allowed, as His Honour remarked that although the defendant was wrong in law, he had evidently acted in good faith all through the transaction. His Honour paid a high compliment to the counsel engaged in the case for the manner in which its intricacies had been laid before the Court.

THE new building on the East of the Hibiya Parade-ground in Tokiyo, euphemistically known as the Reception Hall (*Settai Kan*), but generally supposed to be nothing more or less than an official club, is to be opened, it is said, on the 19th instant. The Hall is a very handsome construction, in foreign style, and forms an imposing addition to the various buildings which are gradually springing up in that neighbourhood.

THE Maharajah of Johore, accompanied by the Honorable P. Le Poer Trench, returned from Nikkwo on Thursday afternoon. The party were most unfortunate in their weather, and in consequence shortened their trip. We believe that His Highness' stay in Japan will not be extended beyond the 15th instant.

It is rumoured that the Kiyodo Keiba Kwaisha (Union Race Club) has applied to the Government for permission to make a race course round the Shinobadzu Lake in Ueno Park. The suggestion is said to have emanated from General Ida, formerly His Majesty the Mikado's Representative in France, who pointed out that in Europe race-courses are generally in the

vicinity of public parks, and that if the example thus furnished were followed at Ueno, the result would be a success, financially and otherwise. We trust, however, that the scheme will find favour with the Government; for, though General Ida's idea about the position of European race-courses does not accord with our own recollections, Shinobadzu no Ike offers unique advantages for such a purpose.

THE *Official Gazette* (*Kampo*) has made its appearance. It is a well printed journal of 16 pages, filled chiefly with official notifications, rules, announcements, &c. The first number contains also a *resumé* of foreign news, and an article on agriculture and manufacture.

ONE of the most brilliant chapters in Justin McCarthy's *History of Our Own Times* is that which contains the story of the lorcha *Arrow* and the Canton complications of 1846-47. But it owes half its brilliancy to the glitter of errors. The Speech from the Throne on February 3rd, 1857, spoke of "insults to the British flag, and infractions of treaty rights, committed by the local Chinese authorities at Canton, and a pertinacious refusal of redress." Of these acts of violence, insults and infractions of treaty rights, Mr. McCarthy says that "the single victim was the lorcha *Arrow*." Had he, a member of parliament and a historian, taken the trouble to consult the blue books relating to the period of which he wrote, he would have found a despatch from Admiral Sir Michael Seymour containing these words:—"I concurred with Sir John Bowring that this was a fitting opportunity for requiring the fulfillment of long-evaded treaty obligations." According, then, to the principal officials on the spot, the *Arrow* complication was only an incident; only an opportunity for asserting violated rights: according to Mr. Justin McCarthy it was the sole and solitary question at issue. Setting so much store, however, by the lorcha *Arrow*, Mr. McCarthy might at least have learned its story correctly. Even this he found too troublesome. Before hostilities commenced, Governor Yeh, he tells us, sent back all the men taken from the *Arrow*. So true is this that one of the first acts of the British officials after the occupation of Canton was to institute a rigorous search for the men Yeh had *not* sent back. They were never found, and to this day nothing is known of their fate. The historian then goes on to explain that, if the British system of granting registers were permitted, "every pirate in the Canton River would have had nothing further to do than to hoist any old scrap of British bunting, and sail on defiant, under the very eyes of the Chinese authorities." Mr. McCarthy's ideas on the subject of ships' registers seem to be about as clear as those of Commissioner Yeh. He forgets, apparently, that certain conditions had to be complied with by vessels seeking registration in Hongkong; that such registration was distinctly provided for in the Supplemental Treaty of 1843; that the *Arrow* was owned by a British subject, and that, at the time of the outrage, her papers were in the British Consulate

at Canton. These are details to be sure, but they have their importance. We can very well imagine the sort of language Justin McCarthy would have used had he been an actor in the scenes he undertook to denounce.

From the monthly circular of the Silk Association of America we learn that the imports of Raw Silk at the ports of New York and San Francisco for the month of May last, were 2,666 bales, valued at \$1,488,700. The imports of Waste Silk and Pierced Cocoons for the same period at those ports were 71 packages, valued at \$34,650. The enormous extent of the Silk industry as well as its fluctuating character may be seen from the following figures, the value of silk manufactures imported into New York alone in the months of May during five years, namely: 1879, 1,352,389; 1880, 1,910,531; 1881, 1,807,777; 1882, 3,117,955; 1883, 1,681,988. Subjoined is a summary of entries of silk manufactures into the Empire City in May 1883:—Entered for consumption, \$847,900; entered for warehouse, \$834,088; total value landed in New York, \$1,681,988; withdrawn from warehouse, \$340,373; value placed on market, \$1,188,273.

The latest number of the *Maru Maru Chimbun* has a cartoon ridiculing the difference which is reported to have occurred between Messrs. Itagaki and Goto, the principal figures in the Liberal party. The scene is a theatre, where a conjuror is performing before an astonished audience whose physiognomies are apparently designed to resemble those of the queer creatures that Rip Von Winkle saw in Sleepy Hollow. The "illusionist," to use the modern jargon, is a tall, thin, lantern-jawed fellow, grinning horribly beneath his hawk-like nose. Standing erect upon the stage, he has just, as it seems, succeeded in dividing himself through the abdomen by means of a huge sword, held at hilt and point by either hand. The idea intended to be conveyed is that the upper part of the body is Mr. Itagaki: the lower, his whilom colleague, Mr. Goto. The text accompanying the caricature may be translated as follows:—

Stage Manager—We have the honor to introduce a wholly new illusion! The performer has learned his art in Europe!

Spectators—Indeed! It is the most splendid performance we ever saw!

Meanwhile the band plays:—*Teren teren teke teke!* which can be rendered, "A piece of conjuring played off upon the Liberals!"

In the same issue is another picture, one evidently intended to represent the trouble which has lately befallen the brokers on the Bourse. The idea delineated is a contest by night between *Daikoku* (the God of Wealth) and *Kaminari* (the Thunderbolt), the former divinity representing the brokers, and the latter a notorious gambler of Yokohama. With the distorted features of a rapacious demon, *Kaminari* has swooped upon and seized in harpy-like arms a plethoric money sack to which *Daikoku*, who is carrying it on his back, tenaciously clings.

Meanwhile dice, coins, and paper tokens are being scattered upon the ground through the open mouth of the bag which *Kaminari* professes to wish to tie up. The Dialogue between the two demons is as follows:—

Broker—We work in the dark to make money; but, you, Great Thunderbolt, burst in upon our privacy, and put us to much trouble and expense to conceal the matter.

Gambler—Pay me three hundred yen; and your secret is safe for me!

The allusion is to a current story to the effect that, while some respectable brokers were engaged in exchange transactions or gambling in a tea-house, one of the local professional sharpers broke in upon their conference and extorted three hundred yen as the price of his silence. It is matter of common report that the Stock-brokers are resorting to all kinds of subterfuges to avoid the regulation Bourse fees; and that, on the plea of conversation or convivial gatherings, they meet in the streets or the tea-houses near the Exchange, in order to "transact business"—otherwise to gamble in money or stocks.

In the *Independente* of Macao, according to the *China Mail*, there is little news from that sleepy, *fantan* playing, and anomalous little settlement. "No news" is the normal state of affairs there, except when a typhoon gives a temporary and unpleasant liveliness to the exile home of Camoens; and the Hongkong journal probably only mentions the negative fact as an introduction to the intelligence that the *Independente* publishes some extracts from Lisbon papers, complaining very bitterly that the English nation, especially the English Parliament, allowed, without remonstrance, Mr. Jacob Bright to make, on the 3rd April, in the House of Commons, a speech which the Lisbon papers regard as most insulting to Portugal and her people. Mr. Jacob Bright should, the Lisbon papers think, have been called to order. An instance is given of a Portuguese orator having been called to order in the Chamber of Lisbon when he was making an attack upon England. Major Quillinan, attached to the Portuguese Legation in London, is said to have strongly repudiated Mr. Jacob Bright's remarks in a letter addressed to an English paper. The fact is that on the date and in the august Assembly in question, Mr. Jacob Bright told the country some home truths on the subject of Portuguese rule in uncivilized countries that may well have proved unpalatable to the authorities and the press in Lisbon. The occasion was a motion by the speaker to the effect that, in the interests of civilization and commerce, it was not advisable that Her Majesty's Government should make any treaty sanctioning the annexation by any Power of territories on or adjacent to the Congo. Mr. Bright then proceeded to show that Portugal should be the last country entrusted with the custody of the gate of that great river. The experience traders had of Portuguese in Africa was that the latter ought not to have "another yard of territory." Under their management, there were passports, papers, fines, and fees, "and you could hardly look at a bale of goods in the Custom House without paying a fee to

somebody." Portuguese officials are, as a rule, of an inferior order; but beside this and other minor counts in Mr. Bright's indictment is the far graver one of a direct slave trade to the West Indies. "Apart from commerce, it was said, they would receive guarantees from Portugal respecting slavery and the slave trade. He could not help thinking that such guarantees would be a delusion.—(Hear.) He had an interview last Friday with Lord Mayo who had spent a great deal of time in South-West Africa, and he gave a very startling account of the way in which the Portuguese carried on the slave trade, particularly between Angola and the Island of St. Thomas. The slaves were carried out from the shore in lighters and then transferred to the Portuguese steamships and carried to St. Thomas, where the slaves were sold, the good-looking girls fetching a high price." Lord E. Fitzmaurice, "with all his official responsibility," as the *Saturday Review* says, was compelled to make the following admission:—

He would lay briefly before the House the statements made upon this painful subject by a gentleman whose name was familiar to many Honourable Members. Mr. David Hopkins, her Majesty's Consul at Loanda, in a despatch, dated May 1st, 1877, to the Governor-General of Angola, informed him of the abominable excesses practised by some Europeans on the Zaire. Mr. Hopkins especially denounced the assassination of about thirty negroes, including women and children, who, having been more or less justifiably accused of having taken part in the burning of the properties belonging to the Portuguese subject, Manoel Joaquim Oliveira, were, by the latter's orders, and with the connivance of other Europeans and some natives, among the former being a British subject, bound hand and foot and thrown into the river, some of them at Boma and others at Port Lenba. As a climax of monstrosity, the presumed accomplices or witnesses, the victims, as they were called, were put to torture by him. According to the information of Mr. Hopkins, similar atrocities were frequently perpetrated in the region under notice; and the same Consul specially named the Spanish subject José del Valle, better known as Don Pope, as the person who inflicted frequent cruelties on his black labourers, and who had even caused the death of some of them, whom he ordered to be drowned. Mr. Hopkins added that slavery was, in fact, reinstated on the Zaire; and that the black labourers in the service of Europeans were literally sold to these by the native chiefs.

It may be said, with truth, that here, in the remote East, we have no concern with the custodianship of an African River; but those who know Macao as a colony, with its systems of finance, treatment of the natives, and general government, and those who remember the infamies of the Macao coolie trade, will agree with us that Portugal is not the country to be trusted either for the purposes of colonization or the protection of inferior races.

THE *Nation* reminds us that M. Laboulaye, a distinguished jurist, the news of whose death has recently been received, was first made known to the American, and indeed the British, lay public during the Civil war, as one of the few writers of prominence in Europe who ventured to espouse the American cause when its prospects looked very dark. His books and articles, as well as those of Count Gasparin, were received during that period in the Northern States with an eagerness and welcome of which the generation which has since grown up remembers nothing, and perhaps would, on looking at them now, find it difficult to understand, in spite of the undeniable ability of nearly everything he wrote. The truth is that his forte there lay mainly in his perspicacity, and reputation secured in this way does not long survive

the realization of a man's predictions—things seem, as our contemporary remarks, so easy to foresee after they have come to pass. But his sagacity during the American war was really one of his highest titles to fame, in spite of the excellence of his general literary work, for it was proof of statesmanship. He understood the conflict as very few of his countrymen did, and foresaw its issue as still fewer of them, or even Englishmen, did. Mr. Edouard René Lefebvre Laboulaye was seventy-two years old when he died. He first distinguished himself as a jurisconsult in 1839, when he published his work, since accepted everywhere as a standard authority, on the "History of the Law relative to Landed Property in Europe," which was crowned by the Academy of Inscriptions and *Belles Lettres*. Among other of his publications, too numerous all to be mentioned here, was his famous "Inquiries into the Civil and Political Condition of Women from the time of the Romans to our Days," crowned by the Academy of Moral and Political Sciences. The deceased was a frequent and much regarded contributor to reviews and newspapers, and the author of some volumes of tales. He was an active as well as a theoretical politician; but it is as a legist that he has made his fame. Indeed, as is apparent from references made to him in the essays by French jurists, now in course of translation in the *Japan Weekly Mail*, traces of his work may be found in the two new Criminal Codes of the Empire of Japan.

THE Lyons *Express* publishes the analysis of the Bourrée treaty—that treaty which Mr. Challemel-Lacour has rejected. It is not, says the *Echo*, the *verbatim* text of the instrument, but a *résumé* which the *Express* professes to have procured from a trustworthy source. The following are the principal provisions:—

Art. 1.—The Chinese troops will evacuate the territories that they have occupied in Tonking, and will return to the provinces of Yunnan and Kwangsi. The French Government will declare that it does not pursue in Tonking any idea of conquest.

Art. 2.—The navigation of the Red River shall be free. The town of Luok shall be set apart for the establishment and working of Chinese Custom Houses.

Art. 3.—The two Governments charge themselves, each in its sphere of action, with ridding the country of the bands of malefactors that devastate it. In consequence, they trace a line of demarcation between the territories which will be submitted to the surveillance of the Chinese authorities.

Art. 4.—The line of demarcation once traced, the French and Chinese Governments engage themselves to maintain the *status quo* thus established, and to protect Tonking against every enterprise from without.

We are unaware whether any investigations are being made in the hospitals and elsewhere in Japan on the important, in these days of frequent accidents from misconception of signals, subject of color blindness. Many months ago, attention was directed to the matter, on the occasion, we believe, of a presumably good authority expressing a doubt that such an infirmity existed or could exist among Japanese, as he presumed that it never manifests itself among black-eyed people. Then at least one case, occurring in a student of painting and so discovered, was vouched for by a Japanese gentleman, but no further discussion ensued. Notwithstanding, the subject is of grave import-

ance here as elsewhere; and in the event of any medical men, Japanese or foreign, having devoted themselves to its investigation, we presume they will not fail to be interested in a paper dealing with the phenomena of Daltonism, recently read before the Physical Society. The author, Mr. H. R. Troop, showed that the hypothesis of three fundamental colour sensations was not the only one which satisfies the well-known equation of Maxwell: $X = vV + cC + uU$, where X is an unknown tint; V , vermilion; C , chrome yellow; U , ultramarine; and v, c, u , given qualities of the same. A recent case of colour blindness would indicate that there were two pairs of colour senses; and the author gave reasons for adding a fifth sense, namely that for white. During the discussion which ensued, an instance was given of an engineer who coloured his plans with brown when he meant to use green, thus mistaking the two tints. Mr. Lewis Wright drew attention to the fact that his own eyes varied in their colour sense from day to day, especially if he felt out of sorts, and one eye differed from the other in its power of distinguishing colours. He recommended a study of these small variations as likely to throw light on colour blindness. Professor Clifton, President of the Society, stated that he found great differences in the fitness of his students for optical experiments, some being unable to distinguish tints which others can, and some being incapable of distinguishing colours one day which they can do on another. He considered that only one in three students was fit for certain polarisation experiments.

SATURDAY the 2nd of June was what a San Francisco journal calls a "bonanza day" for the Federal Government. At the Custom-House in San Francisco the officials were kept busy receiving and counting the Customs revenue on the opium brought from China on the steamer City of Peking. Macondray & Co. alone paid in gold \$100,654.16 on some 410 boxes, each containing forty-one pounds of the drug. A consignment of opium to S. L. Jones & Co., on the same vessel, owed duties amounting to about \$160,000, and other consignees had about \$12,000 more. The duty is \$6 per pound. It would seem that the opium really belongs to Chinese merchants, as the duties are paid by them; though, as they are not allowed by law to import opium, it is consigned to other firms.

AMONG the telegraphic items received from San Francisco by the *City of Rio de Janeiro*, is one dated Guaymas, 12th June, announcing that "quite a party from New York and Philadelphia are expected here the coming week, with Con Cutler, who has sold his Nagasaki copper mine to them." At first glance this statement is a little astounding. "Con Cutler" is a name unknown in Nagasaki, where, furthermore, there are no copper mines, and where, if such treasures did exist, neither Mr. Con Cutler, who is presumably an American, nor any other

foreigner could own them. The enigma may be explained, however, when we know that Guaymas is a newly opened mining district in Southern California. The inference is that "Con" is a mining speculator, and that he has named one of his ventures after the pretty and historic capital of Hizen. It is to be hoped that the appellation may bring good fortune to those concerned in the enterprise.

IT is stated that the number of sheep on the stock farm in Shimosa, under the direct supervision of the Department of Agriculture and Commerce, now amounts to 4,824 head. The farm would seem to be getting on better than most persons suppose.

THREE seamen from the ship *Cyprus* were brought up before H.B.M.'s Consul yesterday for having overstepped their leave. They made a rambling statement about not having money to pay boat hire to the ship, bad provisions, etc. His Honour said he believed they only wanted to get their discharge, and sentenced them to have four days' pay stopped and to go on board at once, remarking that if they refused to return to duty the Captain would no doubt proceed against them as deserters, in which case he would have to inflict a more severe penalty.

ON the subject of the collision between the *Breconshire* and the light-ship *Kaisho Maru*, wherein the latter vessel was sunk on the night of the 16th-17th of May last, we read in the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* that Captain Fletcher, the pilot of the former, has been examined before a Board consisting of Captain G. E. O. Ramsay, President, and Lieut. T. H. James, R.N., and Mr. A. F. Macnab, Assessors. A decision, sanctioned by the Minister of Agriculture and Commerce, was delivered on the 25th ultimo to the following effect:—

Taking into consideration the copy of the *Breconshire's* log, authenticated by H.B.M.'s Consul at Kobe, and the depositions of Mr. Fletcher and the captain of the light-ship and others, it is evident that Mr. Fletcher gave the order to "go ahead" immediately before and at the moment of striking the light. Indeed, after the captain had left the bridge, he ordered the steamer to be headed between the light-ship and the bar, he then acting for the captain. Although the accident was caused by his so heading the vessel, yet as a boat was then passing ahead from right to left, he was compelled to put his helm a-port, and could not take the proper measures to avoid the light-ship. Further, it appears, from the depositions, that the weather was very thick and cloudy, rendering it impossible to see objects clearly at any distance. Considering all the circumstances the Pilot is acquitted, and his certificate is returned to him with a caution to be more careful in future.

SO FAR as we have been able to learn, the opening of the railway from Tokiyo to Takahashi is not likely to come off before the 20th instant. The line is said to be completed, but some days will still be required to transfer the rolling stock from Shimbashi to the terminus at Uyeno.

WE beg to acknowledge the receipt from the Commissioner of the Imperial Mint of an English translation of the Coinage Regulations. A translation of these Regulations from the Japanese version appeared in the *Japan Weekly Mail* of the 2nd of June.

A FOREIGN LOAN FOR JAPAN.

"PAPER MONEY," said Mirabeau, "is the nursery of tyranny, corruption and delusion, a veritable orgy of authority and delirium." It is, indeed, to the history of France that they should go for instruction who imagine that tariffs, custom houses, official interference or any other partial palliatives can stave off the fatal effects of such a poison. What the bigotry of Louis XIV. and the shiftlessness of Louis XV could not do in nearly a century was accomplished in a few months by tampering with the currency. French industry collapsed. "Capitalists declined to embark their means in business, Enterprise received a mortal blow. Demand for labour was still further diminished. The business of France dwindled into a mere living from hand to month. With the masses of the people the purchase of every article of supply became a speculation, a speculation in which the professional speculator had an immense advantage over the buyer. Commerce was dead; betting took its place."

Japan, too, has had her bitter experience. What dimensions her foreign commerce might have attained ere this but for the insuperable impediment of a fiat currency, it were profitless now to discuss. The past is beyond reach. The country has suffered severely. It has lost the greater part of its gold and silver, and finds itself at last reduced to employ paper tokens without any basis of intrinsic value; finds itself imperatively required to be industrious, frugal, and economical, in face of an almost fatal obstacle to industry, frugality, and economy, an obstacle of which Webster has said that it "fosters the evil spirits of extravagance and speculation, and is the most effectual of all contrivances for cheating the labouring classes of mankind."

This evil of inconvertible paper has another troublesome feature: the period of its cure is also the period when the suffering and distress it produces are most keenly felt. It may be compared to a sloughing sore which, while gradually draining away the vital forces of its victim, causes him sharpest pain when the cautery is applied. The anguish and terror which a country endures when inflated prices begin to be punctured, and pecuniary obligations press with daily increasing weight, are matters of history. It was under the influence of these trials—trials "which any man of plain sense might have anticipated"—that the American House of Representatives in 1868 hastily rescinded the

Act of 1865 which had authorized the retirement of legal tenders: it was under the influence of these trials that, as the French "assignats poured from the Treasury in increasing volume, the cry of the scarcity of the circulating medium grew daily louder"—a cry soon to be followed by the terrible echo, "Bread or Blood": it was under the influence of these trials that the resumption of specie payments in Great Britain was charged with a long succession of commercial disasters, with the deep and settled industrial depression which characterized the years following 1819; and it is under the influence of these trials that both native and foreign critics in Japan are advocating a step which, if hastily or rashly taken, will prove more mischievous than anything that has gone before.

Among Japanese writers, the first, we believe, to recommend resumption by means of a foreign loan, has been the *Fiji Shimpō*, a journal whose utterances command attention on account not less of its editor's high reputation than of the wide-spread influence his opinions exercise. "The ills resulting from the circulation of fiat currency have reached their climax," says the *Fiji Shimpō*: "our people have sunk into a despondent condition and are environed by commercial anomalies." To continue such a system were little short of a "black crime." The best thing the Government can do is to "borrow silver abroad and resume specie payments without delay."

This course has already been urged by foreign writers whose recommendations receive much weight from Italy's recent example. Resort to a foreign loan for such a purpose may be called a modern expedient. It would not have been possible to France in 1796 or to England in 1819. Italy's action is without precedent and its results have still to be determined. But, whatever they may be, the pregnant fact remains that one of the leading Powers of Europe, after mature deliberation and recourse to the best financial advice, has not hesitated to become dependent upon foreign aid for the purpose of redeeming its promissory notes.

Assuming then—and the assumption is obviously justified—that such a proceeding is in no wise opposed to the principles of sound finance, let us reduce to comparable terms what Japan is asked to do by Mr. Fukuzawa's school, and what she is understood to be in process of doing of her own motion.

In 1881, when Italian financiers believed that the moment had arrived for returning to specie payments, Italy's fiduciary cur-

rency amounted to 940 millions of francs, State issues, and 810 millions of Bank issues, or 1,750 millions in all. At that time the Treasury possessed 100 million francs in specie, which had been set aside from the Customs dues, and the metallic reserves of the note-issuing Banks amounted to 250 millions. Thus, the specie immediately available was approximately one-fifth of the total note issues. Under these circumstances the Minister of Finance was authorized to contract, before December 31st, 1882, a loan of 644 millions of francs, 400 millions at least to be in gold. This loan having been successfully negotiated,¹ the total specie resources of the Government on April 1st, 1883,—when resumption became an accomplished fact—were 950 millions against 1,750 millions of note issues.

Now Japan's specie reserve may be set down to-day at twenty million dollars and her paper issues at 140 millions, the proportion being as 1 to 7. If then we accept the ratio practically established by Italian financiers, it would be necessary for the Government to borrow 56 millions of dollars. Since, however, the loan would take at least a year to negotiate, we may assume that in the interval the Treasury's reserves would have increased by 5 or 6 millions, so that the sum to be borrowed would not exceed 50 millions. Let us suppose that Japan obtains this at 7 per cent. interest, and that she agrees to pay it back in 20 years by regular annual instalments. The interest will, then, amount in the total to \$36,750,000, and the mean of her yearly payments would be \$4,337,500: six millions being the maximum and \$3,675,000, the minimum.

These figures, apart from the question of interest, may be regarded as a maximum. America resumed specie payments on a much smaller margin. On the 1st of January, 1879, the reserves of the Treasury and of the National Banks in the United States amounted to 197 millions of dollars, while the fiduciary issues were 700 millions. If this precedent be valid, Japan might undertake the task with 40 millions. But it must not be forgotten that in 1879 the premium on gold in the United States had fallen to a merely nominal amount and that in Italy's case it was only 11 per cent. In Japan the conditions of the problem are very different.

Ultimately, then, on the above hypothesis, to resume specie payments by means of a foreign loan would cost Japan about

(1) M. Magliani, in his financial statement on April 18th, told the Chamber of Deputies that despite the difficulties besetting the money market during the past two years, he had succeeded in obtaining, not 400 millions of gold, as originally proposed, but 500.

(1) White. (2) Walker.

37 million dollars in interest alone, which she would save by leaving her paper as it is.

Let us now examine the plan which the Government is understood to be pursuing. In the first place, according to the provisions of the new Banking Regulations, all the paper issues of the National Banks are to be exchanged for Treasury notes in the course of the next fifteen years. This operation will involve no fresh issues of *Kinsatsu*, so that it amounts virtually to a withdrawal of 35 millions (*yen*) from circulation. The bulk of the fiduciary currency will thus be reduced to a total very little in excess of 100 millions, which is believed to represent the minimum required for commercial purposes. The annual reductions under this head will be supplemented by further small withdrawals, provided for in the estimates. These, however, do not deserve much attention, as the yearly appropriations on account of currency redemption are now applied, not to the recall and destruction of *Kinsatsu*, but to the accumulation of a specie reserve. Of the methods employed to convert these appropriations of paper into specie, it is unnecessary to speak at present. Suffice it to say that, having regard to the additional taxes recently imposed on *saké*, malt, tobacco and patent medicines, it is expected that the annual increments of the specie reserve will amount to seven millions at least. Thus by 1887 the country will possess a specie reserve of more than 50 millions and a paper issue of about 125 millions. At these figures resumption will be possible without much risk.

In comparing this scheme with that of a foreign loan, the first point that suggests itself is one of time. Industry and commerce have suffered so much from the paper currency that the nation is naturally impatient for resumption. The writer in the *Fiji Shimpō* would have the Government proceed to the task without delay. Like many others who have discussed the subject, he seems to think that the passage from a fiat to a metallic currency may be effected in a few months. This is a strange misconception, more especially as the experience of the past year ought to have made men more or less familiar with the evils that are inseparable from a period of currency contraction. It cannot be too distinctly remembered that currency appreciation and a return to specie payments involve, in an inverse direction, all the inconveniences and disorders which attend currency depreciation. When the Bank of England finally resumed specie payments in 1819, the nominal premium on gold was less than 4 per cent, and the

operation of resumption was spread over three years, all reasonable precautions being taken to avoid disturbing the markets. Nevertheless the first effects of the measure were that the prices of the most important articles fell many degrees, bringing to distress, if not to ruin, large agricultural and manufacturing interests, while the burden of all fixed charges, private and public, was aggravated to an extent well nigh intolerable.⁴ Doubtless other and independent causes assisted to accentuate the trouble, but the experiences of America and France combine with those of England to show that the utmost circumspection is necessary in dealing with a nation's currency. It may reasonably be doubted whether the Government of this country has not already overstepped the limits of prudence in reducing the bulk of the circulating media.

Connected with the nature of Japan's fiat currency there are considerations which must not be omitted in examining this question. Her currency is not "saturated" with specie, as it would be had the issue of paper tokens been confined to notes of large dimensions. Copper coins excepted, the money in daily use is entirely paper. Now experience has shown, as indeed reflection plainly indicates, that notes of small denominations are the last to be presented for redemption. Such notes are held principally by the poorer classes who have neither knowledge nor opportunity to avail themselves of the facilities offered for exchange.⁵ The national revenues, however, would certainly be paid in paper if taxpayers found any sensible degree of economy in making use of it. And beyond question they would find it economical. For specie is of all commodities the slowest to follow a general movement of prices caused by the appreciation or depreciation of paper money. In other words, during the early years of resumption, the purchasing power of *Kinsatsu* would be less as regards specie than as regards any other com-

modity. The Government, then collecting its revenues chiefly in paper, would be obliged to export every year a considerable sum in specie to meet its engagements abroad, and might soon find itself seriously embarrassed by the task.

Whether a loan could be procured abroad on the terms mentioned above, or whether, indeed, it could be procured at all, is a question about which there will be differences of opinion. Japan's financial engagements have hitherto been fulfilled with scrupulous regularity, and her credit ought to be at least as good to-day as it was five years ago. But it would be idle to deny that there has grown up of late an undefined mistrust of her capacities and prospects. Something of this must be ascribed to the same evil which lies at the root of all her troubles. Vacillation and mismanagement have injured her reputation not less than they have crippled her resources. Something of it is also to be ascribed to the harsh criticism of which she has recently been the victim. The commercial paralysis of late years has elicited from its foreign victims utterances which, though not inexcusable, have unfortunately been calculated to aggravate the mischief they condemn. Those who, whether heedlessly or of design, spare so few pains to overthrow Japan's credit, to impugn the honesty of her rulers, and to disparage the efforts of her financiers, would do well to reflect that they are rendering it daily more difficult for her to emerge from the embarrassments into which, according to their showing, she has fallen. There seems, however, no valid reason to suppose that the money markets of the West are closed to her. She could probably get all the specie she wants on fairly easy terms, but it will be time enough for her to seek help abroad when she is quite convinced that the effort of resumption is not within the compass of her own unaided strength.

HER MAJESTY'S NEW REPRESENTATIVE IN CHINA.

IT was in thorough accord with the most honorable traditions of the British service that Sir THOMAS WADE should come forward to defend his absent colleague against the singularly unjust charges formulated by the *Pall Mall Gazette*. Accurate general statements are not to be expected in ephemeral articles, but the inaccuracy of the *Pall Mall Gazette* is something quite out of the common order. To describe Sir HARRY PARKES as "an official who brought two wars on China a quarter of a century ago," is to pass at once from the domain

(4) In this context it may be interesting to recall a passage of Sir James Graham's tract on *Coin and Currency*, published in 1846. "Whether we regard private debts or public burdens, the effects of the measure of 1819 have been to enact, that for every less sum owing a greater shall be paid; prices falling, but pecuniary engagements remaining undiminished, the farmer has no profit, the landlord no rent, the manufacturer no customer, the laborer no employment; a revolution of property and a derangement of the whole frame of society must necessarily ensue. . . . It has conferred on the fund-holder a benefit to the extent of the depreciation of the money which he advanced; in many cases this is equal to 50 per cent. But this rise of the fundholder is affected by ruin of the landlord. Estates which have been held from generation to generation in the same family are rapidly changing owners; and, as the country gentleman retires, the fund-holder advances. . . . Amidst the ruin of the farmer and the manufacturer, the distress of landlords, and the insurrections of a populace without bread and without employment, one class flourished and was triumphant: the assiduous and the tax-eater rejoiced in the increased value of money; in the sacrifice of productive industry to unproductive wealth, in the victory of the drones over the bees."

(5) When the Bank of England voluntarily undertook to redeem its paper in 1817, it confined its operations at first to one and two-pound notes. The result was virtually nil. The amount of cash paid out for redemption did not exceed £1,000,000. Encouraged by the result of this partial experiment, the Directors announced that they would pay gold for their notes of all denominations. The result was an immediate drain of more than £2,000,000, and a bill restraining further redemption.

of history into that of fiction. Sir THOMAS WADE'S refutation of such an error might have been couched in much stronger terms. But if a sense of justice forbade him to keep silence, diplomatic instinct dictated the form of his speech. He felt, and the public will cordially endorse his sentiment, that the dead past may be suffered to bury its dead; that "the disaccords of former years" consort ill with the altered conditions of the present. The chief features of the story he, therefore, leaves untouched, nor seeks to awaken any memories other than those essential to his immediate purpose.

Sir THOMAS WADE, too, when he writes of these matters, is in a measure writing his own biography. The part he played in the Canton troubles of 1856-7 was at least as prominent and responsible as that played by Sir HARRY PARKES. Indeed it is a singular and significant fact that the three principal actors on the early stage of China's foreign relations, the three chief representatives of British policy, were gentlemen of whose conspicuously philanthropic tendencies the world has agreed to entertain no doubt. That this is so in Sir THOMAS WADE'S case, it is unnecessary to remind those who have any knowledge of the local criticisms his official career evoked. Yet it was Mr. WADE who acted as Chinese Secretary all through the operations that led to the Treaty of Tientsin in 1858. He was senior to Mr. PARKES, had devoted a longer time to the study of Chinese, and was altogether in a position which enabled him to exercise a greater influence on the councils of his chiefs. One need not be surprised, therefore, to find him speaking of the quarrel between England and China as "a question upon which opinion is greatly divided." To do more than note the fact would be in some sort to pass judgment on himself. Sir JOHN BOWRING, again, was the intimate friend and fellow-thinker of RICHARD COBDEN. Even JUSTIN MCCARTHY, who into his tale of the Chinese war has imported all the bias of a political partisan, could only say of Sir JOHN that "nothing in all his previous habits of life, nothing in the associations and friendships by which he had long been surrounded, nothing in his studies or his writings warranted any one in expecting that when placed in a responsible position in China at a moment of great crisis, he would have taken on him to act a part which aroused such a controversy." The truth is that had choice been possible, Sir JOHN BOWRING would have preferred any other course. To adopt the rôle he felt constrained to adopt, in-

involved a cruel dislocation of his most cherished creeds and convictions. When he took the Oaths as Governor of Hongkong in April, 1854, he was all for the Chinese. Conciliation and patience, he thought, alone were needed to set matters right, to obtain rigid respect for treaty stipulations which had been persistently violated for twelve years. When he requested Admiral SEYMOUR, on the 22nd of October, 1856, to seize the defences of the city of Canton, he was still at heart the same Sir JOHN BOWRING: still anxious to treat the Chinese kindly; to humour their caprices and coax them out of their conservatism. But his convictions were never calculated to survive collision with such a phenomenal compound of astuteness and obtuseness as Commissioner YEH. They yielded to the shock, and Sir JOHN made a discovery which no conscientious official could have failed to make: he discovered that there is a limit beyond which leniency ceases to be kind and becomes culpable. Lord ELGIN acquired the same experience under somewhat similar circumstances. He had been chosen by the Tory Government as a man whose character and reputation were in themselves sufficient to enlist public opinion on behalf of any measures he might adopt. Lord PALMERSTON knew well that if the voice of the constituencies had vindicated his foreign policy, the necessity of appealing to that voice had immensely strengthened the hands of his opponents. It was essential that no fresh onset should be invited in the same quarter; and Lord ELGIN was, of all diplomatists, least likely to furnish another pretext to the "unholy coalition." In fact his appointment was Lord PALMERSTON'S method of stifling criticism. "You accuse me," the crafty statesman virtually told his enemies, "You accuse me of supporting violent and arbitrary agents abroad: you accuse me of sanctioning 'proceedings that cannot be justified on any principle either of law or reason.' My only answer is to send Lord ELGIN to China." To China, therefore, Lord ELGIN went, taking with him a host of gentle intentions and a profound sympathy for "the poor Chinese." Yet it was Lord ELGIN who ordered the bombardment and military occupation of Canton; it was Lord ELGIN who twice directed the assault on the Taku Forts; it was Lord ELGIN who led an English army to Peking, and it was Lord ELGIN who caused the Summer Palace to be burned to the ground. The most stubborn philanthropy could not resist such conditions as those which existed in China between 1856 and 1860.

The lorcha *Arrow* would scarcely have found a place in the pages of history had its fate come up for discussion at any other period of English home politics. But chance has a considerable share in determining what figures shall occupy the foreground of "the eternal landscape of the past." The lorcha *Arrow* was destined to be one of them. A powerful party in Parliament watching only for some battle-cry, however frivolous, found it in Chinese logic and Chinese morality—qualities which, in the mouths of such orators as COBDEN and GLADSTONE, could not fail to command respect and enlist enthusiasm. The lorcha *Arrow* was nothing more than an accidental spark that fired a long train of accumulated combustibles. To careful readers of history the marvel is, not that the explosion came, but that it was so long deferred. For fourteen years British officials in Canton had submitted to an unvarying system of contemptuous apathy. The Chinese had not absolutely torn up the Treaty of 1842, but they had simply blotted all traces of it out of their foreign relations. To remonstrance they opposed evasion; to complaint, disdain. There had been talk, over and over again, of compelling them to keep their promises. Sir SAMUEL BONHAM, in 1848, saw that some resort to force was inevitable, but before acting upon his convictions, he referred to England for instructions. He was told to wait a little longer. The Government did not want trouble, and China, after all, was a very large empire. So things drifted on, the Chinese every day becoming more persuaded that they could afford to despise us, and Sir JOHN BOWRING'S conciliatory policy helping to confirm the impression. Then came the affair of the lorcha *Arrow*. Registered in Hongkong as an English ship, and owned by a British subject, she was lying quietly one afternoon in the river opposite the British Consulate at Canton, when two Chinese boats full of armed men suddenly bore down upon her, carried off all her crew, with the exception of the master himself, hauled down the British ensign and danced upon it. Some excuse has been found for the Chinese in their want of familiarity with English colonial laws. For eighteen months they had refused to be persuaded that a ship with a Chinese crew could be anything but a Chinese ship, to whatever nationality her owner belonged and under whatever flag she sailed. The Governor and Legislative Council of Hongkong had not yet, however, seen reason to alter their views or their ordinances, when the master of the *Arrow* arrived at the British Consu-

late in Canton, breathless and wrathful, to complain of the outrage he had suffered. The Acting Consul, Mr. PARKES, lost no time in applying for the release of the kidnapped men. That was certainly the least he could do. But having done it, his responsibility ended. A few hours later, the daily steamer carried official intelligence of the whole incident to Hongkong, and the conduct of the affair thenceforth devolved entirely upon Sir JOHN BOWRING. Anybody possessing the most rudimentary knowledge of official routine will see that this must have been the case. Even "Sinensis," who would fain have it otherwise, is obliged to admit that to saddle an Acting Consul at Canton with the responsibility of a war the cause and course of which were from the first under the control of the Governor of Hongkong and the Admiral on the station, is a misapprehension only possible to "Chinese ignorance of foreign official relations." The lorch *Arrow*, too, very soon ceased to be a real factor of disturbance. She was merely the straw that broke the camel's back. Sir JOHN BOWRING concluded that the time had come when some understanding as to the fate of the treaties must be arrived at. He requested Commissioner YEH to grant him an interview. YEH peremptorily declined. Ignoring all the weightier sources of disagreement, he confined himself entirely to the lorch *Arrow*. The more the English Governor insisted, the less sign of yielding did the Chinese Governor display. YEH would grant no interview, would enter into no serious discussion, would adopt none of the courses generally pursued by civilized negotiators. China's policy was to keep the foreigner at arm's length, and that policy found an uncompromising exponent in the contumacious Commissioner at Canton. Sir JOHN BOWRING had the choice of two alternatives: to submit quietly, and thus practically surrender the treaty rights entrusted to his guardianship, or to force his way into Canton. He adopted the latter plan, maintaining, however, to the end, his friendly feelings towards the Chinese in general, though admitting that for such tenacious impracticability as that of Commissioner YEH, coercion was the sole resource. During the whole progress of these and subsequent proceedings we find Mr. PARKES performing always a subordinate, though an exceedingly useful, rôle. At one time he is warning the Chinese troops to refrain from hostilities; at another communicating to Commissioner YEH the demands of Sir JOHN BOWRING or Admiral SEYMOUR; at another penetrating into Canton to decipher

Chinese proclamations at the imminent risk of losing his head. As the only two Englishmen concerned in the negotiations who could speak Chinese, he and Mr. WADE may have occupied a very prominent place in the eyes of Commissioner YEH but to lay the responsibility of the war on their shoulders for that reason would be a ludicrous injustice.

As for the second war which Sir HARRY PARKES is, by the hypothesis of the *Pall Mall Gazette*, accredited with having brought about, the fact is that in all human probability it would never have occurred at all had his counsels been followed. His strong recommendation that the Taku Forts should not be surrendered until the ratifications of the Tientsin Treaty were completed, was not adopted by Lord ELGIN, who a year later had the chagrin of hearing that these very forts had opposed his brother's attempt to reach the Chinese capital in his capacity of Minister, and inflicted such loss on a British fleet that an armed invasion of China became necessary. Thus, not only was Sir HARRY PARKES two thousand miles away when Sir FREDERICK BRUCE presented himself at the mouth of the Peiho in 1859, but he had the melancholy satisfaction of knowing that the rejection of his advice was the indirect cause of the disasters which followed.

The history of those times remains to be written: it is only obscured by the lucubrations of such pens as that of "Sinensis." When an impartial historian is found, he will have a great deal to say on China's behalf. If in many of their dealings with foreigners, the Chinese ultimately laid aside all regard to law or equity, it cannot be forgotten that at the outset they believed themselves the objects of lawless intrusion and enterprise. Traditions, eminently respectable in their own eyes, received little if any respect at our hands. The whole principle of their civilization was opposed to everything we call civilized. But then it was their civilization, and as such they were bound to maintain and defend it. A recent writer has said, speaking of these very Chinese, that a belief in the perfection of their own systems was in itself evidence of ignorance and self-conceit. He fails to see, apparently, that the charge cuts both ways. Their self-complacence did not extend beyond a desire to be left in the peaceful enjoyment of their own creeds and customs: we went about endeavouring to force ours upon everybody. When it comes to a question of cold logic there can be no hesitation about the relative degrees of justification. But it is not, and never can be, a question of cold logic. British

civilization can only be divested of its aggressiveness at the cost of its vitality. We are accustomed to speak of the missionaries of the gospel; we should also speak of the missionaries of commerce. The latter are not less active than the former, and to restrain them effectually we must begin by changing their nature. So long as Englishmen remain what they are, they will be found introducing themselves into every region capable of profitable development, and creating responsibilities which their Government is finally compelled to assume. From an un-English point of view, the propensity is very ill-favoured and very inconvenient, but though it may be regulated, it cannot be wholly checked. The question between England and China twenty-five years ago was, not whether this or that colonial ordinance was right, or whether this or that official's conduct was arbitrary, but whether there was to be any permanently comfortable intercourse whatsoever between the two nations. China chose to regard herself as the only sovereign Power in the universe. She would have no accredited agent of any foreign State at her capital, nor treat with any other government on equal terms. This was the policy her officials were directed to carry out, and, in the hands of Commissioner YEH, it became a policy of not treating at all. His plan was to commit acts of violence and then decline to discuss them. Contemptuous inaccessibility: that was what peace-loving diplomats like Sir JOHN BOWRING and Lord ELGIN had to deal with, and the only pity is that the practical solution of the problem did not devolve directly upon Mr. COBDEN or Mr. SIDNEY HERBERT. China is very different now from what she was then, and it is perhaps a little difficult fully to realize her ancient mood, but a comparison of her progress between 1860 and 1880 with her absolute immobility between 1840 and 1860, is the best possible vindication of the policy which led to the Treaty of 1858 and the Convention of 1860. There are many pages which we would fain see expunged from the story of our relations with the East, but the education of nations does not differ much from that of children. If an appeal to reason is impossible, an appeal to the rod, however distasteful, becomes inevitable. Nothing is easier than to fit principles to practice in a parliamentary debate or a philanthropical treatise, but in the presence of a nation which declines to admit any principles outside its own traditions, refuses altogether to listen to what the world calls reason, and shuts its door in the face of its visitors, there is nothing left

for these latter except to obtain a hearing by force or take themselves away altogether. The Exeter Hall School would recommend the latter course, but even the Exeter Hall School must admit that the power of election did not rest with British agents in China twenty-seven years ago. It is interesting to speculate what the House of Commons would have said if a British Consul at Canton had refused to protect the British flag against Chinese truculence, or to guard British property against Chinese arbitrariness, and if a British Governor at Hongkong had consented to be denied so much as the satisfaction of a hearing when he remonstrated against a Chinese Commissioner's deliberate disregard of treaty obligations. We imagine that Lord ELGIN, Sir JOHN BOWRING, Sir THOMAS WADE, and Sir HARRY PARKES would be quite content to submit the part they played in Chinese affairs a quarter of a century ago to the verdict of a board of Chinese statesmen to-day.

GENERAL VAN BUREN AND THE "JAPAN MAIL."

ON the 16th and 23rd December last, Editorial Notes appeared in the columns of this paper, the first alluding to anonymous communications made to the local press, and the second discussing certain features of the American Civil Service, in terms to which Consul-General VAN BUREN took exception as being intended to reflect upon himself. On learning—from a letter addressed by the Consul-General to our local contemporaries—that such was the case, we published on the 10th of March an article explaining that "as a matter of fact, though of minor importance, the article in question was not written by the Editor of this journal, but that it certainly would not have found a place in our columns had we anticipated that any individual could allow himself to be induced to apply the illustrative characteristics of its condemnatory, rather than its laudatory, passages to himself." With this, however, General VAN BUREN was not satisfied; and as subsequent correspondence did not open up any prospect of an understanding, it was finally agreed that the matter in dispute should be submitted for arbitration to a former well known resident at Yokohama, in whom both General VAN BUREN and the editor of this journal reposed entire confidence. After careful consideration that gentleman decided that, having regard to the previous references admittedly made to General VAN BUREN in the columns of the *Japan Mail*, the General was justified in assuming

that certain portions at the end of the note in question were intended to refer to him, and that a further "amende" was due to him from the *Mail*. Under these circumstances the Editor of this paper desires frankly to express his regret for the annoyance to which General VAN BUREN has been subjected, and to disavow any injurious reflection on him which could possibly be deduced or implied from the note in question.

In explanation of the delay that has occurred in the publication of the present article, it should be said that the gentleman to whom this matter was referred is now resident in Shanghai, and that the draft of the article was sent to him for approval in the first instance.

THE FINANCIAL ESTIMATES FOR THE 16th FISCAL YEAR OF MEIJI—(1883).

NOTIFICATION No. 26.

To the Council of State, Departments, Senate, Cities and Prefectures.

It is hereby notified that the Estimates of the Revenue and Expenditure for the 16th fiscal year (1883-84) have been fixed as follows:—

SANJO SAN'YOSHI, Prime Minister.
5th June, the 16th year of Meiji (1883.)

PRELIMINARY REMARKS.

Before proceeding to specify the causes of the increase and decrease of the Revenue and Expenditure as compared with previous years, a few important points require explanation, namely:—The total Estimate of the Revenue for the current fiscal year is yen 75,606,059, showing an excess of yen 8,791,937 over that of last year. The causes which led to this augmentation are to be found in the proposed enlargement of the military organization and improvement in the internal administration, which undertakings have necessitated the establishment of fresh taxation and an increase in the amount of taxes already imposed. Among the latter the principal are the Patent Medicine Stamps (Notification No. 51), Dues payable by members of the Rice and Stock Exchanges (Notification No. 65), Tobacco Tax (Notification No. 63), and Saké Tax (Notification No. 61). The increase arising from the Saké and Tobacco taxes and that on the Rice and Stock Exchanges amounts to yen 7,820,000; whilst the surplus arising from the tax on Patent Medicines is yen 610,000; the receipts of the Postal and Railway Bureaux, and other undertakings under the management of the Public Works Department, are augmented by yen 2,710,000. Thus, although there is a decrease of yen 2,350,000 in the receipts of the mines belonging to the Public Works Department and the sale of the products of Hokkaido, the total increase is yen 8,791,937 as stated above. As regards the Expenditure, the total increase is yen 10,660,000. Of this, yen 4,830,000 are absorbed by the Army and Navy under the extension of the military system; such, for example, as the construction of new men-of-war and the increase in the number of recruits and so forth; yen 1,810,000 are appropriated for a supplementary reserve for warlike purposes; yen 4,020,000 for the extension of the Postal and Sanitary systems, construction and repair of river embankments, and other works of a similar nature in Cities and Prefectures. The expenses of the manufacture of paper money, those in connection with various industries belonging to the Public Works Department and other miscellaneous outlays, are decreased by yen 1,870,000. This sum, deducted from the total amount of the aggregate increase—yen 10,660,000—leaves a dif-

ference of yen 8,790,000, which is the net amount of the increase. With respect to the withdrawal of paper currency, the loan fund for starting industries, and expenses for supporting existing industries, it may be mentioned, as will be seen under each heading, that, though there may be some difference in the amounts, yet there is no change of system.

The following are the items which show an increase in the Revenue:—

LAND TAX:—There is a decrease of yen 26,000 and yen 17,000 in the tax on irrigated fields and the value of stamps on land certificates respectively, consequent upon the change in the classification of the farms. Against this decrease, however, has to be set an increase of yen 111,000, owing to a readjustment of the tax on reclaimed land, as well as on uplands, enclosures, woods and forests, and moors, together with an increase of over yen 16,000 from arrears of land-tax.

TAX ON SAKÉ:—The increase in this is due to the modification of, and addition to, the regulations for the tax on Saké, by Notification No. 61, enacted in the 15th year of Meiji (1882).

TAX ON TOBACCO:—Owing to the alteration of the original regulations for the Tobacco tax by Notification No 63 enacted in the same year.

STAMP TAX ON LEGAL DOCUMENTS, ETC:—The sale increases year by year.

POSTAGE STAMPS:—Though there is a decrease of yen 60,000 in the postal charges, owing to Notification No. 59, enacted in the 15th year of Meiji (1882), yet this is met by an increase of yen 450,000 consequent upon the increase in the amount of correspondence.

TAX ON RULED PAPER FOR JUDICIAL PROCEEDINGS:—The causes are similar to those stated under the heading of stamps on legal Documents.

TAX ON VEHICLES:—There is a constant increase in the number of vehicles.

TAX ON COMPANIES:—Although there has been a decrease of yen 77,000, owing to the closing of a few of the National Banks and an alteration in the amount of taxes on Rice and Stock Exchanges by Notifications Nos. 66 and 67, enacted in the 15th year of Meiji, yet there is an increase of yen 930,000 owing to the enactment of rules for the taxation of members of the Rice and Stock Exchanges, by Notification No. 65 in the same year, and of yen 130,000 owing to the prolongation of the term of business of the said institutions.

SHOOTING LICENCES:—This item shows an increase year by year.

HORSE AND CATTLE DEALERS' LICENCES:—This item increases yearly owing to the increase in the number of licences.

TAX ON PATENT MEDICINES:—This shows an increase, owing to the yearly augmenting number of dealers and the issue of Patent Medicine Stamps, according to Notification No 51 of the 15th year of Meiji.

MANUFACTURES UNDER THE AGRICULTURAL AND COMMERCIAL DEPARTMENT:—The transfer of the Mongame Sugar Factory to the Bureau for the control of the industries in Hokkaido (*Fimu Kwanri Kioku*) and the decline in price of the articles manufactured in the Aichi Weaving Establishment, have caused a decrease of yen 2,000. On the other hand, there is an increase of yen 20,000 in the receipts of the Woollen Factory at Senjiu.

RAILWAYS UNDER THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT:—These augmenting to the increase in the number of passengers, conveyance of merchandise, and fall in the price of coal.

TELEGRAPHS UNDER THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT:—Owing to the completion of the submarine cable between Hiradate and Hakodate, no further outlays are required.

MINES IN HIROSHIMA KEN:—A saving was effected owing to an alteration in the distribution of workmen's wages.

WOODS AND FORESTS:—This increase is owing to the sale of lumber to emigrants to Hokkaido.

SINKING FUND:—There is a reduction of yen 101,000 under this heading, but an apparent increase owing to the fact that "Miscellaneous Receipts" have been placed under another heading.

REPAYMENT OF SUNDRY LOANS:—Although there has been a decrease of yen 62,000 in the payment of miscellaneous advances and allowances made, yet there is an increase of yen 86,000 owing to the repayment this year of various other loans.

SALES OF GOVERNMENT PROPERTY:—This shows an increase, in consequence of the proceeds arising from the sale of articles produced by the industrial establishments under the Agricultural and Commercial Department and Public Works Department having been added to this item; the reason being that the expenses for the maintenance of those establishments were paid out of the Ordinary Expenditure. The increment is also partly due to an improvement in the price of lands sold by the Government.

Petty increases under three other items added to those under the above nineteen make a total of yen 11,148,658.

The following are the items showing a decrease in the Revenue:—

Tax on Koji (yeast used for brewing saké):—This shows a decrease as estimated from the actual amount produced last year.

Tax on products of HOKKAIDO:—This shows a decrease, owing to the general fall in the price of commodities, and the fact that those products which were formerly sold in Tokiyo, Osaka, and Tsuruga, are this year sold in Hokkaido in order to save the expenses of transportation.

CHEMICALS AND DRUGS UNDER THE HOME DEPARTMENT:—Decrease owing to the alteration in the system hitherto employed, and to the manufacture having been made independent of the expenses for supporting industries.

MINING UNDER THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT:—There is an increase of yen 16,000 in consequence of metallurgic operations having been improved at Ikuno mine, the employment of improved machinery at Kasaka mine, and the increasing outturn of the Aburato mine. On the other hand, there has been a decrease of yen 323,000, as large expenses were incurred for repairing the mining machinery in the Sado, Ani, Inai, and Miike mines, and as the quality and prices of some of the ores have depreciated.

MINTING UNDER FINANCE DEPARTMENT:—Although the coinage fees and sale of hydrochloric acid have increased by yen 58,000, there is a decrease of yen 59,000 in the sale of sulphuric acid and carbolic acid. Expenses amounting to yen 32,000 were incurred for repairs to the Mint, its branches, and workshops.

RENT OF GOVERNMENT PROPERTY:—This decrease is due to the sale of lands.

REPAYMENT OF LOANS MADE TO IMPERIAL PRINCES AND FORMER HAN:—This item shows a decrease owing to the refund of a large portion of the loan.

REPAYMENT OF LOANS IN PROPORTION TO RICE PRODUCTION:—This decrease is due to the same cause as stated above.

MISCELLANEOUS RECEIPTS:—The increase under this heading is yen 24,000 arising from the fees paid for exemption from conscription and various receipts. But this increase is over-balanced by a decrease of yen 85,000 in attachments and fines since the enactment of the new Criminal Code. The receipt of yen 1,493,000, being the fund for the redemption of the national debts, has been entered under another special heading. Four other items, added to the above, make the total decrease yen 2,356,721. This, deducted from the increase in the Revenue, leaves a balance of yen 8,791,937, which is the net increase.

The following are the causes of the various increases in Expenditure:—

REDEMPTION OF DOMESTIC DEBT:—There is a decrease of yen 63,000 in the Pension Bonds for ex-Shinto priests. On the other hand, there is an increase of yen 550,000, in connection with the redemption of the Specie Bonds for exchange against paper currency, issued in the 14th year of Meiji (1881), whose term of redemption commences in this fiscal year, the Capitalised Pension Bonds, the redemption of which is to be concluded in the present year, and of Loans for Public Works which have been entered here in full.

REDEMPTION OF FOREIGN DEBT:—As the interest decreases the funds for the payment of the principal are increased.

REDEMPTION OF PAPER MONEY:—The sum allotted for the withdrawal of paper money during the present year according to the Scheme of Redemption, is yen 1,340,000, which is less by yen 160,000 than for last year. To this item, however,

is transferred, from the heading of the Loan for Industrial Purposes, the sum of yen 200,000 advanced for various industries.

CIVIL LIST AND APPANAGES OF THE IMPERIAL FAMILY:—Although the expenses of the Fire Brigade and the Nobles' Bureau, amounting to yen 22,000, have been transferred to the Imperial Household Department, yet there is an increase of yen 372,000 for the allowance to H.I.H. Prince Masu-no-miya and other items.

HOME DEPARTMENT:—The extension of provisions for sanitary measures involved large expenses.

WAR DEPARTMENT:—Owing to the enlargement of the military system.

IMPERIAL HOUSEHOLD DEPARTMENT:—The expenditure has been increased in consequence of the transfer of the expenses for the Fire Brigade and Nobles' Bureau.

SENATE:—Owing to the increase in the number of Senators.

LEGATIONS AND CONSULATES:—Owing to the despatch of a Minister Plenipotentiary and Envoy Extraordinary to Austria, and of officers to His Majesty's Legation in Korea.

CUSTOMS BUREAU:—Owing to the establishment of a branch of the Nagasaki Custom House at Karatsu.

POST OFFICE:—Owing to the extension of mail lines, and an increase in the number of collections and deliveries of letters.

BUREAU FOR ADMINISTERING THE HOKKAIDO INDUSTRIES:—Expenses—yen 132,000—for the Office for Encouragement of Industries in Hokkaido, Museum, Agricultural School, Breeding Farms, Brick Factory and Laboratory under the control of the Agricultural and Commercial Department, and expenses incurred for the support of the factories under the Public Works Department amounting to yen 47,000, have been transferred to this item. Again, the expenditure hitherto included under the separate heading of "Expenses for productive industries" (*sakugyo-hi*) has been included in the Ordinary Expenditure. The latter sum amounts to yen 490,000, of which, however, the receipts derived from the aforesaid industries, *vis.*, yen 330,000, are paid into the National Treasury, under the heading of Miscellaneous Receipts.

REPAIRS, CONSTRUCTION, AND ENGINEERING:—Although there has been a decrease of yen 59,000 in the expenses of dredging Nakamura River in the prefecture of Kanagawa, and of constructing drains in the Foreign Concession in Yokohama, and contribution toward the fund for making the Oyashiradz and Yoneyama roads, in the prefecture of Niigata; and a further decrease of yen 3,000 on public works in Okinawa *ken* (Riu Kiu Islands); yet all this is counterbalanced by an increase of yen 297,000 in the outlays for the reconstruction of dikes in the rivers Abukuma, Fuji, Shô, and Oi, and contributions toward the fund for making roads in Kiyoto, Hiogo, Fukushima, and Nagano Prefectures, and re-constructing dikes in Kumamoto Prefecture.

EXPENDITURE FOR FU AND KEN:—Although the expenses—yen 20,000—for transporting excisable goods from Okinawa Prefecture are transferred to the Revenue Bureau, and although there is a decrease of yen 73,000 in the expenses of relief and various expenses of the prefectures; according to the enactments of Notifications Nos. 49 and 50 in the 15th year of Meiji (1882), yet there has been an increase of yen 1,240,000 owing to the enforcement of the Patent Medicine Stamps Act and the levy of the tax on saké, tobacco, etc., as enacted by Notifications Nos. 49 and 50; and also owing to the transfer of salaries and travelling expenses of district and ward officers to the National Treasury; the establishment of a Conscription Section in every prefecture; the establishment of new prefectures in Toyama, Saga, and Miyasaki, and large subsidies for local expenditure in the three prefectures of Hokkaido.

EXPENDITURE FOR METROPOLITAN AND PROVINCIAL POLICE:—This item shows an increase of yen 28,000. Of this, yen 25,000 are absorbed by the provincial police; and yen 3,000 are required for police in Ogasawara-jima (Bonin Islands) and for the salaries of police inspectors in Nemuro Prefecture.

TOKIYO PENITENTIARY:—Owing to the decrease in receipts from criminal labour.

MIKE PENITENTIARY:—Owing to the construction of prison buildings.

KUCHI PENITENTIARY:—Owing to the same cause.

KABUTO PENITENTIARY:—Owing to the increase of criminals.

EXPENDITURE ON SHINTO SHRINES:—This item shows an increase on account of the four Shrines of Onomikado, Tokiwa, Toyosaka, and Amekuni having been promoted to be Special Shrines of the Government, and Tsuruga-oka and Hachiman Shrines, having been added to the National Shrines.

MISCELLANEOUS EXPENSES:—This item shows an increase, owing to the increase in the number of decorations and gratuities bestowed.

DOCKYARDS:—The increase in this is due to the extension of the works.

TELEGRAPHS UNDER THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT:—This shows an increase consequent upon the construction of telegraph lines and offices.

SUPPLEMENTARY RESERVE FOR WARLIKE PURPOSES:—This is in connection with the proposed enlargement of military organization.

Three other items added to the above twenty-five, make the total increase of yen 10,666,335.

The following are the items showing a decrease in expenditure:—

INTEREST ON DOMESTIC DEBT:—Owing to the gradual redemption of the principal.

INTEREST ON FOREIGN DEBT:—Owing to the same cause.

GRATUITIES TO THE MILITARY:—This is due to the diminution in the number of recipients.

PENSIONS TO SHRINES AND TEMPLES:—Owing to gradual annual redemption.

HEREDITARY PENSIONS TO SHIZOKU OF OKINAWA KEN:—The decrease in this item is due to the enforcement of the law curtailing and confiscating pensions according to the custom of the late clan.

NAVY DEPARTMENT:—Although this item is increased by yen 250,000 owing to the extension of our military organization, yet, as the expenses for the construction of men-of-war have been placed under a separate heading, there is a decrease of yen 330,000.

AGRICULTURAL AND COMMERCIAL DEPARTMENT:—The alteration in the management of the breeding farm at Shimosa necessitated an increase of yen 35,000. But this is balanced by the decrease of yen 132,000, which sum has been excluded from the expenditure of the Office for encouragement of industries in Hokkaido, and transferred to the Bureau for the control of industries in Hokkaido.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT:—The decrease here is owing to the same cause as that stated in the above item.

BUREAU OF INLAND REVENUE:—Although the expenditure was increased by yen 170,000, in consequence of the modification of the tax on saké, etc., and transfer, from the expenses of Cities and Prefectures, of the expenses for conveyance of taxes as collected in kind in Okinawa *ken*, yet there is a decrease of yen 227,000 owing to a change in the system of selling the products so collected.

REPAIRS AND CONSTRUCTION:—This item shows an increase of yen 5,000, owing to the repairs of many Shrines. On the other hand, there is a decrease of yen 11,000 owing to the completion of the Judicial Courts in Okinawa *ken*.

MIYAGI PENITENTIARY:—Owing to the completion of the workshops and store-rooms.

EXPENDITURE ON CRIMINALS IN GAOLS OF FU AND KEN:—This item shows a decrease owing to many of the prisoners having been transferred to local prisons.

MANUFACTURE OF GUNPOWDER UNDER NAVY DEPARTMENT:—Owing to the expenses having been paid out of funds remaining from last year.

MINES UNDER THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT:—An increase of yen 50,000 has been caused by the exploration of coal measures in the Miike mine and employing boring apparatus there. On the other hand, there is a decrease of yen 202,000, owing to the Kamashii mine having been turned over to private persons.

MISCELLANEOUS EXPENSES:—Owing to the constant visits of His Majesty's men-of-war to Korean waters, this item was augmented by yen 103,000. But there is a decrease of yen 180,000 owing to the completion of the Accountant's Bureau, Auditor's Bureau, and Court Martial Bureau; and the fact that no expense was incurred in connection with the Marine Produce Exhibition.

TABLE II.—EXPENDITURE.

| OBJECT. | ESTIMATED ACCOUNT FOR 10TH YEAR. | | ESTIMATED ACCOUNT FOR 15TH YEAR. | | PRESENT ACCOUNT FOR 14TH YEAR. | | PRESENT ACCOUNT FOR 13TH YEAR. | | ACTUAL ACCOUNT FOR 12TH YEAR. | | DIFFERENCE BY COMPARISON. | | | |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------|----------------|----------------------------------|----------------|--------------------------------|------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------|-------------------------------|------|---------------------------|--------------------|---------------|---------------|
| | Yen. | Yen. | Yen. | Yen. | Yen. | Yen. | Yen. | Yen. | Yen. | Yen. | 15TH YEAR. | 14TH YEAR. | 13TH YEAR. | 12TH YEAR. |
| Redemption of National Debt... | 8,792,405.000 | 8,237,614.000 | 12,116,583.809 | 6,240,291.037 | 5,844,374.791 | 554,791.000 | Dec. 3,344,178.809 | Dec. 3,344,178.809 | 2,352,113.963 | Yen. | 554,791.000 | Dec. 3,344,178.809 | 2,352,113.963 | 2,958,030.209 |
| Domestic Debt... | 5,021,969.000 | 4,535,014.000 | 4,184,113.421 | 2,981,361.665 | 2,584,700.105 | 486,675.000 | Dec. 3,344,178.809 | Dec. 3,344,178.809 | 2,352,113.963 | Dec. | 486,675.000 | Dec. 3,344,178.809 | 2,352,113.963 | 2,176,288.835 |
| Foreign Debt... | 430,416.000 | 3,340,000.000 | 952,470.368 | 1,258,959.372 | 988,674.626 | 27,816.000 | Dec. 3,344,178.809 | Dec. 3,344,178.809 | 2,352,113.963 | Dec. | 27,816.000 | Dec. 3,344,178.809 | 2,352,113.963 | 556,258.626 |
| Interest and Expenses on National Debt | 3,340,000.000 | 3,340,000.000 | 7,000,000.000 | 2,000,000.000 | 2,000,000.000 | 2,000,000.000 | Dec. 3,344,178.809 | Dec. 3,344,178.809 | 2,352,113.963 | Dec. | 2,000,000.000 | Dec. 3,344,178.809 | 2,352,113.963 | 1,340,000.000 |
| Interest on Domestic Debt | 14,599,282.000 | 15,055,592.000 | 15,610,538.906 | 10,180,281.467 | 15,915,277.971 | Dec. 456,310.000 | Dec. 1,011,250.906 | Dec. 1,011,250.906 | 1,586,999.467 | Dec. | Dec. 456,310.000 | Dec. 1,011,250.906 | 1,586,999.467 | 1,315,995.971 |
| Miscellaneous Expenses on Domestic Debt | 13,961,465.000 | 14,380,554.000 | 14,801,421.596 | 14,981,522.576 | 14,866,209.391 | 63,000.000 | Dec. 456,310.000 | Dec. 456,310.000 | 1,586,999.467 | Dec. | 63,000.000 | Dec. 456,310.000 | 1,586,999.467 | 904,844.390 |
| Interest on Foreign Debt | 8,801.000 | 8,738.000 | 8,641.560 | 1,185,508.902 | 1,038,107.002 | Dec. 28,182.000 | Dec. 167,330.585 | Dec. 167,330.585 | 414,742.002 | Dec. | Dec. 28,182.000 | Dec. 167,330.585 | 414,742.002 | 8,801.000 |
| Miscellaneous Expenses on Foreign Debt | 623,455.000 | 651,637.000 | 790,785.585 | 1,185,508.902 | 1,038,107.002 | Dec. 28,182.000 | Dec. 167,330.585 | Dec. 167,330.585 | 414,742.002 | Dec. | Dec. 28,182.000 | Dec. 167,330.585 | 414,742.002 | 8,801.000 |
| Civil List and Appanages of the Imperial Families | 1,748,785.000 | 1,398,785.000 | 1,523,491.611 | 1,042,975.000 | 1,013,725.804 | Dec. 350,000.000 | Dec. 225,293.389 | Dec. 225,293.389 | 705,810.000 | Dec. | Dec. 350,000.000 | Dec. 225,293.389 | 705,810.000 | 735,050.166 |
| Pensions | 412,740.000 | 440,270.000 | 477,287.798 | 523,807.205 | 584,403.057 | Dec. 63,000.000 | Dec. 63,047.708 | Dec. 63,047.708 | 111,067.205 | Dec. | Dec. 63,000.000 | Dec. 63,047.708 | 111,067.205 | 171,603.057 |
| Annuities attached to the Order of Merit | 148,337.000 | 140,016.000 | 147,284.500 | 150,580.500 | 150,580.500 | Dec. 13,243.000 | Dec. 7,697.820 | Dec. 7,697.820 | 2,252.500 | Dec. | Dec. 13,243.000 | Dec. 7,697.820 | 2,252.500 | 6,007.500 |
| Gratuities to Shrines and Temples | 137,591.000 | 150,334.008 | 145,388.812 | 178,477.291 | 200,370.941 | Dec. 19,434.000 | Dec. 34,697.812 | Dec. 34,697.812 | 54,333.238 | Dec. | Dec. 19,434.000 | Dec. 34,697.812 | 54,333.238 | 62,985.941 |
| Hereditary Pensions to Shizoku of Okinawa Ken | 13,184.000 | 116,811.000 | 115,933.876 | 67,517.238 | 29,391.616 | Dec. 3,183.000 | Dec. 1,405.876 | Dec. 1,405.876 | 1,405.876 | Dec. | Dec. 3,183.000 | Dec. 1,405.876 | 1,405.876 | 116,207.616 |
| Temporary Grants to Soldiers who served in subjugating the Satsuma Rebels | — | — | 21,255.700 | 13,189.300 | — | — | Dec. 21,255.700 | Dec. 21,255.700 | 12,189.300 | Dec. | — | Dec. 21,255.700 | 12,189.300 | — |
| Expenditure of Council of State, Ministers, Senate, and Special Bureaux | 24,787,092.000 | 22,173,725.000 | 22,515,541.003 | 24,159,465.474 | 21,686,700.251 | 2,613,367.000 | Dec. 2,271,550.937 | Dec. 2,271,550.937 | 627,626.526 | Yen. | 2,613,367.000 | Dec. 2,271,550.937 | 627,626.526 | 3,100,301.749 |
| Council of State | 632,232.000 | 632,232.000 | 631,463.504 | 467,680.579 | 392,632.814 | — | Dec. 768.496 | Dec. 768.496 | 164,551.421 | Dec. | — | Dec. 768.496 | 164,551.421 | 230,599.186 |
| Foreign Department | 195,210.000 | 195,210.000 | 210,541.000 | 247,372.101 | 217,414.928 | — | Dec. 15,331.000 | Dec. 15,331.000 | 82,162.101 | Dec. | — | Dec. 15,331.000 | 82,162.101 | 22,204.928 |
| Home Department | 639,225.000 | 489,225.000 | 1,048,245.974 | 1,471,321.524 | 1,413,028.398 | 150,000.000 | Dec. 409,020.974 | Dec. 409,020.974 | 832,006.524 | Dec. | 150,000.000 | Dec. 409,020.974 | 832,006.524 | 773,813.398 |
| Finance Department | 669,829.000 | 669,829.000 | 1,275,065.971 | 1,473,701.681 | 1,474,105.065 | — | Dec. 606,126.391 | Dec. 606,126.391 | 803,872.681 | Dec. | — | Dec. 606,126.391 | 803,872.681 | 804,366.065 |
| War Department | 10,105,872.000 | 8,605,872.000 | 8,208,608.933 | 8,434,529.796 | 7,766,019.464 | 1,500,000.000 | Dec. 1,897,261.067 | Dec. 1,897,261.067 | 1,671,342.204 | Dec. | 1,500,000.000 | Dec. 1,897,261.067 | 1,671,342.204 | 2,338,932.576 |
| Navy Department | 3,081,602.000 | 3,161,602.000 | 3,014,728.483 | 3,165,222.052 | 3,079,859.344 | — | Dec. 66,933.517 | Dec. 66,933.517 | 83,530.034 | Dec. | — | Dec. 66,933.517 | 83,530.034 | 1,832,656 |
| Educational Department | 935,035.000 | 935,035.000 | 895,897.000 | 1,177,197.999 | 1,079,899.344 | — | Dec. 39,130.000 | Dec. 39,130.000 | 242,162.999 | Dec. | — | Dec. 39,130.000 | 242,162.999 | 252,507.474 |
| Agricultural and Commercial Department | 983,297.000 | 1,000,300.000 | 1,144,619.634 | 254,014.450 | 661,466.784 | — | Dec. 241,322.034 | Dec. 241,322.034 | 649,282.550 | Dec. | — | Dec. 241,322.034 | 649,282.550 | 903,207.000 |
| Public Works Department | 468,204.000 | 515,915.000 | 476,954.540 | 565,389.861 | 476,954.540 | — | Dec. 8,660.500 | Dec. 8,660.500 | 97,095.861 | Dec. | — | Dec. 8,660.500 | 97,095.861 | 103,112.784 |
| Judicial Department | 2,070,556.000 | 2,070,556.000 | 1,776,736.500 | 1,779,822.977 | 1,345,842.512 | — | Dec. 283,816.500 | Dec. 283,816.500 | 290,733.023 | Dec. | — | Dec. 283,816.500 | 290,733.023 | 725,513.488 |
| Imperial Household Department | 401,460.000 | 379,000.000 | 386,401.573 | 359,583.726 | 379,160.602 | 22,460.000 | Dec. 15,058.427 | Dec. 15,058.427 | 50,876.274 | Dec. | 22,460.000 | Dec. 15,058.427 | 50,876.274 | 72,299.398 |
| Senate | 185,500.000 | 178,500.000 | 179,854.397 | 172,860.383 | 155,755.625 | 7,000.000 | Dec. 68,402.432 | Dec. 68,402.432 | 12,639.617 | Dec. | 7,000.000 | Dec. 68,402.432 | 12,639.617 | 29,744.375 |
| Legations and Consulates | 533,395.000 | 517,000.000 | 464,992.518 | 891,265.925 | 587,333.163 | 16,395.000 | Dec. 56,244.000 | Dec. 56,244.000 | 357,870.925 | Dec. | 16,395.000 | Dec. 56,244.000 | 357,870.925 | 53,938.163 |
| Bureau of Inland Revenue | 624,237.000 | 680,481.000 | — | — | — | — | Dec. 204,971.000 | Dec. 204,971.000 | 624,237.000 | Dec. | — | Dec. 204,971.000 | 624,237.000 | 624,237.000 |
| Customs Bureau | 204,971.000 | 202,871.000 | — | — | — | — | Dec. 204,971.000 | Dec. 204,971.000 | 204,971.000 | Dec. | — | Dec. 204,971.000 | 204,971.000 | 204,971.000 |
| Post Office | 2,465,000.000 | 1,940,097.000 | 1,470,913.255 | 1,347,722.955 | 1,088,392.232 | 524,993.000 | Dec. 994,866.745 | Dec. 994,866.745 | 1,117,277.045 | Dec. | 524,993.000 | Dec. 994,866.745 | 1,117,277.045 | 1,370,607.768 |
| Bureau for Administering the Hokkaido Industries | 671,287.000 | — | — | — | — | — | Dec. 671,287.000 | Dec. 671,287.000 | 671,287.000 | Dec. | — | Dec. 671,287.000 | 671,287.000 | 671,287.000 |
| Colonization Commission | — | — | 1,319,588.391 | 2,184,356.547 | 1,912,188.289 | — | Dec. 2,184,356.547 | Dec. 2,184,356.547 | 1,912,188.289 | Dec. | — | Dec. 2,184,356.547 | 1,912,188.289 | 1,912,188.289 |
| Land Tax Reform Office | — | — | — | 170,422.918 | 75,817.657 | — | Dec. 170,422.918 | Dec. 170,422.918 | 75,817.657 | Dec. | — | Dec. 170,422.918 | 75,817.657 | 75,817.657 |
| Repairs, Construction, and Engineering | 809,744.000 | 581,406.000 | 525,205.402 | 3,025,030.468 | 1,996,822.009 | 228,338.000 | Dec. 284,538.598 | Dec. 284,538.598 | 2,215,886.468 | Dec. | 228,338.000 | Dec. 284,538.598 | 2,215,886.468 | 1,187,078.009 |
| Engineering | 100,931.000 | 107,682.000 | 113,196.426 | 509,222.629 | 534,895.754 | 6,751.000 | Dec. 12,265.426 | Dec. 12,265.426 | 408,291.629 | Dec. | 6,751.000 | Dec. 12,265.426 | 408,291.629 | 433,964.754 |
| Expenditure for Cities and Prefectures | 708,813.000 | 473,724.000 | 412,008.976 | 2,516,407.839 | 1,461,926.255 | 235,089.000 | Dec. 296,804.024 | Dec. 296,804.024 | 1,807,594.839 | Dec. | 235,089.000 | Dec. 296,804.024 | 1,807,594.839 | 753,113.255 |
| Expenditure for Police Metropolitan and Provincial | 5,332,609.000 | 4,185,081.000 | 3,866,187.715 | 5,231,059.019 | 4,405,675.714 | 1,147,528.000 | Dec. 1,526,421.285 | Dec. 1,526,421.285 | 101,549.981 | Dec. | 1,147,528.000 | Dec. 1,526,421.285 | 101,549.981 | 926,933.286 |
| Central Police Office | 2,475,364.000 | 2,445,974.000 | 2,343,843.724 | 2,628,274.285 | 2,620,565.857 | 29,390.000 | Dec. 131,520.276 | Dec. 131,520.276 | 152,910.285 | Dec. | 29,390.000 | Dec. 131,520.276 | 152,910.285 | 154,201.857 |
| Three Fu and All Ken | 392,458.000 | 302,058.000 | 414,195.575 | 1,317,818.393 | 1,384,614.348 | 400.000 | Dec. 21,237.575 | Dec. 21,237.575 | 95,420.391 | Dec. | 400.000 | Dec. 21,237.575 | 95,420.391 | 990,156.348 |
| Penitentiaries | 2,082,096.000 | 2,053,916.000 | 1,929,648.149 | 1,310,395.892 | 1,264,951.509 | 28,990.000 | Dec. 153,257.851 | Dec. 153,257.851 | 774,510.108 | Dec. | 28,990.000 | Dec. 153,257.851 | 774,510.108 | 835,954.401 |
| Penitentiary in Tokijo | 649,751.000 | 541,762.900 | — | — | — | 8,455.000 | Dec. 649,751.000 | Dec. 649,751.000 | 649,751.000 | Dec. | 8,455.000 | Dec. 649,751.000 | 649,751.000 | 649,751.000 |
| Penitentiary in Miyagi | 53,688.000 | 44,233.000 | — | — | — | — | Dec. 53,688.000 | Dec. 53,688.000 | 53,688.000 | Dec. | — | Dec. 53,688.000 | 53,688.000 | 53,688.000 |
| Penitentiary in Muke | 53,398.000 | 61,884.000 | — | — | — | — | Dec. 53,398.000 | Dec. 53,398.000 | 53,398.000 | Dec. | — | Dec. 53,398.000 | 53,398.000 | 53,398.000 |
| Penitentiary in Kabato | 35,489.000 | — | — | — | — | — | Dec. 35,489.000 | Dec. 35,489.000 | 35,489.000 | Dec. | — | Dec. 35,489.000 | 35,489.000 | 35,489.000 |
| Penitentiary in Sorachi | 202,284.000 | 150,000.000 | — | — | — | — | Dec. 202,284.000 | Dec. 202,284.000 | 202,284.000 | Dec. | — | Dec. 202,284.000 | 202,284.000 | 202,284.000 |
| Expenditure on Criminals in Gaols of Fu & Ken | 177,338.000 | 77,338.000 | — | — | — | — | Dec. 177,338.000 | Dec. 177,338.000 | 177,338.000 | Dec. | — | Dec. 177,338.000 | 177,338.000 | 177,338.000 |
| Expenditure on Shinto Shrines | 138,207.000 | 208,307.000 | — | — | — | — | Dec. 138,207.000 | Dec. 138,207.000 | 138,207.000 | Dec. | — | Dec. 138,207.000 | 138,207.000 | 138,207.000 |
| Fund for relief of Agricultural Distress | 151,789.000 | 147,750.000 | — | — | — | — | Dec. 151,789.000 | Dec. 151,789.000 | 151,789.000 | Dec. | — | Dec. 151,789.000 | 151,789.000 | 151,789.000 |
| Supplement to Deficiency of Capital for Maintaining Public Works and Industries | — | — | 143,061.228 | 129,994.968 | 125,480.191 | — | Dec. 129,994.968 | Dec. 129,994.968 | 95,454.915 | Dec. | — | Dec. 129,994.968 | 95,454.915 | 167,657.639 |
| Manufactures under Home Department | — | — | 28,000.000 | 95,454.915 | 167,657.639 | — | Dec. 95,454.915 | Dec. 95,454.915 | 178,545.8 | Dec. | — | Dec. 95,454.915 | 178,545.8 | 69,308.695 |
| Sheep Farm under Home Department | — | — | — | — | — | — | Dec. — | Dec. — | — | Dec. | — | Dec. — | — | 30,941.125 |
| Manufactures under Agricultural and Commercial Department | — | — | — | — | — | — | Dec. — | Dec. — | — | Dec. | — | Dec. — | — | — |
| Mines under Public Works Department | — | — | — | 20,498.389 | — | — | Dec. 20,498.389 | Dec. 20,498.389 | 44,211.000 | Dec. | — | Dec. 20,498.389 | 44,211.000 | |

TABLE II.—EXPENDITURE.—CONTINUED.

| OBJECT. | ESTIMATED ACCOUNT FOR 10TH YEAR. | ESTIMATED ACCOUNT FOR 15TH YEAR. | PRESENT ACCOUNT FOR 14TH YEAR. | PRESENT ACCOUNT FOR 13TH YEAR. | ACTUAL ACCOUNT FOR 12TH YEAR. | DIFFERENCE BY COMPARISON. | | | |
|---------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------|----------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|---------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| | | | | | | 15TH YEAR. | 14TH YEAR. | 13TH YEAR. | 12TH YEAR. |
| Public Works under Public Works Department... | — | — | 28,000.000 | 28,000.000 | 37,896.367 | — | 28,000.000 | Dec. 28,000.000 | 37,896.367 |
| General Industries under Colonization Commission... | — | — | — | — | 29,451.462 | — | — | Dec. — | 29,451.462 |
| Miscellaneous ... | — | — | — | — | 3,842.154 | — | — | Dec. — | 3,842.154 |
| Total of Ordinary Expenditure ... | 236,217.000 | 156,687.000 | 4,273.321 | 3,618.525 | 55,209.482.173 | 79,530.000 | 231,945.479 | 232,568.475 | 232,568.475 |
| Expenditure for Creation of Public Industries ... | 61,195,778.000 | 56,573,655.000 | 60,314,514.087 | 60,406,882.303 | 55,209,482.173 | 46,221,723.000 | 881,263.313 | 734,895.637 | 734,895.637 |
| Dockyards under Navy Department ... | 534,860.000 | 793,100.000 | 1,701,781.633 | 1,397,931.857 | 1,325,966.325 | Dec. 168,240.000 | Dec. 1,166,021.633 | 863,072.857 | 790,836.325 |
| Manufacture of Gunpowder under Navy Department ... | 136,386.000 | 133,600.000 | 91,132.061 | 106,232.986 | 1,045,947 | 2,786.000 | 45,252.939 | 39,153.020 | 94,440.953 |
| Mines under Public Works Department ... | 87,041.000 | 116,500.000 | 154,827.944 | 142,072.682 | 16,946.532 | Dec. 29,459.000 | Dec. 67,786.944 | Dec. 55,031.682 | 70,094.468 |
| Railways under Public Works Department ... | 75,700.000 | 228,000.000 | 319,035.135 | 455,147.920 | 373,680.291 | Dec. 152,300.000 | Dec. 244,235.135 | Dec. 379,447.920 | 207,086.291 |
| Telegraphs under Public Works Department ... | 200,000.000 | 200,000.000 | 60,102.500 | 60,769.663 | 15,539.719 | Dec. 401,025.000 | Dec. 139,230.337 | Dec. 184,466.281 | 184,466.281 |
| Manufactures under Home Department ... | 35,733.000 | — | 128,376.181 | 108,970.650 | 146,770.450 | 35,733.000 | Dec. 92,643.181 | Dec. 73,237.650 | Dec. 129,037.450 |
| Sheep Farm under Home Department ... | — | — | — | 176,249.000 | 157,361.552 | — | — | Dec. 176,249.000 | Dec. 157,361.552 |
| Mining under Finance Department ... | — | — | — | 3,063.229 | 32,458.086 | — | — | Dec. 3,063.229 | Dec. 32,458.086 |
| Printing under Finance Department ... | — | — | — | 24,000.000 | 46,033.125 | — | Dec. 39,348.000 | Dec. 2,400.000 | Dec. 46,033.125 |
| Manufacture of Ammunition under War Department ... | — | — | 29,348.000 | — | — | — | Dec. 36,444.979 | Dec. 22,670.844 | Dec. 290,160.336 |
| Coal Mines under Navy Department ... | — | — | 36,444.979 | 122,670.844 | 290,160.336 | — | — | Dec. 2,344.068 | — |
| Manufactures under Agricultural and Commercial Department ... | — | — | — | — | — | — | Dec. 7,597.327 | Dec. 3,436.000 | — |
| Coal Mines in Hokkaido ... | — | — | 2,520.537 | 187,039.034 | 151,523.424 | — | Dec. 25,526.537 | Dec. 187,039.034 | Dec. 151,523.424 |
| Manufacture of Oil under Public Works Department ... | — | 25,000.000 | 6,427.585 | — | — | Dec. 25,000.000 | Dec. 6,427.585 | Dec. — | — |
| General Industries under Colonization Commission ... | — | — | — | — | — | — | Dec. 6,139.884 | Dec. 14,236.787 | Dec. — |
| Improvement of Ishikari River in Hokkaido ... | — | — | — | — | — | — | Dec. 295,000.000 | Dec. 1,085,735.253 | Dec. 4,307,192.795 |
| Temporary Advances and Capital for Maintaining Industries ... | 5,559,288.000 | 2,177,367.000 | 4,473,553.747 | 1,232,095.205 | 3,782,399.883 | Dec. 2,819,921.000 | Dec. 295,000.000 | Dec. 4,307,192.795 | Dec. 1,776,888.117 |
| Supplementary Reserve for Warlike Purposes ... | 5,000,000.000 | 5,260,000.000 | — | 30,000.000 | — | Dec. 260,000.000 | Dec. 140,855.056 | Dec. 4,070,000.000 | Dec. 5,000,000.000 |
| Contingency Fund ... | 1,816,133.000 | 1,500,000.000 | — | — | — | 1,816,133.000 | Dec. 1,816,133.000 | Dec. 1,816,133.000 | Dec. 1,816,133.000 |
| Grand Total of Extraordinary Expenditure ... | 14,410,281.000 | 10,240,467.000 | 11,034,479.324 | 2,680,028.062 | 5,118,096.208 | 4,169,814.000 | 3,375,801.676 | 11,730,252.038 | 9,302,184.702 |
| Excess of Revenue ... | 75,666,059.000 | 66,814,122.000 | 71,348,994.011 | 63,140,910.425 | 60,117,578.381 | 8,791,937.000 | 4,577,664.989 | 12,465,148.573 | 15,888,486.619 |
| | — | — | 92,721.035 | 226,344.021 | 1,834,173.143 | Dec. 92,721.035 | Dec. 226,344.021 | Dec. 1,834,173.143 | Dec. 1,834,173.143 |

TABLE III.—COMPARATIVE TABLE OF NATIONAL DEBT AND RESERVE AND OTHER FUNDS FOR THE TWELFTH, THIRTEENTH, FOURTEENTH, FIFTEENTH, AND SIXTEENTH YEARS OF MEIJI.

| OBJECT. | DIFFERENCE BY COMPARISON. | | | | |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| | 16TH YEAR. | 15TH YEAR. | 14TH YEAR. | 13TH YEAR. | 12TH YEAR. |
| Domestic Debt, bearing interest ... | 219,614,150.000 | 226,048,300.000 | 227,201,070.000 | 220,139,615.000 | 228,631,130.000 |
| New Debt ... | 10,852,025.000 | 10,053,400.000 | 11,053,425.000 | 11,132,650.000 | 11,327,675.000 |
| Bonds payable in Specie ... | 5,844,800.000 | 5,346,150.000 | 5,174,200.000 | 4,693,300.000 | 4,923,700.000 |
| Voluntary Capitalized Pension Bonds ... | 3,265,050.000 | 8,511,200.000 | 9,512,275.000 | 11,821,950.000 | 14,168,900.000 |
| Hereditary Pension Bonds ... | 172,835,525.000 | 173,834,975.000 | 173,836,795.000 | 173,636,390.000 | 173,287,530.000 |
| Bonds for Pensions granted to Kiu Shiu Kwan (old shrine priests) ... | 166,800.000 | 252,925.000 | 390,225.000 | 423,325.000 | 423,325.000 |
| Loans for Public Works ... | 11,649,050.000 | 11,949,050.000 | 12,234,050.000 | 12,500.000.000 | 12,500.000.000 |
| Money borrowed for Subjugation of the South-Western Rebellion ... | 15,000,000.000 | 15,000,000.000 | 15,000,000.000 | 15,000,000.000 | 15,000,000.000 |
| Domestic Debt, without interest ... | 8,555,106.000 | 8,774,560.000 | 8,992,222.500 | 9,211,776.000 | 9,439,732.000 |
| Paper Money in Circulation ... | 98,290,352.300 | 105,039,228.500 | 106,061,439.400 | 108,681,203.600 | 113,427,902.000 |
| Total of Domestic Debt ... | 326,459,698.300 | 346,404,088.500 | 342,235,631.900 | 347,034,594.600 | 351,498,854.000 |
| Foreign Debt (old) ... | — | — | 468,000.000 | 970,000.000 | 1,404,000.000 |
| Foreign Debt (new) ... | 8,906,488.000 | 9,309,088.000 | 9,685,336.000 | 10,036,696.000 | 10,365,120.000 |
| Total of Foreign Debt ... | 8,906,488.000 | 9,309,088.000 | 10,153,336.000 | 11,012,696.000 | 11,829,120.000 |
| Grand Total of National Debt ... | 335,366,186.300 | 345,713,176.500 | 352,428,967.900 | 358,047,290.600 | 363,327,974.000 |
| Reserve ... | 53,415,490.442 | 55,854,207.876 | 55,390,096.221 | 57,325,515.144 | 50,898,871.661 |
| Sundry Loans due to Government ... | 19,061,559.207 | 13,051,966.503 | 6,771,391.794 | 7,306,811.083 | 7,405,420.162 |
| Central Fund of Relief of Agriculture Districts ... | 1,897,695.238 | 1,598,248.134 | 845,056.645 | — | — |
| Extraordinary Expenses ... | 884,508.020 | — | — | — | — |

CORRESPONDENCE.

[Our readers must distinctly understand that we are in no sense responsible for the sentiments or opinions of our correspondents, for the accuracy of their assertions, or for the deductions they may choose to draw therefrom.]

JAPANESE LABORATORIES AND THE BRITISH CONSUL.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL."

SIR,—Her Britannic Majesty's Consul at this port, Mr. Russell Robertson, has inserted, in his Annual Consular Trade Report for the year 1882, dated Kanagawa, June 19th, 1883, the following paragraph in regard to the Japanese Government Laboratories under the Central Sanitary Bureau of the Home Department:—

"Controversial matter can scarcely be introduced in a Trade Report, but I am constrained, at this point, to state that complaints have reached me of the manner in which the Japanese Government Laboratories are worked to the detriment of importers of Drugs, Medicines, and Chemicals. I am not imputing bad faith, but it has been urged upon me that the standard of purity sought to be imposed on these articles is too high when compared with that in force in most other countries, and manufacturers find it difficult to meet the Government requirements in this respect. Further, too, I hear complaints of delay at the Laboratories in examining and passing articles, before which they cannot be moved on to the market. Goods are kept sometimes as long as two or three weeks before the requisite stamp is affixed, thus causing a heavy loss in charges and interest, which generally falls on the foreign importer."

Although the British Consul states that he abstains from "imputing bad faith" and gives as his opinion, "that controversial matter can scarcely be introduced in a Trade Report," yet he does not hesitate to reproduce a complaint or complaints in an official report without first ascertaining at the proper quarters whether they are well founded or not. I regret that the British Consul did not address himself either to me or to the Central Sanitary Bureau for full information on the subject, before accepting for insertion in his Trade Report charges amounting to a grave accusation, and brought forward in a vague manner, by one or more of the British drug-merchants against the Government Laboratories.

Sentences like the above in the Consul's Report, may in Europe—where people do not know the details—possibly injure, in a very unjust manner, the reputation which these Laboratories have been at great pains to earn and which they have actually earned in Japan, during the number of years that they have been in fair working order, enjoying as they do the confidence of the public in this country. Thence it is that I cannot leave the Consul's statement uncontradicted, and that I request you to insert the following in your esteemed journal.

The points of complaint, according to the Consul's Report, are (1) the delay to which medicines are subjected during their inspection at the Government Laboratories, and (2) the high standard of purity adopted by the Laboratories.

First, with regard to delay: since the charge is not supported by any particular evidence, I can only say, generally, that more or less delay is inevitable, according to the time necessary for a full investigation and analysis of the substance under examination, and according to the pressure of other business. Without a proper and exact analysis, no fair judgment as to the quality

of a medicine can be given, and the British Consul is doubtless sufficiently acquainted with chemistry to understand that a public analyst requires time for forming his judgment. Moreover, it is not correct to say that medicines, brought by foreigners for analysis to the Laboratories, are kept there three weeks. As a rule, such is not the case. On the contrary, everything has been arranged in such a manner as to cause a minimum of delay. Delay, however, cannot be always avoided where an analysis bearing an official character is required. If Her Majesty's Consul will turn to chapter IV. of the General Regulations under the Customs' and Navigation Laws of the United States, Washington, Government Printing Office, 1874, Arts. 449, 450, 451, 454, 461, etc., he will find that, in all the sea-ports of the United States the same delay occurs in the case of drugs and medicines imported from other countries. An analyst is not a sorcerer. He must have time to carry out his investigations before he can give a judgment. Further, whilst in the United States the inspection is obligatory for any importer, it is not so in Japan, foreigners being still quite at liberty to bring their medicines for examination to the Laboratories or not.

As to the standard of purity adopted by the Laboratories, the Consul is evidently ill informed, I might almost say, ignorant, of the duties of the Government Laboratories, and it is to be regretted that he did not endeavour to inform himself at the proper quarters, before repeating a groundless complaint in an official Trade Report.

Had he done so, he would have learned that a Japanese Government Commission is at present engaged in compiling a national Japanese Pharmacopœia; that, until this Japanese Pharmacopœia is published and adopted as law, strict orders have been given by the Central Government to the Laboratories to follow the standard of strength and of purity laid down in the Pharmacopœia of the country from which the drug or medicine is derived. Thus, British medicines are judged according to the British Pharmacopœia, German drugs after the German Pharmacopœia, unless the label states that the medicines have been prepared according to any other Pharmacopœia, in which case that Pharmacopœia is taken as the standard. The Government Laboratories do not possess at present their own standard; they have to follow the standard of the nations from whence the drugs or medicines are imported.

If the British Consul will now turn to Art. 450 of the aforesaid United States Customs Regulations, he will find the following:—

"All imported drugs, medicines, and medicinal preparations are to be tested in reference to strength and purity by the standard established by the United States, Edinburgh, London, French, and German Pharmacopœias and dispensaries. If the articles in question be manufactured, produced, or prepared in England, Scotland, France, or Germany, and prove to conform in strength and purity to the Pharmacopœia and dispensary of the country of their origin, they are exempt from the penalties of the law; but if produced, manufactured, or prepared in any other country than those last mentioned, they must conform to the United States Pharmacopœia and dispensary."

I desire to direct attention to the difference between the order observed by the Japanese Government Laboratories and the law of the United States. That difference is simply this: that at present the Japanese Laboratories are more liberal than those of the United States, since they analyse any medicine and judge it according to the Pharmacopœia of the country where it is produced, even though that country be one of the

smaller States which in the United States have to follow the United States Pharmacopœia. If the standard is considered too high, manufacturers must not complain to the Consul in Japan; but they must apply to *their own Government* for a reduction, as the Japanese Laboratories invariably follow the tests prescribed by the Pharmacopœia of the country whence the drug is imported.

I cannot but confess myself at a loss to perceive on what principle the British Consul has consented to insert in his Trade Report vague complaints not supported by any evidence; and I trust that I have made it plain to him:—

1.—That unnecessary delay in investigating and analysing a drug or medicine does not take place at the Imperial Laboratories.

2.—That medicines have never been condemned at the Imperial Laboratories on grounds other than those furnished by the rules of standard strength and purity contained in the Pharmacopœia of the country where the medicine is produced or prepared.

I am, Sir, yours faithfully,

A. I. C. GEERTS.

Adviser to the Home Department Central Sanitary Bureau and Director of the Imperial Government Laboratory at Yokohama.

ASIATIC SOCIETY OF JAPAN.

The Annual General Meeting was held at the Chamber of Commerce Rooms, Tokiyo, on Wednesday, June 20th, 1883; the President, Sir Harry S. Parkes, in the Chair; the Rev. C. S. Eby, Corresponding Secretary, acting as Secretary in the absence of the Recording Secretary.

The Minutes of the preceding Meeting were taken as read.

The election of the following new members was announced:—N. F. Smith, Esq., A. G. Hare, Esq., His Highness Abubakar, Maharajah of Johore.

The Librarian handed in the following List of Donations and Exchanges for the year now closing:—

Okinawa ni Taisuru Hanashi, 2 vols., from Mr. N. Kanda.
Nordenskiöld's Umseglung Asiens und Europas, from the Author.
Produits de la Nature Japonais et Chinois, A. J. C. Geerts, from the Author.

EXCHANGES.

Academy of Natural Science, Philadelphia.
Agricultural and Horticultural Society of India, Journal.
American Geographical Society, New York; Bulletin and Journal.
American Oriental Society.
American Philological Society.
Anthropological Society of Great Britain and Ireland.
Asiatic Society of Bengal; Journal and Proceedings.
Bataviaasch Genootschap; Catalogus der Numismatische Afdeling.
Bataviaasch Genootschap; Chinusch-Hollandsch Woordenboek.
Bataviaasch Genootschap; Notulen.
Bataviaasch Genootschap; Tijdschrift.
Bataviaasch Genootschap; Verhandelingen.
Boston Society of Natural History.
Celestial Empire; Shanghai.
China Review; Hongkong.
Chinese Recorder and Missionary Journal; Shanghai.
Chrysanthemum; Yokohama.
Cosmos de Gindo Cona; Turin.
Geological Survey of India; Records.
Harvard University Museum of Comparative Zoology; Bulletin.
Imperial Russian Geographical Society; Bulletin.
Japan Weekly Mail, Yokohama.
Journal Asiatique.
Kaiserliche Leopoldinisch Carolinische Deutsche Akademie der Naturforscher.
Medical Society of Tennessee. Transactions 1882.
Mittheilungen des Deutschen Gesellschaft für Natur und Völkerkunde Ostasiens.
Musée Guimet, Lyons, Annales.

Musée Guimet, Revue.
 Numismatic and Antiquarian Society, Philadelphia.
 Oesterreichische Monatsschrift für den Orient.
 Roman Urdu Journal.
 Royal Asiatic Society, Bombay Branch; Journal.
 Royal Asiatic Society, Ceylon Branch; Journal and Proceedings.
 Royal Asiatic Society, North China Branch; Journal.
 Royal Asiatic Society, Straits Branch; Journal.
 Royal Geographical Society; Proceedings.
 Royal Society of Tasmania.
 Seismological Society of Japan, Transactions.
 Smithsonian Institution, Washington, D.C., Reports.
 Smithsonian Institution, Bureau of Ethnology.
 Sociedad Geographica de Madrid; Boletín.
 Société Académique Indo-Chinoise.
 Société de Géographie; Bulletin et Comptes Rendus des Séances.
 U. S. A. Signal Service Weather Reports; Daily Bulletin.
 Zika-wei, Observatoire Magnétique et Meteorologique, Bulletin.

The Treasurer also handed in the following Annual Report:—

ASIATIC SOCIETY OF JAPAN IN ACCOUNT WITH
 J. M. DIXON.

| | | |
|--------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------|
| 1882.—Dr. | To Librarian for current expenses | \$ 7.50 |
| June 20th | To Librarian as grant for bookbinding | 50.00 |
| Oct. 5th | To R. Meiklejohn & Co. for reprinting vol. II. | 240.99 |
| Oct. 5th | To R. Meiklejohn & Co. for printing vol. X, pt. I | 143.37 |
| Dec. 6th | To B. H. Chamberlain, Esq., as grant for map to face supplement vol. X. | 26.26 |
| Dec. 26th | To R. Meiklejohn & Co. for reprinting vol. I. | 151.16 |
| Jan. 23rd | To late Recording Secretary for Tokijo's current expenses | 2.50 |
| Feb. 16th | To Japan Mail for printing rules, circulars, etc. | 26.50 |
| Feb. 26th | To R. Meiklejohn & Co. for reprinting app. vol. III. | 88.10 |
| May 23rd | To R. Meiklejohn & Co. for printing vol. XI, pt. I | 223.19 |
| May 23rd | To Colonial Empire part subscription 1883 | 7.00 |
| May 26th | To rent of Commercial Hall, Tokio, for 7 meetings | 16.30 |
| May 26th | To Treasurer for current expenses | 13.58 |
| June 9th | To Corresponding Secretary for current expenses | 33.00 |
| June 11th | To Treasurer for current expenses | 1.14 |
| June 11th | To R. Meiklejohn & Co. for reprinting vol. III, pt. 2 | 114.73 |
| June 11th | Balance in Treasurer's hands | 670.66 |
| | Total | \$1,818.95 |
| Liabilities: | To R. Meiklejohn & Co. for printing Supplement, vol. X. | \$ 798.63 |
| | Total Liabilities | \$ 798.63 |
| 1882.—Cr. | Balance from last year | \$860.70 |
| June 20th | Sale of Transactions per Librarian | 6.00 |
| Oct. 5th | Sale of Transactions per E. M. Satew, Esq. | 24.00 |
| Oct. 27th | Sale of Transactions per Kelly & Co. | 64.95 |
| Dec. 26th | Sale of Transactions per self | 1.75 |
| May 16th | Sale of Transactions per self | 30.00 |
| May 16th | Sale of Transactions per Lane, Crawford & Co. | 8.55 |
| June 9th | Sale of Transactions per Corresponding Secretary | 44.00 |
| June 12th | Subscriptions, Resident members:— | |
| | 1 for 1882 @ \$5 | 5.00 |
| | 25 for 1882 @ \$5 | 125.00 |
| | 86 for 1882 @ \$5 | 430.00 |
| | 1 for 1883 @ \$5 | 5.00 |
| June 12th | Subscriptions, Non-resident members:— | |
| | 1 for 1882 @ \$3 | 3.00 |
| | 4 for 1882 @ \$3 | 12.00 |
| | 3 for 1882 @ \$3 | 9.00 |
| | 3 for 1883 @ \$3 | 9.00 |
| | Entrance fees, 26 @ \$5 | 130.00 |
| | Total available assets | \$1,818.95 |
| Available Assets:— | Balance in Treasurer's hands | \$ 670.66 |
| | Due from Trübner & Co., London, for Transactions sent | 160.00 |
| | Total available assets | \$ 830.66 |

A paper entitled "Equine Deities" was then read by F. W. EASTLAKE, Esq., who pointed out that the symbols and emblems now employed by many nations have completely lost their early significance. They represented in the first place some attribute of the Deity, or of the active and passive modifications of the All-pervading Spirit. Whereas a pure truth was originally suggested, the confusion of the attribute conveyed through the symbol,—an animal, bird, flower, etc.—with the individuality of the creature, became prevalent among the illiterate; the object of adoration became deified, while the attribute that revealed the Deity was lost sight of. Such was the case with the Ancient Egyptians, Greeks and Romans; such is to-day the universal mistake of Eastern poly-

theism. The earlier and purer religion was so completely forgotten, that all sorts of gross practices were indulged in under the pretence of honouring these deified symbols. With the growth of philosophy, the impurity and insignificance of certain symbolical deities became recognized; they ceased to be worshipped as beneficent, and were relegated to the infernal regions. Superstitious fears soon attributed the baneful influences abroad in nature to their agency, and finally humanity worshipped the evil it had conjured into existence, propitiating by sacrifices and oblations that which was believed to be endowed with the power to harm. Demonolatry became firmly established, although the rites of this devil-worship were horrid and cruel. In Europe, especially in Greece and Rome, these rites were abolished after the lapse of several centuries, but many of the ancient theories are still observed in Asia. These traces of ancient rites and forms of worship are of the first importance to the ethnologist, the historian, the sociologist; for in them we find obscure allusions to by-gone times and lost creeds, by the help of which we can trace the connection not only between the polytheistic codes of widely separated countries, but also the connection between the earliest races. The Chinese Tartarus is filled with hordes of weird, diabolical creatures, many of which are half human, half animal. Despite their multitude, we can gain but little actual information about them; Chinese literature, classical as well as modern, gives only confused and dissatisfactory data as to what they are or whence they came. Yet the rites of demonolatry are of very ancient origin, and were evidently observed during the Chow Dynasty (1122-255 B.C.). Among crowds of lesser demons, the "Four Assistants," Horse-face, Bull-head, Cock-head, and Duck-mouth, hold a very prominent position. They are infernal constables, inquisitors, and torturers, and followers of that curious pentad the "Five Rulers." Bull-head and Horse-face are highest in rank, and are worshipped in Fuhkien and Kwangtung as gods of vengeance. Horse-face is chief-torturer and head-constable. Great respect is paid to the horse throughout China, nearly every larger temple having a white horse, fully caparisoned, on either side of the principal entrance. Tombs and graves are often guarded by stone horses. The "Five Rulers" are worshipped in some of the southern provinces of Japan, but the "Four Assistants" are not known in this country. Horse-face, *Bo-to Kwan-non*, is known to the peasantry near Osaka as a god of divination. Sacred horses are kept in many of the temples, white or cream-coloured being preferred, as in China. What little is known about the horse-god of Japan, proves that he is one and the same with the Chinese deity. In India, the ass-headed deity Dussaira bears striking resemblance with the Ma-mien of China. He is a god with ten human heads and one ass-head, and his *fête* is celebrated once a year in every Indian province. A comparison of Dussaira, Ma-mien, and Ba-to Kwan-non shows a close and intimate connection between the three. The Buddhists have also legends of mystical horses, such as the noble Kantaka, the great white steed of Siddhartha; the *murga-rāja*, half lion, half horse; the Kësura, and others. The Mohammedans speak of the horse Borak which bore their prophet to the seventh heaven; Haizum, the winged steed of the angel Gabriel; and the wind horses of King Solomon. Passing by the deified horses of the Ancient Tartars, we find frequent mention of equine deities in remoter times. The Hivites worshipped an ass-headed god, Tartak

or Tarhak; the Sabacans venerated a deified horse, Yauk, as a symbol of the sun. The Tartak of the Hivites probably gave rise to the once wide-spread opinion that the Jews worshipped the head of an ass in secret; but a better explanation of the rumour is to be found in the fact that the Jews had one word for "ass" and a certain "dry-measure." It is not unlikely or improbable that an ass's head represented this measure, and as such it would have been preserved in the Holy City with other standard weights and measures. The Ophite sect of the Gnostics depicted one of the genii of the nether world as an ass-headed man, under the name of Onoel. In the Zend-Avesta frequent mention is made of horses sacred to the sun, and, according to Herodotus, the Massagetae and Scythians sacrificed horses to the great luminary. Set or Sutekh, a deity of the Ancient Egyptians, typified the destructive power of the sun's rays, and was imaged with the head of an ass. The Semitic Hykshos originally brought this deity into Egypt, but after their expulsion his cult was declared impious and denounced as heretical. Set under the form of Teb-ha, græcized Typhon, was later on worshipped by the Greeks as a symbol of the intense heat of the sun. There we touch upon the original signification of the ancient horse-gods, which were simply types of sun worship. Thus we have the golden stallions dedicated to Ra; Lampon, the fiery steed of the noon-tide sun; Abraxas and Phaëthon, the steeds of Aurora; the Scandinavian sun-horses Arvakur and Alsvidur; the sun-horses of the Druids and Ancient Teutons. Even Pegasus was originally known only as the bearer of Aurora, and of the Ægis of Zeus. The Centaur is the same symbol, partly humanised, as were also the equine Satyrs in the train of Bacchus. In the Orphic hymns we find a goddess Hippa, celebrated as the nurse of Bacchus, and the daughter of Ceres by Neptune was represented with the head of a horse. One of the most solemn forms of adjuration in use among the Scandinavians was swearing on the shoulder-blade of a horse, and when Tyndarus engaged the suitors of Helen to defend her, he is said to have made them swear by the same symbol. Having traced the equine deity so far, it seems natural to penetrate further into ancient records and half-forgotten legends. But we have already passed beyond the range of Semitic influence, great though it may have been upon Greece and other ultra-Asiatic nations. The myth is essentially the same whether in Scandinavia, Britain, or the home of the Teutons, and rests upon a train of thought not peculiar to these peoples alone, but to be found among nearly every ancient people—from the cold lands of the midnight sun to the equator, and from the hot-blooded Iberians to the philosophical Sons of Han.

The PRESIDENT remarked that Mr. Eastlake's paper was rich in suggestions on the general subject of mythology, and immediately interesting to ourselves as showing that Equine Deities who had occupied a prominent position in the mythical history of most nations were also known in Japan, and appeared in the celebrated form of the White Horse in their Buddhist temples. The study of mythical lore, which necessarily involved that of primitive religions, though not an attractive subject an account of the cloud of exaggerated fable that surrounded it, had, nevertheless, a very practical bearing, as apart from its ethnographic and historiographic value it served to illustrate that great struggle which has been going on through all time—the struggle of humanity after truth, and to show that, however widely separated the various

racers of the world have become both in thought and action, they have enough in common to attract mutual sympathy and to show the nearer connection they held with each other in early ages. The study of myths may be favorably pursued in Oriental countries, because there we find it in actual existence and growth. And if primitive belief recognised at the first that every created thing was an emanation of a supreme being, if allegories and symbols were originally used only as oracles of knowledge and to promote the worship of the Great Invisible through His Visible Works, then, although the practice had unfortunately led to the symbol usurping the place of the attribute, and to the creature being worshipped rather than the Creator, the original conception would still command itself to our respect, and possibly be found to furnish a means for recalling lost truth. Though the lateness of the hour prevented the discussion of Mr. Eastlake's paper on this occasion, he trusted that the subject would be referred to at subsequent meetings, and that the illustrations of it which were obtainable in Japan would be further examined. It remained for him to offer Mr. Eastlake a hearty vote of thanks on the part of the Society, and to express the hope that he would be encouraged to pursue his researches.

In reply to the President, Mr. EASTLAKE remarked that there was certainly much more that might be said on the same theme, but the result of all his investigations remained the same, viz., that the equine deity was a type of solar-worship. He regretted that he had not been able to investigate the Japanese myth, and especially the horse-headed god of Southern Japan, *Ba-to Kwan-non*, more thoroughly, and requested the members of the Society to forward him notes on the subject. Such notes or data would be all the more valuable, as very little could be gleaned from Japanese literature with regard to the equine god.

The PRESIDENT.—Mr. Eastlake's request will, I hope, be complied with by more than one member of the Society. The subject is one of importance, and it would be very interesting to trace further connection between the horse-god of Japan and those of China and Western Asia.

The SECRETARY then read the Annual Report of the Council for the session 1882-3, which was adopted without discussion.

The election of Officers and Members of Council was then proceeded with, with the following result:—

PRESIDENT:—Dr. Hepburn.

VICE-PRESIDENTS:—B. H. Chamberlain, Esq., (Tōkiyō). N. J. Hannen, Esq. (Yokohama).

CORRESPONDING SECRETARY:—Rev. C. S. Eby.

RECORDING SECRETARIES:—W. D. Cox, Esq. (Tōkiyō). C. H. Dallas, Esq. (Yokohama).

TREASURER:—J. M. Dixon, Esq.

LIBRARIAN:—J. McD. Gardiner, Esq.

COUNCILLORS:—E. Divers, Esq., M.D., Dr. A. J. C. Geertz, J. H. Gubbins, Esq., J. Hattori, Esq., A. G. S. Hawes, Esq., Rev. D. Macdonald, M.D., Rev. E. R. Miller, J. P. Mollison, Esq., Russell Robertson, Esq., W. J. S. Shand, Esq.

REPORT OF THE COUNCIL FOR THE SESSION 1882-3.

During the past session seven general meetings of the Society, at which seven papers were read, were held in Tōkiyō, besides two meetings at which three papers were read, held in Yokohama. A list of these papers will be found in Appendix A.

The revival of the Yokohama meetings, and the material increase in the number of Yokohama members is deserving of especial notice.

During the session thirty-six resident, and two non-resident, new members have been elected; on the other hand

three resident members have resigned. Several resident members who have recently left Japan have, in accordance with their own desire, been placed on the list of non-resident members, while others who have returned from abroad have again become resident members. The society now numbers 144 resident, 44 non-resident, and 12 honorary members, making a total of 200 names.

The balance of \$360.70 to the credit of the society which was reported at the last annual meeting, has enabled the council to print much more largely than in former years. They consider it a subject of congratulation that they have thus been able to include in the publications of this session such a valuable work as Mr. Chamberlain's translation of the "Kojiki,"—the most important monument of ancient Japanese literature, and the most authentic evidence of the origin of Japanese nationality. Its value as a translation is greatly increased by the admirable critical introduction which accompanies it, and on which the translator has expended very considerable research. The publication of the Society's latest Transactions (containing Vol. X., Pt. II. and Supplement, and Vol. XI., Pt. I. and II.) has been brought up to date, and the reprinting of Vol. I. and II. and Vol. III. Pt. I. and Appendix which was announced as about to be undertaken at the last annual meeting has also been completed. These various publications number altogether about 1,575—682,000 pages, and the cost of printing them has amounted to \$2,000. Notwithstanding this unusual expenditure, which on account of its manifest utility, will, the Council trusts, be approved by the Society, they are able to report an absence of debt, and that the available assets are more than sufficient to meet all outstanding liabilities.

As the usefulness of the Society, however, must mainly depend upon its ability to publish with promptitude the papers which it accepts, the Council should not omit to express the earnest hope that the continuous accession of new members will enable the Society to maintain its present state of efficiency in this respect, and to persevere in the republication of the Transactions which are nearly out of print and which have become well and favourably known in the literary and scientific world. It is greatly to be desired that the demand for the Transactions should be locally encouraged as the recovery of the printing expenditure must be in proportion to the extent of their sales. The nominal value of the stock of the Society's Transactions now on hand may be estimated at five thousand dollars (\$5,000), and back numbers are furnished to members at half price. It may not be generally known that the members may thus obtain complete sets of all the Transactions which now numbers eleven volumes, most of these containing several parts, for the moderate charge of \$19.00.

In Appendix B. will be found a list of additions to the library acquired by donation during the present year; a list of exchanges received from learned bodies in different parts of the world is given in Appendix C.; and a statement of the Transactions in stock in Appendix D.

During the past session the General Meetings in Tōkiyō have been held in the rooms of the Tōkiyō General Chamber of Commerce, which have been liberally placed at the disposal of the Society by that body. Of the Yokohama Meetings, one has been held at the rooms of the Chamber of Commerce, kindly lent for the occasion, and the other by the courtesy of the manager at the Grand Hotel.

It will be seen from the following statement of the accounts of the session, which takes no notice, it should be observed, of the nominal value of the Transactions in stock, that after fully providing for all the printing expenditure above named, there remains to the credit of the Society an estimated balance of \$36.63.

On the PRESIDENT inquiring whether there was any other business before the meeting, Mr. Dallas remarked that there yet remained the resolution of the meeting, he might almost say the resolution of the session, which was to pass a vote of thanks to the President on his retirement. Until he arrived in the room he had no idea of the pleasure in store for him in being invited to propose this resolution, and however feebly he might discharge the duty, he trusted that Sir Harry Parkes would understand that this was no mere formal resolution, but that the members of the Society, undemonstrative Anglo-Saxons as most of them were, desired to express warm gratitude for past favours, mingled with a keen sense of present loss in bidding farewell to one to whom they had been so long and so greatly indebted. To recapitulate all the advantages which they had derived from the President's connection with it, would be in a great measure to retrace the history of the Society itself; suffice it that, as shown by the report just read, the Society is now eminently successful, and this happy condition has been to a great extent achieved through the ever-ready kindness with which the President has brought to bear upon its affairs the vast and varied stores of his long experience. He hoped, whenever in some distant land Sir Harry might look back to his stay in this

country, that among the crowding memories the Asiatic Society of Japan would ever hold a place, and that he would recollect it as a great and prosperous Society, of which each individual member fully recognized that no small portion of its success was due to the unremitting patience, tact, and energy with which he had managed its concerns.

Mr. MILNE, who rose to second the resolution, said that he found it difficult to do more than echo the so ably expressed sentiments of the proposer, Mr. Dallas. Every one present knew Sir Harry, and they were acquainted with the work which he had done for the Society. So long as he (the speaker) had been acquainted with the Asiatic Society, Sir Harry had been its most prominent leader, and it was in great measure due to his exertions that it had attained its present important position. He, therefore, felt great pleasure in seconding the motion brought before the Meeting.

The VICE-PRESIDENT having briefly put to the Meeting the resolution, which was carried unanimously, the retiring President, in returning thanks, observed that he felt greatly embarrassed by the warmth of the compliments which had been paid him, as his share in the work of the Society had been limited to minor details, the labour of which had been equally shared by the other members of Council. Those compliments were doubtless influenced by kindly valedictory feelings, which often prompted friends to give to one who was about to leave them much more than was his due. It should be remembered that the success of the Society was mainly attributable to those members who had contributed valuable papers to its transactions, and who were therefore its chief supporters. He trusted that such members would long be preserved to them; for, though the field of research in this country was ripe for harvest, labourers were wanted to reap that harvest. He congratulated the Society on his being succeeded by the veteran Dr. Hepburn, in the chair which he was now compelled with regret to resign.

The Meeting was then adjourned.

GOVERNMENT NOTIFICATION.

The Privy Council has issued a Notification, No. 21, to the effect that the Press Regulations established in September of the 8th year of Meiji (1875) by Notification No. 135, are revised as follows:—

Article 1.—Any person intending to publish a book or map of his own compilation, or translations from foreign books or maps, must report the matter to the Home Department ten days prior to the date of such publication exclusive of the time which the report will take in reaching the Department.

Note.—The publication (not intended for sale) of hand-bills or the regulations of a company or a school, are exempt from this rule.

Article 28.—Any person desiring to publish pictures or engravings must forward a report to the Home Department to that effect. But copyright therein will not be granted.

Article 1.—(In the regulations for the punishment of offenders).—Those who publish pictures or engravings without duly forwarding a report to the Home Department, or pretend to have obtained copyrights, or neglect to present (to the Home Department) samples of what they have published, or sell their publications without paying for a license, are liable to be punished by confiscation of their printing apparatus, the books published, and

the money realized by the sale. This rule is also applicable to books or maps published and sold in contravention of the prohibition of the authorities.

Article 5.—In case translators of foreign works or compilers of maps or books offend the Newspaper Regulations in the 31st, 32nd, 34th, 37th, 38th, and 39th articles, their publishers will be regarded as guilty in the same degree as the translators and compilers, and be punished in conformity with the same Regulations. But the confiscation of a printing machine may only happen where the offence has to be dealt with according to the 2nd clause of Article 7.

Article 6.—Annulled.

SANJO SAN'EYOSHI, First Minister of State.
YAMADA AKIYOSHI, Home Minister.

By Imperial Order.

29th June, 16th year of Meiji.

SILK PRODUCERS & COMMISSION MERCHANTS.

We have received from the Silk Commission Merchants' Association the following copy of the by-laws recently agreed to between that corporation and the Producers:—

INTRODUCTION.

These rules have been framed for defining the relations in all transactions between the Silk Commission Merchants of Yokohama and the Silk Producers in the various provinces, thereby to promote their future benefit, to prevent all sorts of discord, to obviate any complication, and to encourage the trade by establishing a basis of mutual reliance. The undersigned therefore, having considered the various aspects of the laws and customs, both foreign and native, in the matter, have resolved upon the following rules:—

Article 1.—These by-laws shall be enforced on and after the 1st July, the 16th year of Meiji.

Article 2.—These by-laws shall be advertised in the journals in Yokohama and other districts for three days after their enforcement, and shall be posted in a prominent place in the shop of every commission merchant. Any modification of, and addition to, the rules hereafter to be made, shall be in accordance with the provisions of these rules.

Article 3.—After these measures are carried into effect, the silk owners (*i.e.* the silk producers) and any other persons who may deal with silk commission merchants, shall be considered as leaving agreed to these rules. In case, however, they raise objection, or desire on any other account to conduct business independent of these rules, certificates setting forth the facts shall be interchanged.

Article 4.—Correspondence, negotiations, and reports shall be conducted by post, telegraph, or personal interview, or by any other means suitable to the necessity of the occasion, with the other side or his representative, provided always the first party shall have testimony of his act, in which case he shall be deemed to have discharged his duties, even if a message should be lost or delayed on its way to the destination. Should he employ a servant in sending goods, letters, or funds, he shall be responsible for any accident to them on the way to their destination.

Article 5.—The business of the silk dealers is to sell silk according to the orders of the owners and to facilitate pecuniary operations for the latter on the security of their silk. Therefore, whenever goods are sent to commission merchants, the parcel shall be considered as entrusted to them for sale, and

for the pecuniary interest of the owner, no matter whether the latter has so instructed them or not, except in the event of any standing agreement. Nevertheless, whether the commission merchants comply or not with the request of the consignors, shall be at the discretion of the former.

Article 6.—After sending goods to the commission merchants, the owner cannot retake possession except after payment of warehouse rent, commission, and any previous debts owing by him.

Article 7.—When the commission merchant receives goods on which an advance has already been made, he shall, on their receipt, repay the money to the party who advanced it, or shall make an agreement to repay it, and shall receive the certificate of hypothecation from such party. The instrument must be preserved as a voucher to be shown when settling accounts with the owner. The commission merchant can then claim, against the owner of the goods, any right set forth in the Bill of Exchange and Promissory Note Regulations, and in these rules.

Article 8.—When a commission merchant shall lend money on security of goods not yet received, he shall take from the owner a certificate to that effect, or adopt such other means as may prove the fact. In such case, he can claim all such rights against the goods as are defined in Article 130 of these rules.

Article 9.—Sales of silk may be entrusted to the commission merchant in two ways, namely, unconditionally and conditionally. The former system implies the sale of goods at the discretion of the commission merchant, without any order from the owner as to price, method, time, etc. In this case, the commission merchant is bound to exercise considerable discretion in effecting the sale, at the most favorable opportunity, as his responsibility is great. The second system implies sales conducted in accordance with orders from the owner of the goods as to price, time, etc. In this case, the owner must take a memorandum from the commission merchant stating that the sale is to be conditional: otherwise it shall be considered unconditional. Even in case of unconditional sales, the commission merchant may send a telegram or letter in order to ask the views of the owner on the selling price. But such action shall not change the nature of the transaction from unconditional to conditional.

Article 10.—Prior to exchanging the silver received in payment for goods, against *kinsatsu*, the commission merchant must apply for instruction from the owner of the goods. If the latter does not give any orders within two weeks, then the dealer can effect the exchange of silver into paper money at his own discretion, and deduct from the amount any advance previously made.

Article 11.—When goods, whether on conditional or unconditional sale, prove insufficient to repay advances, in consequence of the depreciation in the value of silk, the commission merchant can claim the balance in silk or money.

Article 12.—In case payment of the money or consignment of silk to make good the deficiency, is delayed for seven days after the expiration of the allotted term, or if the owner becomes bankrupt, the commission merchant can sell off the goods and employ the proceeds according to these rules.

Article 13.—The commission merchant is authorized to demand the payment of such sums as are mentioned below for charges, etc. He has also the privilege to apply the proceeds for settling any

account he may have with the owner before any other creditor. If there be any surplus, it shall be handed to the owner of the goods: in case of deficiency, the commission merchant can demand the payment or can enter it to the owner's debit according to his own convenience.

The following are the scale of charges:—

(1)—Interest on the advances made fixed monthly by the dealers in Yokohama. (2)—Commission on the sale of goods. This is fixed at 11 per m. of the price. (3)—Postages, telegraph fees, messengers' wages, and the price of the legal stamps used. Those only, however, can be charged which were actually defrayed on account of the owner. (4)—Previous loans and interest to date. (N.B.—In case such loans have no connection with the goods sent at the time, but are really due on account of some previous transactions in silk, the dealer can deduct both principle and interest of such loans from the sales.)

Article 14.—The dealer is empowered to sell the goods entrusted to him in his own name or to pledge them, and to receive the price or the money borrowed on their security. Should, therefore, the owner wish to receive the price direct from the buyer, the dealer may object. The commission merchant is not responsible for any unavoidable accident that may befall the goods, nor for robbery against which due precautions have been taken.

Article 15.—As harmony between dealers and owners must greatly depend upon mutual good feeling, each party may relinquish some portion of the rights conferred upon them by these rules in their original transactions; but such action shall not prejudice the practical application of these rules at any later period.

Article 16.—As these rules have been established merely with regard to the general manner of conducting transactions, any unforeseen occurrence shall be dealt with in accordance with old-established custom.

In proof of our concurrence in the above rules, we have hereunto appended our names and affixed our seals.

(Signatures and Seals.)

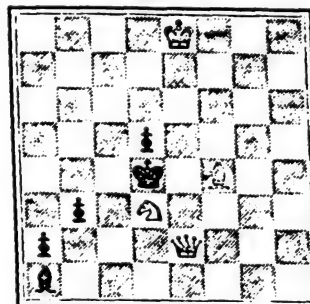
1st July, 16th year of Meiji.

CHESS.

From the Collection of Chess Problems.

By J. B. of Bridport.

BLACK.



WHITE.

White to play and mate in 3 moves.

Solution to Chess Problem of 30th June, by
G. F. BARBIER.

White.

- 1.—B. to Q. 4.
- 2.—Kt. to Q. 3.
- 3.—B. mates.

- 2.—B. takes P.
- 3.—Mate.

- 2.—B. to K. 3 ch.
- 3.—Mate.

Black.

- 1.—P. takes B.
- 2.—K. takes Kt.

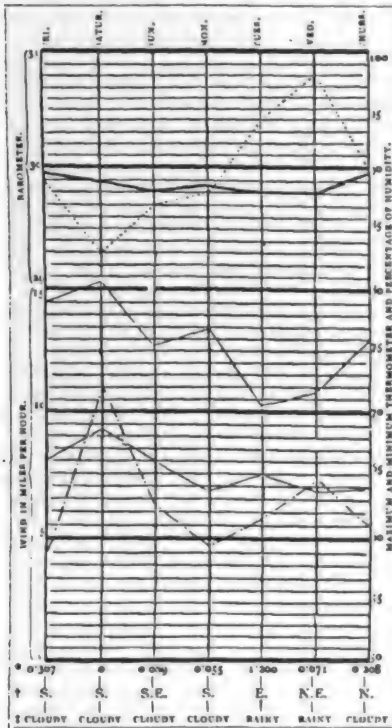
if 1.—K. takes B.

if 1.—K. to K. B. 5.

METEOROLOGICAL REPORT.

FOR WEEK BEGINNING FRIDAY, JUNE 29TH, 1883.

Observatory of Daigaku, Moto-Fujicho, Hongō, Tokiyo, Japan.



REMARKS.

Heavy line represents barometer.
 Light continuous line—maximum and minimum thermometers.
 ————— represents velocity of wind.
 ————— percentage of humidity.

The barometer is reduced to the freezing point and to the level of the sea.

* Rain in inches. † Direction of Wind. ‡ Weather.

Maximum velocity of wind 31.7 miles per hour on Saturday at 3 p.m.

The highest reading of the barometer for the week was 30.96 inches on Friday at 9.27 p.m., and the lowest was 30.711 inches on Sunday at 6 p.m.

The highest temperature for the week was 86.5 on Saturday, and the lowest was 63.8 both on Monday and Wednesday. The maximum and minimum for the corresponding week of last year were 83.9 and 62.2 respectively.

The total amount of rain for the week was 2.590 inches, against 0.797 inches for the corresponding week of last year.

SHIPPING.

FREIGHTS.

During the week the German barque *Valparaiso* accepted a home charter, loading here and at Kobe; the *Hindoo* sailed for Nagasaki "seeking." The American ship *Grecian* is expected to get away on Wednesday next for San Francisco. For New York, via ports, and Suez Canal, the steamship *Harter* sailed on the 3rd instant, leaving the berth occupied by the *Yorkshire*, *Ehrenfels*, and *Ascalon*. For London the steamship *Benledi* is advertised with dispatch this month. Coastwise nothing is doing, and rates are quite nominal.

ARRIVALS.

Annie H. Smith, American ship, 1,502, R. B. Brown, 29th June.—New York 14th February; Kerosene and General.—China and Japan Trading Co.

Ascalon, British steamer, 1,524, Geo. Dinsdale, 1st July.—Hongkong via Kobe, Ballast.—C. Illies & Co.

Kumamoto Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,240, Drummond, 1st July.—Hongkong 23rd June via Kobe, Mails and General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S. S. Co.

Takachi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,407, C. Nye, 1st July.—Nagata 25th June, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S. S. Co.

Wakanoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,342, A. F. Christensen, 1st July.—Kobe 29th June, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S. S. Co.

Yorkshire, British steamer, 1,425, Arnold, 1st July.—Kobe 29th June, General.—Smith, Baker & Co.

Zambesi, British steamer, 1,540, L. H. Moule, 2nd July.—Hongkong, 23rd June via Nagasaki and Kobe, Mails and General.—P. & O. S. N. Co.

City of Rio de Janeiro, American steamer, 3,548, W. B. Seabury, 2nd July.—Hongkong 26th June, Mails and General.—P. M. S. S. Co.

Taganoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 448, Matsumoto, 2nd July.—Yokkaichi, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S. S. Co.

City of Peking, American steamer, 3,129, Friel, 4th July.—San Francisco 14th June, Mails and General.—P. M. S. S. Co.

Nagoya Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,015, J. Wynn, 4th July.—Shanghai and ports, Mails and General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S. S. Co.

Kworio Maru, Japanese steamer, 617, G. Withers, 5th July.—Yokkaichi, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S. S. Co.

Niigata Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,097, Hubbard, 5th July.—Hakodate 3rd and Oginohama 4th July, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S. S. Co.

St. David, American ship, 1,535, W. Wallace Frost, 5th July.—New York 26th February, Oil, &c.—J. D. Carroll & Co.

Oxfordshire, British steamer, 998, Jones, 6th July.—Hongkong 29th June, General.—Smith, Baker & Co.

Seirio Maru, Japanese steamer, 459, 6th July.—Kobe, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S. S. Co.

Taganoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 448, Matsumoto, 7th July.—Yokkaichi, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S. S. Co.

Mensaleh, French steamer, 1,276, B. Blanc, 7th July.—Hongkong, 1st July, Mails, Treasure, and General.—Messageries Maritimes Co.

DEPARTURES.

Godavery, French steamer, Du Temple, 1st July.—Hongkong Mails and General.—Messageries Maritimes Co.

Hindoo, German bark, 540, Matthiessen, 2nd July.—Nagasaki, Ballast.—Captain.

Wakanoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,342, A. F. Christensen, 2nd June.—Kobe, Mails and General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S. S. Co.

Hiogo Maru, Japanese steamer, 896, R. N. Walker, 3rd July.—Hakodate, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S. S. Co.

Taganoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 448, Matsumoto, 3rd June.—Yokkaichi, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S. S. Co.

Harter, British steamer, 1,196, Grandin, 4th July.—New York via ports and Suez Canal, Tea and General.—Smith, Baker & Co.

Tokio Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,146, R. Swain, 5th July.—Shanghai and ports, Mails and General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S. S. Co.

City of Rio de Janeiro, American steamer, 3,548, W. B. Seabury, 6th July.—San Francisco, Mails and General.—P. M. S. S. Co.

Kworio Maru, Japanese steamer, 617, G. Withers, 6th July.—Yokkaichi, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S. S. Co.

Tsuruga Maru, Japanese steamer, 517, Dithlefsen, 6th July.—Kobe, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S. S. Co.

Kiushin Maru, Japanese steamer, 690, Franck, 6th July.—Sendai, &c., General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S. S. Co.

Kumamoto Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,240, Drummond, 6th July.—Hongkong via Kobe General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S. S. Co.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per Japanese steamer *Wakanoura Maru*, from Kobe:—General Kuroda, Messrs. F. W. Foster, N. F. Avery, and 5 Japanese in cabin; and 60 Japanese in steerage.

Per British steamer *Zambesi*, from Hongkong via Nagasaki and Kobe:—Rev. H. Geyer, Captain and Mrs. Gelston and son, Miss Leslie, Messrs. Van de Putte, de Russett, C. Lamb, M. Ginsburg, D. MacLaren, and J. Blackmore in cabin; and 4 Chinese and 10 Japanese in steerage.

Per American steamer *City of Rio de Janeiro*, from Hongkong:—For San Francisco: Messrs. J. H. Booth and Allan W. Dow in cabin; and 102 Chinese in steerage. For London: Captain W. M. Deane in cabin.

Per American steamer *City of Peking*, from San Francisco:—Miss Spencer and Mr. Tanabe in cabin; and 2 Europeans in steerage. For Hongkong: Mr. and Mrs. C. C. Taylor, and child in cabin; and 129 Chinese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Nagoya Maru*, from Shanghai and ports:—Governor Iwamura, Miss Parkes and European maid, Miss Mabel Parkes, Rev. and Mrs. Hopper, Rev. W. W. Curtis, Dr. A. A. Austin, U.S.N., Dr. Dickson, Messrs. E. F. Alford, and servant, J. H. Pauline, and servant, E. Major, Marcus Mess, D. Marcus, and J. Wakai in cabin; and 2 Europeans, 3 Chinese, and 190 Japanese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Kworio Maru*, from Yokkaichi:—1 European in cabin; and 17 Japanese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Niigata Maru*, from Hakodate via Oginohama:—111 Japanese.

Per French steamer *Mensaleh*, from Hongkong: 4 Europeans in steerage.

DEPARTED.

Per French steamer *Godavery*, for Hongkong:—Messrs. A. Mingard and C. Repp in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Hiogo Maru*, for Hakodate:—Mr. J. Wolley in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Tokio Maru*, for Shanghai and ports:—Mrs. J. A. Weed, Messrs. J. A. L. Waddell, S. C. Michaelson, O. Smith, J. Donald, Nakagawa, Yamanaka, Hamada, Hisamatsu, Asano, Ikeda, Asano, Isahaya, and Asai in cabin.

Per American steamer *City of Rio de Janeiro*, for San Francisco:—Mr. and Mrs. Noel Smith, Captain and Mrs. H. B. Murray and maid, Messrs. H. Hoerringhaus, F. W. Foster, and N. F. Avery in cabin; Mr. Buns and 2 daughters, Mrs. E. A. Abbott, Messrs. G. Sigot, A. S. Tibbey, N. Uketaka, S. Mihara, and 95 Chinese in steerage. For New York: H. E. Von Heydebrand-Lassa, Count de Mailly-Nesle, General Van Bernuth, Dr. A. A. Austin, U.S.N., Rev. W. W. Curtis, Rev. A. Geyer, Messrs. E. Gore Langton, Sugent, and Wm. Oothout in cabin. For Hamburg: Messrs. Carl Von Weijhe, and Wilhelm Klas in cabin. For Liverpool: Dr. H. Bradford, Messrs. A. W. W. Brown, E. F. Alford, and A. Ewbank in cabin. For London: Captain Wm. M. Deane and Mr. W. G. Van de Poll in cabin.

REPORTS.

The American ship *Annie H. Smith*, Captain R. B. Brown, reports having experienced moderate winds throughout the passage.

The Japanese steamer *Wakanoura Maru*, Captain A. F. Christensen, reports leaving Kobe on the 29th instant, at 6 p.m. with moderate southerly winds and rain throughout the passage. Arrived at Yokohama on the 1st July, at 4.20 a.m.

The British steamer *Yorkshire*, Captain Arnold reports leaving Kobe on the 29th June, at 5 p.m. moderate S.E. winds and heavy rain throughout the passage. Arrived in port on the 1st instant, at 10.50 a.m.

The American steamer *City of Rio de Janeiro*, Captain W. B. Seabury, reports having left Hongkong June 26th, at 3 p.m., and experienced moderate weather with S.W. winds during the most part of the passage.

The American steamer *City of Peking*, Captain Friel, reports having experienced moderate to fresh north-westerly winds on the first part of voyage after leaving port, and on the latter fair weather with south-easterly winds.

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

The past week has seen but a small business in Varns, at about previous prices, while there has been a little more doing in Shirtings, but values have not improved. In other articles transactions are on a very trifling scale, the Goods in which an advance has been established being Crape Mousselines de Laine. The Metal Market is very quiet, the sale at auction of damaged cargo noticed last week having fully supplied buyer's requirements.

COTTON YARNS.

| | PER PICUL. |
|-----------------------------------|------------------|
| Nos. 16 to 24, Common to Medium - | \$25.25 to 28.50 |
| Nos. 16 to 24, Good to Best - | 29.25 to 30.50 |
| Bombay, No. 30, Good to Best - | 25.50 to 28.25 |
| Nos. 28 to 32, Common to Medium - | 31.25 to 32.25 |
| Nos. 28 to 32, Good to Best - | 33.00 to 35.25 |
| Nos. 38 to 42 - | 35.25 to 37.25 |

COTTON PIECE GOODS.

| | PER PIECE. |
|------------------------------------------------|----------------|
| Grey Shirtings—8½ lb, 38½ to 39 inches - | \$1.70 to 2.15 |
| Grey Shirtings—9 lb, 38½ to 45 inches - | 1.87½ to 2.40 |
| T. Cloth—7 lb, 24 yards, 32 inches - | 1.45 to 1.35 |
| Indigo Shirting—12 yards, 44 inches - | 1.55 to 1.67½ |
| Prints—Assorted, 24 yards, 30 inches - | 1.10 to 2.40 |
| Cotton—Italians and Sateens Black, 32 inches - | 0.07 to 0.09 |
| Turkey Reds—2 to 2½ lb, 24 yards, 30 inches - | 1.15 to 1.35 |
| Turkey Reds—2½ to 2½ lb, 24 yards, 30 inches - | 1.35 to 1.65 |
| Turkey Reds—3 lb, 24 yards, 30 inches - | 1.70 to 1.82½ |
| Velvets—Black, 35 yards, 22 inches - | 5.90 to 6.70 |
| Victoria Lawns, 12 yards, 42-3 inches - | 0.72½ to 0.80 |
| Taffetas, 12 yards, 43 inches - | 1.75 to 2.07½ |

WOOLLENS.

| | PER PICUL. |
|-----------------------------------------------------|----------------|
| Plain Orleans, 40-42 yards, 32 inches - | \$3.80 to 5.25 |
| Figured Orleans, 39-41 yards, 31 inches - | 3.25 to 4.00 |
| Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches - | 0.18 to 0.39½ |
| Mousselines de Laine—Crape, 24 yards, 31 inches - | 0.15 to 0.15½ |
| Mousselines de Laine—Itajime, 24 yards, 31 inches - | 0.18½ to 0.26 |
| Mousselines de Laine—Yuzen, 24 yards, 31 inches - | 0.30 to 0.37½ |
| Cloths—Pilots, 54 @ 56 inches - | 0.30 to 0.40 |
| Cloths—Presidents, 54 @ 56 inches - | 0.40 to 0.50 |
| Cloths—Union, 54 @ 56 inches - | 0.30 to 0.55 |
| Blankets—Scarlet and Green, 6 to 5 lb, per lb - | 0.35 to 0.40 |

IRON.

| | PER PICUL. |
|---------------------------------|----------------|
| Flat Bars, ½ inch - | \$2.50 to 2.90 |
| Flat Bars, ¾ inch - | 2.80 to 3.00 |
| Round and square up to ½ inch - | 2.80 to 3.00 |
| Nailrod, assorted - | 2.25 to 2.50 |
| Nailrod, small size - | 2.55 to 3.10 |

KEROSENE.

Business during the past week has been restricted to the sale of 9,000 cases and deliveries to 15,000. The *Annie H. Smith* and *St. David* have arrived with 103,110 cases, making present stock no less than about 665,000 cases sold and unsold oil. The Market remains depressed at the following nominal quotations:—

| | PER CASE. |
|----------|-----------|
| Devoe - | \$1.65 |
| Comet - | 1.57 |
| Stella - | 1.45 |

SUGAR.

There has not been much business during the interval, but the transactions that have been put through have been effected at fully the rates given below, and the Market leaves off firm. Brown Formosas, have an upward tendency, and most of the operations of the week have been at enhanced prices.

| | PER PICUL. |
|-----------------|----------------|
| White, No. 1 - | \$8.50 to 9.00 |
| White, No. 2 - | 8.00 to 8.50 |
| White, No. 3 - | 7.25 to 8.00 |
| White, No. 4 - | 6.25 to 6.75 |
| White, No. 5 - | 5.25 to 5.50 |
| Brown Formosa - | 4.95 to 5.00 |

EXPORTS.

SILK.

Season 1882-1883 finished on the 30th ultimo with a total export of 28,734 bales against 21,776 bales to same date last year—an increase of about 33 per cent. The weight of these 28,734 bales is returned in the Customs as 26,412 piculs, thus giving each bale an average weight of about 92 catties. This is the largest export ever known since Japan was opened to foreign trade, and

there is no doubt that the Silk-producing capacity of the country is capable of much greater things yet. A noticeable feature in the figures for the season just closed is the increase to the United States, 9,589 bales against 7,022 bales, about 36½ per cent. The Silk-industry in the States has obtained a gigantic growth in the course of a few years. The export from this for season 1876-1877 (that marvellous year of mad excitement in Silk generally) was but 150 bales. Season 1883-1884—New Hanks first appeared on the 24th ultimo, when \$5.40 was paid for ordinary Maibash first arrivals white color grading 2½ to 3. A week later similar Silk was settled at \$5.05, and during the present week prices have further receded till \$4.75 was touched for this class. From that point the Market has hardened slightly in the absence of supplies, but the interior Markets are reported to be lower both in Maibash and Shinshui; arrivals will now come down more freely, and there is no reason to anticipate high prices here. In Filatures but little has yet been done. The parcel of "Bushu" 14-16 which first arrived (and for which \$7.00 was asked) has been taken at \$6.35: some "Koshu" grading about 1½ have found buyers at \$6.20, and further arrivals are expected daily. Settlements for the week are returned as 200 piculs. Export by the *City of Rio de Janeiro* was 118 bales, and the *Zambesi*, leaving this afternoon, should take a fair quantity.

| | QUOTATIONS. |
|------------------------------|----------------|
| Hanks—No. 2½ - | \$4.85 to 4.90 |
| Hanks—No. 3 - | 4.60 to 4.70 |
| Hanks—No. 3½ - | 4.40 to 4.50 |
| Filatures—No. 1, 14-16 dr. - | 6.25 to 6.35 |

TEA.

The Market during the past week has been exceedingly quiet; some little buying was done in the early part of the interval, but at the close there is little of animation, owing to the continued unfavorable advices from New York. Settlements since our last weekly issue are only 6,170 piculs, consisting of the following grades, viz:—Common 85, Good Common 815, Medium 1,355, Good Medium 2,320, Fine 700, Finest 550, Choice 140, and Choicest 15 piculs. The cargo despatched by the steamship *Benevue* on the 30th June, comprised 633,196 lbs. Tea for New York. The P.M. steamer *City of Tokio* is advertised to sail from here on the 20th instant, taking Tea to 2½ cents per lb. gross to the Eastern States and Canada and 2 cents per lb. gross to San Francisco. The steamships *Yorkshire*, *Ascalon*, and *Ehrenfels* are on the berth for New York, via ports. Rates of freight are 60 shillings per ton of 40 cubic feet. The American ship *Grecian* will probably leave on the 11th instant, for San Francisco.

| | QUOTATIONS. |
|---------------|--------------|
| Common - | \$12 & under |
| Good Common - | 13 to 15 |
| Medium - | 16 to 17 |
| Good Medium - | 19 to 21 |
| Fine - | 22 to 24 |
| Finest - | 25 to 27 |
| Choice - | 29 to 31 |
| Choicest - | 33 & up'ds |

EXCHANGE.

The business done during the week has been small, and rates close steady at the following quotations:—

| | |
|-------------------------------------------|-------------|
| Sterling—Bank Bills on demand - | 3/8 |
| Sterling—Bank 4 months' sight - | 3/8 |
| Sterling—Private 4 months' sight - | 3/8 |
| Sterling—Private 6 months' sight - | 3/9 |
| Sterling—Bank sight - | 4/6 |
| On Paris—Private 6 months' sight - | 4/74 |
| On Hongkong—Bank sight - | 11 0/0 dis. |
| On Hongkong—Private 10 days' sight - | 11 0/0 dis. |
| On Shanghai—Bank sight - | 73 |
| On Shanghai—Private 10 days' sight - | 73 |
| On New York—Bank Bills on demand - | 88½ |
| On New York—Private 30 days' sight - | 88½ |
| On San Francisco—Bank Bills on demand - | 88½ |
| On San Francisco—Private 30 days' sight - | 89 |

KINSATSU QUOTATIONS.

The following table shows the rate of the day, and the fluctuation during the past week:—

| | |
|---------------------|------|
| Monday, July 2nd | 127½ |
| Tuesday, July 3rd | 127½ |
| Wednesday, July 4th | 127 |
| Thursday, July 5th | 127½ |
| Friday, July 6th | 126½ |
| Saturday, June 30th | 127½ |

IMPORTANT NOTICE.

SMALL CAPITALISTS, wishing to establish a business, should see if there is an opening for a Mineral Water Manufactory in their District. All information and recipes for the purpose of making Lemonade, Soda Water, &c., is given, previous knowledge is not necessary. The demand for these drinks is so much on the increase in all parts of the world, that the outlay for the machinery in all cases leads to a profitable and safe business. Catalogue forwarded free, on application to

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JAPANESE COMMERCE, POLITICS, LITERATURE, AND ART.

No. 11. VOL. I.]

YOKOHAMA, JULY 14TH, 1883.

[\$24 PER ANNUM.]

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The Japan Weekly Mail.

"FAIS CE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL," must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith. It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, JULY 14TH, 1883.

BIRTH.

On the 12th July, at No. 155, Settlement, Yokohama, the wife of FREDERICK ELLWOOD WHITE of a Son.

NOTES OF THE WEEK.

DEFINITE news with regard to the Annamese complication has been anxiously expected from Shanghai during the week, but it would appear that no settlement has yet been approached. M. Tricou is understood to have been pursuing a new scheme of diplomacy which his countrymen euphemistically term "inflexibility," but of which the public is somewhat slow to discern the merits. Meanwhile, the scene of discussion has been changed to Tientsin, and as a telegram has been received announcing England's willingness to mediate in conjunction with the other European Powers, it is hoped that the issue will be removed beyond the reach of "inflexible" diplomacy.

A RETURN of Japanese trade with Korea during 1882 has been published, showing that the total value of the export and import trades for the period was 1,889,499 *yen* against 2,258,053 *yen*

for 1881. The decrease (368,554 *yen*) is attributed entirely to the effects of the *éméute* at Sôul last summer. The Japanese merchants settled in Korea have apparently suffered from over-trading not less than foreigners in Japan, but, wiser than the latter, they last year adopted a resolution not to sell their goods below certain fixed prices, and the result of the combination is said to have been entirely successful. Their experience shows also another point in common with that of Westerners in this country, namely, the obstacles caused by official interference. For a long time the supplies of ox-hides and rice were entirely withheld from the export market owing to this cause. A stable medium of exchange, too, seems to be much wanted. The fluctuations in the value of Korean copper coins expressed in terms of Japanese money amounted to as much as 50 per cent. during the twelve months. The recommendations made by the Japanese Government with regard to a new coinage on the occasion of the Treaty of Chemulpho last autumn do not appear to have been fully adopted yet.

THE weather during the week was singularly cool. Heavy rain fell on Sunday and Monday, and the rivers about Tokiyo became so full that it was found necessary to postpone the annual festival which had been announced to come off at Riyogoku bridge on the 14th instant. Floods are reported from various provinces, and it is feared that the outlay in connection with dykes or river-banks will be unusually heavy this season.

A TROOP of Japanese female actresses performed the play of the Forty-seven Ronins at the Gaiety Theatre on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday. The acting was spirited and good, but the smallness of the stage seriously marred the effect. This was the first venture of the sort made in Yokohama, and considering the season, the performances drew capital audiences. The troop purposes visiting India.

THE *Official Gazette* has contradicted a statement which appeared in one of the local papers of Hongkong, to the effect that a number of Japanese officers are conducting a secret reconnaissance in China.

Two serious accidents were reported from the provinces during the week: the first an explosion of gunpowder in a wagon belonging to the Artillery of the Kumamoto Garrison. The men were returning to barracks after a march-out

when the explosion occurred, and three soldiers were severely injured. The second accident was the burning of the goal at Hiroshima, on which occasion 61 of the prisoners are said to have lost their lives, and 156 to have been more or less badly hurt.

THE withdrawal of the Japanese troops from Korea is officially announced. Since the *éméute* at Sôul last summer Korea seems to have reconciled herself completely to foreign intercourse, and no troubles whatsoever between the natives and the Japanese settlers have been reported. The King has published a proclamation enjoining his people to behave civilly towards foreign visitors, and imposing the penalty of decapitation upon those who neglect the order. The monarch is doubtless quite sincere in his desire to secure a polite reception for Western travellers, but it is worthy of note that he does not say a word about the advantages Korea is likely to derive from foreign intercourse. The tone of the proclamation suggests nothing but apprehension lest the Koreans, by provoking quarrels through ignorance or mischief, should expose their country to the terrors of foreign vengeance.

THE various Government offices commenced their Summer routine on the 16th instant, and the Capital put on that appearance of lethargy which always distinguishes it during the months of July and August. Although up to the present cholera has not made its appearance, the season in other respects appears to be abnormally unhealthy, and many cases of illness are reported. Sir Harry Parkes has gone to Hakone for change of air; His Excellency Inouye has been laid up with a severe cold and the malady of His Excellency Iwakura does not show any signs of improvement.

NOTES.

THAT extraordinary political document, the American Chinese Immigration treaty, result of a concession contemptuously made by Li Hung-chang and the T'sung-li Yamèn to the United States triumvirate, at a moment when no one knew how soon the Muscovite might be thundering at the gates of Peking, at least provides that the territory of the Republic shall be open to Chinamen visiting it for purposes of "trade, study and travel." In point of fact the flagrant repudiation of the doctrine pompously announced in the Burlingame convention, that "it is the right of every man to change his

home and his allegiance," was intended to apply only to the "coolie class," whose competition in the labor market, frugality, and segregation, are an enduring reproach to the white "workmen" of the States, who have, unfortunately for the country of their adoption, a powerful influence in its political destinies. The new law was never—far from it—intended to affect celestial of a higher grade, tourists of any kind, people possessed of capital to buy or articles to sell, and gentlemen residing in the country to learn Western languages and science. But zealous or bungling officials can pervert the best intentions of the legislator. A striking instance has just occurred in New York, where the Reverend Dr. Abelshin, the Secretary of the Right Rev. Simon Valeniesi, Bishop of Poleopolis, who arrived in New York from Brazil on the 7th of June, was refused permission to land by a Customs officer. The reverend gentleman is a native of China; and the official claimed that under the restriction act he had no right to land on American soil. Here we have the extraordinary case of a Catholic clergyman, Secretary of a high dignitary of his Church, refused permission, in direct contravention of the Angell-Swift-Trescott arrangement, to set his foot on the free ground of the United States. Presumably, Dr. Abelshin did not propose to rival the exploits of Terry or Pat with the pick, or in front of a gorgeous bar, or in Ward or State politics, to say nothing of schemes for assassinating a Prince or Prime Minister, or for blowing up a whole city with dynamite, and so forth. Presumably the reverend gentleman intended to accompany his superior in "travel"—perhaps in "study:" possibly he may have thought even of worshipping with Terry and Pat before a common altar, and bringing them to a more faithful observance and more righteous interpretation of the mysteries of their common faith. But he was prevented, like the commonest "coolie," from leaving his ship by Custom House officials, who by the way are, with the Police of New York, principally recruited from that nationality which, in America, is the bitterest foe and maligner of the Mongolian. The matter was referred to Washington, where Assistant Secretary French said that, of course, if any such detention had been made, it was clearly illegal and unjust. The department had issued instructions in regard to Chinese passing through the country, but in this case the law did not apply at all, because the man was not of the class affected by it. He could scarcely believe it possible that anybody at the New York Custom-House could have for a moment thought such a course justifiable. Secretary Folger said no report had been made of the case to the Department. As we fail to find in more recent despatches any further allusion to the affair, we can only conclude that this victim of cruel prejudice, illegally carried into action, was immediately released by order of the Secretary of State with suitable apologies to himself and his superior for the insult of his detention. Probably no more will be heard of the matter; as, though Dr. Abelshin has a clear

case at law against the Customs authorities in New York for illegal detention, it is not the custom of Roman Catholic clergymen to seek redress in civil courts, or to parade their wrongs before the world. It is too much to hope that the Dogberries who confined him to his ship have been punished by dismissal.

INASMUCH as considerable quantities of tea are shipped from this port for direct transport, by rail from San Francisco to Chicago, it is of interest to learn that, in view of the recent decision by analysts that much of the staple sent hence is so grievously "manipulated" as to be unfit for human consumption, the Central authorities have ordered samples of the consignments for the City of Hogs to be sent to New York from San Francisco for inspection before the parcels are forwarded to their destination. A telegram dated Chicago, June 8th, is as follows:—

The report from Washington that the Secretary of the Treasury had ordered that samples of tea arriving in San Francisco for Chicago merchants should be sent to New York for inspection before the tea is delivered here has caused some talk among those most interested as to the reason for such order, and the influence it would have on the tea trade in this city.

"If the report, as published, should prove true that samples of all teas arriving in San Francisco, consigned to Chicago, should be sent to New York for inspection before the tea is delivered here, would it in any way be detrimental to the tea trade in this city?" was asked of Mr. J. W. Doane, one of the heaviest importers to-day.

"That would depend a good deal on how it was done. If the samples were sent to New York ahead of the arrival of the tea and examined there without loss of time, so as to allow the tea to be delivered here immediately on the arrival of such an order, it would not make any difference; but, if any delay was caused in the delivery of tea on the arrival, then it would be injurious to the interests of the tea trade. We don't want to have any time lost in the delivery of tea on its arrival." The gentleman also stated that the only excuse that could be offered was the fact that no tea inspectors had been appointed for Chicago.

"Are the tea interests in this city not of such importance as to warrant the appointment of an inspector for this place in any case?"

"Oh, yes; the tea interests of this city are the largest in the country. Recent statistics show that far more tea arrives at San Francisco for distribution at Chicago than arrives at New York. The amount of business done is large enough to have an inspector here, and that one has not been appointed is only because, as I have already said, no inconvenience has thus far been experienced under the present arrangements. Should it be necessary to have an inspector here, one will be appointed."

Mr. Spalding, Collector of Customs, declined to converse upon the subject.

SATURDAY'S *Mainichi Shimbun* contained a paragraph to the effect that, in spite of the dangerous nature of Mr. Iwakura's illness, His Excellency devotes most serious attention to the business of the nation. The report adds that, a few days ago, the suffering statesman called one of his attendants to his bed-side, and bitterly deplored his inability, in the present impaired state of his health, to carry into execution two important political measures. The *Mainichi* supposes one of these to be the proposed extension of the military system; the second it does not pretend to guess.

THE Official Statement of the "Cash Assets" of the United States Government on the 1st of June has been published. These assets consist of Gold and Silver coin and bullion, minor coin, and negotiable paper. There are some liabilities against this sum, which cut down the total very materially. All the paper assets are simply promises to pay something, and thus are liabilities.

The amount of specie in Government vaults on the 1st June, separated from the other assets, is as follows:—

| | |
|------------------------|--------------|
| Gold coin | 8136,734,116 |
| Gold bullion | 57,177,027 |
| Standard Dollars | 108,808,977 |
| Fractional Silver coin | 38,303,196 |
| Silver bullion | 4,157,218 |
| Minor coin | 557,355 |
| Total specie | 8335,226,759 |
| Other assets | 89,063,163 |
| Total assets | 8424,309,923 |

Even the above specie does not all belong to the Government. A large amount belongs to private individuals who are using the certificates instead of the coin. The Treasurer's account shows the following certificates issued and on hand:—

| | | |
|---------|-------------|-------------|
| | Gold. | Silver. |
| Issued | 883,400,940 | 80,035,331 |
| On hand | 23,869,000 | 8,599,940 |
| Totals | 859,531,940 | 879,777,291 |

These totals are liabilities against the Gold coin and Standard Dollars on hand. Despite the large and constant drains on the Government's supply of specie, the quantity now on hand is much larger than it was a year ago. The totals compare as follows:—

| | |
|-----------------------|--------------|
| Specie June 1, 1883 | 8335,226,759 |
| Specie June 1, 1882 | 879,777,291 |
| Increase for the year | 84,453,777 |

This is an important gain in view of the light of imports of specie from foreign countries during the past twelve months. This increase is apporportioned as follows:—

| | |
|------------------------|-------------|
| Increase in Gold | 839,334,497 |
| Increase in Silver | 85,303,701 |
| Increase in minor coin | 105,519 |
| Total | 844,531,777 |

The increment is due to withdrawals from American banks and the issue of Government certificates therefor. The Gold certificates in use show an increase of \$54,539,000 over the amount in use a year ago, while the increase in Silver certificates in use is \$22,500,000 for the same interval. While, therefore, the Government has more Gold in its vaults than it had a year ago, the supply which it owns is less, as follows:—

| | | |
|-----------------|---------------|---------------|
| | 1882. | 1883. |
| Gold on hand | \$455,985,546 | \$493,319,413 |
| Certificates | 5,075,500 | 59,591,940 |
| Government Gold | \$461,061,046 | \$553,711,353 |

The result shows a net loss of \$15,000,000 in Government Gold. During the same interval there has been a net gain of \$2,598,910 in Government Silver and \$105,519 in minor coin.

LIEUTENANT BELION, of the French Navy, arrived in Marseilles from Singapore on the 11th of May last in the M. M. steamer *Sindh*. This officer, it may be remembered, is chief of the mission charged with making a preliminary report upon cutting a canal through the Isthmus of Kraw. Associated with him are six scientists, who have returned to Europe with him after a joint sojourn of six months in the Malayan Peninsula. All these gentlemen assert that the construction of a flush canal across the Isthmus does not offer any serious difficulties to modern engineering.

SOME correspondence has been conducted, and does not appear to be terminated, between the Hongkong Government and the Colonial Office on the subject of the liability of the Colony to pay to the Imperial Post Office a contribution

on account of loss sustained by the latter in its service to and from the Eastern British dependencies on the new contract with the P. & O. Company which came into force on the 1st of February, 1880. The history of the question, as stated by Mr. Lister, the Hongkong Postmaster-General, who, in a masterly document addressed to the Colonial Secretary, objects most strenuously on behalf of the colonists to the extra impost is this:—Up to 1877, Hongkong contributed nothing towards the heavy Imperial loss on the P. & O. contract (£211,000 in the year, India contributing £107,500). The postage of a half ounce, or at one period even of a quarter ounce, letter for the United Kingdom was at different times 1s. 4d., 1s. 3d., 1s. 2d. (or 1s. by the slow Southampton route) high rates, which gave rise to repeated complaints and which may be said to have formed a standing grievance. In 1877 these rates were re-adjusted on a 6d. basis, the Colony becoming responsible for half the *additional* loss thus caused, which half was then estimated at £3,150 a year. As a matter of fact it has not yet reached that sum, even with a further re-adjustment of postage on a 5d. unit. The last annual amount paid (1879-80) was £2,828. The Imperial Treasury, having sanctioned a new contract with the P. & O. Company, by which the mails have been somewhat accelerated, proposes that this payment of about £3,000 a year should be merged in a larger one of more than £12,000. The Secretary of State agrees that the Colony should pay something, but he considers £12,000 out of the question, and suggests £6,000, or about double what is paid at present, the old payment to cease. After detailing the changes which have resulted from the entry of Hongkong into the Postal Union, Mr. Lister finds that four courses are open to the Colony, namely: (a) to ask for a re-consideration of the question by the Imperial Government; (b) to pay the £6,000 asked for by the Secretary of State and accept the loss on the Postal Service; (c) to pay the £6,000 and revert to the old 1s. 3d. (30 cents) rate of Postage to the United Kingdom only by both British and French packets in order to raise the sum required; (d) to decline either to despatch or to receive mails by the P. & O. packets. The last two alternatives are dismissed as impracticable, for reasons detailed at length; and the disadvantages of the San Francisco route, as regards Hongkong, are also indicated. The gist of the Postmaster's counsel is that, if Hongkong pays even the £6,000 to which the Secretary of State has modified his heavy demand, the result will be that the Colonial Post-office will be taking a great deal of trouble and going to a good deal of expense to conduct postal business on the coast of China simply for the pleasure of doing it. These postal duties in China were unwillingly undertaken by the Colony entirely in deference to the views of the Home Government, and "have been carried out as well as, in the face of local difficulties, they possibly could be. It may be questioned whether the Colony should be rewarded by a demand for three per cent. of its entire revenue (for that is

what £6,000 a year amounts to) entailing complete extinction of the modest revenue on its local postal business." The London Post Office, which is making an increasing profit of over £3,000,000 annually (after defraying the losses to which Hongkong is asked to contribute) "can afford to be more generous than that." In fine, Mr. Lister thinks that, were these details fully explained, a contribution of £3,000, or £3,500 a year, fixed, and irrespective of accounts, would be accepted as a discharge of all claims.

• • •

On the subject of the total discontinuance of any subsidy to the P. & O. Company for the conveyance of mails to Shanghai—it is known that the line now receives no grant for its Japan traffic—the Hongkong Postmaster says:—

And though, as Lord Kimberley points out, there are numerous private steamers, by which mails might be forwarded, the discontinuance of the P. & O. service would practically throw the whole correspondence into the French Mail. However much the postage were lowered, next to nothing would be sent by slower steamers. The French Mail would take four hours to sort. I do not suppose the French Post Office would ever consent to its being sorted on board. If it were so sorted (which may be regarded as out of the question) the expense would be very great, at least three times that of our present marine sorting. A fortnightly mail no doubt sufficed for the wants of Hongkong at one time, but the objections I have pointed out above are so strong that I do not see my way to recommending any attempt to recur to it.

• • •

The resolutions passed by the Hongkong Chamber of Commerce on the subject will be of interest to those in Japan who forward bulky packets of correspondence to Europe by the Hongkong route. They are to the effect:—

1.—That the surplus revenue derived from the Post Office in Hongkong, notwithstanding that the rates of postage are higher than those charged by the French Post Office in Shanghai on correspondence by Messageries boats, being only \$3,000 annually, it is manifestly impossible for the Post Office to bear the increased burthen which the proposed impost would throw upon it.

2.—That the question is now agitated among the mercantile community as to the policy of subsidising any line of steamers between this Colony and Europe, considering the numerous means of direct and speedy steam communication now available.

3.—That in the event of any further payment being required from the Colony towards the cost of subsidy, the means could only be obtained either by an increase of the rates of postage, or from some other branch of the revenue such as stamps, which would enhance the taxation on trade, already too onerous, and the Chamber protests in the strongest manner against the prospective payment on account of the mails. As regards any increase in the rates of postage, the Committee would observe that such a measure would be most impolitic and unjust, and one not likely to have a successful result in augmenting the postal revenue. British mail steamers are exposed to competition from numerous foreign lines of steam communication which would be glad to carry the letters of this Colony for half the rates now charged, and were an increase resolved upon there would be nothing to prevent the public sending their correspondence by private steamers to Saigon to be posted there for Europe, a course which would deprive the Colonial Government entirely of the revenue derived from the French mail service. The Committee also desire to point out that in the statement showing the division of cost and apportionment of the loss on the service, the share falling to Hongkong and Shanghai is set down as £30,068, which amount the Chamber submit should be deducted from £360,000, and the balance charged rateably against this Colony.

The Japanese Government Telegraph Department has been informed that the telegraph line between Canton and Kowloon has been completed and is now open for traffic. It will be remembered that the British authorities refused to allow a cable to be laid across Hongkong Harbour from the Kowloon shore, so that messages to or from the Crown Colony have to be carried across in a steam launch. We understand that a boat for this service will run over six times daily, but beside this there are

ferry boats constantly running, and most of the firms in Hongkong who will use the line possess steam launches of their own, so that the Colony will not suffer much through the action of the Government in the matter of delay, although a station in the Queen's-road would be much more convenient.

A most determined suicide was effected on the 9th inst. on the Yokohama-Tokyo line by a man at Tsurumi Station. The train, which does not stop at the station mentioned, approached at its usual speed, when a Japanese, who was standing on the end of the station down-line platform flung himself across the rails in front of the engine. Instantaneous death, of course, followed the act. A Chinaman, who attempted suicide the same day by jumping into the Creek, was not successful in his endeavour, as his friends followed him into the water, and, after a considerable chase, fished him out. He is reported to be a lunatic who has tried to obtain his quietus in a similar manner on two or three previous occasions.

A VERNACULAR journal states that the trial of the persons concerned in the murder of Shimidzu, a servant in the employ of Mr. John Pitman, who was assassinated in Tokyo on the 29th of March, 1881, by a comrade under circumstances of peculiar atrocity, has been at length concluded. The accessories have been condemned to imprisonment for periods varying from five to seven years. Sentence will be passed upon the actual murderer shortly.

On the 24th of May, H.E. Hachisuka, ex-Daimio of Awa, was received by the President of the French Republic, to whom he presented the letters of recall of his predecessor, General Ida, and his own credentials as Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary to the French Government.

PROBABLY by way of a grim joke, the veracious *Choya Shimibun* affirms that the Shimonoseki Indemnity refunded by America is to be applied to the construction of a strong fort to command the famous entrance to the Inland Sea.

THE Hongkong journals produce, without special comment, the telegram we published on Monday morning with regard to the rumoured dead-lock between Li Hung-chang and M. Tricou. Of course such a meagre statement as that the latter has behaved rudely to the former leaves the details a matter of conjecture. Our contemporary the *Echo du Japon* finds the report quite incredible—does not hesitate indeed to describe it as "*certainement inexact*"—and suggests, as a probable explanation, that M. Tricou, "*conformément aux instructions du gouvernement français, s'est montré inflexible.*" Rudeness and inflexibility may bear a close resemblance to each other under certain circumstances. For example, if a man were to thrust his fist into one's face and persist in keeping it there, he would be both rude and inflexible. We

do not suppose for a moment that M. Tricou has been trying conclusions of this nature with the Grand Secretary, but we frankly confess that the purely diplomatic aspect of the negotiations to be conducted at Shanghai by the special envoy of the Republic never appeared to us very rosy. M. Tricou may possibly have found the astute old Celestial statesman too much for him, both morally and physically, and under the irritating consciousness of incapacity—comparative, of course—may have been betrayed into some of those exhibitions of feeling which used to be included among the most efficient methods of carrying on discussions with Orientals. We are unwilling to admit this hypothesis, but it is quite as reasonable as to suppose that Li Hung-chang has telegraphed to Paris an accusation of rudeness against an official who was only displaying "inflexibility." Li Hung-chang is a very tolerable judge of what is, and what is not, permissible in diplomatic intercourse, and his judgment is based upon a range of experiences to which even M. Tricou must bow. These, however, are pure conjectures. We shall be very glad to learn that they are entirely erroneous.

THE condition of the Kerosene Oil market in Japan is becoming a curious and interesting study. According to statistics there were in stock on July 4th:—

at Yokohama—in the Government Godowns. 581,600 cases.
at Kobe—in General Godowns. 584,700 cases.

making a total of.....1,166,300 cases.

while there are en route from America,
about.....800,000 cases.
and loading on June the 1st, about.....440,070 cases.

making a grand total of...2,406,300 cases.

The whole of this is likely to be in Yokohama and Kobe within the next six months, less what may be consumed in the interim. The consumption at the two places during the second half of 1882 was 990,000 cases. If the same rate holds this year, there would remain in stock, on December 31st, 1,591,300 cases. But the rate of consumption now is much lower than that for the corresponding period of 1882, owing probably to general poverty and forced economy, so that stocks at the end of the year are likely to be seventeen or eighteen hundred thousand cases, that is to say, a whole twelvemonth's supply. It is a little difficult to understand what kerosene importers propose to themselves when they proceed after this guise. The prospect of a higher duty to be imposed when the new tariff comes into force may be producing some effect; or, which seems more likely, traders may be influenced by apprehensions of a change of standard. A possible rise of prices in America is also suggested as an explanation, but in that case it would appear more rational to keep the oil there.

THE *Hongkong Daily Press* is at some pains to convict this journal of geographical ignorance. Our colonial contemporary's text is the following paragraph which he extracts from our columns:—"It is patent that the enforcement of the Treaty Articles is not the final object of France, but rather the annexation of Annam.

The ultimate purpose of the invasion is to bring a French colony into immediate proximity to the famous but little known south-western provinces of China." In these words the *Daily Press* professes to discover evidence that the difference between Tonquin and Annam is not recognized by the *Japan Mail*, and accordingly proceeds to explain that the former country, "interposes between China and Annam, so that to get within reach of China's southern provinces Tonquin, not Annam, must be annexed. It would be ungrateful to disparage this valuable information, but we may be permitted to point out that, in predicting the annexation of Annam, we spoke of France's "final," as distinguished from her immediate, action. At the outset her attention was nominally directed to Tonquin, but we believed, and time has proved the correctness of our forecast, that her aggression would ultimately be extended to Annam itself, and that by this acquisition the chain of her colonial possessions in the Indo-Chinese peninsula would be brought into immediate proximity with the south-western provinces of China. We trust that this explanation will prove satisfactory to the *Hongkong Daily Press*.

AMID all the talk we hear of bank failures, it is pleasant to learn, on the authority of a Japanese journal, that the 35th National Bank has succeeded in realizing a profit of over thirty per cent. on its capital during the first half of the current year. It appears that the Bank has issued notes to the amount of yen 300,000, and that the deposits it holds from the Government and the people are yen 230,000 and yen 300,000 respectively. This Bank has its head office in Shidzuoka, and its capital, according to official returns, is only 100,000 yen, so that its note issues ought not to exceed 80,000. We suspect that the *Choya Shimbun*, from which the above details are extracted, did not apply the co-efficient for rumour before publishing them.

THE *Yiyu Shimbun* says that the nobles (*kwasoku*) in Tokiyo take a keen interest in the study of law, and propound to their legal advisers a number of hypothetical cases, both civil and criminal, which they have themselves considered judicially. The conjecture of our vernacular contemporary is that many of the nobles will ultimately be appointed to the office of judge. It would be difficult to conceive anything more unlikely.

IN H.B.M. Court on the 10th inst. W. Gibbon, a seaman, unemployed, was charged before Mr. R. Robertson, Assistant Judge, with stealing a coat from the premises on No. 42, of Mr. Lunberg, a hotel keeper.—The proprietor deposed that the prisoner had been lodging in his house, whence several articles had recently been missed.—One of the boarders in the house swore that his coat, that produced in Court, had been stolen from the sitting-room, where he had left it hanging after dinner in the middle of the day. Subsequently he traced the garment to a place where it had been sold in Honmura.—A

Japanese woman, keeping a store in Honmura, testified that she had bought the coat (in question) three days ago from the prisoner, paying him two yen for it, after some bargaining: that shortly afterwards the prisoner returned and desired to repurchase the article for three yen; but that meanwhile she had sold it to another shopkeeper, and promised to recover it, which she did later. The prisoner had said that he would return to redeem it; but failed to do so. Shortly after his departure, Lunberg came to witness's shop, and claimed the coat, which she then had recovered, as having been stolen from his house.—The prisoner, in defence, stoutly maintained that a companion and fellow lodger offis (one Malony) sold the coat. The Court gave the prisoner the benefit of the doubt and dismissed the case.

Chuzo Oridzu, a Japanese jinrikisha drawer, charged Mr. Bachelor, with assaulting him on the 11th of June.—Prosecutor, who claimed yen 3.62 for medical attendance, loss of time and jinriki-hire, deposed that he had conveyed a gentleman from the hotel to Takashima-cho and back on the day in question. The gentleman on alighting directed the boy in attendance to pay witness twenty sen. This was done; but witness demanded ten sen more. The boy did not answer but shut the door. After waiting for some time witness opened the door and asked for more money, when his fare came out, took a ten sen note from him and gave him a few sen in copper. Then Mr. Bachelor came and hit him on the head with a billiard cue.—Mr. Bachelor, by the evidence of the gentleman whom the prosecutor had carried, proved that the latter behaved very rudely in the house, throwing the money on the floor.—Mr. H. L. Cook, living opposite, deposed that he had seen the jinrikisha coolie strike the defendant, in his own vestibule, on the leg with the seat of his chair, bruising him badly. He did not see Bachelor strike the prosecutor.—The Japanese bar-tender at No. 53 deposed that he had paid twenty cents to the prosecutor, who then came two or three times into the house and spoke very loudly.—Mr. Bachelor himself stated that he only went to the door to remonstrate with the prosecutor and induce him to leave, when he was struck violently over the knee with a seat by the jinrikisha coolie, whom he then struck with a billiard-cue which he held in his hand.—The charge was dismissed.

CHINA'S suzerain rights over this country or that are becoming a barren topic of discussion. They were never real rights according to any dictionary of practical terms, and China herself has always refused to acknowledge them when the acknowledgment promised to involve any embarrassment. Our correspondent "F.E." takes some trouble to show that the mere payment of tribute does not imply vassalage or dependency, but his contention is scarcely necessary, inasmuch as we have the declaration of China herself that no political signification attaches to the ceremony. She has never, she recently explained, required or exacted the pay-

ment of tribute. It has always been a purely voluntary affair, followed by a return, on China's part, of larger but still insignificant gifts, and to be construed simply as an interchange of neighbourly courtesies. But it is plain that the import of such a rite must depend in a great measure on concomitant circumstances. For though in itself it constitutes no international link of appreciable strength, it may formerly have been accompanied, in particular cases, by overt acts of tutelage or interference amply sufficient to establish a relationship of suzerain and vassal. But upon these points we are plainly incompetent to speak in the absence of historical evidence. Whatever China's valid titles may be, they are so mixed up with romantic and baseless pretensions that no substantial value attaches to any of them. Her fitful attempts to assert them can only have the result of leading her into profligate contentions. For some years past her conduct has resembled that of the barbarian pugilist described in the *Philippics*, who guards the place where he has received a blow, but never seems to have any idea beforehand on what part of his body the next visitation will alight. If China would emerge from her dignified taciturnity, and give the world some distinct definition of her intentions as a suzerain, and some intelligible catalogue of her supposed vassals, she would find her policy immensely simplified. But, like the barbarian boxer, her attention only exhibits local animation. Disturbed by an unpleasant apparition in Korea, she asserts herself there with spasmodic energy, having over and over again denied in the past her own title to interfere. Similarly, brought face to face with French aggression in Tonquin, she revives her obsolete pretensions and founds them on authorities borrowed from the age of myths. The fact is that in some respects she is still the "huge mummy empire by the hands of custom wrapped in swathing bands." Not yet roused to complete vitality, she is living half in the traditions of the past, half in the realities of the present. Setting aside, however, all these complications of suzerain and vassal, there remains, as we have before pointed out, the solid fact that China has an undeniable right to concern herself about what takes place on her own borders. Still more is she justified in exercising that right when access to her own territory, by a new and hitherto forbidden route, is among the principal objects of the power which is about to establish itself on her frontier. It does, indeed, appear from Mr. Colquhoun's recently published narrative, that the approach to Yunnan by the Red River is a much more difficult task than Garnier imagined. The river is only navigable as far as Manhao, a village which is separated from the plateau on the east of Yunnan by a range of hills 6,000 feet high. The plateau itself, known as the Men-tsu plain, is 3,500 feet above the level of Manhao, and offers very little inducement to explorers, being "only a shade more fertile than the black and hilly north" of the province. All the wealth of Yunnan—wealth which "has been a tradition since the days of the great Venetian, San Marco"—is in the

southern and western plateaux and valleys, that is to say, in the part nearest to British Burmah. French projects in this direction are, therefore, likely to be disappointed, but they nevertheless exist, and offer a most substantial reason for Chinese interference. There is much seeming validity in the argument that China has put herself out of court by not interfering before, but what shall be said of France in this context? Has she acted worthily and justly in usurping the protectorate of a Chinese tributary—never mind how much or how little the latter term signifies—without holding any official communication whatever on the subject with the Court at Peking? What has she been doing during the nine years that have elapsed since she forced Tonquin to sign away its independence? One imagines that a small fraction of the time would have sufficed to come to an understanding with China, who can truly say that, if she has been slow in entering a protest, France has been slower still in consulting the wishes and claims of a friendly empire.

Whatever may have been the nature of China's title as a suzerain in former times, the document which the Annamese tribute-bearing mission of 1880 presented to the occupant of the Dragon Throne, shows that the relation of vassalage is distinctly recognized by the Tu-duc himself. That document appeared in the *Peking Gazette* of December, 1880, and has been translated by Professor Douglas:—

THE KING OF ANNAM TO THE EMPEROR OF CHINA.

Now, as I look up and see on the northern horizon a mounting light, the south must send its golden gifts of happy omen. Over the countless ridges of a thousand hills for thousands of *le* we hold faithful course, our heads, like the sunflower, still turned to the sun of our Lord. Reverently I send this letter of congratulation; prostrate, I think, at this happy time, when the sky is unclouded, when the remotest domains of ocean have learnt the softening influence of a common language, how that "the southern land of fire," too, though remote, should send their rightful offerings. As I reverently spread these before me and kindle incense, I fly in spirit to the heavenly portals. I think, in all lowliness, of your Majesty as of a sun shining incessantly along a pathway whose brightness increases ever; as of a Sovereign filling the first place under heaven and upholding the teaching of the *Ch'ien Ch'iu* that unity is of more worth than aught else; as of one who by love to the vassal princes and tenderness to those from afar fulfils the nine rules of the *Chung Yung*; as of him who has received the divine commission to govern the nine regions; as of one "who displays his virtues until they permeate all quarters of the kingdom;" as of a leader who is a fair sight for his people; and as of a king who is an all-pervading influence. I, your vassal, in the torrid heat of the south, was long since enrolled among the tributary States, and have held myself in all reverence, ever obedient to my duty. Now that the frontier pest is laid (i.e. the rebellion under Le Yang-ts'ai), and the general assemblage of princes is at hand; now that no waves are raging on the sea of Chow, and the auspicious gifts of every clime are collected at the Palace of Yu; I, your vassal, relying on your kindness, hasten to do my duty as befits my station. I am about to send my Envoy with my offerings, and it seems as though myself were about to gaze on the heavenly countenance; so do I rejoice in the rising light of sun and moon and breath of strife put down for ever. May I be enabled to receive your favours without end by walking in the same path, and transgressing never; unworthy to glance at heaven or to gaze at the Holy Man, I await your answer in most earnest expectation. Besides this letter I have entrusted to my Envoy a list of the tribute offerings to be given to your Majesty.

The *St. James's Budget*, which republishes this translation, says:—"If we are to take this document as fair evidence, we hardly see how the contention can be maintained that China has, properly speaking, nothing to do with French proceedings in Tonquin. It may be true that the Court of Peking ought not to have any con-

cern with the affairs of the peninsula; but it is pretty plain that they themselves and the other parties most interested think they have such concern." When the truth of all this complication is known, it will doubtless be found that the Tu-duc signed away his independence in 1874, under the duress of internal trouble not less than of French aggression, and that he was no sooner relieved of the former, than he cast about for means to be relieved of the latter also, finding them, as he thought, in a return to the allegiance his ancestors acknowledged. If this be so, he reckoned without his host, so far as China is concerned, for though in appearance she resumed her functions of tutelage, one of the first uses she made of them was to consent to the partition of her new vassal.

The vernacular journals state that apprehensions are entertained lest the Sumida river should rise to such a height as to cause serious damage. A difference of level amounting to three feet was noted on Monday afternoon. There does not, however, appear to be any reason for alarm. The river at Kawasaki, though it threatened on Sunday evening to become inconveniently full, has since then fallen considerably.

The *Echo du Japon* complains that certain Yokohama journals, among others the *Japan Mail*, declare that France is marked by the finger of God, and that her destruction is certain. Surely our contemporary is labouring under some misapprehension. We can thoroughly sympathise with the indignation he feels as a Frenchman when he peruses some of the comments his country's Oriental policy has elicited, but between senseless ebullitions of British jealousy and criticism, honest at least in intention, there is a wide difference. The notion that France's national existence is likely to be imperilled by any difficulties she has to encounter at this end of the world is not to be entertained for a moment. Once, indeed, in speaking of the events occurring in Indo-China we used the expression, *quem deus vult perdere prius dementat*, but it had reference, as our contemporary can easily satisfy himself, solely to the fiasco at Hanoi on May 19th—a fiasco which really suggested dementia and which had nothing in common with French military traditions except the indomitable gallantry of its victims. Even granting the truth of everything that has been said about the difficulties of a campaign in Annam, the pluck and prowess of the Black Flags and that indeterminate factor, China's military strength, we imagine that France can afford to regard the prospect with perfect equanimity. As to the lack of generosity and delicacy with which our contemporary charges us for referring to the disastrous war of 1870 and asserting that France is seeking to recover in the Orient the prestige she lost twelve years ago, we can only reply by referring him to M. Challemel-Lacour, who stated himself in his speech before the Chamber that it is necessary to remove from the minds of Oriental nations certain false impressions as to France's position created by the war of 1870.

If the French Minister for Foreign Affairs chooses to recall these souvenirs, and refer to them the policy his Government is now pursuing in the East, the *Echo du Japon* need not be surprised that we accept his explanation. For the rest our contemporary could not fall into any graver error than to suppose that Englishmen find any satisfaction in the retrospect to which he alludes or wish France any thing but a happy exit from the troubles she is preparing for herself all over the world.

THE duties of an official in Korea have more thorns than roses about them. There the chain of responsibility seems to be absolutely inelastic. Subordinates are required to carry out systems with the preparation of which they have had nothing to do, and if they fail, disgrace is inevitable. A case in point is furnished by a riot reported to have occurred on the 14th of last month at a place called (according to Japanese reading) Tongnai. Some three hundred inhabitants marched to the residence of the Governor and presented a petition having reference to questions of registration. The Governor attempted to remonstrate with the rabble, but they declined discussion and proceeded at once to destroy his house, so that at last he was glad to escape with his life. On reporting the matter he was immediately deprived of his office. He had failed to keep the people quiet, and thereby proved himself incompetent to govern. Such a system certainly has some hardships, but it has also many merits.

WE have not heard much about the tariff lately—a matter not to afford one much regret, as we incline to think with a New York journalist that there is something about the tariff, as about horse-dealing, which seems injurious to the morality of even the best men who engage in the discussion of it, the reason being the same in both cases. Horse-dealing tempts men into fraud and deception because the facts of a horse's condition are so difficult to discover. This is simply another way of saying that the prospect of impunity promotes lying, as well as other vices. The facts of any tariff controversy are very hard to get at, and are really within the reach only of a few, and the mere collection of them requires a good deal of skill and acumen. Consequently, the public is rarely in a position to judge which side has the true and trustworthy facts, and is apt to be bewildered rather than enlightened by the controversy. "We do not mean to say that the free-traders are in this matter above reproach, but we do mean to say that it is seldom that they have a personal interest in the result. Most English manufacturers are free-traders, it is true, but the great bulk of free-traders everywhere are persons whose interest in free trade is simply that of the great body of consumers. They want simply to escape taxation, while the leading protectionists expect to put some of the taxes in their own pockets, and have on their hands the arduous job of persuading the tax-payers that this will be a good thing for them also, and that the higher their taxes are the better off they

will be. The protectionist temptation, therefore, to tell lies is much stronger than the free-trade temptation, and it is consequently not discriminating unfairly to say that more protectionists than free-traders succumb to it. The protectionists are, in fact, very much in this matter in the position of the man who is trying to sell the horse, and the free-traders in that of the man who proposes to buy him. In all such cases the vendor undoubtedly makes grosser departures from accuracy in praising the animal than the vendee in running him down; and it was, in fact, to stimulate the vendee's vigilance that the common law laid down the great and familiar rule of *caveat emptor*."

THE *Rising Sun and Nagasaki Express* of the 7th instant contains what appears to be a very fair, and is certainly a very temperate, article on the subject of the police case in which Mr. Arthur Norman was defendant. Our readers will remember that at the date of our last advices Mr. Norman had entered a protest against the order served on him over the signature of H.M.'s Consul. It now appears that Mr. Norman was subsequently requested to attend at the Consulate on the following morning, and that the Consul then pointed out to him the grave responsibilities he had incurred. Mr. Norman, however, failed to perceive this aspect of the affair, and the upshot of the whole matter was that his protest was returned to him with a short covering letter from the Consular Assistant. There the trouble is understood to have ended. The *Nagasaki Express*, in reviewing the circumstances, says in the first place, that the original summons was uncalled for, and suggests that the Consul's proper course would have been to "intimate to the police that they had no right to enter foreign premises, at the same time advising them to apply again to the proprietor in person." Our contemporary appears to forget that before issuing the summons the Consul sought to procure an interview with Mr. Norman, and that the latter, "for private reasons" declined to accede. It is a fair presumption that had this interview taken place, the whole complication would have been easily and satisfactorily avoided. Failing an interview, and having regard to the complaint lodged by the police, it is difficult to see what course other than the issue of a summons was open to H.M.'s Consul. But when we come to consider the order subsequently served on Mr. Norman, we are obliged to confess that its wording leaves something to be desired. Its terms were needlessly harsh, and it moreover committed the error of prejudging the merits of any subsequent acts of obstruction. These, however, are mere incidents. The main question at issue is, whether or no the Japanese police have the right to visit foreigners' houses for the purpose of registering their native servants. It is a question surrounded by susceptibilities and prejudices which are well worthy to be treated with all consideration. Yet it seems to us that the solution is furnished by the suggestions of common sense. There are in this country certain foreign settlements the municipal government of which devolves

upon the Japanese authorities, who are held responsible for the security of life and property there. Among the measures most essential to the efficiency of that government the Japanese give a very high place to the registration of the foreign resident's native *employés*. Whether they are right or wrong in this matter it is unnecessary to discuss. The responsibility rests with them and, as a necessary consequence, so also does the right to determine how their duties shall be carried out. In order to register our servants, the police must visit our houses, and it follows plainly that if we deny them ingress, we virtually deprive them of the power to carry out functions which, by our own consent, have been delegated to them. Nothing could be more unjust than to find fault with the inefficiency of their municipal government so long as they are forbidden to take measures essential, in their opinion, to efficiency.

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This is the common sense view of the question. It might also be argued from another stand-point. The Japanese might maintain that they have a right to govern their own subjects in their own way, and that registration is a part of their system of government. Instead of sending the police to glean particulars from house to house, they might simply issue a notification ordering that all Japanese who reside in the Foreign Settlements shall enter their names in the local registers, and that, failing compliance, they shall be arrested and imprisoned. This would be highly inconvenient under certain contingencies, but would it be illegal? The fact is that the Japanese show much forbearance in these matters. They might give us a great deal of trouble and annoyance if they were a little more in earnest.

THE *North China Daily News* publishes without comment the telegram said to have been received by the Marquis Tseng to the effect that M. Tricou had behaved so rudely to Li Hung-chang that negotiations were at a standstill. This telegram was dated London, June 30th, and we learn in effect from the Shanghai journals that a dead-lock did really exist at that date. M. Tricou appears to have persisted in maintaining the ludicrous position that China has nothing whatsoever to do with the Annamese trouble, and that under these circumstances negotiations were quite superfluous. Such a contention must have proved no less exasperating than it was senseless. If France truly believed that China had no concern in the business, her action in sending a special envoy to proclaim the fact was a little inexplicable. Li Hung-chang at all events appears to have made up his mind as to the uselessness of remaining at Shanghai for the purpose of holding a discussion upon which the other side declined to enter. He declared his intention of returning to Peking, and on the 30th of June speculation was rife in Shanghai as to whether M. Tricou would follow him thither "to continue refusing to discuss." On the 3rd of July, however,

the *North China Daily News* published the following:—

We are happy to be able to announce that during the last forty-eight hours the negotiations between Mr. Tricou and Li Chung-t'ang have been placed on a friendlier footing, and that there is some prospect, now, of the difficulty being amicably settled very shortly. This is, we believe, due in some measure to the more conciliatory bearing of the French Minister,—a change which appears to have been cordially responded to by Li. The probable terms of the agreement now pending have not transpired; but there seems little doubt that they will practically include an acknowledgment of French rights in the Peninsula of Annam, and a settlement of the frontier-question which shall be equitable towards both Powers. The demand for an indemnity is understood to have been dropped. Under these circumstances, it is quite uncertain when the Chung-t'ang will go north. The departure of the Hon. Russell Young, who was booked to leave for Tientsin on Saturday, was also suddenly postponed at a late hour that night. Mr. Young will, however, leave for the north as soon as ever the dispute is definitely settled. We need only add that, as the Chung-t'ang has been in daily telegraphic communication with Prince Kung throughout the progress of negotiations, it may be understood that whatever arrangement he comes to with the Minister for France will be accepted by the Government of China.

By the light of these statements there is fair reason to conclude that the outcome of His Excellency Li's telegram to Paris was not without good effect on M. Tricou's attitude. If it be true that the French envoy declined to enter into any discussion with the Grand Secretary and persisted in maintaining that France's proceedings in Tonquin did not in any way concern the Middle Kingdom, there was ample justification for Li Hung-chang's announcement to Marquis Tseng. We can imagine nothing ruder than such a fashion of diplomacy. Persisted in, it could only force China to fight, and that, we presume, was not the purpose of M. Tricou's mission. It is most welcome news to learn that, in spite of such eccentricities, peace is not likely to be imperilled. The intelligence, published by the *Tokyo Official Gazette*, that H.E. Li left Shanghai on the 5th instant for Tientsin, suggests the idea that a definite settlement has been virtually concluded.

THE proprietor, editor, and foreman of the *Choya Shimbum* have been sentenced to two months' imprisonment with hard labour and to a fine of fifteen yen, in accordance with article 141 of the Penal Code. Their crime was the publication of libellous statements with regard to the conduct of the Prefect of Saitama, the proximate cause of complaint being, as usual, alleged insufficiency of the Central Government's contributions to local expenditure. Japanese who so bitterly resent the necessity of paying for the maintenance of roads, dykes, and so forth, may be interested to learn that, while their local taxation for these purposes does not amount to one-fifth of the State's revenue, it amounts in England to something like five-eighths.

THE *Temps* recently undertook, as the telegraph has informed us, to interpret the purpose of M. de Giers' mission. He was instructed to let the Powers know that Russia would be obliged to seek in Armenia an equivalent for the occupation of Egypt by Great Britain. "England," added the French journal, "by taking possession of Egypt has re-opened the Eastern question." To this proposition emphatic assent is given by *l'Italie*. Whether or no M. de Giers has made any such declaration, it is certain, the latter journal thinks, that should Russia seize Armenia

in spite of the Treaty of Berlin, she will find her warrant in England's Egyptian policy. From the moment that the integrity of the Ottoman Empire ceased to be respected on the banks of the Nile by the Power most interested in preserving it, there was no apparent reason why Russia's hands should not be free in Asia. She signed the Treaty of Berlin under duress and in spite of the obstacles it offered to her political plans. The same treaty, on the contrary, was in England's favor, inasmuch as it guaranteed Turkey against all foreign aggression. Nevertheless, England has been the first to violate it, and if her example is followed by Russia or any other State, Great Britain will only reap as she has sowed. Indeed, *l'Italie* thinks that all the Powers may proceed to tear up the Treaty if they please.

England has authorized them, and knowing the false position in which she has placed herself—powerless, moreover, to stave off the consequences of the unhappy example she has set, her only object at present is to withdraw her signature with what dignity she may. Hence it is that Lord Dufferin was recently charged to remonstrate with the Sultan on the subject of his failure to carry out in Armenia the reforms to which he pledged himself by the Treaty of Berlin. England knows that the Porte cannot possibly carry out these reforms, and for the rest, the fate of the Armenians gives her very little concern. Whether they are happy or unhappy does not affect her commercial well-being. Lord Dufferin's remonstrances, therefore, are simply intended to serve as a plea in reserve. The day that Russia lays hands on Armenia, and the Sultan applies to Great Britain for assistance, the English Cabinet will be in a position to tell him that he has only himself to blame for his misfortune, and that his failure to carry out the promised reforms has relieved England of all obligation to aid him. "And now," *l'Italie* concludes, "when will Russia, perfectly cognizant as she is of England's little game, and reassured in that direction, lay hands upon Turkish Armenia? It is somewhat difficult to say, but the moment is probably not far removed. Lord Dufferin's recent action at Constantinople proves it. We may therefore expect to see the everlasting Eastern question reopened again before long. Russia's advance in Asia will probably be the signal for an Austrian movement towards Salonica. In prospect of which eventualities, no doubt, M. de Bismarck has taken his precautions in central Europe."

It is a wholesome thing to hear what other people think of us, and to contrast it with what we think of ourselves. With the latter intent take this clause from Lord Dufferin's celebrated report:—"A succession of unexpected events over which we have had no control, and which we had done our best to avert, has compelled us to enter Egypt single-handed, to occupy its capital and principal towns with an English force, and to undertake the restoration of a settled government." Or take again the following sentences from Mr. F. W. Rowsell's essay in the *Nineteenth Century* for June:—"With the ex-

press consent of most of the European Powers, and with the quasi-acquiescence of France, England decided to restore order in the valley of the Nile. * * * Nothing could have been more hearty or more thorough than the acceptance by nearly all the Great Powers of the *fait accompli* of the English occupation, or the recognition by them of the rights correlative to the occupation. Germany, Austria, and Russia may be said to have agreed in advance to that scheme of reorganization which the English, in the exercise of their discretion, and in actual possession of the country, should deem best. Italy, if at first less ungrudging than the other three, ended by frankly accepting the position.—Which of the above verdicts will history accept?

THE *Choya Shimbum* states that the malady from which Mr. Iwakura is suffering has taken a favorable turn, and that His Excellency has so far recovered his strength that he is no longer confined to bed. We sincerely trust that this news may prove correct. Our private information is of a less hopeful character.

THE *Hiogo News* of the 7th of July contains a full report of the launch of the *Shima Maru* from the yard of the Imperial Government Works at Hiogo. The vessel is described as a handsome screw steamer, built to the order of the Union Shipping Company, with special regard to the requirements of the coasting trade, and complying with all the conditions of registration in the second class of the Tokiyo Marine Insurance Company, equivalent to 12 years A1, at Lloyd's. It is confidently expected that the *Shima Maru* will have good speed and carry a cargo far exceeding her registered tonnage. The vessel's dimensions are:—length 160 ft., beam 23½ ft., depth 14 ft. 10 in., displacement 800 tons. The engines have been made in the works, and are quite ready to be placed in position: the cabins are to be fitted for the accommodation of forty saloon passengers, and the corresponding proportion of travellers by second class and steerage. His Excellency Takayuki Sasaki presided at the ceremony, which was made an occasion for the display of that genial hospitality in dispensing which Japanese are only rivalled by the French. Mr. Matsuda, the Director of the Works, received the guests, among whom were Madame Sasaki, H.E. Tateno, Governor of Osaka, Mr. Yendo, Commissioner of the Imperial Mint, and the principal local officials, together with many foreigners. Madame Sasaki christened the vessel, which was launched without any hitch or delay at flood-tide. At the collation which followed, the Minister for Public Works made a short speech congratulating the Company upon the acquisition of so fine a steamer, and the management of the works upon its success in building it, the latter meed of praise being gracefully acknowledged by Mr. Matsuda.

THE "Battle of the Standards" seems destined to be everlasting. Mr. Goschen has sounded the note of attack once more in England, and

the echoes make themselves audible even at his end of the world. The subject is bewildering. A large number of the arguments used by monometallists seem to tell equally in favour of bimetalism and *vice versa*. One thing only appears to be certain—that the ranks of the bimetalists are not thinning. Mr. Goschen is an advocate of the single standard, yet he has to admit himself that his conclusions are of a nature to assist bimetalism, and where conclusions lead the way, convictions are likely to follow ere long. The London *Economist*, indeed, undertakes to show that his figures are in error to the extent of sixty millions sterling, but whether or no this correction be correct, the bearing of Mr. Goschen's contention is not altered. To deny that Germany, Italy, and the United States by demonetizing silver have withdrawn two hundred million sovereigns from the customary channels, and to admit that they have withdrawn 139 millions, looks very like straining at a gnat and swallowing a camel. The line of reasoning adopted by our correspondent "T.W." whose letter we print elsewhere, is, however, not directly connected with the bimetallic nightmare of a gold famine. What "T.W." undertakes to show is that a country may be very happy and very prosperous without depriving silver of the function it has so long performed. This is a proposition which monometallists themselves have no difficulty in admitting. Professor Jevons says:—"Asia and Russia seem likely to uphold silver against the rest of the world adopting gold. In such a result there seems to be nothing to regret;" and Chevalier says:—"On ne voit donc pas de raison pour que, systématiquement, tous les peuples civilisés se mettent à répudier l'un des deux métaux précieux, et à réserver absolument l'attribution monétaire pour l'autre. Les diverses nations ou pour mieux dire, les différents groupes d'états, pourront être conduits, par des raisons qui leur seront propres, les uns à préférer l'or, les autres à préférer l'argent." Whether the balance of advantage would ultimately be on the side of the silver-using countries is another question. Certain consequences, however, may be predicted with tolerable assurance. Seyd has estimated that the stock of gold and silver now current as coin or existing as bullion is 6,750 millions of dollars, of which 3,750 millions are in silver. Of the latter sum 2,500 millions, approximately, have been thrown out of use among Western nations by the adoption of the single gold standard. In other words, 38 per cent. of the total stock of specie in the world has been placed at the disposal of silver-using countries in addition to the stocks previously in their possession. It is plain that the effect of this is virtually to establish monometallism everywhere, because payments will always be made in the cheapest possible money, and silver having become by the hypothesis cheaper than gold, the latter is entirely driven out of circulation in countries where the former continues to be legal tender. Such countries are then using a depreciated and depreciating currency. They have an abundance of

cheap silver at command: prices rise, industry is stimulated, and all the phenomena generally associated with a plentiful stock of circulating media are experienced. Among these phenomena activity of the export and import trades must be numbered. The former, because silver, having a greater value in such countries than elsewhere, will find its way to them in exchange for their productions: the latter, because the stocks of gold which such countries possess are driven out of local use, and, finding their way to gold-standard nations, come back in the form of commodities. During the early years, then, of the demonetization of silver in the West, the bimetallic nations of the East ought to profit largely. They exchange the products of their own industry for coin which bears a greater value among themselves than elsewhere, and they purchase the products of other peoples' industry with coin which bears a greater value elsewhere than among themselves. This theoretical analysis is exactly borne out by the practical results to which "T.W." directs attention. India suffers in her foreign payments, but she reaps a more than equivalent advantage in the stimulus imparted to her foreign trade by the influx of silver seeking employment. There is no reason to doubt that Japan would have been similarly fortunate but for local causes. She has lost her silver now, and will have some trouble to recover it, but the difficulty would certainly be greater were the monometallic fancy less universal. Should she elect, for example, to enter Western markets as a borrower, and consent to receive the amount of her loan in silver, she might look forward to discharging her debt at an advantage of from 15 to 25 per cent. when silver is restored to its former rank, as it probably will be sooner or later. In other words, every ounce of gold borrowed to-day would bring in 18½ ounces of silver, whereas a debt of one ounce of gold contracted to-day may be payable ten years hence with 15½ ounces of silver. These are interesting facts, and the evidence adduced by our correspondent, as well as his valuable deductions, are well worthy of attention.

LATER intelligence shows that the Shanghai journals were premature in their announcement of an amicable understanding having been arrived at between Li Hung-chang and M. Tricou. The departure of the former for Tientsin was not in consequence of a settlement, but rather because of the apparently profitless difficulties created on the French side. A correspondent, indeed, goes so far as to say that M. Tricou was left at Shanghai *à bouche ouverte*, and truly we can well imagine that such was the case. Anything is credible in the sequel of a story prefaced by such a grotesque species of diplomacy as that commonly attributed to the Representative of the Republic. If M. Tricou went to China purely with the object of denying that there was any reason for his visit, it must be confessed that he gave himself a great deal of unnecessary trouble. The fact is, however, that rumour has been making too free

with the conduct of the Special Envoy. The first *canard* was that when he enquired whether Li Hung-chang was possessed of the necessary credentials, the old statesman smilingly explained that in China the Chung-t'ang does not need credentials; that, in short, his habit is to confer, not to receive, them. The latest addition is that at most of the interviews M. Tricou modelled his attitude on lines furnished by Egyptian or Persian experiences, treating the Grand Secretary much as though he were a petty Turkish Pasha. Whatever these rumours may be worth, it appears certain at all events that geniality was not a prominent feature of the conferences, and that Li Hung-chang, finding it impossible to come to terms with such an impracticable controversialist, declined to continue the discussion and referred him to the T'sung-li Yamèn at Peking, whither M. Tricou is said to have proceeded. The outlook would be hopeless enough but for a statement that England has consented to invite the other European Powers to mediate between France and China, with a view to obtaining some modification of the former's policy, which does not seem to meet with very general approval.

THE Opposition journals continue to publish rumours of intended changes in the new Penal Codes, which, they say, were put into operation with undue haste for the sake of facilitating treaty revision. It is not impossible that experience may have demonstrated the advisability of some modifications, or even that the Senate, as report goes, has memorialized the Cabinet on the subject, but that any important alterations are likely to be sanctioned seems most improbable. The *Choya Shimbun*, from which we extract this rumour, seems to have very loose ideas on the subject of penal legislation; so loose that one is inclined to doubt whether the scope and importance of a penal code are appreciated at all by the Tokiyo journal.

It is stated that the number of British subjects in Madagascar, including emigrants from India, exceeds the number of French in the proportion of five to one; that of the island's foreign commerce England's share is four times as great as France's, and that the progress in civilization made by the Malagassies during the past fifty years is almost entirely due to the efforts of the missionaries aided by English energy and English money. It will therefore be seen that Great Britain has a very material interest in the violent measures to which France thinks it necessary to resort there.

THE attitude assumed by Germany towards France at the present juncture is exciting much comment. At the very moment when the colonial policy instituted by the Government of the Republic is provoking elsewhere opposition more or less violent, Germany alone is showing herself favorable to that policy, is encouraging France and even giving her to understand that she may count on support if necessary. Of course the vulgar interpretation of this attitude is

that Germany is only too glad to see the Ministers of the Republic plunge their country into Oriental adventures, and that she will be quite happy so long as their attention is diverted from the recovery of Alsace and Lorraine to the creation of an Indo-Chinese empire. A still more sinister suggestion is that Prince Bismarck's design is to let France entangle herself completely in financial difficulties and military expeditions to distant lands, and then attack her at the moment when she has her hands full elsewhere and when the sympathies of other European Powers have been alienated by her foreign aggressions. But this is too vulgar a scheme for such a statesman as Bismarck. Even supposing all these favorable conditions attained, France is not to be crushed, nor will Europe ever consent to her effacement from its map. The most reasonable hypothesis is that Germany's policy is one of honest conciliation. She wants to show that, in the midst of all the hostile clamour raised by other nations, she alone desires to preserve an amicable mien; to let France know that whether Tunis, Egypt, Tonquin, or Madagascar be in question, the Cabinet at Berlin may be counted on not only as a friend but, if need be, as a partisan. This was the plan pursued by Prince Bismarck towards Austria after Sadowa, and it may very well be his plan towards France now that the memory of Sedan is twelve years old.

A TERRIBLE story comes by telegram from Hiroshima. It is to the effect that on the night of the 3rd instant, at about 10 o'clock, a fire broke out at the goal and spread with such rapidity that all the buildings from the 1st to the 12th ward were destroyed in a very short space of time. In each ward from 30 to 80 criminals are confined, and it is stated that the occupants of the 4th and 5th wards, sixty-one persons in all, were burned to death, while 156 prisoners were more or less severely injured. One hundred and twenty escaped, but of these fifteen were recaptured the same night. We trust that the details of this affair have been more than usually exaggerated.

OWING to the condition of the River Sumida which is still considerably swollen by the recent rains, it has been found necessary to postpone the fête at Riyogoku Bridge. Instead of taking place to-night, as originally intended, it is now announced for the evening of the 21st instant.

WE published a telegram yesterday which announced that the Premier, in reply to a question in the House, stated "that it had been decided to disallow the annexation of New Guinea, as there was no reason to fear that it would be annexed by other Powers." We also published in the same issue the explanation given in a despatch from Brisbane of the reasons for the annexation by Queensland. The *Java Bode*, in a recent number, gives expression to the Dutch view on the subject, and says that its only inconvenience to the Dutch authorities is that thereby, in a second island within the Archipelago, a *condominium* is called into

being, that is, two powers will hold sway in the island, with the result that disputes and differences will inevitably arise between them, to end generally in the disadvantage of the weaker power; hence formerly it was the aim of Dutch statesmen to avoid such joint domination, this being particularly their object in the treaty of 1824. The *Bode* points out that the inconvenience of *condominium* is exemplified on a small scale in Sarawak, and that it might have been avoided in New Guinea had Holland also annexed in time the S.E. portion of that island, but she never having laid claim to S.E. New Guinea, Queensland had every right to annex it, as will be seen from the following extract:—

"The annexation effected by the Government of Queensland is a peaceable, lawful, and justifiable measure. Of the numerous and manifold acts with which the European powers in this century of rapine and violence have exercised rapacious sovereignty either at home or in the tropics, this acquisition of territory is certainly one of the most harmless. Not a single treaty is broken by it either in spirit or letter. Hence this formal taking possession is far more straightforward and rightful than the annexation of North Borneo under the guise of a charter to a trading company. Nor a single interest is injured by it save perhaps that of the savage inhabitants. But as it forms no part of the colonial policy of Christian powers—much less that of Mahomedan and Buddhist ones—to pay any attention to such trifles as the desires or interests of a few savages, convinced as the whites are that their coming is in itself a blessing—we will no further enlarge on it. The claims or rights of other civilised nations—the uncivilised, as has been said, not being taken into account—are not at all curtailed thereby. In short, the affair is fully in order, and there is no reason for us to raise an alarm. John Bull puts another piece of land into his roomy pockets, and we have nothing more to do than compliment him sincerely on this fresh proof of his enterprise, his practical forethought, and his insatiable hunger for land."

MOST of our readers have probably read the translation of the Japanese tragedy "Chiu-shingura, or Forty-seven Ronins," published some years ago by Mr. F. V. Dickins; and a good many others have doubtless witnessed performances of the tragedy at a Japanese theatre either in Tokiyo or Yokohama. There are altogether eleven acts, which occupy nearly the whole of three evenings. Naturally one grows somewhat tired of so long a performance, and perhaps still more wearied by the continual "tum, tum, tum" of the drums and the feeble wail of the flute, which compose a Japanese orchestra. The tragedy has just been performed in the Gaiety Theatre by a troupe of *Geisha* under the management of Mr. Asai Toshichi and Mr. F. A. Cope; and we must congratulate the promoters upon the excellent manner in which everything was carried through. The Gaiety Theatre is particularly ill-adapted for any performance of this kind; and there is not sufficient room be-

hind the scenes to accommodate the numerous actresses required; but in spite of these defects the play went through three nights without any hitch, and drew full houses. The *hara-kiri* in the sixth act was particularly well performed; and the whole of the ninth act was a full success. The decapitation of Kono Kotsukenosuke was a perfect triumph. The *Nô* dance had to be omitted on account of the crowded state of the stage and green-rooms, but we understand that a special performance of this beautiful ballet will be given next week, combined with an acrobatic and slight-of-hand exhibition.

THE British steamer *Chinkiang*, Captain Orr, arrived here yesterday from Shanghai, having made a rapid passage. The *Chinkiang* is one of the regular line of Messrs. Siemssen and Co. of Hongkong running between Canton and Shanghai, and brings the cargo of the *Ningpo*, Captain Cass, belonging to the same line, originally intended for this port, the latter vessel having encountered very bad weather, having had her decks swept and received other damage, and put into Shanghai in a disabled condition.

THE steamer *Scotia* has arrived at Nagasaki from the Thames, having on board a telegraph cable which she will at once proceed to lay between Nagasaki and Vladivostock. We understand that another steamer is now on the way from London with a cable for the Nagasaki-Shanghai section. When the laying of these two new cables shall have been completed, a duplicate line will exist over the entire distance from Hongkong to Vladivostock (*via* Amoy, Foochow, Shanghai, and Nagasaki), and naturally the liability to temporary interruption of communication, which has hitherto been a source of trouble to the mercantile community, will be to a considerable extent removed.

A GERMAN paper hears from Sierra Leone that in Tyamah, in the Mendi country, a great prosecution was being conducted against more than a hundred natives, who are accused of cannibalism. A belief obtains among the natives that those inculpated had changed themselves by means of witchcraft into leopards or tigers, or that they had at least covered themselves with the skins of such beasts, and, thus disguised, attacked and killed harmless travellers outside the town. All the Kings and Chiefs of the neighbouring states attended the proceedings, which, it is expected, will take four weeks to complete. The penalty for cannibalism in that region is roasting alive.

THE withdrawal of Japanese troops from Korea is now officially announced. The first company is already under orders. It is to be hoped that the Chinese Authorities will lose no time in taking a similar step.

TRAVELLERS to and through the United States by the few next outgoing mails, may find it of interest to learn that a great Exposition is to be held in Louisville, Kentucky, commencing on the 1st of August, and remaining open for

one hundred days thenceforward. A special feature will be the Tobacco Section, Louisville being the centre of a vast belt of country devoted to the culture of the weed. The display will include both the leaf and the manufactured article, and will be on a scale of considerable magnitude.

Now that the weather appears to have assumed a certain degree of settled brightness, the following comparative tables of temperature and rainfall for the last ten weeks and the corresponding period last year may be interesting:—

| WEEK ENDING. | TEMPERATURE. | | 1883. | | 1882. | |
|-----------------|--------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|------|
| | Max. | Min. | Max. | Min. | Max. | Min. |
| May 5..... | 74.2 | 45.0 | 74.7 | 44.0 | 74.9 | 44.2 |
| 12..... | 65.5 | 40.0 | 74.9 | 44.2 | 76.4 | 50.0 |
| 19..... | 76.6 | 48.7 | 76.4 | 50.0 | 81.1 | 54.5 |
| 26..... | 78.8 | 48.2 | 81.1 | 54.5 | 78.3 | 52.0 |
| June 2..... | 78.9 | 52.0 | 78.3 | 52.0 | 80.2 | 55.1 |
| 9..... | 78.9 | 49.0 | 80.2 | 55.1 | 79.5 | 58.2 |
| 16..... | 79.0 | 54.1 | 79.5 | 58.2 | 79.0 | 62.2 |
| 23..... | 86.1 | 56.9 | 79.0 | 62.2 | 81.1 | 61.2 |
| 30..... | 86.3 | 63.0 | 81.1 | 61.2 | 83.7 | 62.2 |
| July 7..... | 80.5 | 63.8 | 83.7 | 62.2 | | |
| Average Temp... | 78.48 | 52.07 | 78.89 | 54.36 | | |

| WEEK ENDING. | RAINFALL (IN INCHES). | | 1883. | | 1882. | |
|--------------|-----------------------|--------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| | 1883. | 1882. | 1883. | 1882. | 1883. | 1882. |
| May 5..... | 1.456 | 1.584 | 1.736 | 0.857 | 1.515 | 1.946 |
| 12..... | 1.736 | 0.857 | 0.013 | 1.883 | 0.669 | 0.583 |
| 19..... | 1.515 | 1.946 | 1.398 | 0.156 | 0.003 | 2.876 |
| 26..... | 0.013 | 1.883 | 0.831 | 3.744 | 1.269 | 1.555 |
| June 2..... | 0.669 | 0.583 | 2.590 | 0.707 | | |
| 9..... | 1.398 | 0.156 | | | | |
| 16..... | 0.003 | 2.876 | | | | |
| 23..... | 0.831 | 3.744 | | | | |
| 30..... | 1.269 | 1.555 | | | | |
| July 7..... | 2.590 | 0.707 | | | | |
| | 11.480 | 15.891 | | | | |

It will be observed that there has been very little corresponding variation in the temperature for the two periods; but that the actual rainfall during the ten weeks has been much less this year than last. Nevertheless, the total fall since the beginning of 1883 has been more than eight inches in excess of that of the same period in 1882. The figures are:—inches 30.98 (for 1883), 22.74 (for 1882). Subjoined is a comparative table for the rainfall between January and April in the two years:—

| WEEK ENDING. | RAINFALL (IN INCHES). | | 1883. | | 1882. | |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------|--------|--------|--------|-------|-------|
| | 1883. | 1882. | 1883. | 1882. | 1883. | 1882. |
| January 6..... | 0.116 | 0.000 | 0.005 | 0.001 | 0.108 | 0.098 |
| 13..... | 0.005 | 0.001 | 0.194 | 0.070 | 1.386 | 0.114 |
| 20..... | 0.108 | 0.098 | 2.971 | 1.940 | 0.000 | 0.011 |
| 27..... | 0.194 | 0.070 | 2.340 | 0.854 | 1.251 | 0.019 |
| February 3..... | 1.386 | 0.114 | 0.575 | 0.118 | 0.398 | 0.000 |
| 10..... | 2.971 | 1.940 | 3.978 | 0.866 | 1.738 | 0.273 |
| 17..... | 0.000 | 0.011 | 2.472 | 0.514 | 0.175 | 0.462 |
| 24..... | 2.340 | 0.854 | 0.951 | 1.476 | 0.846 | 0.033 |
| March 3..... | 1.251 | 0.019 | | | | |
| 10..... | 0.575 | 0.118 | | | | |
| 17..... | 0.398 | 0.000 | | | | |
| 24..... | 3.978 | 0.866 | | | | |
| April 7..... | 1.738 | 0.273 | | | | |
| 14..... | 2.472 | 0.514 | | | | |
| 21..... | 0.175 | 0.462 | | | | |
| 28..... | 0.951 | 1.476 | | | | |
| | 0.846 | 0.033 | | | | |
| Plus, total fall, May 5- July 7, as per preceding table..... | 19.504 | 6.849 | 11.480 | 15.891 | | |
| Total in inches..... | 30.984 | 22.740 | | | | |

It is announced that Mr. Vidal, a French missionary to Samoa, has discovered the remains of de Langle and other members of the Lapérouse expedition of 1787. Jean Francois de Galaup,

Count de Lapérouse, one of the most distinguished navigators of that age of seamen—the latter half of last century, and one of England's most gallant foes in Atlantic, Indian, and Pacific waters, was born near Albi, in Languedoc, now in the department of Tarn, in 1741. He early attained the rank of Captain in the French Navy; and was sent, in 1782, to destroy the British forts and settlements in Hudson's Bay. In this expedition he showed a remarkable power of contending with difficulties, and accomplished his object, notwithstanding the storminess of the sea and the ice in which it abounded. He signaled himself also by his humanity towards the occupants of the forts which he had razed. He was chosen to command an expedition of discovery sent out by the French Government, and sailed in August, 1785, with two ships, visited the North-west coast of America, explored the North-eastern coast of Asia, and made important discoveries in that region, although he failed to achieve that object of so many expeditions, the North-west passage. In February, 1788, he anchored in Botany Bay, after which no trace of him was obtained, although the French Government offered a reward of fr. 10,000 for information, and sent out an expedition under D'Entrecasteaux, in 1791, to search for him, until, in 1826, the captain of an English vessel (Captain Dillon) found on the island Tucopia, to the North of the New Hebrides, a number of things which had belonged to Lapérouse's ship, and which had been obtained from the inhabitants of Mallicollo, one of the New Hebrides. Investigation being made by the East India Company, which sent Captain Dillon for this purpose, and, subsequently, by the French Government, which despatched an expedition under Dumont d'Urville, eye-witnesses were found of the destruction of two French ships on the coast of Mallicollo; and five French cannons and other remains of the squadron were found there. It was fully ascertained that both of Lapérouse's ships had been wrecked in a storm on a coral reef, and that all on board had perished. Dumont d'Urville erected a simple monument, with a brief inscription, in memory of his ill-fated countrymen. The account of the gallant and unfortunate explorer's voyages, published under the title of *Voyage autour du Monde* (4 vols., Paris, 1794, with atlas), was prepared, by order of the French Government, from the journals which were sent home by Lapérouse from Kamschatka; but the collections and note-books of the naturalists who accompanied the expedition, perished along with themselves. It is, probably, too much to hope, that, among the relics now reported to have been retrieved in the Samoan, or "Navigators," Islands (which lie some twenty degrees to the East and South-east of the New Hebrides, in 14 S. 171 W.), any decipherable record of Lapérouse's last voyage will have survived wreck and tempest, and barter among savages during well-nigh a century.

We are credibly informed that the Admiralty has received orders to reinforce Her Majesty's fleet in Chinese waters by two ironclads.

JAPANESE FINANCE.

TO people who have been brought up under representative institutions and accustomed to know the minutiae of every administrative measure undertaken by their Governments, the obscurity in which Japanese affairs are enveloped suggests uncomfortable suspicions. We have frequently pointed out that for the sake of its own credit the Government would do well to court greater publicity, but at the same time when we come to consider how that result is to be attained, we are obliged to confess some perplexity. Take, for example, the question of finance, and examine, for purposes of comparison, the manner in which money is voted and the public accounts checked and audited in England, where, until 1824, those curious willow sticks, called exchequer tallies, with their variously shaped notches, constituted an important aid to financial accuracy. In the first place, each item of the annual expenditure is sanctioned by a parliamentary vote, and after the amounts have been approved, they are embodied in a bill, known as the Appropriation Bill, the passing of which generally takes precedence of all the other business of the session. Then, at the close of the year, the accounts are submitted to a special Audit Department, and the Auditor General writes a report to Parliament, calling attention to any expenditure which is not strictly sanctioned by vote, or for which there is no sufficient voucher, or which, in fact, is in any way irregular. This report is then referred, by the House of Commons, to a Special Committee of Accounts, upon which the Secretary of the Treasury is always nominated and some member of great weight is selected as Chairman. The Committee considers the Auditor's report, hearing also the views of the Department concerned, as to any item of expenditure which has been criticized. The House of Commons is then advised as to what should be done in the matter. In Japan a similar routine is followed, but the Council of State and the Privy Council take the place of the House of Commons, and there is, of course, no Special Committee of Accounts, the business of examination being confined to the Board of Audit (*Ku-waikei-kensa-in*). Yet the estimates and final accounts are submitted to a scrutiny sufficiently thorough to justify confidence, if only the scrutineers were not confined to the members of a virtually irresponsible bureaucracy. There is the trouble, and we see no hope of remedy so long as Japanese political institutions retain their present form.

Above all, even if the public were willing to accept the accuracy of the figures put

before them in the ordinary annual routine, there would still remain the mysteries of financial management, treasury reserves and currency issues. How are men to learn what is happening in these matters, or having learned, how is their faith to be enlisted? When Mr. Okuma wished to give a public assurance that the vaults of the Okurasho contained so and so many millions of gold and silver, he invited General Grant and a number of the Foreign residents to inspect the treasure boxes. The result of the manœuvre was ridicule. Some time ago the present administration also resorted to a similar expedient, but Japanese only were invited to the inspection. The result was mutual congratulation. So far as foreigners are concerned, however, confidence has still to be won, and we doubt whether it will ever be won until the people of Japan are admitted to a share in the management of their own affairs.

To particularize. There are two questions demanding explicit replies:—first, if the bulk of the currency has been reduced, how has the operation been affected; and, secondly, if the Treasury's specie reserve has increased, whence have the gold and silver been procured?

With regard to the former point, it is stated that the *Kinsatsu* issued in excess of 140 millions, were chiefly loans in connection with schemes of industrial and commercial development. Of these the greater part has been recalled, either directly, or by realizing the securities lodged with the Treasury. The latter operation involved the sale of a considerable quantity of public loan-bonds, and this species of investment proved so popular that the Government was able to resort to it largely without disturbing the market. It has been objected by some writers that such a measure is merely to exchange one form of liability for another, and that by selling loan-bonds the Government adds to its burden the interest on the bonds. All this is true enough, but no valid case is thereby made out against the operation. That the paper currency is redundant admits of no question. Equally certain is it that to proceed to immediate resumption with silver at such a premium as it attained last year, or even at the premium now quoted, would be a species of insanity. Some method of reducing the number of circulating *Kinsatsu* had to be employed, and we do not see that any sounder method could be devised than the sale of loan-bonds, whose redemption adds little to the already existing responsibilities of the State. By destroying the bonds, the Minister of Finance might gradually have withdrawn the *Kinsatsu* appropriated

for their redemption in the yearly estimates, but the resulting effect on the paper currency would have been infinitesimal. His object was to reduce the bulk of the nation's circulating credit by substituting for a portion of it bonds bearing a moderate interest and redeemable over a lengthy period. If the expediency of such a policy needs confirmation, we may refer to that episode in the financial history of the United States, when Congress incurred the ridicule of the world by refusing to employ this very resource. "The present paper money of the United States," says Professor Walker, "was first issued in 1862, as a measure of resource, the recognized alternative being the selling of Government bonds below par in gold. The choice was admittedly in the power of the Government; but the Committee of Ways and Means objected. * * * Such absolute silliness takes the whole narrative out of the domain of serious history. When men, speaking for the legislature of thirty millions of people, can declare a forced circulation of paper preferable to the sale of six per cent bonds below par in gold, what but financial folly in action can be expected? * * * And so 'in the vigour of a nation not yet taxed a single dollar for the cost of this war,' the Congress of the United States chose to inaugurate a period of forced circulation, rather than sell its six per cent bonds below par, though at the time the ordinary rate of commercial interest in most of the towns and cities of the land exceeded six per cent. What loss of wealth, not to be computed except by thousands of millions; what injury to national reputation and to private character, were involved in this measure!" We may assume that what would have been sound finance in America twenty-two years ago, is not altogether unwise in Japan to-day.

With regard, in the second place, to the means adopted to increase the Treasury's specie reserve, it is plain that one of two courses must be followed: the Government must enter either the exchange market directly as purchasers of silver with *Kinsatsu*, or the market for commodities as purchasers of produce to be exchanged for specie abroad. The former plan has nothing to recommend it but its simplicity, and opposed to this one recommendation are several fatal objections. For, first, the operation of exchanging from seven to ten millions of Treasury paper annually for silver could not fail to cause a large depreciation in the value of the former. Such a process would be far more mischievous than the issue of inconvertible notes to a similar amount through the ordinary chan-

nels. It would cut in both directions, both in reducing the circulation of specie and in augmenting that of paper; while, further, its whole effects would be brought to bear directly upon the most sensitive point of the system, the exchange market. All this is too evident to require demonstration.

Next, the immediate result of such a financial policy would be to resuscitate those gambling speculations which are mainly responsible for the disastrous fluctuations of *Kinsatsu* in the past. Nine-tenths of the "bearing and bulling" that took place upon the Bourse in former days were indirectly caused by the Finance Minister's fitful interferences. It was a game of pull and push between the Treasury and private speculators. The latter knew that, if they could sufficiently "bear" exchange, the former would come forward to "bull" it, and so the sec-saw went on, paralyzing legitimate commerce and costing the nation tens of millions. Fortunately the Treasury has at length been persuaded to abstain from these ill-judged operations, and the consequence is a currency comparatively free from fluctuations. If, however, the Government were now to appear as periodical purchasers of silver in large quantities with their own paper, who can doubt that the old trouble would be in great part revived, and that with a diminishing demand for labour and a perpetuated paralysis of enterprise, we should see the business of the country dwindle into a mere living from hand to mouth?

Having regard to these considerations and admitting the imperative necessity of procuring specie to achieve resumption of specie payments, the only apparent alternative is that the Government should convert its paper into silver through the medium of exported commodities. This device has been violently denounced, and will continue to be violently denounced, by those upon whose province it intrudes. The staple formula, "official interference with trade," can always be invoked as an accuser, and will command a hostile verdict so long as men persist in denying that a country's first duty is to itself. It may be presumed that the Japanese Government has no special desire to engage in commercial enterprises; but the force of circumstances is often more imperative than abstract principles or general predilections. Japan has been drained of her specie, and she must recover a portion of it before she can escape from the curse of an inconvertible currency. It will not do for her to wait until things right themselves. "If all nations used specie," says Sumner in the *History of American Currency*, "or even paper and specie in

only due proportion, it would be as impossible for one nation to be drained of specie, as for New York harbor to be drained of water by the tide. * * * If therefore there is an outflow of gold, serious and long continued, accompanied by an unfavorable exchange, it is a sign that there is an inferior currency behind the gold which is displacing it. The surplus of imports of goods above exports of goods is nothing but the return payment for this export of gold, and is not a cause, but a consequence. If, finally, we want to turn this tide and produce an influx, there is only one way to do it, and that is simply to remove the inferior currency. As for waiting for the balance of trade to turn and bring gold into a country which has a depreciated paper currency, one might as well take one's stand at the foot of a hill and wait for it to change its declivity before climbing it." The Government cannot buy specie in the country for the obvious reason—other objections apart—that it is not there to be bought, or is only there in quantities barely sufficient for the demands of a stunted and crippled commerce. So surely as silver comes into Japan in return for her exported commodities, so surely is it driven out again by the depreciated currency, side by side with which it cannot exist. Nothing remains, then, but to sell Japanese produce abroad, and put the specie thus obtained into the Treasury vaults until it accumulates sufficiently to permit a return to specie payments. Instead of burning* the *Kinsatsu* annually set aside for purposes of currency redemption, the Government presumably invests them in produce for exportation. Doubtless transactions conducted in this manner do not show a maximum of profit. Speaking generally, their results will not bear comparison with those obtained by private operators who follow the ordinary routes of trade. But even if loss were incurred in every instance the total outcome would be incomparably less injurious than the depreciation and fluctuations of the currency which would be caused by direct operations in the specie market. The Government and the people are one. Any attempt to separate their interests is extravagant. It matters nothing to the producers whether they receive the value of their commodities from the agents of the Treasury or from the middlemen of the open ports. In either case they receive

* The periodical burnings of a paper money which are still reported as taking place at the Currency Bureau, have to do only with old notes against which new have been issued. Ill-informed persons imagine that because large quantities of *Kinsatsu* have been printed during recent years at the *Insatsu Kiyoku*, corresponding additions must have been made to the bulk of the currency. Such does not seem to be the case. The Currency Bureau has confined its operations to providing new-pattern notes for exchange against those that were worn out or of obsolete design.

notes—probably a greater number in the former case. Specie does not find its way into the provinces. The provincials have no use for it, and if by any chance it comes into their hands, they must either part with it at a loss or hoard it. The gist of the objection to official trading is that it diminishes the bulk of the trade by stifling private enterprise. The fact in Japan's case is that, though imports have fallen off partly under the influence of these operations, exports have increased to such an extent that the bulk of the foreign commerce is greater than before. It cannot be questioned that imports have suffered. A portion of the silver which would have been applied to their purchase has been locked up in the Treasury. Exports, on the other hand, have been stimulated, and by her exports alone can Japan obtain the means of reverting to a specie circulation, unless indeed she has recourse to foreign aid, an alternative which does not find a place in this discussion. We do not say that the course she has elected to pursue is not open to any objections, but we do most certainly think that the balance of advantage is in its favour.

THE NAGASAKI POLICE CASE.

SOME curiosity has been excited by a newspaper report of certain proceedings in Her Majesty's Court at Nagasaki. The story is detailed in the *Rising Sun* and *Nagasaki Express*, but is naturally received with some reserve, inasmuch as the manager of that journal was the alleged victim of the proceedings in question. It appears that for five years past the Japanese police have been in the habit of visiting the residences of foreigners in the settlement of Nagasaki for the purpose of registering the native servants—a most excellent custom, and one which foreigners for their own sakes ought to facilitate as far as possible. One day, however, there appeared in the columns of the *Nagasaki Express* an article calling attention to this habit, and stating that the police had in several cases exceeded the bounds of legitimate enquiry by touching upon subjects which had reference entirely to private affairs. On what evidence this statement was based, the *Nagasaki Express* did not concern itself to explain, but it is plain that information of such a nature could only be furnished by the parties registered, and it is also plain that, if information so furnished be regarded as a valid reason for obstructing the police, any native *employé* has it in his power to escape registration by trumping up a pretty little version

of the questions put to him by prying inspectors. The grievance, indeed, seems very childish, and reminds one forcibly of the days when foreigners professed to believe that the chief employment of the Japanese Government was to conduct a wholesale system of espionage over the doings and sayings of every Western merchant and shopkeeper in the country. For our own part, we should be quite content to let the police authorities obtain whatever information they desire as to our domestic and private concerns, provided only they will give themselves the trouble to register our Japanese *employés* and ensure our servants' quarters against being converted into a refuge for thieves or a receptacle for stolen goods. Be this as it may, however, the article in the *Nagasaki Express* either inspired the manager of that journal to assert the proud privileges of his hearth and home, or was inspired by him as a preface to such assertion; for almost immediately afterwards the said manager, Mr. ARTHUR NORMAN, did proceed to inform the police when they visited his house that questions of an irrelevant nature had, he learned, been put to his servants on a previous occasion, and that he had accordingly "concluded to object to their visiting his residence during his absence." He went on to say, however, that "any reasonable information they required, respecting the native occupants of his house, could be obtained on application at his office during business hours." By what process it could be obtained, he does not appear to have explained, but we may presume that his intention was to parade all his Japanese servants, &c., at his office for examination. Otherwise one is at a loss to conceive how the entries in the register could be made. Even on this hypothesis they must have assumed a very perfunctory character. Nevertheless his objection having been "respectfully, but firmly, maintained"—we trust Mr. ARTHUR NORMAN will pardon us if we say that at the first blush this item of the tale irresistibly recalls the evidence given in the celebrated case of William and the hammock—the police left the premises "entirely of their own free will"—which we presume means that they were not violently ejected—and lodged a complaint with the Acting Consul. "Four hours afterwards came a request from the latter for an interview, which, for private reasons, was declined." Mr. ARTHUR NORMAN is evidently a gentleman who sets great store by privacy. The foible seems a little out of place in a newspaper manager, but in this particular instance he was obviously bent upon forcing

the Consul to resort to legal proceedings. He obtained his desire, in the shape of a summons to appear before Her Majesty's Court and answer to a charge of "unlawfully and wilfully interfering and obstructing a public functionary, to wit, a peace officer, in the due execution of his duties." The prosecution, however, having failed to show that any violence had been employed by the defendant, the Court inflicted no penalty, informing Mr. ARTHUR NORMAN, however, that "the bounds of leniency had already been overstepped and that any further acts of lawlessness would most certainly entail the full penalty of the law." An order was also made out empowering the Japanese police to enter defendant's premises, the result being that they came the next morning provided with the following document:—

"IN HER BRITANNIC MAJESTY'S COURT AT NAGASAKI.

Tuesday, the 26th day of June, 1883.

"ORDER.

"Nomaguchi Kenichi, Superintendent of Police, at Nagasaki, having made a complaint, that Arthur Norman (herein-after called the defendant), on the 21st day of June, 1883, at Nagasaki, did unlawfully and wilfully obstruct Matsuzaki Koreuji, a public functionary, to wit, a peace officer, acting under his orders, in the due execution of his duty, and the defendant having appeared, and on hearing the matter of the complaint, it is this day adjudged and ordered by this Court, that the defendant do wholly cease and abstain from resisting, obstructing, or in any manner opposing, or interfering with, the said Matsuzaki Koreuji, or other peace officer, acting in the due execution of his duty, under the orders of the said Nomaguchi Kenichi. And if, on a copy of this order being served on the defendant, either personally or by leaving it for him at his last or usual place of abode, he neglects or refuses to obey this order, then it is adjudged that the defendant, for such his disobedience, be imprisoned in Her Majesty's Consulate prison, at Nagasaki, there to be kept for the space of three months, unless the said order be sooner obeyed.

(Signed)

J. C. HALL,

H.B.M.'s Acting Consul, Nagasaki.

True Copy.

HENRY A. C. BONAR,

Clerk of the Court."

Curiously enough, though perhaps not inconveniently, Mr. ARTHUR NORMAN'S Japanese servants were absent at the time of this second visit, so that, as the *Nagasaki Express* puts it, "the matter could not be fully gone into." The persecuted Englishman subsequently lodged a protest, *pro aris et focis*, with Her Majesty's Consul, and there the matter rests, so far as we know. It seems pretty plain, however, that the whole case is not before the public, and we are prepared to learn that the action of Her Majesty's Consul was by no means so arbitrary as the account published by the defendant would imply. Having regard, however, to the wording alone of the order issued by the Consul, it is difficult to avoid a conviction that some indiscretion has been committed. We pass by the obvious discrepancy between the defendant's

account of his acquittal and the Consul's recorded admonition that he is to "wholly cease and abstain from resisting, obstructing, or in any manner opposing, or interfering with, the police agents in the due execution of their duty." No such order could have been penned unless the evidence had been deemed sufficient to prove that some improper resistance or obstruction was really offered. But whatever the nature of the difficulties encountered by the police, the issue of a general warrant empowering Japanese officers of the peace, or any other officers of the peace, to enter the house of a British subject at their convenience, and there conduct arbitrary investigations, would obviously be *ultra vires*. It seems to us, however, that the Consul's order will not bear this construction. It simply enjoins Mr. ARTHUR NORMAN to abstain from resisting or obstructing the police in the due execution of their duty, and warns him that if he does not so abstain *after a copy of the order has been served on him*, he will subject himself to a certain penalty. In future the Consul proposes, it would seem, to secure Mr. NORMAN's good behaviour by a special arrangement. Whenever the police pay him a domiciliary visit, they will be obliged to show the Consul's authority and will further be accompanied by a Consular Constable. This, the simple import of the text of the order, is confirmed by the method which the police pursued in carrying it out. The story told by the defendant goes to show that the original charge against him was dismissed, but that the Consul nevertheless issued an order by the terms of which improper conduct on the defendant's part is implied, if not actually expressed. The fact seems to be that the Consul, though satisfied as to the reality of the act of obstruction, did not deem it of a sufficiently aggravated nature to demand punitive measures, but did deem it necessary to secure the police against a repetition of similar interference. What is certain is that the whole case is not before the public. It is not even known whether Mr. NORMAN'S residence is within or without the limits of the Foreign Settlement. The name of the street, Makugaye-cho, seems to point to the Japanese town, and if this be so, the complexion of the affair is much altered. Under all the circumstances, therefore, it will be wise to suspend judgment and not accept an *ex parte* statement as evidence of arbitrary conduct on the part of an official so deservedly esteemed as Mr. J. C. HALL.

THE "NIL" CLAIM.

WE do not remember that there ever came up for hearing in H.B.M.'s Court for Japan a case involving stranger issues than that of HIROSE-SHIMA *r.* GEORGE BLAKEWAY. In 1878 Mr. ED. SCHNELL, a Dutch subject, purchased the hull and cargo of the M. M. Steamer *Nil*, which had been wrecked several years previously off the coast of Idzu, in Japanese waters. SCHNELL seems to have paid \$730 for this chattel, which was then lying in thirty fathoms of water. Shortly afterwards, being about to leave Japan for good, he transferred the property to a Japanese woman, HIROSE-SHIMA, who had lived with him for 20 years. In order to give to the transfer the colour of a sale, he supplemented his documents of title, when handing them over to HIROSE, by a receipt for \$1,000, said to have been paid by her as the price of the wreck, though no money really passed between the two, SCHNELL'S object being to make some provision for HIROSE and her children during his absence from Japan. Neither he nor she, however, remembered the necessity of registering the transfer at the Dutch Consulate. HIROSE subsequently visited the scene of the wreck, and made arrangements for salvage operations, which were carried on during several months. It does not appear that she had any difficulty with the local authorities, who evidently recognizing the validity of her title, allowed her to deal with the wreck as he pleased. Ultimately, however, finding that as a woman it was impossible for her to conduct such business satisfactorily, she returned to Yokohama, and during 1880-81, tried to dispose of the wreck, obtaining more than one offer, the highest of which was 1,500 *yen*. Meanwhile, in September, 1881, a Japanese, by name TSUNEMATSU, went to the Dutch Consul and offered to purchase the wreck. It is not known what induced TSUNEMATSU to take this course. The most trivial enquiry ought to have informed him that salvage operations had been carried on for a considerable time in HIROSE-SHIMA'S name, and that she was consequently the proper person to be addressed. However this may be, to the Dutch Consul he went, and the Consul, ignorant of HIROSE'S title, which had not been registered, sent for Mr. BLAKEWAY, whom he knew to be acting generally for SCHNELL. BLAKEWAY then learned for the first time that the wreck of the *Nil* had been SCHNELL'S property. Needless to say he was quite ignorant of its transfer to HIROSE. Anxious, however, to realize everything he could

on SCHNELL'S account, BLAKEWAY expressed his willingness to treat with TSUNEMATSU, but having some doubts as to his title to represent SCHNELL in this particular instance, sought the Consul's advice. The latter accordingly proceeded to inspect the power of attorney which BLAKEWAY held from SCHNELL, and which, being in Dutch, was quite unintelligible to its holder. What opinion the Consul expressed as the exact scope of the document, it does not clearly appear, but as a matter of fact he attached his seal to a deed of sale by which BLAKEWAY there and then transferred the hull of the *Nil* to TSUNEMATSU in consideration of a payment of 100 *yen*. Thus a chattel for which HIROSE had been offered 1,500 *yen*, passed, without her knowledge, into the possession of TSUNEMATSU for 100 *yen*, the Dutch Consul himself being a party to the transfer. TSUNEMATSU lost no time in taking possession of his property. He had persuaded BLAKEWAY that the barnacles clinging to the hull of the wrecked vessel were his main object in purchasing her, and he began to fish for them at once. HIROSE, learning what had happened, hastened to the Consul and to BLAKEWAY, who were both astounded to find that they had been disposing of another person's property. BLAKEWAY immediately tried to remedy his error. He entered into negotiations with TSUNEMATSU in the first place directly, and afterwards through a Japanese attorney, SHIMIDZU. The latter, a gentleman whose practices ultimately landed him in goal to the great benefit of public security, undertook to recover the *Nil* for the sum of 150 *yen*, which he received and made away with. Nothing was now left for HIROSE except a recourse to law. She cited TSUNEMATSU before the Yokohama Saibansho, and among other evidence handed in a declaration made by BLAKEWAY to the effect that he, BLAKEWAY, had exceeded his powers in entering into an agreement for the sale of the wreck. The Court, however, gave judgment for TSUNEMATSU, basing its verdict upon the ground that the Dutch Consul's stamp must be held conclusive proof of the validity of TSUNEMATSU'S purchase. The Saibansho, in short, interpreted the Consul's stamp to mean that BLAKEWAY'S title to dispose of the chattel in question had been acquired with full satisfaction of the provisions of Dutch law. It is difficult to see how any other decision could have been arrived at. The case was now carried to the Court of Appeal in Tokiyo, where, however, the judgment of the Saibansho was confirmed. The Bench of Japanese Judges were un-

animously of opinion that the act of sale was definitely legalized by the stamp of the Dutch Consulate, and that whatever efforts BLAKEWAY might make to cancel the sale or whatever declarations he might formulate as to his original lack of power to conclude it, were matters which did not at all affect TSUNEMATSU'S right of possession.

HIROSE was now placed in a peculiar position. Owing to an error confessedly committed by BLAKEWAY and the Dutch Consul, she had been virtually robbed of a valuable chattel and further put to an expense of some 300 *yen* in seeking to recover it. She had learned also that it was not within the competence of the Japanese Courts to remedy the error, and nothing remained for her but to put up with her losses or to seek redress against their real author in an English Court. She ought to have felt some reluctance about adopting the latter alternative, inasmuch as it involved proceeding against a man who, to assist her in her former suit, had furnished evidence which could now be used with fatal effect against himself. But it does not appear that she even communicated with him or asked him to settle the matter. At the same time it was certainly not in accordance with any principle of Justice that TSUNEMATSU should profit to her cost by BLAKEWAY'S error.

A suit was therefore commenced in H.B.M.'s Court. At first sight the case presented some extraordinary aspects. An English Judge was required to determine the validity of a sale of Japanese property to a Japanese by a British subject acting under the authority of a Dutch Consul and under the provisions of Dutch law. It naturally appears that a Dutch Court is the proper authority to decide such an issue. One imagines that to a Dutch Court alone appertains the function of adjudicating upon issues connected with the uses of a Dutch power of attorney. Judge HANNEN, however, disposed of this complication after a fashion based on a very broad principle. He said, in effect, that under whatever law an Englishman acts, he is answerable to the laws of his own country for his wrong doing. The chattels in dispute had never come within the jurisdiction of the British Court, but that did not incapacitate the latter from taking cognizance of their improper alienation by a British subject. Doubtless in this instance there had been no *mala fides* on Mr. BLAKEWAY'S part, but there might have been, in which event nobody could doubt the right of the British authorities to interfere. Another question raised was that the plaintiff, HIROSE, was estopped by the judgments of the Japanese

Courts from alleging anything inconsistent with any finding of fact or law in those judgments. This contention also was dismissed by the Judge on the ground that such estoppel must be mutual; or, in other words, that BLAKEWAY, not having been a party in the original litigation, could not be bound by its results. The case being thus left to stand on its own merits, was decided in HIROSE'S favour, and there can be very little doubt as to the justice of the verdict. The woman had suffered a serious wrong at BLAKEWAY'S hands and her own Courts were incompetent to afford redress. Indeed, one is constrained to think that her appeal to them was singularly ill-advised. Unless the Dutch Consul was prepared to come forward and swear that he had committed an error in stamping the deed of sale, the Japanese Courts could not possibly deny the title conferred by the stamp. Judge HANNEN seems to have recognised this when he refused to grant the costs of the action in the Japanese Courts on the grounds that it was not a natural result of BLAKEWAY'S wrongful act.

What seems most strange in the proceedings is the fact that the part played by the Dutch Consul was scarcely alluded to. Judge HANNEN said in his judgment that had BLAKEWAY "procured a translation of his power of attorney he would have seen that it did not authorize him to sell the wreck even if the latter had still belonged to SCHNELL." Yet BLAKEWAY swore that "if he had not had an interview with Mr. SCRIBE, the Dutch Consul, he would certainly not have made the sale to TSUNEMATSU." These two statements, placed side by side, amount to this: that according to English law the Dutch power of attorney did not authorize BLAKEWAY to sell the wreck, but according to Dutch law, as interpreted by the Dutch Consul, it did authorize him. Considered by the light of these facts the functions of an agent become somewhat complicated. By what law is he to be guided? Unless the Dutch Consul committed a grave blunder, it is plain that BLAKEWAY was in a manner bound to act as he did. For if, doubting the scope of his powers, he had refused to sell the wreck and thus lost the chance of selling—HIROSE'S title apart—he would have been answerable to SCHNELL for the loss, and a claim set up by the latter must have received the support of the Dutch Consul. Judge HANNEN said "it was not convenient for a Consul-General to give evidence in Court;" but surely if a British subject is to be punished by a British Court for action taken under a Dutch power of attorney and endorsed by a Dutch Consul,

the evidence of that Consul becomes of serious importance. BLAKEWAY being unable to read his power of attorney and not having it translated, accepted the verdict of the Consul, who did read it, as to the scope of the functions it contemplated. The Consul read it wrongly and BLAKEWAY suffered, the conclusion being that if the consequences of the affair were distributed in just proportion to its causes, Mr. SCHNELL'S unfortunate agent would have come in for a very much smaller share.

THE HONGKONG LIBEL CASE.

TO treat the opinions of a controversial opponent with the same respect that one demands for one's own, seems to be amongst the very highest achievements of human forbearance. Few writers are capable of the effort, and fewer still give themselves any honest trouble to cultivate the capacity. A libel case recently tried before the Supreme Court in Hongkong illustrates this remark. The *Rising Sun and Nagasaki Express* had criticized in tolerably unpolished terms an order of Admiral WILLES directing that Her Majesty's ships should not remain in Nagasaki longer than was absolutely necessary. Admiral WILLES is presumably more competent to estimate the exigencies of the service than the editor of the *Nagasaki Express*, and for the rest there are many excellent reasons which in the eyes of every commanding officer render Nagasaki a most undesirable station. Due allowance, however, has to be made for the local patriotism of the *Nagasaki Express*, and when that journal declared that the gallant Admiral ought to be shelved at once for failing to appreciate the advantages of so charming a station, its utterances were strictly within the legal rights of every free citizen to make himself ridiculous if he pleases. The *China Mail*, however, took the Nagasaki critic severely to task for his remarks, stating, amongst other things, that "it is a mean and cowardly proceeding, of which amateur journalists are frequently guilty, to make vituperative and senseless remarks concerning persons who do not act exactly in accordance with their wishes." Out of this fragment of ethical philosophy the editor of the *Hongkong Telegraph* manufactured a cap for himself, and having put it on, proceeded to speak as follows:—

Who it may be asked is the mighty professional authority of the *China Mail*? We answer, a person named Bulgin, whose journalistic experiences prior to coming to China were confined to Police reporting for a low class paper called the *Clerkenwell News*. This genius, after proving an utter failure on the *China Mail*, successively tried Shanghai and Yokohama with equally indifferent results. Mr. Bulgin is at present wielding the scissors and paste brush for the *Fish Wrapper*, during the temporary absence of Mr. Murray Bain, and he would be wise to confine him-

self to the use of these necessary adjuncts of journalistic success. There cannot be the slightest justification for the sneering impertinence of a shallow-pated puppy whose cheek is his strongest point.

This was more than Mr. BULGIN could endure. He instituted legal proceedings against Mr. FRASER-SMITH, claiming damages to the extent of \$1,000. Mr. FRASER-SMITH, thereupon published an explanation to the effect that his knowledge of Mr. BULGIN'S early journalistic experiences was derived from the statements of that gentleman himself; that his estimate of the success Mr. BULGIN had achieved on the *China Mail* was founded on the verdict of the proprietor of that journal; that for using the epithet "shallow-pated puppy" he frankly apologised, and that "wild horses could not drag" the rest of his opinions out of him. Still Mr. BULGIN was not satisfied. A summons was served upon Mr. FRASER-SMITH, who now wrote to Mr. BULGIN'S counsel desiring him to convey to his client expressions of "regret that anything so personally offensive should have appeared in the *Telegraph*," and offering to make the *amende honorable* if Mr. BULGIN would indicate the objectionable portions of the paragraph in question. This, too, failed to bring about an arrangement, and the case came on for trial in the Supreme Court. There could be very little doubt that Mr. FRASER-SMITH had offended against the laws, so that the question of degree alone had to be considered. The prosecution endeavoured to show that the account given of Mr. BULGIN'S journalistic experiences was intended to describe him as "a man of low character and vulgar associations," and that in recommending him to confine himself to the use of the scissors and paste-brush, the object was to throw doubt on his competence to perform the duties of an editor. One is obliged to confess that these constructions seem a little strained. To assert that a man began life by "reporting for a low-class paper called the *Clerkenwell News*," does not sound to ordinary intelligence like an accusation of "low character and vulgar associations," and to tell a writer that the scissors and paste-brush become him better than the pen, would be generally construed as a justifiable, though not very graceful, comparison between his own literary productions and those of other people. But there can be no doubt that Mr. FRASER-SMITH'S paragraph had more colour than accuracy about it. Mr. BULGIN'S journalistic experiences before coming to China had not been confined to the *Clerkenwell News*, though it appeared in evidence that he had been on the staff of that newspaper, under its alias of *Daily Chronicle*, during the two years which immediately preceded his departure

for the East. It also appeared that, according to his own account, he had been engaged in various journalistic enterprises for 15½ years between the ages of 18 and 32, an arithmetical puzzle which he seemed disposed to solve by clipping a year and a half off his scholastic career. But Mr. BULGIN'S general accuracy was not conspicuously vindicated on this occasion, as will be seen from the following report of his cross-examination:—

Mr. Fraser-Smith—Now when you wrote—"It is a mean and cowardly proceeding of which amateur journalists are frequently guilty, to make vituperative and senseless remarks concerning persons who do not act exactly in accordance with their wishes"—to whom did you allude?

Witness—The Editor of the *Rising Sun and Nagasaki Express*.

Mr. Fraser-Smith—Is the editor of the *Nagasaki Rising Sun* an amateur journalist?

Witness—I believe so; the probabilities are—

Mr. Fraser-Smith—Never mind what the probabilities are; on what grounds do you base this slanderous, scandalous, and insulting utterance?

Witness—I believe the editor of the *Rising Sun* is an amateur journalist.

Mr. Fraser-Smith—What are your reasons for believing that?—what is the editor's name?

Witness—I believe his name is Gribble, or something like that; that was the name of the editor when I was in Japan.

Mr. Fraser-Smith—Tell us on what grounds you style this gentleman an amateur journalist?

Witness—I know something about him; from what I heard in Japan I believe him to be an amateur journalist.

Mr. Fraser-Smith—Now tell me, when you wrote this did you not mean it to apply to me?

Witness—I cannot say at this date what was passing through my mind when I wrote the paragraph.

Mr. Fraser-Smith—Please to answer my question?

Witness—I don't think you were in my mind at the time; I did not intend to apply it to you that I am aware of.

Mr. Fraser-Smith—Now, are you not aware that the manager and editor of the *Rising Sun* is a gentleman named Norman, who has probably been connected with journalism more years than you have lived? Give us some reasonable grounds for your alluding to this editor so offensively as an amateur journalist?

Witness—It was from my impressions. I had very little information about him.

Mr. Fraser-Smith—As a matter of fact you know nothing whatever about him!

Witness—My impression was that it was the same gentleman who edited the paper when I was in Japan.

This is bad enough, but it becomes much worse when we remember that neither at the time of Mr. BULGIN'S visit to Japan nor at any other time was Mr. GRIBBLE editor of the *Rising Sun and Nagasaki Express*. Thus Mr. BULGIN, on the strength of an "impression" which was totally erroneous, did not hesitate to charge with "mean and cowardly proceedings" a gentleman who had not the remotest connection with the object of his criticism. Such reckless exhibitions are fortunately rare. The Judge, in summing up, said that "it seemed to him that a great deal of what Mr. FRASER-SMITH had said would have been very good pleading in the mouth of Mr. GRIBBLE, but it did not lay in Mr. FRASER-SMITH to turn round and make this attack on Mr. BULGIN for the remark the latter had made on Mr. GRIBBLE." The fact is that Mr. BULGIN seems to have followed the example of the infuriate Scotchman who "just stood in the middle of the road and swore at large." It did not matter to him who might be the editor of the Nagasaki journal. He had his own impressions, and that was enough. Still,

Mr. FRASER-SMITH had no business to call him "a shallow-pated puppy," or to make erroneous statements about his past career. The jury took this view and awarded the plaintiff \$100 damages, a finding on which the latter has some reason to congratulate himself. It is to be regretted, however, that he did not come into Court with cleaner hands, for his attack on the editor of the *Nagasaki Express*, as explained by himself, was absolutely unwarranted. For the rest, it may perhaps be permissible to suggest that the species of journalistic eloquence which came up for consideration before the Supreme Court in Hongkong is not less insulting to the general public than to those against whom it is specially directed. Near the outskirts of civilization there do indeed exist communities whose susceptibilities are less keen than their desire to be diverted, and who prefer personalities and scurrilities to work modelled on the strict lines of courtesy and fairness. Unless the community of Hongkong belongs to this category, it has reason to complain of such displays as those under consideration; reason the more valid in that their authors have proved themselves capable of efforts worthy to be placed on an altogether different plane.

CORRESPONDENCE.

[Our readers must distinctly understand that we are in no sense responsible for the sentiments or opinions of our Correspondents, for the accuracy of their assertions, or for the deductions they may choose to draw therefrom.]

SILVER MONEY GOOD MONEY.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—The error of calculation which you recently fastened upon your correspondent X. is not, I think, the only one in his interesting letter. It would not be difficult to show that the idea of a foreign loan for the improvement of the currency has more considerations in its favor, and fewer against it, than have hitherto been set forth.

But what I wish to impress upon your readers is that a currency of Silver, or of notes convertible into Silver, is just now the very best currency this country could have.

There is no question of the present time so eminently practical as the "Silver question." The demonetization of that metal affects every interest. Falling prices, bad trade, and general social disorder are, incontestably, more directly due to that cause than to any other that can be mentioned, and every one feels these effects. It will be a fortunate thing for the world when this question is taken out of the hands of theorists and doctrinaires, and thoroughly studied by practical men. For until that is done the question will probably remain open and present evils will steadily grow in magnitude. Bimetallists have much impaired the strength of their arguments by dwelling on the necessity of an "international money." It sounds very serious to say that international balances of trade can only be paid by means of such a money, and many persons besides Professor Walker and

Senator Webster have been misled by this plausible phrase. But the fact is that anything that creditors value will pay such balances, and they are continually paid without the use of "international money." Russia, for example, has had Silver alone for her standard of value since 1839, and of late has practically used a depreciated paper money. Yet she has had no serious difficulty in paying her debts to foreigners. When they require Gold she buys what is necessary, giving her hemp, tallow, etc., in exchange. The United States between 1862 and 1879 did likewise. An universally current money is Utopian. But, if it were practicable, its main advantage would lie in facilitating calculations of exchange, not in paying international balances.

It is wholly erroneous and misleading to say that Silver is now depreciated in the sense of being worth less in commodities generally than it was before Germany demonetized it. It is worth less in Gold; and people who owe Gold, and have only Silver to pay with, are in trouble on this account. But in other respects the value of Silver is greater, rather than less, than it was ten years ago, Nature's laws being more powerful than German edicts or than the blind greed of the creditor classes in Europe and America.

You and your correspondent appear to agree that a Silver standard of value lacks the essential element of stability. But any one who will take the trouble to investigate the facts as to the rate of production and the steadiness of value of Silver will discover that it is a much more stable metal than Gold, and that the fluctuations in its Gold price, which have lately so much disturbed the world, are due, not to any real decline in its value, but solely to the appreciation of Gold in consequence of the obstinate determination of certain nations to use Gold alone for money—and to the resulting struggle for the possession of that metal.

The effects of this madness are becoming so distressing in all Western countries, that the re-monetization of Silver is probably, as you say, only a question of time.

Meanwhile, since it is now in debate whether Japan should engage in the general scramble for Gold, or be content with Silver, let us see what has happened to the nation which uses more Silver than any other, and which adheres to Silver money when Europe discards it.

It is a fashion of the day to compassionate India for her sufferings under a Silver currency; and certainly it is hard on the people of India that they should have to pay 25 per cent. extra interest on the National Debt of £85,000,000 merely because their Government contracted that debt in Gold, and because gold has now risen that much in value. And the prospect of having to pay even a greater premium on the principal by and by cannot be a pleasant one.

But, apart from this hardship, which has been imposed upon her by England, it is in evidence that India has made a clear and great gain by reason of the expulsion of Silver from Europe and its consequent abundance in Asia. The necessity of finding a market for the discarded money of the West has created a demand for Indian products which would otherwise not have appeared, and this demand has so raised the prices of those products throughout India, without materially raising the cost of production, that the Indian people are now on the high road to prosperity.

Mr. Chapman, of the Indian Finance Department, indicates this pretty clearly in a memorandum which appears in the report of the Monetary Conference of 1881. It seems to have been mainly

intended to show how India suffered by Silver depreciation; but to my view it proves both that India does *not* suffer, and that Silver has *not* depreciated. It comprises an official return of the prices of certain "typical" Indian products in April 1876 (when the decline of Silver had just begun to influence Indian prices) and in December 1879 (when the price of Silver in London had steadied and even risen a little), and it gives the following figures of Calcutta prices:—

| COMMODITIES. | IN APRIL 1876. Rs. As. | IN DEC. 1879. Rs. As. | ADVANCE. Rs. As. |
|--------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------|
| Patna Hides | 72.0 | 125.0 | 53.0 |
| Picked Jute | 24.0 | 31.0 | 7.0 |
| Fine Linseed | 3.12½ | 5.1 | 1.4½ |
| Ballam Rice | 2.7 | 3.3 | 0.11 |
| Doodah Wheat | 2.8 | 3.10 | 1.3 |
| Saltpetre | 5.6 | 6.11 | 1.5 |

The average *advance* on these staples was 39 per cent. in these three years, most of which must have been clear gain to the Indian producer, and this gain was reduced by the fall of prices in Europe during the same time. It was therefore a *net* gain, resulting solely from cheap Silver.

If any doubt could be entertained on this point it would be dissipated by some other figures, from the same authority, showing the Silver prices in Calcutta during the same interval of certain "typical" articles imported from Europe. Here are the figures:—

| ARTICLES. | IN APRIL 1876. Rs. As. | IN DEC. 1879. Rs. As. | DECLINE. Rs. As. |
|---------------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------|
| Gray Shirtings 8½ lb. ... | 5.0 | 4.17 | 0.5 |
| Turkey Red Yarns 40s ... | 1.8 | 1.3½ | 0.4½ |
| Copper Sheathing | 39.4 | 32.13 | 6.8 |
| Spelter | 10.13 | 8.1 | 5.12 |
| Iron bars | 3.11 | 3.1 | 0.10 |

Showing an average *decline* on these staples of 16 per cent.

While, then, certain typical Indian products brought 39 per cent. more in Silver in 1879 than in 1876, the corresponding foreign articles were at the same time obtainable at 16 per cent less in the same currency and market.

People who thus sell their products for more than formerly, and buy their imports for less, do not seem to need the pity which is ordinarily expressed for them by those who imagine Silver money ruinous to India. But the poor toilers in England, who, that Silver may be excluded from Europe, and Gold reign supreme, have to sell their own productions at miserable prices, appear to me much more deserving of sympathy.

As the causes which produced these effects in India between 1876 and 1879, have operated pretty steadily ever since, a comparison of prices for the later years would no doubt show still more striking results of the same character. I cannot at the moment support this assumption by reference to statistics, but that it is entirely reasonable may be inferred from what Major Baring had lately to say about the wheat trade of India. He shows that the export of wheat from India (mostly to Europe) rose from 1½ millions of cwts. in 1874 to nearly 20 millions of cwts. in 1882. He says, moreover, that this enormous supply of wheat is no new product, that India always had plenty of wheat to sell, and that she only waited till she could get a fair price for it.

The *Economist*, from whose pages I borrow these figures, suggests that she now enjoys this "fair price" and fine business mainly because transportation has become much cheaper, both by land and sea. And no doubt increased facilities of that kind have assisted India's wheat trade, though it may be noted that similar facilities have similarly assisted her American and Russian competitors.

The *Economist*, being doggedly for Gold money at any cost, of course makes no account

of cheap Silver as a cause of this extraordinary development of the wheat trade, and no doubt honestly pities the poor Indians who are supposed to groan under their burden of depreciated Rupees. But it is at least remarkable that all this wonderful expansion of Indian trade coincides with the expulsion of Silver from Europe, and Mr. Chapman's figures show plainly enough that the Indians had stronger inducement than cheap freights to sell their wheat. Their groans, too, are strangely inaudible.

[What unprejudiced mind, looking clearly at the case, can doubt that this wheat trade owes its existence and continuance to India's adherence to Silver money, and that people who enjoy such a trade, and at the same time get their imported goods cheaper than ever, are to be envied for their good fortune?

For my part, I think that not only the Indian people, but all the Orientals using Silver money, have made great gains by remaining indifferent to the Gold monometallic madness which has prevailed in Europe; and that an analysis of the trade of China and Japan, making due allowance for local disturbances, would show similar results.

You will not be surprised, therefore, that I am sceptical as to the advantages of a Gold standard for Japan. It seems to me that the only advantage Gold monometallism has for any country is for the creditor classes of that country, and that even that advantage cannot last long, though it works infinite misery among the poor while it does last.

For Japan, Silver money is good enough. I go even further, and assert that not only for Japan, but for every other industrial nation, it is better money than Gold money.

I cannot but regard it as both a great mistake and a grave misfortune that my own country, having not long ago to choose what metallic money should replace its paper currency, chose Gold instead of Silver. The majority of the American people have repented of this choice, and are anxious to have Silver rehabilitated in their currency. But they have so tied themselves to the skirts of Europe in this matter that they find it difficult now to act independently. If they could abandon Gold to European fanaticism, and content themselves with Silver, they would probably find the same advantages in doing so that the Eastern nations, who have clung to Silver, have enjoyed, and are still enjoying. And it is extremely probable that they would have supplied Europe with the wheat now taken from India.

No doubt any nation now electing for Silver as its standard of value will ultimately be more or less affected by the decline of prices which is taking place in Europe. But only its foreign trade can be so affected, and this is but a minor matter for most nations. It is especially so in Japan, and therefore need not be taken into account. Even in respect of foreign trade however, the evil can be but slight, and it may carry much compensation. The example of India is in point. If the Japanese can afford to have metal money at all, let them boldly adopt Silver, and get all they can of it while it is obtainable cheaply. The time may soon arrive when all they have of it will be worth 25 per cent. more in the European markets than it is worth now. A good stock of it will then prove a very pleasant possession.

In the meantime the European distaste for Silver enables them to sell their Silk and Tea for increasing sums in that metal, and to buy what Imports they need very cheaply. Exports increase, Imports diminish, and the desired Silver flows in to

settle the balance. Of the financial storms which are gathering in the West they hear only the distant mutterings, and can be indifferent to them if they choose.

Bye and bye, when the Western nations shall have adapted their affairs to a contracted volume of metallic money; when all the suffering and sadness of that agonizing process (which creditors now view with such light-heartedness) shall have passed; and when the "adjustment" (sardonic term!) shall have been completed, those nations will become again good customers for Japanese products, and bring in payment for them whatever Japan shall prefer to take. If they have no Silver of their own they will buy it of those who have it; or they will bring directly to Japan Woolens, Cottons, and Iron at such cheap costs that the Japanese will be tempted to accept these commodities instead of money. Let the Silver-using nations rejoice in their opportunity, sell freely at good prices, buy cheaply, and procure the precious metal by all fair means, while it is to be had for so little. The superior intelligence and energy of the West may possibly deprive them of some part of their advantage after a while. But for the present the harvest is theirs if they know how to gather it.

It is not they who need our compassion for their monetary errors, but we who need theirs. T.W. Yokohama, July 1st, 1883.

FRANCE AND CHINA.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—You have already referred to Mr. Boulger's interesting and able article on "France and China" in the May number of the *Nineteenth Century*; yet there are some salient points of interest which still deserve to be noticed. It is remarkable that English writers in the East take, on the whole, a very different view from that of Mr. Boulger, who certainly did not consult popular opinion when he wrote. In fact, those best acquainted with China and her foreign policy argue from an opposite standpoint, and arrive at conclusions which are in the main at variance with those of Mr. D. C. Boulger.

"The French," he remarks, "have absolutely not shown the slightest desire to respect Chinese susceptibilities in the matter . . . and Chinese acquiescence in any form in the plans of our neighbours is henceforth an utter impossibility." That is to say, he thoroughly coincides with the opinion of M. Dupuis that "there can be no doubt as to the reality of China's suzerain rights over Annam." Putting aside for the moment the intimate connection of China with Annam as proved by the history of the past few centuries, the immediate title of the Empire to the suzerainty of Cochin-china rests upon the tribute sent by her so-called vassals to Peking. The Tribute Embassy entered China and visited Peking in 1876, or two years after the famous Treaty in which Annam announced her independence of every foreign Power. Mr. Boulger lays especial stress upon this fact as a proof of the soundness of China's suzerain rights, and, from a European point of view, no one would think of questioning a suzerainty based upon similar international relations. We have, however, not only to do with a nation notoriously lax in its external relations, but also with people who regard the paying of tribute merely as a matter of respect or esteem, or as the acknowledgement of a lesser state of the greatness and power of another. A glance at the past history of Southern and Western Asiatic nations will readily convince any one of the

truth of this statement. The rising power of any one state was soon acknowledged by neighbouring and less powerful rulers, who made haste to send embassies and tribute, not only as a guarantee of their good faith, but also with the intention of making 'friends at court.' Conquered states, it is true, were forced to pay tribute to their vanquishers; but voluntary tribute was rarely, if ever, a token of submission, nor did it give the greater power suzerain rights over the smaller. When Gyges, King of Lydia, sent an embassy with rich presents to the Assyrian monarch, he stated his intention to link his fortunes with those of Assyria,—but as an independent sovereign, whose power was absolute within the borders of Lydia and who could form or annul treaties with other states at pleasure. Again, when the mountain-tribes of the Manni, a war-like and hardy people, sent tribute-bearing embassies to the princes in the lowlands, they did it simply in a spirit of friendship without disclaiming one jot of their national independence. Nor did Arungzebe claim suzerain rights when the hill-tribes of Northern Indian and Afghanistan sent him droves of sheep and oxen, rich stuffs from their looms, and precious stones. In fact, the history of Asia west and east, down to the present day, does not offer any single instance where the simple passing of tribute between two states constituted *per se* the suzerainty of the one and the dependency of the other. This is notably the case with China, for the historical works compiled by her own learned men plainly show that many states were accustomed at one time or another to send tribute to the capital; but no mention was ever made of suzerain rights based upon this fact. Indeed, it was often customary for China to send rich gifts in return for 'tribute' received. When the Sultan of Malacca complained of the inroads of the Portuguese into his territory and solicited the aid of the then Emperor of China, he sent a large 'tribute' (according to the Chinese chroniclers); and the result of this policy was the expulsion of the Portuguese Embassy under Pires, who was subsequently massacred with his suite at Canton.

On the other hand, China has been for some centuries past in the habit of claiming a fictitious suzerainty over tributary states. The Manchus well know the slight tenure they have upon the allegiance of the vanquished Mongolians and take every opportunity to pose as conquerors and mighty potentates before their impatient subjects. If the importance of the Dragon Throne can be augmented by an increase in the number of tributary states, then by all means add a unit or so. The method is simple: a few 'strokes of the pencil, a few seals, and a document is ready by virtue of which another jewel is added to the imperial tiara. France and Italy have already appeared among the list of tributary states, and England and America may quite as readily become so. But China is just as lax in claiming the suzerainty over adjacent countries as she is eager to wield the sceptre over distant ones. Was Corea ever a dependency of the Celestial Empire? She is nominally, if not confessedly so, at present. But when the Korean King signed the Treaty with Japan he acted as a free and independent monarch, "on the strength, doubtless, of the repeated and distinct assurances of Corea's independence given by Prince Kung." China's suzerain rights over Corea, in the European interpretation of the term, are as fictitious as her claim upon Annam, or her would-be control of the Loochoos. Yet with all the bluster and bravado, China is as conscious of her illegitimacy of her suzerainty as are the very coun-

tries themselves. The King of Corea and the Tuduc of Annam may find it convenient for the present to acknowledge their vassalage and swear allegiance to the Dragon Throne, but the Treaty with Japan and the Franco-Annamese Treaty of 1874 sufficiently prove how much their vaunted allegiance is to be depended upon. "With regard to the never-failing assertion, in history-books," says the *North-China Daily News*, "that China has always been the suzerain of Annam, it is permissible to hint that in all probability Annam is by no means the only country which has been thus honoured. Although Chinese statesmen have grown wiser of late years, the fact remains that 'history' might with equal force be appealed to in order to prove the subjection of far more countries than China, for many centuries of her existence, had ever so much as heard of. In truth, it would be decidedly impolitic for foreign nations to regard with any seriousness the description applied to them in the annals of the Chinese Empire."

A final, and very cogent, proof of the independence of Annam is found in the fact that for nine years China has not protested against the Treaty of 1874. "The Chinese," Mr. Boulger contends, "were neither directly nor indirectly a consenting party to that Treaty. They were ignorant of its stipulations, until the French began in the early part of last year to give them effect." I have emphasized the statement of China's supposititious ignorance of the Treaty, for I cannot readily understand why such a careful writer as Mr. Boulger should have been so pronouncedly at fault. The Treaty of 1874 appeared in print, was published and widely-disseminated throughout the coast-ports of China as early as 1880, and in 1881 we find it printed at length in the *Chronicle and Directory of China and Japan*. Surely so important a Treaty must have been known to China even before its public appearance in print, especially if the relations between the Empire and Annam were really as intimate as they are stated to have been. But even if China was kept in ignorance of the exact stipulations for a few years, she certainly was aware, not only of the existence of the Treaty, but of its fullest import, in 1880. It would be absurd to contend that because the printed form appeared in the English language the Chinese were unable to appreciate its exact meaning, for not only do many of the high officials thoroughly understand English, but they also employ foreigners in the capacity of secretaries and translators who would speedily bring so important a document to their notice. Another writer, who seems to have appreciated this fact, excuses China's inactivity by stating that "at that time China was too much occupied with her own affairs to enquire into the matters going on in her Tributary State," and "that there was unfortunately no Chinese representative at Paris to bring the matter to the notice of the French Government,"—excuses, which the *Daily News* very properly stigmatizes as 'shabby.'

Taking all these matters into consideration, it would be far more logical and sensible to say at once that China's suzerainty over Annam is purely fictitious, without the slightest actual foundation. If China goes to war with France, which for her own sake I sincerely hope will not occur, she cannot commence hostilities under the ostensible excuse of protecting her vassals. China might reasonably have done so nine years ago, but now it is too late. When the French wrested three provinces from the King of Annam, China should have intervened in behalf of her own interests quite as much as in behalf of the alleged tributary state. The Tuduc

may find it very convenient to remember his one-time allegiance to the Empire and let bygones be bygones now that foreign troops and foreign gunboats are about to wrest the whole of Annam from his grasp. And China may feel equally disposed to resent the claims of the French by sending troops to the said Annam, declaring to the world, with a sort of maternal pathos, that she cannot see a tributary state of hers overrun by barbarian hordes without interfering. Indeed, says Mr. Boulger, "we may feel reasonably certain that the Annamese have not ventured to show their antipathy to the French so plainly, without some definite assurance of support from China; and we may see in the boldness of the Tuduc and his people the conviction that support will be neither half-hearted nor in vain."

And the conclusion of the whole matter? Yün-nan, in a word. China is decidedly averse to having a European power for a neighbour, for experience has taught her that such a propinquity is not desirable for the development and success of her plans. If the respective representatives of France and China can come to terms with regard to a neutral zone between French-Annam and South-western China, we need not fear the consequences of a severe and prolonged war. The suzerainty of Annam will be forgotten as quickly as it was called into existence, and China's unfortunate 'vassals' will be left to shift for themselves.

Yours, &c.,

F. E.

GOVERNMENT NOTIFICATION No. 23.

It is hereby notified that the Railway Regulations issued in May in the 5th year of Meiji (1872) by Notification No. 146, and another issued in March in the 6th year of Meiji (1873) by Notification No. 101, defining punishments to be inflicted upon offenders against the regulations, may henceforth be applied on railways constructed by private individuals.

10th July, 16th year of Meiji.

By Imperial order,

(Signed) SANJO SANETOSHI, Prime Minister.
YAMAGATA ARITOMO,
President of the Council of State.

TRANSLATIONS FROM NATIVE JOURNALS.

COMMERCIAL AFFAIRS IN TOKIYO AND YOKOHAMA.

(Translated from the *Hochi Shimbun*.)

Trade remains quite as stagnant as it was last year, and, if anything, sinks deeper in depression, presenting a truly melancholy aspect. Public attention is directed to the commercial condition of both the metropolis and the provinces. Thus, it behoves us to furnish our readers with commercial reports. Yokohama is not only closely allied commercially with Tokiyo, but is the emporium of foreign trade. So we will first give some details of the market in the former port.

Existing foreign commerce, in the gross, is profitable neither to natives nor aliens. Among other of our imports, British woven goods, such as camlets, cloth, and so on, are quite out of sale. Satin is sold at reasonable prices. Other fabrics have fallen twenty or thirty per cent in value, and still continue to lie in the godowns of foreign merchants. Such unsaleable wares have acquired the

general name of "godown merchandise." Next, we have to mention French coloured muslin, which has fallen in value about fifty per cent. as compared with what was imported two or three years ago.

The depression in this trade is partly due to the Kiyoto manufactures of imitation goods, which are pronounced of very superior quality. Drugs have shared a similar fate. Iodide of potassium, which used to vary in value only between three to five dollars is now sold at \$1.59, while quinine formerly worth three dollars (per ounce) will not realize more than \$1.90. Santonine has depreciated twenty-two per cent. Depression is also noticeable in the iron trade, wherein, on the average, prices have fallen twenty per cent.

Again, while umbrella frames have fallen from \$2 to \$1.80, \$1.50, and \$1.40 (per doz.) yet there is no demand for them. Nails, sometime since quoted at seven dollars, are hardly saleable at \$4.70. Some settlements are made of Manchester cotton fabrics, but only at ten per cent. discount as compared with previous years. German muslin shows no remarkable depreciation, but settlements are confined to insignificant quantities. And, as stagnation of trade does not only prevail in our Empire, but also in foreign countries, it cannot fail to produce a pernicious effect upon our export trade. In previous years, the wages of tea-firers were not less than sixty *tempo* per day at the commencement of the new tea season. At present there are only four tea-preparing establishments (where firers are employed) the firms at No. 1 and No. 106 having dismissed their workpeople, and arranged to conduct the operation by means of machinery. Thus, their firers have been obliged to seek employment in the other four manufactories, with the result that their wages have been reduced to eighteen *tempo* per day. Furthermore, the success of silk rearing in Europe, and the abundance of the staple in the English, French, and American markets, have affected the export of our production, while the demand for our waste silk has almost entirely ceased. No merchant dares to touch it unless it is offered for sale at less than seventy dollars, against \$140, which was the price in January this year. Hemp that was saleable at sixty dollars in the beginning of the year, has fallen in value to twenty-four dollars. This depreciation is ascribed to the export of spurious qualities by foreign merchants in Yokohama, who have thus injured the reputation of the fibre in Europe and America. Depression and lethargy is likewise the condition of the trade in porcelain and lacquer wares. In short, all exports have "gone to rest." There were lately some transactions in old curios during the sojourn of Mr. Bing, a wealthy merchant from Paris; but since his return to his own country this trade has presented almost insurmountable embarrassments to those dealers who conduct their affairs with a small capital. Owing to so general a stagnation of trade in Yokohama, inevitably checking the circulation of money, most of the foreign merchants in the settlement appear to have been constrained to relinquish business; and it is said that some of them have even returned to their homes. Nine out of ten actions brought before the Yokohama *Saibansho* are claims for the restitution of money lent; while the Police Courts are chiefly engaged in the investigation of thefts. The number of native and foreign merchantmen at anchor is only three and fifteen respectively; there being so little cargo, coolies working on the *hatoba* are deprived of the means of living, and are compelled by their extreme poverty to sell their wives and

daughters into secret prostitution. To avoid police surveillance, they rent houses in the foreign settlement, especially in China town, where domiciliary visitation is beyond the scope of the police authorities. Visitors to the taverns in the settlement do not exceed six or seven a day, and there is a consequent deterioration in the style of cookery which cannot fail to diminish their custom. In China town, a peculiar kind of gambling called "Che Hah" finds great favour with those who, having been reduced to extreme poverty, risk their last cash in hope to acquire large profits. Of late, however, the police succeeded in arresting about thirty of these gamblers, and punished them, thus effectually checking the play, which is now confined to the Chinese. Further, the original projector of the game has found it impossible to make any profits by his transactions, and so has abandoned it.

Since taxes were levied on the Bourse, trade in silver has almost come to an end, brokers have ceased to assemble there. Some twenty or thirty of them, however, congregate at the corner of the street in which the Bourse stands, at nine o'clock in the morning every day, and carry on business in a mysterious manner with empty pockets. Restaurant keepers and *jinrikisha* coolies in the neighbourhood of the Bourse, whose livelihood depends upon the patronage of the brokers, have been obliged to give up their trades. Private Bazaars have also proved unsuccessful, and three of them were closed, leaving only one, known by the name of Fuchikutei, open. The Bazaar in the Public Garden, supported by the Kanagawa *Kencho*, appears to prosper in some respects. Visitors to this institution during last month numbered 1,117, while the value of articles sold amounted to yen 905.29.

Notwithstanding the dullness of trade, various primary schools in Yokohama are comparatively prosperous, due probably to the fact that the people have become aware of the necessity of educating their children. At present there are 853 scholars in the Yokohama, 608 in the Yoshida, 542 in the Oimatsu, 230 in the Uetsuda, 410 in the Tobe, 373 in the Kotobuki, and 590 in the Moto-machi, schools, respectively.

Let us now consider the commercial condition of Tokiyo. Stagnation in the circulation of money, as well as the fall in the price of commodities, has contributed to that depression of trade from which the city and provinces are alike suffering. In previous years, however, there was a reaction from tradal depression in the provinces during the spring, and this did not fail to bring some prosperity to Tokiyo. But, this year, matters present a different feature. Whilst the spring has already passed, and summer, a season in which merchants generally settle their accounts for the preceding half-year, is about to wane, the market of Tokiyo remains just as dull and desolate as is usually the case in the autumn season.

As regards agriculturists, depreciation in the value of rice has deterred them from circulating money or purchasing their necessities. Moreover, as they are now busily engaged in silk producing, and in planting out rice sprouts, none of them attempt to come to Tokiyo for business. In these circumstances, most of the wholesale merchants at Yokoyama-cho, Tokiyo, whose welfare depends to a considerable extent upon the patronage of provincial dealers, have been obliged to hold their goods in their shops, without customers, while, also, the value of their stock has fallen since last year. They have tried to sell at original cost, but cannot find even then as many buyers as they expected.

They have suspended the purchase of merchandize; but, considering that mere retention of capital is by no means conducive to profit, have determined to buy public-loan bonds. Even such traders as are still inclined to conform to the old calendar, and are yet perfectly unfamiliar with the nature of these bonds, have been induced to invest their capital in them. Therefore, the manufacturers of combs, hair ornaments, toilet articles, and *fukuro-mono* (purses, tobacco pouches, and sundry articles of similar kind, in leather, silk, cotton, &c.) who are in many respects dependent upon the merchants, have become unable to maintain their families on account of the fact that they are scarcely required to work for one week in a month, owing to the great decrease in the demand for the products of their industry. Many of them have been obliged to desert their occupations and seek for new employment. The inn-keepers of Koami-cho, Kofuna-cho, and the neighbourhood of Nihonbashi, whose business is chiefly to provide lodging for steamship passengers from the neighbouring prefectures, used formerly to receive at least twenty-five or twenty-six visitors daily, but of late the number has decreased by more than fifty per cent. Unable to maintain their trade, they have dismissed their waiters and waitresses, and disposed themselves to gain barely enough to buy bread for their families.

The number of passengers who lodged at Bakuro-cho from January to May this year was only 225,756, against 513,200 in the corresponding period of last year, showing a decrease of 287,400. From these figures alone, the poverty of the provinces and the stagnation of trade in Tokiyo can easily be perceived.

Notwithstanding the present dullness of trade, there is a remarkable increase in the manufacture of silk and cotton fabrics, while the demand remains just the same as before. The excessive quantity of these fabrics, as well as the competition among manufacturers to produce them in such a manner as to secure only superficial beauty, has not failed to injure their reputation. Money being scarce and the demand having decreased, the wholesale merchants were obliged to lower the value of their fabrics by 40.5 per cent. Accordingly those who have held their goods since last year, must incur some loss if they attempt to sell; and so they have not only determined to suspend the purchase of goods, but also postponed the sale of their stocks. These circumstances have led to the curtailment of the transactions of retail dealers, who appear to earn barely enough for their subsistence. They complain of the daily diminution of their capital. The Joshiu silk fabrics and Nambu crape, which were before saleable at eleven or twelve yen for two pieces, have fallen in value to eight yen. Yet there are, proportionately, very few customers. At the commencement of the sale of summer stuffs this year, presents were offered as usual to purchasers; but the customers, having become familiar with the fact that the value of the present so offered was added to the price of the cloth, ceased to buy as they had generally done before in proportion to the amount of the presents. The merchants, therefore, could only sell their stock at a disadvantage. Thus the best Awa *chijimi* (ribbed cloth) became purchaseable for sixty-seven or sixty-eight sen per *tan*, while summer cloths mixed with foreign yarn do not cost more than fifty or sixty sen a piece. Shops where these cloths are sold so cheaply can be seen everywhere in the street, but most of the visitors simply examine the stuff and leave, showing in many cases an inability to buy,

although they earnestly wish to purchase. This is probably due to the emptiness of their purses. The depreciation is also noticeable in the price of the Yechigo *chijimi*, which was generally brought from the producing districts and sold direct to the customers. Last year, the choicest was quoted at seven yen, but this year it cannot realize more than four yen. The trade in foreign woven goods has been inactive since last summer, and even the wholesale merchants at Horidome and Omonodori could send but insignificant parcels of goods to their provincial customers for use this summer. On the whole, there are few or no transactions in woven manufactures. Moreover, the fall in the value of silver has affected their original price, and the merchants appear to be unwilling to dispose of their goods, even though there may be a demand for large quantities. They seem to have determined to wait until the exchange rate of silver shows an upward tendency. Of late, lastings and white merinos were sold in somewhat large quantities, and this tended to enhance their value, but not to any considerable extent. Previously, dyers at Honjo found themselves busy in the middle of every year, but seeing that the reverse is the case this summer, they are obliged to discharge their workmen. Dyes and paints have fallen about thirty per cent. in value, but are still unsaleable. The workmen, whose subsistence depends upon their employment by dyers, have been utterly deprived of their livelihood. Imported *komomono* or fine wares have also fallen in value about thirty per cent., yet the demand for them appears to have entirely ceased. Lamps have also met a similar fate. The depreciation in their value, however, is not due to the decrease of customers, but must be traced to the fact that, while there is an abundant supply of glass lamps, more convenient and cheaper ones—that is, tin lamps—have found their way into the market and attained the greatest favour. Notwithstanding the stagnation of all sorts of trade, the manufacture of vehicles has been so successful that all the wheelwrights in the capital have found it necessary to increase their staff of workmen and carry on their industry by day and night. There is a brisk demand for *jinrikishas* in the capital as well as in the provinces. Those which are lacquered in black and provided with curtains are in greatest demand. Travellers have begun to show a strong inclination to employ new *jinrikishas* in preference to those constructed in the old style. Fashion, therefore, tends to replace the latter, gradually, by newly-built vehicles. Moreover, large orders have been received from China and Korea. If this kind of carriage-building is to increase in the present proportion, it may reasonably be expected that the number of *jinrikisha* coolies will soon exceed that of the customers who hire them. Even at present there are many of these coolies who cannot find a single customer during the whole day. This state of affairs is by no means traceable to the decrease of travellers in carriages; but it appears, that as the *jinrikisha* fares have not been reduced in proportion to the fall in the price of commodities, omnibuses are taken in preference. Since the opening of the tramway, one year has elapsed, and the conveniences afforded by it have been candidly acknowledged by the public; but passengers being extremely few on all its sections, with the exception of the division between Nihonbashi and Kiyobashi, the receipts are not sufficient to cover the expenditure. Nevertheless, it is expected that the business of the Tramway Company will soon prosper should steps be taken to reduce

the passenger fares as far as possible, and compete with omnibuses. Surely a time will come when tram-cars will be seen running in all directions in the capital. It is a matter of regret that the road in Asakusa being narrow, only one line could be laid along the greater portion of it, and that, therefore, the cars have to stop at short distances, wasting much valuable time on each occasion. Taking these circumstances into consideration, not a few passengers are induced to take the omnibus in spite of its perils and its dirt. The three companies at Yorodsu-yobashi—the *Kaiseisha*, *Keihokusha*, and *Kounsha*—facilitate provincial communication by running omnibuses regularly between Tokiyo-Nakasendo, and Koshu, but accidents are reported to have frequently happened to these vehicles. Of late, too, omnibuses compete with *jirikishas*, and having reduced their fares, appear to have secured the public patronage. Nevertheless, the dullness of trade has curtailed the number of passengers; and, consequently, one of the omnibus companies has been unable to continue business, while the remaining two are said to dispatch carriages not more frequently than five or six times during a day and night, and then are seldom filled with passengers. Such a state of things is likely to bring loss to the two companies. By the way, there is also a regular omnibus service between Tokiyo and Yashiu, undertaken by Tedrukaya at Hirokoji, Asakusa. To afford passengers greater facilities, an agency has been established at Bakurocho, and the line has been extended from Utsu-no-miya to Shirakawa and Nikkwo.

As for the pawnbrokers, it is found that the deposit of pledges has considerably increased since the year before last, while in most cases they were not redeemed. Those who possess only small godowns have not only found themselves perplexed for storage room, but also in want of funds for the further reception of deposits; and in some cases they have been obliged to decline them altogether. Sometimes pledges have been redeemed, but only such as were of the best class, inferior articles remaining all the time in the godowns without being withdrawn. The brokers did not neglect to issue a notice on the expiry of the term of deposit, but could not even renew the interest on the loan, and have at last found that some portion of their pledges represent interest exceeding the principal advanced on them. For their part, pawners came to think that it would be far better far them to buy new clothes—the prices of which have considerably fallen and still tend to fall—than to redeem their old ones. According to the regulations, the pawners are deprived of a right to redeem their deposits in case they fail to pay interest when due on the loan, and the articles pawned become then the property of the brokers. But in most cases, the intimacy between brokers and pawners prevents the former from exercising this privilege: they feel obliged to hold the deposits even without due interest being paid on them. Thus it happens that principal and interest together exceed the value of the articles pawned, when payment is deferred. Most of the pawners this year appear to have determined to let their articles go unredeemed; but the brokers, considering that they are likely to sustain loss by the transfer of these articles to their possession, have asked the pawners to arrange for redemption at the amount advanced, the claim for interest being abandoned. In short, the pawnbrokers are so placed as to have to transact their business without profit. It is true that last year stagnation of trade was complained of everywhere, but it seems that it was not so serious as it is this

year. Last summer even the lower classes of the people were able to redeem their deposits from pawnbrokers. Being unable to do so this year, they have managed to provide for their summer requirements, such as mosquito-nets, on hire at the rate of sixty *sen* a month. From these circumstances, we can easily perceive the general stagnation in the circulation of money. Money-lenders not only demand high interest, but have ceased to lend at all without security. Hence the people below the middle class are unable to obtain money in any other way than by pawning their property. This accounts for the briskness of pawnbroking business. But considered in regard to profit, that same occupation is not exhilarating, and the brokers have now found it necessary to abandon their calling. Of late, however, the ceremony of *cha-no-yu* has begun to find favour with the people, and the articles employed in its practice have risen in value; but, nevertheless, curio dealers and old clothes merchants suffer seriously from want of customers. There are many visitors to the old clothes markets at Yanagiwara and Hisamatsu-cho, but proportionately there are very few transactions. Again, auctions which were held simultaneously in several streets of the capital, have now almost entirely ceased.

While the value of all commodities has fallen, public loan bonds have considerably risen in price. It is worthy of notice that the value of landed property has fallen to a considerable extent. Ground known as *menuki* in the capital, which was formerly saleable at twenty-five *yen* per *tsubo*, now hardly realizes seventeen *yen*, and its value still tends downwards.

Such depreciation, however, is not so remarkable in rural districts, owing, presumably, to the fact that the maintenance of landed property there does not require such heavy expenses as are needed in the metropolis, where the owners have not only to pay a high tax, but have also to bear several miscellaneous expenses. Precise calculation shows that their annual profit does not exceed five per cent. If they do not dispose of their property, it is simply because they bear in mind that it was bequeathed to them by their ancestors who must have spent an enormous amount of labour in acquiring it. Yet considering that they may avoid several inconveniences by the sale of their landed property, they have arranged to convert their possessions into public loan bonds, which they recognize as more profitable and safe to keep. Such is probably the legitimate cause of the recent rise in the value of these bonds. Therefore, a greater amount of money can be borrowed on the security of bonds than on landed property, which, it seems, cannot command a loan exceeding one-fourth of its actual value. Such being the case with even large securities, the difficulty of obtaining small amounts, below five *yen*, without any security, may be easily perceived. There are many capitalists who hang out a sign-board bearing the inscription of "Loan Office;" but in case money is borrowed from them, they demand high fees and interest, and deduct these beforehand from the sum lent, while they compel their debtors to mention only the legal amount of interest in their acknowledgments. The loans thus issued not only bear an exorbitant rate of interest, but as the period of redemption is generally as short as possible, the debtors are liable to become insolvent, in which case the creditors fly to a court of justice to recover their money. Inhumanity and harshness is the characteristic of modern money-lenders. Therefore their money is only borrowed in case of the

utmost necessity or when it is to be invested in a speculative enterprise in which the debtor enthusiastically hopes for success. The poorer classes of the community whose subsistence depends upon the daily profit of their small trade, and who are liable to lose their capital in case of sudden illness or rainy weather, being without the credit necessary to borrow money, mortgage even articles they have obtained on hire. In short, all trades which benefit the poorer people are at an utter standstill. There are many persons at Yamanote who hire out male and female dresses. These are principally serviceable to petty officers who do not possess more than one suit of foreign clothes in which they attend their respective Government Departments. But as the demand for these articles is very small, the trade is by no means profitable.

Our readers may have plainly perceived from previous statements that every trade in the capital has sunk into lethargy while the people appear to have lost all activity and pass their days in hopeless lamentation. Not only do they hesitate to enter into any transactions but they direct their best attention to household economy. Consequently labourers and artisans have been deprived of the means of living and repent their former improvidence. Carpenters, foremost among artisans, have long expected that the depreciation in the value of timber would induce wealthy citizens to repair or rebuild their houses, and that there will be a brisk demand for labour. But the reverse is the case. Since the end of last year no big fire has occurred in the capital, and the demand for carpentry has utterly ceased, except for the repair of shutters and windows, to prevent the rain from being blown in by wind. There is little or no work for the carpenters requiring more than ten consecutive days to complete. The result is that wages have fallen to forty-five *sen* a day, exclusive of board. Most joiners are obliged to spend their time in leisure, with the exception of some who are specially favoured by their patrons. Conscious that their tools would otherwise go rusty judicious workmen make small boxes when there is no demand for their labour. As regards masons, a depreciation is also noticeable in their wages, generally the highest paid of any artisans. At present they cannot earn more than seventy *sen* a day, and yet there is no work for bodies of men. Roof-makers are paid *sen* 90 to *yen* 1.20 per *tsubo*, but it is said that they can scarcely make any profit in roofing new houses. Tin roofing appears to be in vogue within the limits of the "fire protection line," the cost being *yen* 2.40 per *tsubo*. The attractive appearance and durability of this style of roofing has induced the people to change their old roofs. Roof-makers of the old stamp have nearly all lost their means of living. Plasterers are as busy as ever, in some respects, because since the fire protection limits were traced in the capital, citizens have been obliged to rebuild their houses in the old godown style, or at least to plaster the outer surfaces of their dwellings so as to accommodate them to the prescribed regulations. The wages of plasterers, therefore, have risen to sixty *sen* per day, while even hod-carriers are paid thirty *sen*. Tile manufacturers, painters, and other artisans working in tin and lacquer, who are more or less connected with the plasterers, are able to dispose of their work in spite of the stagnation of all other trades. As the Government Departments, however, have stopped the construction of large buildings, and as the merchants desire to buy old tiles, which are generally cheap and strong, in preference to new, the manufacturers at Komme, Nakanogo, Hoshiba, and Imado have all but no sale for their

products. Mechanics who used to work for orders from rural districts, sent to their patrons among the merchants, are also workless and penniless, or must toil for absurdly low wages. In the days of their prosperity, they used to engage a number of workmen; but as the merchants who were wont to purchase their products, have now determined to economise in all respects, their work has become utterly fruitless. Skilled workmen are no longer employed, and all work done is merely superficial. Loss of credit follows. The fall in the price of rice has deterred the agricultural class from purchasing any other than absolute necessities. The demand for the stock possessed by wholesale merchants has entirely ceased. Goods stored since last year remain unsold. Occasionally, orders are received for manufactures of new fashion, but only to an insignificant extent. In such cases, naturally, mechanics have more or less work, although it be barely sufficient to maintain them. Although they demand increased wages for the maintenance of their families, they find that they work for nearly nothing. Reduced to extreme poverty, they malingering and decline to work for their customary patrons the merchants, and take low wages from casual employers. They manage to live from hand to mouth. Meanwhile the demand for their labour diminishes; and they are obliged to abandon their trade and seek some other means of supporting their families. Many of them have established themselves as provision dealers. Among other instances, we may mention that of Yorodsu at Ikenohata, Shitaya, who was formerly a famous jeweller, but abandoned his occupation and become a dumpling (*dango*) dealer. Trade is stagnant.

Vicissitudes are in the order of nature; yet we cannot but lament this unprecedented depression in trade. Notwithstanding, there is a brisk demand for fencing masks, gauntlets, and bamboo swords, police and soldiery having taken to the old style of fencing as a good physical exercise. Manufactories of fencing gear, with big sign-boards designed to attract the notice of the passers-by, can be seen in most streets. Impoverished *shisoku* and old umbrellas frame makers, are chiefly engaged in this trade. Their work is carried on day and night, and yet the makers are insufficient to produce enough to satisfy the popular demand. Side by side with this extensive trade the consumption of ink, paper, and pencils has considerably increased. The last mentioned article is in greatest favour. A pencil factory at Yushima, known by the name of Shinseido, employs at present more than two hundred workmen, and finds that even these are insufficient to meet the demand.

TRADE REPORT FOR FUSAN FOR 1882.

(Translated from the *Fiyu Shimbuu*.)

The principal events that took place during the year under review were:—(1) the rebellion in Sōul; (2) the extraordinary rise in value of Korean money; and (3) the extraordinary fall in price of rice and other cereals. To point out the cases that led to the stagnation of trade, we must search among the events of the year (1882). In the first place, we find that Korean officers have indirectly prohibited the natives from selling ox-hides to Japanese merchants. Secondly, the export of rice and other cereals has fallen off to a considerable extent, in consequence of a poor harvest having been anticipated, as drought prevailed throughout the neighbourhood of the settlement. Occasionally, however, the natives brought the merchandize to

exchange for Japanese commodities, thus evading the restriction. Under these circumstances, all trade was confined to barter and the settlers suffered severely. They are not, however, entirely free from blame, for they brought about the ruin by too keen a competition to sell goods. The services of brokers had been done away with, causing great difficulty among them, and irregular fluctuations in the prices of all commodities. The Chamber of Commerce held several meetings and strove to eradicate the evil by enacting by-laws; but in vain. This state of affairs gave encouragement to some dishonest native traders to bring inferior stuff to the market. Indeed, they have made profits at the expense of the Japanese traders. Consequently, commerce was impeded and the market was in a desolate condition. The news of the outrages in Sōul considerably added to the stagnation. Rumors of a disquieting nature were circulated. Koreans ceased to visit the settlement; and the brokers and those living by their daily labour were reduced to a most miserable condition. The Eastern Honganji had to distribute a quantity of rice among these poor men. Japanese residents in Inchōn and the interior of Korea bought native coins to a considerable amount, which was doubtless required to defray the various expenses incurred in consequence of threatened hostilities. Fortunately, however, toward the middle of September, the dark clouds passed away: tranquillity was restored between Korea and Japan, and commerce rapidly revived. The cotton crop was exceedingly abundant, and the staple was exported in large quantities. Besides this, the Japanese Consul brought the impropriety of official interference to the notice of the Korean Government, and succeeded in removing this obstacle to trade. Thus, ox-hides and rice began to appear in the market in as large quantities as before. The natives recognized the convenience of exchanging raw cotton for shirtings, which gave a great impetus to the importation of the latter article. Native money became very scarce and rose in value to about *yen* 4.70 per *kwamme*. At one time it threatened to rise to as much as *yen* 5. The competition among the Japanese merchants themselves, which proved so disastrous a few months previously, was about to be repeated and would have brought trade to a standstill, but for the exertions of the Chamber of Commerce, which passed resolutions binding all Japanese merchants not to sell merchandize under a certain fixed price. In this way, they were enabled to protect themselves from ruin and to keep commerce in a prosperous condition. The brokers and those living by daily work have been likewise benefited. On the other hand, the export houses have met with losses owing to the low prices prevailing at home; and at end of the year complaints were heard. There is not any considerable falling off to be observed in the amount of the exports and imports, and, on the whole, had it not been for the paralyzing effects of the disturbance at Sōul, the year (1882) would have ranked among flourishing seasons. But it must be remembered, that although there is not much decrease in the total amount of trade, the profits made by the Japanese merchants are meagre as compared with those of preceding years. This is simply due to over-trading.

Exports are confined to the natural productions, since there are no artificial or manufactured articles in the country. Of imports, European articles occupy the larger portion. Treaties having been concluded between Korea and Occidental

nations and China, we cannot venture an opinion as to whether commerce will be benefited or otherwise till things speak for themselves. Having thus briefly referred to the condition of trade, let us proceed to compare the returns for 1882 with those for 1881, and ascertain to what extent trade has declined. Here is the table:—

| | 1882. | 1881. |
|---------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| Imports..... | <i>yen</i> 784,189 | <i>yen</i> 1,100,195 |
| Decrease..... | | <i>yen</i> 316,006 |
| Exports..... | <i>yen</i> 1,105,310 | <i>yen</i> 1,157,858 |
| Decrease..... | | <i>yen</i> 52,548 |

Thus, we find a decrease of *yen* 368,554 in the total amount of exports and imports. This is directly traceable to the rebellion, in consequence of which business was suspended for seventy or eighty days. The most important points which deserve our consideration in the present report is the increase of the import of European goods, and decrease of that of Japanese articles, as can be seen from the following table:—

JAPANESE PRODUCTS.

| | 1882. | 1881. |
|---------------|--------------------|-------------------|
| Imports..... | <i>yen</i> 128,774 | <i>yen</i> 54,315 |
| Decrease..... | | <i>yen</i> 74,459 |

FOREIGN PRODUCTS.

| | 1882. | 1881. |
|---------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| Exports..... | <i>yen</i> 962,608 | <i>yen</i> 730,874 |
| Increase..... | | <i>yen</i> 231,824 |

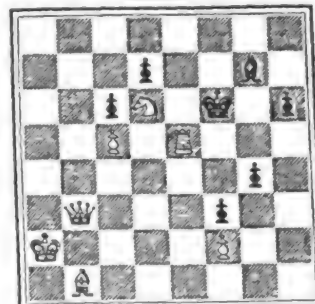
On comparing the rate of Korean money that ruled in 1881 with that of 1882, we find that, whilst in the former year the highest quotation was *yen* 3.15 for 1 *kwamme* and the lowest *yen* 2.73, in the latter year it was *yen* 4.70.

This extraordinary rise was due to the excess of exports over imports. When a large sale is effected, there is abundance of native coin in the hands of Japanese merchants. As Japanese merchants have encountered numerous disadvantages from such irregular fluctuations in the value of Korean money, it is to be earnestly hoped that the Korean Government may be persuaded to put a large quantity of silver and copper coin in circulation.

CHESS.

By J. W. ABBOTT. From the *Westminster Papers*.

BLACK.



WHITE.

White to play and mate in 3 moves.

Solution to Chess Problem of 7th July, by

J. B. of Bridport.

White. Black.

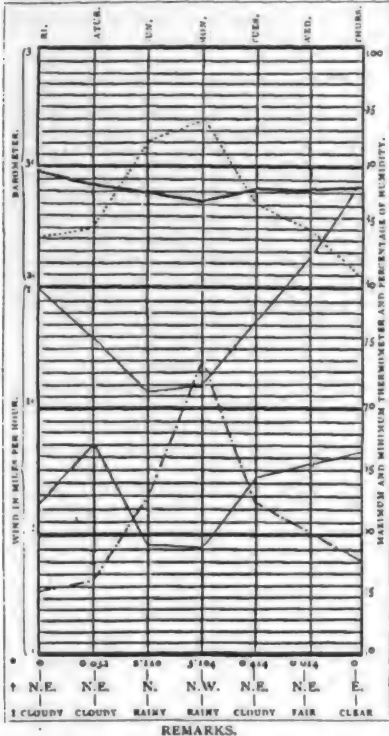
- 1.—Kt. to Q. Kt. 4. 1.—K. moves.
- 2.—B. to Q. 6. 2.—Any.
- 3.—Q. or Rt. mates. if 1.—B. to B. 6.
- 2.—Kt. to Q. R. 6. if 1.—P. moves.
- 3.—B. mates. 2.—P. Q.
- 2.—Q. to Q. B. 2. 3.—Rt. mates.

Correct solution received from "TESA."

METEOROLOGICAL REPORT.

FOR WEEK BEGINNING FRIDAY, JULY 6TH, 1883.

Observatory of Daigaku, Moto-Fuji-cho, Hongō, Tokyō, Japan.



Heavy line represents barometer.
Light continuous line—maximum and minimum thermometers.
— represents velocity of wind.
— percentage of humidity.
The barometer is reduced to the freezing point and to the level of the sea.
* Rain in inches. † Direction of Wind. ‡ Weather.
Maximum velocity of wind 35.8 miles per hour on Monday at 3 p.m.
The highest reading of the barometer for the week was 29.66 inches on Friday at 10 a.m., and the lowest was 29.44 inches on Monday at 10 a.m.
The highest temperature for the week was 82.0 on Thursday, and the lowest was 59.3 on Monday. The maximum and minimum for the corresponding week of last year were 82.9 and 63.3 respectively.
The total amount of rain for the week was 5.754 inches, against 5.585 inches for the corresponding week of last year.

LATEST SHIPPING.

FREIGHTS.

During the past week shipping business has been absolutely stagnant; several ships offered for coast employment, willing to accept exceedingly low rates, but without resulting engagement. Next week should, however, show some slight improvement, inasmuch as there will then be actual business on offer, but rates can hardly be expected to be higher than at present nominally ruling. The American ship *Grecian* has not yet sailed for San Francisco, but is said to be leaving in a day or two. For New York the steamships *Yorkshire*, *Ehrenfels*, and *Ascalon* are all loading with quick dispatch. For London the *Benledi* holds the berth, while for Havre and Hamburg, the German barque *Valparaiso* and the steamer *Feronia* are both loading.

ARRIVALS.

Gembu Maru, Japanese steamer, 670, F. J. Brown, 7th July,—Fushiki 30th June, Shimonoseki 2nd and Kobe 5th July, General.—Kiyodo Unyu Kwaisha.

Wakanoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,342, A. F. Christensen, 8th July,—Kobe, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.
Benledi, British steamer, 1,000, J. Ross, 9th July,—Nagasaki 5th July, Coal.—Mourilyan, Heilmann & Co.
Ferdinand, German bark, 416, Westergard, 9th July,—Takao 22nd June, Sugar.—H. MacArthur.
Feronia, German steamer, 1,115, F. Nagel, 9th July,—Hongkong, General.—Simon, Evers & Co.
Kworio Maru, Japanese steamer, 617, G. Withers, 9th July,—Yokkaichi, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.
Richmond, American flagship, 14 guns, 300 men, 2,700, Captain J. S. Skerrett, U.S.N., 9th July,—Nagasaki 5th July.
Ehrenfels, German steamer, 1,588, Fischer, 10th July,—Hongkong, 4th July, Mails and General.—Adamson, Bell & Co.
Sumanoura Maru, Japanese barque, 925, Spiegelthal, 10th July,—Nagasaki, Coals.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.
Taganoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 448, Matsmoto, 11th July,—Yokkaichi, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.
Tsuruga Maru, Japanese steamer, 880, Dithlefsen, 11th July,—Kobe 9th July, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.
Takasago Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,230, C. Young, 12th July,—Shanghai and ports, Mails and General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.
Chinkiang, British steamer, 799, S. M. Orr, 13th July,—Shanghai 8th July, General.—C. Illies & Co.

DEPARTURES.

Zambesi, British steamer, 1,540, L. H. Moule, 7th July,—Hongkong via Nagasaki and Kobe, Mails and General.—P. & O. S. N. Co.
City of Peking, American steamer, 3,129, Friel, 8th July,—Hongkong Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.
Gembu Maru, Japanese steamer, 670, F. J. Brown, 8th July,—Yokkaichi, General.—Kiyodo Unyu Kwaisha.
Niigata Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,097, Hubbard, 9th July,—Hakodate, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.
Wakanoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,342, A. F. Christensen, 9th July,—Kobe, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.
Nagaya Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,015, J. Wynn, 11th July,—Shanghai and ports, Mails and General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.
Taganoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 448, Matsmoto, 11th July,—Yokkaichi, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.
Toyoshima Maru, Japanese steamer, 597, Franck, 11th July,—Hakodate, Mails and General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.
Wandering Minstrel, British barque, 363, Seivewright, 12th July,—Nagasaki, Ballast.—Captain.

Evangelina, British 3-masted schooner, 345, Bell, 14th July,—Takao 25th June, Sugar.—Chinese.
Kworio Maru, Japanese steamer, 617, G. Withers, 13th July,—Yokkaichi, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per British steamer *Benledi*, from Nagasaki:—Mr. and Mrs. Drewell, 2 children and servant.
Per Japanese steamer *Kworio Maru*, from Yokkaichi:—127 Japanese in steerage.
Per Japanese steamer *Taganoura Maru*, from Yokkaichi:—73 Japanese.
Per Japanese steamer *Tsuruga Maru*, from Kobe:—76 Japanese.
Per Japanese steamer *Takasago Maru*, from Shanghai and ports:—His Excellency and Mrs. Sasaki, Mr. and Mrs. Suyenobu, Mrs. Sekigawa, Messrs. A. Barnard, Percy Holt, W. C. Ward, S. Samuel, Otani, Yoshiwara, Tanabe, Kawashima, Taguchi, Kawasaki, Okamoto, Nakajima, Oka, Idzumi, Kikuchi, Kawanabe, Fujii, Kitsuki, Sonoda, Ishiware, Choyen, Tona, S. Fujii, Yoshi-

wara, and Yamamura in cabin; and 1 European, 8 Chinese, and 192 Japanese in steerage.

DEPARTED.

Per British steamer *Zambesi*, for Hongkong via Kobe and Nagasaki:—Mr. and Mrs. Durani, Mrs. Anderson, Miss Wynn, Rev. R. W. Smart, Surgeon S. A. Crick, A.M.D., Messrs. J. N. Paulin and servant, W. R. Bennett, A. Barnard, Hake, A. H. Groom, and Blackmore, in cabin; and 14 Japanese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Nagaya Maru*, for Shanghai and ports:—Dr. and Mrs. C. Gattoche, Mr. and Mrs. Oshima, Mr. and Mrs. Komochi, Mrs. Arishima, Colonel Nagaya, Colonel Saito, Dr. R. Rathgen, Messrs. J. Rickett, W. S. Robilliard, O. Korschelt, F. D. Cheshire, W. Drummond, J. Potter, Iwasa, Wada, Okamoto, Kato, Nakamikado, Matsumura, and Okura in cabin.

REPORTS.

The Japanese steamer *Gembu Maru*, Captain F. J. Brown, reports having left Fushiki on the 30th June, at 4.30 a.m., and experienced light winds and cloudy weather on the West Coast; arrived at Shimonoseki on the 2nd July, at 9.30 a.m. Left Shimonoseki on the same day, at 3.30 p.m. and arrived at Kobe on the following day, at 5.20 p.m.; fine weather through the Inland Sea. Left Kobe on the 5th July, at 9.30 p.m. and arrived at Yokohama on the 7th July, at noon; light winds and overcast with occasional showers throughout the passage from Kobe.

The British steamer *Benledi*, Captain J. Ross, reports leaving Nagasaki with light winds and cloudy weather on the first part of the voyage, and on the latter part, strong winds and thick, rainy weather.

VESSELS ON THE BERTH.

Ascalon, for New York via ports—Quick Despatch.—C. Illies & Co.
Benledi, for London via ports—22nd July.—Mourilyan, Heilmann & Co.
City of Tokio, for San Francisco—20th July.—P. M. S.S. Co.
Ehrenfels, for New York via ports—6th July.—Adamson, Bell & Co.
Feronia, for Havre and Hamburg via ports—July Despatch.—Simon, Evers & Co.
Grecian, for San Francisco—11th July.—Frazier & Co.
John C. Munro, for Victoria, V.I.—Middle of July.—Corney & Co.
Takasago Maru, for Shanghai and ports—18th July, at 6 p.m.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.
Yorkshire, for New York via Suez Canal—Quick Despatch.—Smith, Baker & Co.

SHIPPING IN YOKOHAMA.

STEAMERS.

Ascalon, British steamer, 1,523, Geo. Dinsdale, 1st July,—Hongkong via Kobe, Ballast.—C. Illies & Co.
Benledi, British steamer, 1,000, J. Ross, 9th July,—Nagasaki 5th July, Coal.—Mourilyan, Heilmann & Co.
Chinkiang, British steamer, 799, S. M. Orr, 13th July,—Shanghai 8th July, General.—C. Illies & Co.
Ehrenfels, German steamer, 1,588, Fischer, 10th July,—Hongkong 4th July, Mails and General.—Adamson, Bell & Co.
Feronia, German steamer, 1,115, F. Nagel, 9th July,—Hongkong, General.—Simon, Evers & Co.
Mensaleh, French steamer, 1,276, B. Blanc, 7th July,—Hongkong 1st July, Mails, Treasure, and General.—Messageries Maritimes Co.
Oxfordshire, British steamer, 998, Jones, 6th July,—Hongkong 29th June, General.—Smith, Baker & Co.
Yorkshire, British steamer, 1,425, Arnold, 1st July,—Kobe 29th June, General.—Smith, Baker & Co.

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

During the week there has been rather more doing in Yarns, some 1,200 bales being reported sold, and prices all round are a trifle firmer. In Shirtings, there have been but few transactions at about same prices. Other Goods call for no special remarks, and Metals are very quiet.

COTTON YARNS.

| | PER PICUL. |
|-----------------------------------|------------------|
| Nos. 16 to 24, Common to Medium - | \$25.25 to 28.50 |
| Nos. 16 to 24, Good to Best - | 29.25 to 30.60 |
| Bombay, No. 20, Good to Best - | 25.50 to 28.25 |
| Nos. 28 to 32, Common to Medium - | 31.25 to 32.25 |
| Nos. 28 to 32, Good to Best - | 33.00 to 35.25 |
| Nos. 38 to 42 - | 35.25 to 37.25 |

COTTON PIECE GOODS.

| | PER PIECE. |
|------------------------------------------------|----------------|
| Grey Shirtings—8½, 38½ to 39 inches - | \$1.70 to 2.15 |
| Grey Shirtings—9½, 38½ to 45 inches - | 1.87½ to 2.40 |
| T. Cloth—7½, 24 yards, 32 inches - | 1.45 to 1.55 |
| Indigo Shirting—12 yards, 44 inches - | 1.35 to 1.67½ |
| Prints—Assorted, 24 yards, 30 inches - | 1.10 to 2.40 |
| Cotton—Italians and Sateens Black, 32 inches - | 0.07 to 0.09 |
| Turkey Reds—2 to 2½, 24 yards, 30 inches - | 1.15 to 1.35 |
| Turkey Reds—2½ to 2½, 24 yards, 30 inches - | 1.35 to 1.65 |
| Turkey Reds—3½, 24 yards, 30 inches - | 1.70 to 1.82½ |
| Velvets—Black, 35 yards, 22 inches - | 5.90 to 6.70 |
| Victoria Lawns, 12 yards, 42-3 inches - | 0.72½ to 0.80 |
| Taffetas, 12 yards, 43 inches - | 1.75 to 2.07½ |

WOOLLENS.

| | |
|---------------------------------------------------|----------------|
| Plain Orleans, 40-42 yards, 32 inches - | \$3.80 to 5.25 |
| Figured Orleans, 29-31 yards, 31 inches - | 3.25 to 4.00 |
| Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches - | 0.18 to 0.29½ |
| Mousseline de Laine—Crape, 24 yards, 31 inches - | 0.15 to 0.15½ |
| Mousseline de Laine—Lajime, 24 yards, 31 inches - | 0.18½ to 0.26 |
| Mousseline de Laine—Yuzes, 24 yards, 31 inches - | 0.30 to 0.37½ |
| Cloths—Pilots, 54 @ 56 inches - | 0.30 to 0.40 |
| Cloths—Presidents, 54 @ 56 inches - | 0.40 to 0.50 |
| Cloths—Union, 54 @ 56 inches - | 0.30 to 0.55 |
| Blankets—Scarlet and Green, 6 to 5½, per lb - | 0.35 to 0.40 |

IRON.

| | PER PICUL. |
|---------------------------------|----------------|
| Flat Bars, ½ inch - | \$2.50 to 2.90 |
| Flat Bars, 1 inch - | 2.80 to 3.00 |
| Round and square up to ½ inch - | 2.80 to 3.00 |
| Nailrod, assorted - | 2.25 to 2.50 |
| Nailrod, small size - | 2.85 to 3.10 |

KEROSENE.

The Market continued its downward course until the 9th instant, when sales of Devoe were made at \$1.65 and Comet at \$1.55. After this an improvement set in and the same brands realized \$1.69 and \$1.62 respectively. Total sales during the week amount to 65,000 and deliveries to 23,000 cases. The deliveries begin to show the usual increase at this season of the year, but there would appear to be no grounds for any advance in prices. Stocks consist of about 642,000 cases sold and unsold oil. Holders now ask for:—

| | PER CASE. |
|----------|-----------|
| Devoe - | \$1.70 |
| Comet - | 1.65 |
| Stella - | 1.61 |

SUGAR.

The Market is strong for all grades, and Browns are held for higher rates. Buyers offer 4.90 to 4.95 per picul, but holders demand 5.00 to 5.25. The Stock on hand is quite 35,000 piculs. For White Sugar, of which there is a large Stock, there is a good demand at the quotations given below:—

| | PER PICUL. |
|-----------------|----------------|
| White, No. 1 - | \$8.50 to 9.00 |
| White, No. 2 - | 8.00 to 8.50 |
| White, No. 3 - | 7.25 to 8.00 |
| White, No. 4 - | 6.25 to 6.75 |
| White, No. 5 - | 5.25 to 5.50 |
| Brown Formosa - | 4.95 to 5.00 |

EXPORTS.

SILK.

Hanks.—There has been more passing during the week, and prices have hardened to about \$10 above the lowest point. This has reacted on the interior markets and prices there (which had declined in sympathy with quotations here), have again advanced one or two momme.

Filatures.—These kinds are at present in small supply those which have arrived are Good Medium Bushiu and Koshiu sorts about 12/14/16 deniers: other and finer kinds will be on the market in the course of a week or so.

Settlements for the week are returned as 300 piculs, including a little old silk. Export to date is 343 bales, against 543 at same date last year, while the Messageries steamer leaving to-morrow will take a fair shipment. The market at closing is a shade weaker.

| | QUOTATIONS. |
|---------------------------------|--------------|
| Hanks—No. 2½ - | \$490 to 495 |
| Hanks—No. 3 - | 470 to 480 |
| Hanks—No. 3½ - | 450 to 460 |
| Filatures—No. 1, 14/16 denier - | 630 to 640 |
| Filatures—No. 1½ - | 620 to 630 |

TEA.

There is little or no change to report in the position of our Market for the past week, buyers have shown little disposition to purchase, and business in consequence has been limited. Settlements since our last weekly report are only 3,865 piculs, principally composed of Good Medium to Fine sorts. Settlements here and at Kobe are 152,465 piculs, against 166,780 piculs at the corresponding date in 1882. The following are the shipments of Tea to the United States and Canada since the 7th instant:—The steamship *Harter*, sailed on the 4th July, took 816,122 lbs. Tea, viz: 502,076 lbs. for New York, and 314,046 lbs. for Canada. The steamship *City of Rio de Janeiro*, sailed on the 6th July, took 528,655 lbs. Tea, viz: 136,888 lbs. for New York, 81,295 lbs. for Chicago, 24,190 lbs. for Buffalo, 15,155 lbs. for Saint Paul, 1,500 lbs. for Salt Lake City, 180,725 lbs. for San Francisco, and 88,902 lbs. for Canada. The steamships *Yorkshire* and *Arcticon* will probably sail on the 18th instant, and *Ehrenfels* on or about the 19th instant. Rates of freight are 45 shillings per ton of 40 cubic feet. The American ship *Grecian* will not sail for San Francisco before Tuesday next.

| | QUOTATIONS. |
|---------------|--------------|
| Common - | \$12 & under |
| Good Common - | 13 to 15 |
| Medium - | 16 to 17 |
| Good Medium - | 18 to 20 |
| Fine - | 22 to 24 |
| Finest - | 25 to 27 |
| Choice - | 28 to 31 |
| Choicest - | 33 & up'ds |

EXCHANGE.

The amount of business transacted during the week has been small, and rates show a further decline on those ruling at the date of our last issue.

| | |
|-------------------------------------------|--------------|
| Sterling—Bank Bills on demand - | 3/7½ |
| Sterling—Bank 4 months' sight - | 3/8½ |
| Sterling—Private 4 months' sight - | 3/8½ |
| Sterling—Private 6 months' sight - | 3/8½ |
| On Paris—Bank sight - | 4.60 |
| On Paris—Private 6 months' sight - | 4.72 |
| On Hongkong—Bank sight - | 100 o/o dis. |
| On Hongkong—Private 10 days' sight - | 100 o/o |
| On Shanghai—Bank sight - | 73 o/o |
| On Shanghai—Private 10 days' sight - | 73 o/o |
| On New York—Bank Bills on demand - | 88½ |
| On New York—Private 30 days' sight - | 89 |
| On San Francisco—Bank Bills on demand - | 88½ |
| On San Francisco—Private 30 days' sight - | 89 |

KINSATSU QUOTATIONS.

The following table shows the rate of the day, and the fluctuation during the past week:—

| | |
|----------------------------|------|
| Monday, July 9th | 127 |
| Tuesday, July 10th | 127½ |
| Wednesday, July 11th | 127½ |
| Thursday, July 12th | 126½ |
| Friday, July 13th | 125½ |
| Saturday, July 14th | 124½ |

IMPORTANT NOTICE.

SMALL CAPITALISTS, wishing to establish a business, should see if there is an opening for a Mineral Water Manufactory in their District. All information and recipes for the purpose of making Lemonade, Soda Water, &c., is given, previous knowledge is not necessary. The demand for these drinks is so much on the increase in all parts of the world, that the outlay for the machinery in all cases leads to a profitable and safe business. Catalogue forwarded free, on application to

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No. 12, Vol. I.]

YOKOHAMA, JULY 21ST, 1883.

[£24 PER ANNUM.]

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The Japan Weekly Mail.

"FAIS CE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL" must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith. It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, JULY 21ST, 1883.

WEEKLY NOTES.

FROM Korea comes news that General Foote, the United States Envoy, is gradually providing himself with a habitation at Soul. It appears that the General has to have all his furniture made by native carpenters who are, of course, entirely new to the work. He is not, however, overwhelmed with diplomatic business. American interests exist as yet only on paper. He has lost the services of Mr. Saito, of the Japanese Foreign Office, whose stay in Korea or rather the duration of his absence from Tokijo, was limited by mutual agreement to three months. On the whole it is as well, perhaps, that no attempt has been made to alter this arrangement as the presence of a Japanese official on General Foote's Staff, though perfectly natural at first, was open to misinterpretation so soon as it assumed a character other than temporary. There is an honest desire on Japan's part to avoid anything calculated to wound Chinese susceptibilities; and we believe we may say with confidence that whatever policy China may deem it most conducive to her interests to pursue in Korea will meet with no opposition from Japan.

HIS EXCELLENCY IWAKURA, Third Minister of State, expired at his residence in Tokijo on Friday the 20th instant at 7.30 a.m. His Excellency had been ailing for some months, but his malady did not exhibit any alarming symptoms until his visit to Kiyoto in the month of June. There he became completely prostrated, and his condition excited so much apprehension that the Emperor despatched his own physicians, Drs. Ito and Baelz, to attend the sick man. His Excellency Inouye, Minister for Foreign Affairs, happened to be in Kiyoto at the time, and remained with Mr. Iwakura until a temporary improvement in the latter's condition enabled him to return to Tokijo on the 28th of June. It was, however, fully recognised that any hope of ultimate recovery was idle. His Excellency gradually sank, and although the people's desire put the most sanguine interpretation upon every rumour of returning convalescence, his friends and colleagues knew well that another prominent figure was about to pass away from the stage of Japanese history. Yet to the very last the public refused to be persuaded that such a calamity was imminent, and from day to day the vernacular journals kept hope alive by stories of improved bulletins, some even going so far as to represent the Minister taking part again in State affairs. But this was never to be. Not, indeed until a few hours before life was extinct did the untiring brain cease to busy itself with the problems which had occupied it for so many years, and it is said that the thought of the dying statesman found expression in counsels which his colleagues are not likely to forget. But beyond this the rumours of his temporary resurrections of duty were simply echoes of a popular faith inspired by the memory of his indefatigable life. His persistent labours had become such an intimate part of the national vitality and had occupied so large a space in the field of public vision, that like those luminous appearances of which astronomers tell us, their image remained visible after the reality had ceased to exist. If anything were wanting to mark the high place he held in his Sovereign's esteem, it was furnished by the circumstances of the last visit he received from the Emperor, who, learning on Thursday morning that the end was imminent, hastened to the dying man's side without awaiting the attendance of his ordinary escort. It were idle to attempt any estimate of the loss which his country suffers by the decease of this remarkable man. To those who survive him it will at least be some consolation to remember that he lived to see his country arrive within appreciable distance of the place it had been his constant aim to win for her in the comity of nations.

MUCH uncertainty appears to exist in Europe with regard to the real intentions of France in Indo-China. The Paris Correspondent of the *Pall Mall Budget* emphatically contradicts the idea that France has any design of seizing upon Tonquin and Madagascar. He says that the perils of such proceedings "are now too evident for any government that would face them to live a week." "Had it not been," he proceeds, "that Commander Riviere and his little force were beleaguered at Hanoi, no credit would ever have been voted;" and there were "infinite negotiations in the lobbies and beating about bushes" before Ministers thought it safe to ask for it. There is an old saying in Japan about the ease with which things are overlooked which lie in the shadow at the base of the lamp. Something of the sort seems applicable to people at this end of the world, for certainly the notion that Commander Riviere was beleaguered at Hanoi never occurred to anybody out here. Neither did we imagine that France meant peace or that the French Cabinet had entered into a secret agreement "that when the ill-fated and gallant naval officer was released from his perilous situation, some kind of an arrangement should be made with Annam which would enable the French expeditionary force to come away with dignity." All we can say is that if France is really imbued with these pacific purposes, she is most unfortunate in her choice of officials to represent her policy. We find it difficult to conceive M. Tricou carrying an olive-branch. Nature may have fitted him for such a rôle, but if so he has done himself much violence since his visit to China. Meanwhile Lord Randolph Churchill has been proposing to save five millions a year by reducing the army, and the opponents of the measure seek to silence him by speaking of "a Franco-Chinese war looming on the Eastern horizon." What may be the connection between a Franco-Chinese war and the strength of the English army, one is puzzled at first sight to discover, but there is comfort in the thought that the English people are likely to take a lively interest in the progress of events out here. We may possibly learn before long that French doings in Madagascar are not so simple as they seem. The bombardment of Tomatave appears to have been about as unnecessary and reckless a performance as need be; and it is doubtful whether a good many English subjects did not fall under the French fire. There is a rumour, too, that Admiral Pierre has been ordering all the Consuls in Madagascar to haul down their flags and that England wants to

know the reason why. There is further a story which, though obviously of no real significance, plays the part of the proverbial straw to the wind of public opinion in consequence of the interpretation put upon it. The captain of a French cruiser has been claiming a right to land and fish on some little rocky islets known as the Echrhon, which lie between France and Jersey, and have been regarded as a dependency of the latter for six hundred years. Of course it is not to be supposed that captains of cruisers are commissioned by the French Government to act as exponents of its new colonial policy, or that under any circumstances they would be directed to prosecute their aggressions on British territory in the British channel. But the fact that these extravagant hypotheses actually find supporters, shows what uneasy feelings have been excited by France's sudden mania for spreading herself abroad. China may take the Echrhon Isles if she is in need of a precedent and ask how it is that British dependencies are protected even against foreign fish-stealers, while Chinese tributaries are themselves stolen with impunity.

THE third annual report of the Banking Bureau for the period 30th June, 1880, to 30th June, 1881, shows that the numbers of banks and branches throughout Japan, the Specie Bank excepted, was 255 at the latter date, with an aggregate capital of 43,216,100 yen, a note issue of 34,385,153 yen, and a reserve fund of only 2,185,382 yen. The profits realized were over 16 per cent., and the dividends declared over 13 per cent., of the capital. The Specie Bank was less fortunate. With a capital of 3 millions, a reserve of 23,900 and a note issue of 302,920, its aggregate profits were less than 11 per cent., and its declared dividends less than 5 per cent., of its capital. It is worthy of mark that, while the banks issuing inconvertible paper succeeded in getting into circulation notes to the value of nearly 80 per cent. of their total capital, the Specie Bank, issuing convertible paper, only found demand for notes to the amount of 10 per cent. of its capital. The total value of the financial operations conducted by the banks throughout Japan during the period under review, was nearly 21 times their aggregate capital. The report brings out the extraordinary fact that, owing to the abnormal ebb and flow of money caused by currency fluctuations, rates of interest, for temporary loans, varying from 35 to 55 per cent. are frequently charged and readily paid. Trade saddled with such burdens as these can scarcely hope for a vigorous growth.

No details are yet known of the disaster in the Hiroshima gaol, where upwards of sixty persons lost their lives in a conflagration. One of the vernacular journals—the *Choya Shimbu*—has commented on the occurrence in terms which suggest a desire to fix the whole responsibility of the misfortune on the prison authorities and to enlist popular sympathy on account of prisoners generally. It would not be right to assume that the motive of such criticism is anything but

humane, yet the principal impression it creates is one of regret that its author has not cared to furnish some evidence of the grave charges he formulates. The public is only too ready to believe everything that points to official mismanagement, and those who are shrewd enough to appreciate this credulity can trade on it to the full extent of their fancy, even as the *Contemporary Review* is at present assisting Prince Krapotkin to trade. On the other hand, it is a reasonable hypothesis that due precautions were not taken to guard against such a cruel catastrophe as that which occurred at Hiroshima on the 3rd instant. The *Choya Shimbu* points out that the 35th Article of the Prison Regulations provides that in cases where a prison is in imminent danger from fire or other cases all those confined there shall be temporarily liberated except such as are awaiting trial. The prisoners at Hiroshima belonged chiefly to the latter category, and the *Choya* calls attention to the anomalous nature of a rule which discriminates in favour of condemned criminals. We have not the Prison Regulations before us, and are, therefore, unable to say whether this version is correct, but it seems most unlikely that any such irrational distinction should exist. That there is room for improvement in the treatment of prisoners cannot be denied, judging, at least, from a Western standpoint. Not the smallest of existing abuses is the fashion of conducting persons under police escort through the streets. That a man who has not yet undergone trial and who may consequently be entirely innocent of the crime laid to his charge, should be led along the public thoroughfares with a rope attached to his waist, is a cruel and unjust system. Among those witnessing these performances there may be many competent to distinguish the *hon-nawa*—which by its attachment to the breast and shoulders, marks the convicted criminal—from the *koshi-nawa*—which by its attachment to the girdle alone, marks the prisoner not yet tried—but whether these subtle shades of difference satisfy the principles of personal liberty, or violate the fundamental doctrine of civilized law, which assumes every man innocent until his guilt is proved, is a question there cannot be much difficulty in answering. The friends of progress in Japan will do well to consider whether some immediate reform is not here called for.

THE trial of the Fukushima prisoners, who stand charged with conspiring against the peace of the realm, was commenced at the Extraordinary Court in Tokiyo on the 19th instant. The prisoners are six in all, namely, one *Shizoku* of Tokiyo, by name Hanaka, and five *Heimin* of Fukushima. The combination is curious. Hitherto we have had no instances of political conspiracies in which persons of the *Heimin* class were concerned, and the general impression is that the Fukushima suspects will appear to have been more misled than misleading. The trial is conducted with open doors and large crowds assemble daily to listen to the proceed-

ings. The reports furnished by the vernacular press are very full and accurate. It appears that up to the present the examination of the *Shizoku*, Mr. Hanaka, has occupied the attention of the Court. The prisoner, who confessed his guilt before the Police Tribunals in Fukushima, now maintains his innocence, and declares in open Court that his previous confession was extorted from him under pressure of the barbarous treatment he received at the hands of the police. Exposure to the inclemency of the season (mid-winter) and actual personal violence are the abuses of which he complains. These were substantially the grounds of complaint advanced several months ago and published by the vernacular journals, some of which by their intemperate comments incurred the displeasure of the law. It is well that the truth of these complaints should at length be openly investigated, and the public will doubtless follow with much curiosity the course of this the first really important trial which has ever been conducted with open doors in Japan.

THE departure of Sir Harry Parkes for Peking is fixed for the end—probably about the 20th—of August. Sir Harry's health has been slightly impaired of late, and in accordance with the counsels of his medical advisers he has started on a trip to Hakodate. His successor, the Honorable F. Plunkett, is expected to arrive in Japan about the middle of September.

THE want of regular steam communication to the open ports of Korea is beginning to attract attention. The *Yiji Shimo* comments on the condition of Japanese settlers at Inchon in forcible terms. Inchon was opened to foreign (Japanese) commerce at the beginning of this year, and there are now about 150 Japanese residing there. It appears, however, that these unfortunate pioneers of commerce are entirely dependent upon chance or good luck for the means of communicating with their native land. The difficulties of navigation are such that small vessels cannot venture to visit the place except during the summer and the trade is not sufficiently extensive to attract steamers of any considerable size. The consequence is that the settlers are exposed to sufferings which the Tokiyo journal describes with much vividness, urging the Government to grant a subsidy to some shipping company so that regular communication, even at long intervals, may be established. The suggestion seems very just, and we make no doubt that it will receive favorable consideration at the hands of the authorities.

NOTES.

THE following notice has been posted at the office of the Telegraph Section of the Public Works Department:—"In consequence of a strike existing among the staff of the Western Union Telegraph Company, traffic arrangements in the United States are utterly disorganized.

Telegrams for places in the United States, other than New York city, can only be accepted at the risk and responsibility of the sender."

We have received from Consul-General Scribe a letter with reference to our comments on the case of *Hiroshima v. Blakeway*, recently tried in H.B.M.'s Court for Japan. Mr. Scribe makes it quite plain that our deductions with reference to his official action in the matter of the sale of the *Ni* to Tsunematsu, were entirely erroneous. So far from advising the sale, he had no knowledge of it until after its conclusion. It is scarcely necessary to say that those deductions were directly based upon the published reports of the evidence given in Court. Beyond that evidence we could not travel, and with our present knowledge of the facts, we cannot but reiterate our previously expressed regret that the testimony stopped where it did. It is clear that the responsibility which we, in common with many of our fellow-residents, believed to attach to the Consul-General, has no foundation whatsoever. We are precluded from publishing Mr. Scribe's letter, as it contains matter which could not fail to affect the issue of the appeal now proceeding—an appeal of which we had no anticipation when we permitted ourselves to discuss the case in our issue of the 13th instant.

An article which we reproduce elsewhere from the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* on the subject of the tobacco tax, illustrates the anomalies with which Japan has to contend in consequence of her disability to exercise the right of all independent countries—control her own tariff. Our readers are aware that the Japanese Government, confronted by the necessity of augmenting the income of the Treasury, imposed, last year, heavy additional taxes on *saké* and tobacco. It was thought, at the time, that this step, so far at least as tobacco was concerned, was ill-considered. In Japan the use of the fragrant weed is almost universal, so much so, indeed, that it may claim to be included among the daily necessities of the lower classes. To tax it, therefore, seemed much the same as to tax bread or salt. These criticisms, however, were confined to foreigners. Among the Japanese, though growers of the leaf raised their voices here and there, the majority of the nation appeared to think that tobacco belongs to the category of luxuries and that, in any readjustment of taxation, it might properly be saddled with a heavy charge. But what of tobacco in the form of cigars and cigarettes? That used by the pipe-smoking section of the people had nothing to fear from foreign competition, inasmuch as the imported weed is quite unsuited to this purpose. The taste for cigars and cigarettes, however, had largely developed, and the manufacture of the latter especially promised to become a flourishing industry. To levy an increased tax upon these without altering the tariff for imported cigarettes, would have been to confer on the latter an unfair advantage, and in all probability to annihilate a new Japanese industry. On the other hand, to tax tobacco in

the cut or leaf form, and let cigars and cigarettes escape, would virtually amount to imposing a fresh burden on the lower orders and letting the upper go scot-free. Yet the Japanese Government seems to have preferred the latter course to the former. They had to choose between doing an injustice to their own people or still further diminishing the meagre list of Japanese industries. It would be difficult to say one word in favour of the system which involves them in such dilemmas. Imagine how European financiers would fare if they were required to regulate internal taxes without touching external tariffs. Under such circumstances national revenues could only be rendered elastic at the risk of seriously disturbing commercial interests. It is well to remember when we find fault with the condition of Japanese finance that her difficulties are not a little increased by the unjust and arbitrary restrictions Western Powers have imposed upon her.

It is now announced that the opening ceremony of the Tokiyo-Takahashi Railway will be performed on the 25th instant, but whether or no this is another false alarm, we are not in a position to say. At one time we hear the delay attributed to want of forethought in not moving the rolling-stock from Shimbashi, where it lay for months, to Ueno where it might have lain equally well; at another, we are told that difficulties have occurred with the road itself. The truth is, we believe, that newsmongers have been amusing themselves by arbitrarily fixing days for the opening of the line and that hitherto their predictions have been erroneous. We shall believe that the date has been really determined when we see some announcement from the Directors themselves.

ANOTHER fire is reported to have occurred at the prison in the new Prefecture of Toyama, where convicts awaiting trial were confined. The instances of conflagrations in goals are becoming curiously frequent. It seems difficult to doubt that they are the work of incendiaries. The authorities will probably find at last that if prison regulations are to be modelled after European types, something more substantial than wood will have to be employed as a building material.

THE *Hochi Shimbun* states that paper money to the amount of *yen* 238,000 was destroyed in the compound of the Printing Bureau on Friday. We believe that the notes thus destroyed from time to time do not represent so much paper withdrawn from circulation, but are merely *kinsatsu* worn out or of old type.

THE American expedition which left New York on the 2nd of March last for the Caroline Islands, for the purpose of observing the solar eclipse which was visible in the South Pacific on the 6th of May, arrived in San Francisco *en route* to New York on the 11th of last month. The results of their investigations are highly satisfactory; and the brief history of their trip as given in the *Bulletin* is very interesting.

Caroline Island, the station where their observations were made, is a small coral island some seven by two miles in size, situated about four hundred miles north of Tahiti. The expedition reached its destination on April 21st, in ample time to erect all the necessary buildings for the accommodation of the instruments and the observers. Fortunately, the island contained two or three small frame houses which were left in good repair by the factor of the American Guano Company, and these were utilized as dwellings by the American astronomers, by the English party which accompanied them, as well as by the French astronomers who arrived at the Island a few days later. During the stay of the scientists, the climate was very uncertain. Nearly every day there were violent rain storms, and on the morning of May 6th, the very day of the eclipse, no less than three showers fell; but by great good fortune the sky was very favorable during the whole period required for the investigations. Perfectly successful observations were obtained by the three parties. The chief work accomplished consisted, first, in the proof of the non-existence of a planet, interior to Mercury. This result, while it is not of as much popular interest as the discovery of a new member of the solar system, is, from a scientific point of view, quite as important. Full spectroscopic observations were made by several observers. The conclusion drawn by the American spectroscopists is that the solar corona is, in great part, a phenomenon of diffraction. The French party also made spectroscopic observations which are not yet published. The English party photographed the spectrum; and their results cannot be stated until after their pictures are examined in London. Most of the work done is of such a nature as not to admit of popular statement; but is regarded as entirely satisfactory by the astronomers themselves. Our San Francisco contemporary remarks that, "it is also a source of satisfaction that the long journey of 16,000 miles has not been undertaken for no end. Americans may also be glad that it was in the power of the United States expedition to offer to the Royal Society of London the opportunity to send two observers from England. These gentlemen joined the expedition at Callao, and are returning to London *via* San Francisco. The French party will probably arrive in San Francisco shortly, on board the French man-of-war *L'Eclair*." Immediately on his arrival in California the Chief of the American expedition sent an official telegram to Princeton. It runs thus:—

To Professor C. A. Young, Princeton, N. J.:—American Eclipse expedition arrived at San Francisco June 11th. Holden reports no Vulcan as bright as 5th magnitude. Hastings' observations prove the corona to be largely a phenomenon of diffraction by the great change in length of 1,474 on east and west sides of the sun. No dark lines in corona but D. Full observations with grating spectroscope, prismatic telescope, and integrating spectroscope by Rockwell, Upton, and Brown. Contacts by Preston. English and French parties successful.—E. S. HOLDEN.

Appended are the names of the members of the three parties:—American Party: Messrs. Edward S. Holden, Director of the Washburn Observatory, Madison, Wis., Chief of Party; Charles S. Hastings, Professor of Physics in the Johns-Hopkins University, Baltimore, Md.; Charles H. Rockwell, Tarrytown, N.Y.; E. D. Preston, Aid

U.S. Coast and Geodetic Survey, Washington, D.C.; Winslow Upton, U.S. Signal Office, Washington, D.C.; Ensign S. J. Brown, U.S.N., U.S. Naval Observatory, Washington, D.C. (To this contingent has to be added four volunteer observers from the U.S.S. *Hartford*, which vessel conveyed the expedition from Callao to its destination).—English Party: Messrs. H. A. Lawrence and C. Ray Woods, of the South Kensington Museum.—French Party: M. Ganssen, Director of the Solar Observatory of Mendon, Chief of Party; M. Trovelot, Assistant, Mendon Observatory; M. Pasteur, Photographer, Mendon Observatory; M. Tacchini, Director of the Observatory at Rome; M. Pallisa of the Imperial Observatory at Vienna. The last two named are invited guests.

THE similarity of customs in different countries and at long intervals of time is sometimes very remarkable. Dr. G. Ebers tells us that within the memory of living men there existed at Cairo, among the various guilds and trades of the town, a guild of thieves who had their recognised president, or *schecho*, like all the rest. To this president people often went to recover stolen goods and bring the thieves to justice, if necessary, and they generally succeeded with his help. Dr. Ebers compares this with a habit which prevailed in Sicily centuries ago, and which is thus described by Diodorus:—"It was ordained that those who practised the avocation of thief should inscribe their names with the president of the thieves. If they had stolen anything, they had at once to confess what they had done and show their booty. The robbed person was then required to send to this president a written statement of all the things he had missed, and mention place, day, and hour of their disappearance. In this way everything was easily found, and the robbed person received the lost property on paying a fourth of it. As it was impossible to prevent theft entirely, the lawgiver thus invented a means of getting back what was stolen in return for a certain redemption money, which was willingly paid." The laws never went so far as this in Japan, but up to ten years ago the thieves in Tokiyo had a chief (*Kashira*) who might generally be counted on to give effective assistance towards the recovery of stolen property. Of course open communication with this individual was confined to the lower orders of the people. His existence was not avowedly recognised by the *Samurai*, who nevertheless often had vicarious recourse to his aid. So, too, the criminals in the goals elected themselves a King and obeyed him with the utmost fidelity during the term of their incarceration. Old residents of Tokiyo recount wonderful stories of the immunity enjoyed by thieves in former times. Many of the professional pickpockets were known by sight to the tradesfolk of the district, under whose very eyes they plied their calling, secured against exposure by the vengeance their comrades never failed to wreak on an informer. The Japanese, indeed, are the most law-abiding people in the universe, and yet, strange to say, their con-

fidence in the efficiency of the laws is practically of the weakest description. They will often consent to be made the victims of injustice or wrong rather than appeal to the authorities for protection, being deterred by a vague apprehension of retaliation or annoyance. Probably this is a habit of mind bequeathed to them from feudal times, when the authorities were almost inaccessible, and Justice was so ill administered that its dictates could never be foreseen. At any rate it is only within the past few years that the profession of thieving ceased to receive a very considerable share of tolerance, if not deference.

BROADLY speaking, it is no doubt correct to say that Japan has adopted Western inventions and scientific appliances with avidity; that she has shown a desire for change which is abnormal, and a disposition to destroy her charts and sail away into unsurveyed seas, while China remains pretty much where she always was. She is now, with some exceptions, what she was twenty, two hundred, perhaps two thousand years ago, while a new Japan has been created in fifteen years. All this, we say, is true, but it is not the whole truth. China also has had her changes; not indeed so marked or rapid, not so much in the nature of a *volte-face* on all her past as those of her neighbour. The radical difference between the two countries in this respect we take to be this: that, while Japan loves change for the sake of change, China dislikes it, and will only adopt it when it is clearly demonstrated to her that change is absolutely necessary. To the Japanese change appears to be a delightful excitement, to the Chinese a distasteful necessity; to the former whatever is must be wrong, to the latter whatever is, is right. As a consequence of this difference between the two peoples, when China once makes a step forward it is generally after much deliberation, and is never retraced. Japan is constantly undertaking new schemes with little care or thought for the morrow, but with the applause of injudicious foreign friends. In a short time she discovers that she has underrated the expense or exaggerated the results, and her projects are straightway abandoned as rapidly and thoughtlessly as they were commenced. Swift suggested as a suitable subject for a philosophical writer a history of human projects which were never carried out; the historian of modern Japan finds these at every turn. Where, for example, are the results of the great surveys, trigonometrical and others, which were commenced in Yezo and the main island about ten years ago? A large, expensive, but highly competent foreign staff was engaged, and worked for a few years; but suddenly the whole Survey Department was swept away, and the valuable instruments are, or were recently, lying rusting in a warehouse in Tokiyo. The same story may be told of scores of other scientific or educational undertakings in Japan. —*Nature*.

Le Temps contains some interesting correspondence from Haiphong, dated April 6th. "In replacing," says the correspondent "the former

Governor of Hanoi by the Governor of Song-lai, an official so good-natured that when two of our soldiers collided against his palanquin of malice prepense, he humbly begged their pardons, the Tuduc took care to have in the former place a man whom he knew to be capable of surrendering it to him treacherously." What a curious state of affairs this sentence reveals! It is the same old story; lawless arbitrariness on one side, and on the other, patience, which if it suffers itself to be at all disturbed, becomes a pretext for fresh aggression. One does not know which to admire, the discipline of the French soldiers who made a plaything of the Governor and his palanquin, or the prudence of that unfortunate dignitary. The story, however, goes on to say that, after the dismantling of the citadel of Hanoi, the French Commandant had not been permitted to dislodge the high Annamese mandarins, nor even to substitute the French flag for that of Annam, which continued floating over the tower constructed in the interior of the fortification. The only concession he could obtain, and that not without many protestations from the Court of Hué, was that the right to occupy the royal pagoda. Accordingly, during the night of March 23rd, the treacherous governor left the citadel with his followers, choosing for his point of exit the Eastern Gate, the passage of which had been from the first forbidden to the Europeans. If any other proof were needed of the perfidious rascality of this Annamese savage it is furnished, we are naively informed, by the fact that he peremptorily refused to permit the French to slaughter buffaloes, though at the Chinese New Year he freely granted leave to all Asiatics asking for it. Three days after the Governor's retreat, the citadel had to suffer an attack well planned and all but successful. It appears that the royal pagoda, occupied by the French troops, is flanked by two large towers of observation which completely command it. The scheme of the Annamese troops was to get possession of these towers from whence they would have been able to shoot down, at their leisure, the occupants of the pagoda, which is open on all sides. A little more dash and pluck would have enabled them to carry through this design, but vigilance saved the French from a disaster which their forethought does not seem to have provided against. On the day following this abortive attack, Commandant de Vilers learned from his outposts that the enemy had not abandoned their positions and that they seemed to contemplate defending them obstinately. He accordingly resolved to make an offensive reconnaissance. The troops employed were two companies of marine infantry and one of blue-jackets from the *Lopard*. Crossing the river, they soon found themselves on the right of the Annamese position, and at a distance of about a *kilometre* the fire of the Asiatics' artillery obliged them to deploy into skirmishing order. Presently the signal for the assault sounded, and soldiers and sailors, forgetting danger in their ardour of emulation, rushed forward to the counter-scarp of the ditch which surrounded the village

of Giacuc, where the Annamites were entrenched "They had traversed," says their historian, "a distance of 300 *mètres* under a hail of shot and shell." To cross the ditch, leap from the embrasures, overthrow the *chevaux de frise*, and chase the enemy through the village at the point of the bayonet, was the business of a few minutes. When they had time to examine the entrenchments, they found a work upon which weeks of labour had been expended and which was "all but impregnable." The *spolia opima* were six field-pieces, two guns of position, a black flag, sundry rifles and revolvers with marks of Potsdam and Birmingham manufacturers, powder-flasks, cartridges, &c., "showing how easily the Annamites supply themselves with munitions of war at Hongkong and elsewhere." Five men wounded represented the total loss of the assailants in these operations. Meanwhile the main body of the French forces, under Commandant Rivière, had taken Nam-dinh, and the two following orders of the day were subsequently issued by that officer:—

Nam-Dinh, le 27 mars 1883.

Soldats et marins,
Vous venez de montrer, à la prise de la citadelle de Nam-Dinh, le même entrain, la même valeur, le même dévouement qu'à la prise de la citadelle d'Hanoi (25 avril 1882). Je vous confonds les uns et les autres, les anciens comme les nouveaux, dans cet éloge, que votre brave colonel, béni à votre tête, vous décerne comme moi.
La patrie, qui vous suit de cœur dans les pays lointains où nous sommes, tressaillera bientôt d'émotion et d'orgueil en apprenant ce que vous avez fait.
Vive la France!

Hanoi, le 2 avril 1883.

Soldats et marins, pendant que vos camarades prenaient la citadelle de Nam-Dinh, vous repoussiez ici les troupes annamites et les Drapeaux noirs, qui attaquaient la pagode et qui se disposaient à investir Hanoi.
Vous faisiez plus, vous rejetiez ces troupes sur leurs villages de la rive gauche et vous les leur enleviez.
A Hanoi et à Nam-Dinh, vous étiez dignes les uns des autres; vous avez tous montré la vaillance, le discipline et l'élan qui font que le soldat est fier de lui-même et que le pays est fier de lui. Vous avez bien agi.
Vive la France!

SPEAKING of the unfortunate Commandant Rivière, who fell at Hanoi on May 19th, *Figaro* says that on the day before he set out for Toulon he came to the office of that journal to say good-bye to a member of the staff with whom he was very intimate. His friend thought him looking somewhat pale, and after a short conversation, shook him by the hand, saying:—"Good luck, *mon commandant*, you will come home with the stars of an admiral." Rivière's answer was:—"Good-bye, my dear friend. Remember me. We shall not see each other again. I do not know whether I shall ever be an admiral, but I know well that I shall not come back to France."

BEYOND the lamentable shooting of one Frenchman by another in a street of Haiphong, and the publication of General Bouet's proclamations as Commander-in-Chief of the French forces in Tonquin, there is no news of importance from that neighborhood. General Bouet's first manifest is to his army, and is dated "Hanoi, June 27, 1883." It runs thus:—

The General commanding in Tonquin to Officers, non-commissioned Officers, soldiers and marines of the expeditionary corps.—An official telegram addressed to the Governor of Cochinchina, dated 27th May, announces that the Chambers have unanimously voted the credits in relation to Tonquin and that France will avenge her brave sons.—A telegram of the following day nominates me to the supreme command in Tonquin. Behold me in the midst of you ready

to lead you anywhere that the exigencies of the patriotic mission which has been entrusted to us by the Government of the Republic may require of your discipline and courage. The new chiefs who come to lead you are known to you;—you will follow them with devotion and constancy and allow no reverse to tarnish the reputation of our arms. Pillage is dishonourable to any army; continue then to respect the property and the religion of the peaceable inhabitants of the country.

The second document is addressed to "the inhabitants of Tonquin." It states:—

The treaty of the 15th March, 1874, imposes on France the obligation of furnishing the necessary forces to insure the peace and tranquillity of the country.

The bands of brigands, vagabonds, without nationality, who live only by pillage and the exactions which have long troubled your tranquillity, have prevented you from reaping from this beautiful country all the riches which nature has bestowed upon it.

The Annamite authorities were pledged to maintain order and to protect the commerce of the Red River.

So long as France was able to hope that these authorities would fulfil this obligation she has done all that was possible to demonstrate the peaceable character of her designs.

To-day she can no longer abstain; her countrymen are menaced, her soldiers are murdered from ambushes constructed by the foreign brigands who have penetrated into the country. It is against them that the campaign is opened to-day, her only aim is to drive them back to the mountains from whence they came to plunder you. Those who are taken will be hung and their bodies will be given to the vultures. Numbers of troops have arrived, others are *en route* and will soon be among you; render them your assistance on their march and you will be bountifully indemnified. The flag of France is the symbol of justice, humanity and liberty. Come and find under its shadow the protection and peace which you have needed so long. A great people loyally offer you the hand, respond to its appeal and new and happy fortunes will henceforth open to you.

Le Gen. de Brigades Com. Supr. in Tonquin.
(Sgd.) BOUET.

THE *Nichi Nichi Shimbu* complains that the supply of native juriconsults in Japan is neither in proportion to the advance of society in other respects nor to the public demand for legal advice and assistance. One would be inclined to hope that the *Nichi Nichi Shimbu's* complaint is well founded. It tells that the Law Section of the Tokio Daigaku, whence the country looks for its supply of legists only gives diplomas to six or seven graduates a year: that the curriculum is too long—a fact which, combined with the comparatively heavy expense of tuition and residence, is deterrent. Hence the Educational Department has established a special Section in the University where a course of English, French, German, and Japanese law can be completed in four year's study.

JUDGMENT in the *Cyprus* case was delivered on Monday by His Honour as follows:—"The evidence adduced by the plaintiffs has in my opinion failed to support their claim as appearing on the summons, namely that, during the voyage of the *Cyprus* from Middlesbro' to Yokohama the provisions and water as supplied by the defendant were bad in quality and unfit for use, and that during the voyage the allowance of provisions and water to the plaintiffs was improperly reduced. The only point on which I have had some doubt, is as to whether the plaintiffs received, when in Hongkong, such a proportion of the quality of fresh meat delivered on board during the vessel's stay there as should have fallen to the share of the men when the requirements of the messes aft had been satisfied, but the defendant is entitled to the full advantage to be derived from the fact that, during the vessel's lengthened stay in Hongkong, no complaint, in the sense that the

word must be regarded when read with the Merchant Shipping Act, was made as to an insufficiency of provisions, and although I do not go the length of saying that the men were precluded on arrival at Yokohama from making a complaint in respect of the alleged insufficiency of fresh provisions supplied at Hongkong, yet the fact that no complaint involving an enquiry of any kind was made, cannot but tell unfavourably against the present claims of the plaintiffs. This summons is therefore dismissed in respect of each of the eight men whose claims have been embodied in the one summons, and in so dismissing it I have concluded to make no order as to costs."

A TELEGRAM dated Paris June 25th, to the *Indépendant de Saigon*, states that Marquis Ts'eng has left Paris for London, presumably for the purpose of soliciting the good offices of the British Government in endeavoring to effect an amicable settlement of the Tonquin difficulty. The *Indépendant* of the 26th of June announces that an energetic protest against the idea of separating Tonquin from Cochinchina, intended to be sent to the members of the French Parliament, was lying for signature at the Hotel de l'Univers, Saigon, on that date. The *Indépendant* of the 30th says it learns from a purely private source that it is not the intention of the French Ministry to definitely separate Tonquin from Cochinchina.

THE practice of over-insuring ships, so as to make a gain of their loss, is not an iniquity of modern date. In the seventh volume of his "English Garner," Mr. Arber has just reprinted Robert Lyde's remarkable narrative, published in 1693, of his "retaking of a ship, called *The Friend's Adventure*, of Topsham, from the French, where one Englishman and a boy set upon seven Frenchmen, killed two of them, took the other five prisoners, and brought the ship and them safe to England." Lyde, naturally thinking that this exploit would be acceptable to his employers, upon bringing the ship home sent a man "to ride to Exeter with a letter to the owners of the ship. But they gave him but a French half-crown and a shilling for carrying the news to them—eleven miles; for they did not much regard the news, having insured £560 upon the ship, and two men since appraised her but at £170." They subsequently sent him to sea again; but, meeting with contrary winds, he put back into port, thus narrowly escaping capture by a French privateer. "My owners hearing thereof, and that I was in safety, were very angry with me, and huffed at me because I did not stay to be a prey to the enemy." Various legal proceedings ensued with reference to salvage, the result of which is thus tersely summed up by poor Lyde:—"And so I ended my law and the greatest part of my money together."

THE Peking correspondent of the *North China Daily News*, writing apparently about the 20th of June, says that frequent meetings of the Fo-

reign Office Ministers seem to be taking place—presumably on the Tonquin question. “The Chinese papers are being eagerly asked for. The value of a native press is now felt. The Peking or Court *Gazette* does not condescend to take notice of such trifling affairs. The impression prevailing here” (in Peking) “seems to be that war with France is inevitable.” The writer adds, that the Committee appointed to report on the Anti-opium Memorial to the Chinese Government has met and has resolved to proceed. No action, however, beyond receiving suggestions for such a report or memorial will be taken before the autumn. The single members of the Customs office staff have lately moved into their new and commodious premises close to the Inspectorate. The head-office of this important branch of revenue presents now an imposing appearance. The Inspector-General is in the centre, and the offices, dwelling-houses of the officials, gas-works, and stables are all round. It is quite certain that the arsenal works near Sanchia-tien are to be carried on effectively. In the Shen-chi-ying, in the city, all manner of foreign machinery is stored, and it was at the suggestion of Li Hung-chang, it is said, that the Seventh Prince is going ahead with these works, with the view of utilising the machinery in hand.

THE *Mainichi* and *Hochi Shimbun* both announce that His Excellency Inouye is happily and steadily convalescent. He is reported by the former journal to have returned one of Mr. Iwakura's visits on the 14th instant: the latter sheet says that he has greatly benefited by the course of sea-bathing that he is taking in pursuance of the advice of Mr. Ito. We read also that Mr. Iwakura Tomonori, grandson of the Minister has been promoted to *Kwasoku* rank.

AN Indian paper contains the following:—A discovery of an extraordinary and very interesting description was recently made in connection with the cutting of the Twantay Canal, British Burmah, in the labourers having hit upon a subterranean wreck of a vessel. Twantay is a station about twelve miles distant from Rangoon, and the canal is a navigation-cut undertaken for the purpose of facilitating communication between Rangoon and Bassein and other stations. The cutting was commenced in January, 1882, and finished in March, 1883, all work being suspended during the monsoon months. The task was one attended with considerable difficulty in consequence of the country through which the canal passes being almost totally devoid of trees, and its water supply very poor. The canal is eight miles in length, and the engineer engaged in the operation was Mr. O. G. Smart, who was specially selected for the work on account of his known capabilities in managing and organising large bodies of workmen. The stem was the first part of the vessel struck; when this happened the Superintending Engineer suspended the original work in hand for a while and directed himself to having the whole wreck dug up. The vessel was found to be across the canal cutting, was eight feet

below the surface of the ground, and appeared to have sustained some damage previous to its having become a subterranean wreck. It measures one hundred and fifteen feet in length, and is supposed to have been of about two hundred and fifty tons burden. The stem has been deposited in the Phayre Museum, Rangoon. The vessel is presumed to be a Portuguese one of the 16th century. Seven sketches showing different views of the wreck have been sent to the *Graphic* and *Illustrated London News*.

THE accusations preferred against England's integrity in connection with her Egyptian policy would be humiliating if they were credible. Lying before us as we write is a letter from the Egyptian correspondent of an Italian journal, who draws a tolerably vivid picture of the motives underlying British conduct on the banks of the Nile. Speaking of the report that Lord Dufferin thinks Egypt ought to abandon the Soudan, Sennaar, Hordofan and Darfour, he says that the purpose of this act is purely selfish. Taking advantage of Egyptian helplessness, England proposes that the Khedive should surrender these splendid provinces, her design being to divert from Cairo the exportation of the valuable products of the Upper Nile, and turn them towards the Sonakins-Berbes railway, for the construction of which a British company is now seeking a concession. The writer then goes on to say that the foreign commerce of Egypt has fallen into a pitiable condition, owing to the impossibility of struggling against the industry of the English merchants who inundate the country with their goods, these entering free of duty while those of other nations have to pay a heavy import tax. The way this is managed is ingenious. Great Britain has obtained from the Khedive a remission of all import duties upon articles required for the use of her army or navy. All British merchants, therefore, engaged in the Egyptian trade, call themselves purveyors to the army or navy, and as all the Inspectors of Customs are Englishmen, it follows at once that British goods enter duty free. To this very trustworthy story the writer adds a rider, that the same, or pretty nearly the same, state of affairs exists in all the colonies where Great Britain has the preponderance. This is a subtle slanderer, but, fortunately for the reputation he seeks to overthrow, *dat deus immitti cornua curia bovi*.

THE London police recently found a woman known as “Maria, the flower-seller” lying dead on the floor of a common lodging house, in Brick Lane, Spitalfields, perfectly naked. At the inquest it was given in evidence that there were living in that one house at least fifty women, besides men and children, and that they were all looked after by one night-watchman, who was described as “a wretched looking object.” This attracted public attention once more to a subject which has been much considered during the past thirty years, the dwellings of the poor. Mr. George Howell,

writing under that title in the *Nineteenth Century* for June, gives a most disheartening account of the failure that has attended the working of the various Acts passed from time to time with the view of providing habitable habitations for the lower classes of the London population. The testimony of Dr. Farr, as well as the investigations conducted by Select Committees of the House of Commons and by charitable organizations, goes to show that in many of the districts described as sanitary, there are “narrow streets and courts down which no wind blows and upon which the sun seldom shines; in which the dwellings are tenanted, from cellar to garret, with a teeming mass of sickly, decrepit, diseased, and poverty-stricken humanity.” In nothing has Herbert Spencer's plea for the entire spontaneity of reform been better illustrated than in the story of this failure. It is now 33 years since he wrote as follows:—“The metropolitan Association for Improving the Dwellings of the Labouring Classes is doing all that is possible in the matter. It is endeavouring to show that, under judicious management, the building of salubrious habitations for the poor becomes a profitable employment of capital. If it shows this, it will do all that needs to be done; for capital will quickly flow into investments offering good returns. If it does not show this, then not all the Acts of Parliament that can be passed between now and doomsday will improve matters one jot.” As a matter of fact where Acts of Parliament have utterly failed, private effort has signally succeeded. Witness the case of the Peabody Trust, by means of which excellent accommodation, fulfilling all the requirements of cleanliness and comfort, is now provided for 14,604 persons in 7,829 rooms, and the returns all round show a net profit of 3½ to 3 per cent. on the capital expended—£970,500—the property being, in all cases, freehold.

Bad as things are in England, however, France appears to have a much more shocking record. There it has been officially ascertained that there are no less than two hundred thousand houses without the most rudimentary window! It is difficult to conceive anything more suggestive of filth and abomination. Yet in many cases these houses are better suited to their purpose than they would be if the sunshine and the air had free ingress. The intention is that it should be always night within. For the bedrooms are never unoccupied. No sooner do the night-lodgers leave than the day-lodgers enter. Thus, while a squad of masons are snoring, another squad of miserable night-birds wait to take their places; to creep into the warm lairs vacated by the *lassinaries*, as the first occupants are called. The Government, it would seem, has at length decided that such a state of affairs demands remedy. The windowless houses are to be pulled down or otherwise dealt with. So it was that officialdom set to work in London. Large spaces were cleared, the inhabitants ousted, their dwellings demolished, and there the matter ended. In a great number of instances “no steps whatever were taken towards providing

accommodation for the families displaced." It is to be hoped that the Municipality of Paris will succeed better.

CAREFUL enquiries disclose the agreeable fact that the rumours of cholera which on Monday reached us from Hongkong, were much exaggerated. It appears that by latest advices only one case had occurred there, and the Japanese local authorities have not yet recognised the necessity of adopting precautionary measures. We are, however, assured that everything is in train to institute medical inspection at a moment's notice, and that the state of affairs is watched with the utmost care. Most sincerely it is to be hoped that we shall escape this year without a visit from the terrible epidemic. At all events, we may fairly rely on the vigilance of those upon whom the most important duty of prevention devolves.

It is not pleasant to learn that insanity in the United Kingdom is increasing in a marked manner. In 1860 there were sixty-five thousand lunatics in Great Britain and Ireland, being at the rate of 2,326 per million inhabitants, while in 1880 there were a hundred and twelve thousand, being 3,217 per million inhabitants. Contrary to what is generally supposed, the proportion of insane persons among the working classes is much greater than among the middle and upper classes, the rates being 3,490 and 2,670 per million, respectively. Cases of hereditary insanity are 9 per cent. of the whole. England has a good record in this matter, the figures for other countries being, France 24, Germany 25, the United States 27 and Scotland 49 per cent. Spain and Italy, however, are much better off, and this is attributed to the fact that intermarriages between relations are much scarcer there than in England. The curiously high figure for Scotland is said to be due, in great part, to a habit of the Highland women doing field labour during pregnancy. It appears, too, that drink generally is not the cause of so much insanity as popular report says. Cheap and abundant wine is accompanied by comparative immunity from insanity and idiocy. It is where wine is discarded for stronger stimulants that a disordered intellect becomes common. This is proved by the case of France, where the consumption of spirits, owing to the introduction of absinthe, increased from 33 gallons per 100 persons in the decade 1841-50, to 52 gallons in the decade 1861-70, and the percentages of insane from drink during the same periods were 7.83 and 14.78 respectively.

It is worth Japan's while to observe that over-study produces 11 per cent. of the total insanity in the United States. "Even in ordinary boarding schools the number of boys that now wear glasses tells of extra brain pressure, and leads us to anticipate that the next generation of Englishmen will pay the penalty of the forcing system." We wonder whether the same cause has anything to do with the extraordinary love of glasses recently developed by Japan. At any

rate it may be confidently asserted that if the effects of excessive application are likely to produce such serious results in England, the danger is incalculably greater in the case of Japanese students, who, to a much more reckless expenditure of brain-fibre, add an almost total neglect of physical exercise and a comparative lack of generous diet.

The general increase of suicide is not less remarkable than that of insanity, though England is better off in this respect than other countries, as the following table will show* :—

| | YEARS AVERAGE | | RATIO TO MILLIONS | |
|----------------------|---------------|----------|-------------------|----------|
| | NUMBER. | | INHABITANTS. | |
| | 1851-60. | 1871-77. | 1851-60. | 1871-77. |
| England | 1,167 | 1,614 | 65 | 67 |
| France | 3,821 | 5,400 | 105 | 156 |
| Germany | 3,819 | 6,478 | 129 | 159 |
| Austria | 1,302 | 3,392 | 45 | 96 |
| Italy | 728 | 995 | 31 | 37 |
| Belgium | 189 | 380 | 46 | 71 |
| Sweden and Norway .. | 351 | 465 | 76 | 81 |

With regard to the causes of suicide, the French classification is generally accepted, namely :— 34 per cent. from insanity, 15 per cent. drink, 23 per cent. grief, and 28 per cent. various causes. Among miscellaneous causes is included "the loss of those religious feelings which contribute to the strength and endurance of the mind," and "this also helps to explain the gradual rise of the rate in France and Germany." "The wear and tear of town life" is also another powerful promoter of brain disease. Suicide is twice as common in cities as in the country, and commonest of all in Paris. These are the comparative figures per million inhabitants for the various capitals :—

| | | | |
|----------------|-----|----------------------|-----|
| Naples | 34 | St. Petersburg | 206 |
| Rome | 74 | Dresden | 129 |
| London | 87 | Brussels | 271 |
| Genoa | 135 | Vienna | 267 |
| New York | 141 | Copenhagen | 303 |
| Berlin | 170 | Stockholm | 354 |
| Florence | 186 | Paris | 403 |

Contrary to what one might expect, the period when suicides are most common is summer; spring comes next, while in autumn and winter the disease is least prevalent. It is the old story. The "chanting of the brooding bee" and the "green that wraps the grave," do not lose their charms even when the life we were given to enjoy them becomes intolerable.

THE *Jiyu Shimbu*, having stoutly resisted the imposition of an increased tax upon medicines and drugs, now informs us that since the tax has become a *fait accompli* several mercantile firms in Toyama, Yetchiu, have been obliged to discontinue their trade, and that two or three become bankrupt every day. What an exceedingly capricious business the sale of drugs must be in Japan. In Tokiyo we see a regiment of men and women engaged from month's end to month's end advertising some patent pills which must, by this time, be quite as celebrated in Japan as Holloway's boluses are in Europe, though their sale seems to be equally apocryphal. From the provinces, on the other hand, we hear of commercial prosperity wrecked on a tax which, after all, scarcely makes any appreciable difference in the price of these nostrums. Let us

* We take this table as well as our facts from Mr. M. G. Mulhall's essay in the last *Contemporary Review*.

hope that the tales of trouble and penury which reach us through the columns of the vernacular press are not more worthy of credence than the history of the Toyama apothecaries.

THE following statement, which we extract from *Bradstreet's Journal* of June 2nd, contains a new dilemma for bimetallicists :—

From the annual report of the British Mint it appears that no new gold coin was struck in London last year. The same is true of the year before, and yet the supply received from the Australian mints was not much beyond the average amount received in recent years. The relatively small supply of new gold coins received from the home mint is ascribed chiefly to diminished requirements of the internal trade of the country. Mr. Fremantle, the deputy master, gives some tables of the silver coin transactions of the mint which are not without interest. They show, among other things, that during 1882 there was so great a scarcity of silver coin that it was not possible to take back from the circulation anything like the usual proportion of worn-out coin. During last year there was a very large demand for new silver coin from the colonies. Not less than 4,400,375 were sent to them in 1882, the average amount between 1872 and 1882, inclusive, having been only £1,772,216 per annum. The demand came chiefly from the West Indies, and it has continued to be unusually large since the beginning of the present year. A distinct advance in the direction of simplicity and convenience has been made by the adoption of the decimal system of notation in transactions between the mint and the Bank of England. This system has long been in use in the branch mints at Sydney and Melbourne.

The chief prop and buttress of bimetallicism is a supposed insufficiency of gold. The large demands made upon it by the demonetization of silver have created, we are told, something very like a gold famine. Yet here we learn, on the evidence of the Master of the Royal Mint, that, so far from any deficiency being perceptible, the stock of sovereigns already coined does not even require the ordinary annual additions. The requirements of the internal trade of the country are not growing but diminishing. It will be interesting to hear how this somewhat troublesome fact is disposed of by the advocates of a double standard.

In the last number of the *Maru Maru Shimbu* are a skit and cartoon on the *mal-entendu* between France and China on the subject of Annam. A Chinese peddler is portrayed on a visit to a Zoological garden. A bear has seized him by the cue; a fox mumbles his hand; while some beast of feline race, leopard or lion, holds him by the foot. Apocryphal as the Japanese comic journals are, this legend is easy of interpretation, hardly requiring the explanation that the caricaturist vouchsafes :—"Help! Help!!" while a stern voice comforts him from the sky with the aphorism, "The weak is rent by the strong: the world is but a concourse of beasts: Look out for yourself!"

WE are now in possession of some further details with regard to the steamer *Scotia*, which we recently reported as having arrived at Nagasaki with the new telegraph cable to duplicate the Great Northern Telegraph Company's existing line between Nagasaki and Vladivostock. The cable on board, of which there are about 1,200 miles, was manufactured by the Telegraph Construction and Maintenance Company of London, to which the *Scotia* belongs, and is covered with an outer sheathing of homogeneous steel strand wire with a breaking strain of eight tons. The electricians and officers and crew of the

Scotia number all told 150, and the expedition is under the charge of Mr. London, of the Telegraph Construction and Maintenance Company, and the work of laying the cable will be commenced immediately, if, indeed, a start has not already been made. We wish complete success to the undertaking. In connection with the visit of the *Scotia* to these waters, it may be remarked that she has a deeper draught than any other steamer that has ever passed through the Suez canal. The *Scotia* is a twin-screw steamer of 2,931 tons register; length, 379 feet; beam, 47.8 feet; and depth of hold, 37.7 feet. Her horse-power is 550, nominal. She was built in Glasgow in 1862, and engined by Laird Brothers, of Birkenhead.

Writing under the novel sounding title of "the manufacture of public opinion," Mr. Blanchard Jerrold gives some strange and interesting facts with regard to the activity of political thought in England. He tells us that there are at present upwards of one hundred Houses of Commons flourishing in various part of the United Kingdom; that the majority of them are modelled on the House of Commons at Westminster; that they have their speakers, prime ministers, and chancellors of the exchequer, and that they "observe with solemnity the forms of the parent assembly; in some cases even to the robing of the dignitary who presides over the proceedings." The total number of members in these mock assemblies is 35,000; while "from a return of 59 Houses taken last year, it appears that in 26, having 11,051 members, the Conservatives were in power, and in 33, with 10,344 members, the Liberals were in power." Mr. Blanchard Jerrold says of these Houses:—"They are not composed exclusively of young men, nor of uneducated men. Clergymen, Justices of the peace, well-known political figures, persons of local influence, the richer local tradesmen, grave city merchants, are among the prominent amateur legislators, who go through the forms of parliamentary life, dispute questions of procedure, draw up bills, put questions, take and give up office, and, in short, carry out with the utmost gravity the duties and incur the responsibilities of a mimic parliamentary career."

L'Italie publishes a curious story which, it appears, would not have come to light but for some obstinate enquires preferred by Deputy Divichles in the Prussian Chamber. The scene is laid at Buchewald, a little place on the frontiers of Bohemia. The pastor of the village employed a peasant girl, fourteen years old, to look after his children, paying her two marks a month. It appears, however, that the child's sense of hunger was stronger than her moral principles, for finding herself in want of bread she stole sundry petty sums from the pastor's wife, amounting in all to ten marks. Subsequently she confessed her fault and the money was restored by her parents. There it was supposed the matter had terminated. Everybody was satisfied, except Justice, who, in the form of Baron de Rotenhan, district judge, made her

appearance upon the scene and summoned the girl and her parents to appear before him. They obeyed, and were informed that as the pastor declined to press the charge, the Baron had taken the case into his own hands. From the hall of judgment they were conducted to the Castle of Buchewald, where they found certain rustics of the neighbourhood assembled, one of them carrying a horse-whip. The girl was ordered to place herself across a chair and otherwise prepare herself: which done, the Baron, in a tone of command, cried "ten strokes." The parish messenger was the executioner, but as he hesitated to begin, the Baron, snatched the whip from him and delivered a violent cut by way of example, after which the flogging proceeded merrily. Efforts were subsequently made to hush up the affair, but it was gradually bruited abroad, questions were asked in the Chamber, an enquiry was ordered, and the Baron had to pay a fine of 110 marks. The Public Prosecutor wanted to have him imprisoned for eight months, but the Court decided that eleven marks per stroke plus the costs of the proceedings would meet the merits of the case.

We shall scarcely be wrong if we say that public opinion is not quite satisfied about the finding in H.B.M.'s Court for Japan in the case of the British ship *Cyprus*. The simplest version of the trial is that eight men swore one thing, six men and a woman swore another, and judgment was in favour of the seven. Moreover, if we eliminate two witnesses, the captain and the cook, it appears that the rest of the testimony for the winning side was neither very direct nor very convincing. The eight plaintiffs deposed on oath that on the voyage from Middlesboro' to Hongkong their food was bad, the beef stinking, the pork sour, and the water foul. One man said he was almost starved; another that after supper he felt as if he had had no supper at all; a third, that the beef and pork served out to him were "rotten and stinking," so that he had to throw his share overboard; a fourth that the tea and coffee made him sick; and a fifth, that although the meat was sometimes red and sometimes green, he had to eat it now and then, he was so hungry. This was all pitiable enough, and when we add to it the fact that the *Cyprus* took 162 days to reach Hongkong; that she had to spend 140 days in Hongkong to repair the damage incurred *en route*, and that she was 23 days between Hongkong and Yokohama, it is not difficult to comprehend what the crew may have suffered. For the defence, however, it was deposed that on the voyage out everybody had as much as he wanted, and that there was no difference between the provisions and water served out to the men and those used at the messes aft. There was, however, a very marked difference in the effects of the diet in the two cases, for while the diners in the cuddy looked sleek and well-nourished, the fore-castle hands were quite the reverse. There is, of course, much difficulty in arriving at the precise truth in a case of this sort. The balance of probability

is against a shipmaster starving his crew. Apart from the dictates of humanity, which indeed are not supposed to be very potent in the merchant service, the extreme unwisdom of such a policy makes it unlikely. Even commanders whose instincts and traditions betray them into needless exhibitions of brutality—kunkle-duster-and-marlin-spike disciplinarians—are generally considerate of their men's stomachs. They are so far consistent that they recognise the impotence of physical cruelty to wring work out of a starved victim. Still less, then, should suspicion of such a nature attach to the Captain of the *Cyprus*, whom report credits with a tendency to the very opposite methods. But life on board ship is in some respects a mystery. Of late years the public has been astonished by such extraordinary and hitherto unimagined revelations that no man is any longer rash enough to say, this thing cannot be or that is impossible. We can even imagine an accidental and coincident unanimity of chicane inducing eight men, Swedes, Finns, Frenchmen and Englishmen, to prefer a common complaint in almost identical terms against their fare. But the thing is not likely. It requires a stretch of credulity. Some collateral evidence was much to be desired, and none was forthcoming. It was clearly shown that while in Hongkong 27 lbs. of fresh meat came on board every day, of which 16 or 17 went to the fore-castle mess, being at the rate of about 1 lb. per man, a fair, though not by any means a liberal, allowance. The men swore that it was insufficient, and that some of them occasionally had no more than one to two mouthfuls. If this, were really so, the meat must have been exceptionally bad. On the whole, however, we cannot doubt that the Court was right in giving the 'Captain the benefit of the doubt. The trouble is that there should have been any doubt at all. It is not pleasant to think of these eight men going back to their ship possibly to scanty food and brutal treatment. They will not have much opportunity to complain when the *Cyprus* gets into "blue water." A seaman's life is hard enough already, without the deliberate addition of such contingencies. Reading the report of the proceedings in Her Majesty's Court, we cannot but regret that no enquiry was instituted into the condition of the provisions remaining on board the ship. The testimony thus obtained would have been well nigh conclusive. The Acting Judge attached much importance to the fact that the men made no complaint, properly so called, until their arrival in Hongkong. Their silence was certainly significant, in the abstract, but in the case of the *Cyprus*, something like moral helplessness seems to have been a characteristic of the crew. They paid a sort of blundering deference to the traditional impropriety of "making a noise on board ship" and it was only when they came to the port of discharge that they ventured to speak. Even then they do not appear to have originally contemplated preferring any claim. All they wanted was to get away from the *Cyprus*, and the reiteration of this simple desire had something almost plaintive about it.

The only redeeming feature of the affair is that they were thoroughly well represented. Their Counsel, Mr. Lowder, conducted the case with an amount of painstaking ability that did much credit to his philanthropy. All the more reason, however, is there to regret the abortive ending, which leaves in the public mind an uncomfortable doubt how far the law may be disposed to sacrifice its office of protector to its functions as a supporter of discipline.

A TELEGRAM has been received announcing that the British Government has agreed with M. de Lesseps for the construction of a second Suez Canal parallel with the one now in existence, England paying three millions sterling towards the cost. The action of Her Majesty's Ministers in this instance is in curious contrast with the opposition offered by the Palmerston Cabinet to the original scheme. The effect of a second canal will be to enable ships to pass the isthmus in from 24 to 30 hours. The limit of cost is placed at about eight millions sterling, so that five millions will remain to be subscribed by the general public. Doubtless the greater portion will be taken up in England.

Miss BIRD, travelling on unbeaten tracks, managed to make her journey very interesting. If, however, the novelty of her route had anything to do with the popularity she acquired for it, even better fortune is in store for her friend—we had almost said, her imitator—Miss Gordon-Cumming, who made the crematories of Japan an object of research. Her investigations have enabled her to contribute to the pages of the *Contemporary Review* for June a very practical dissertation upon the relative advantages and disadvantages of being eaten slowly by worms or consumed rapidly by fire. The room for discussion upon this point is gradually narrowing. The only sound argument of which the advocates of cremation have hitherto failed to deprive their adversaries is that burial *à la Européenne* provides a valuable fertilizer for the soil. Even about this contention, however, there is a logical difficulty. Dead people are not interred in vineyards and corn-fields, as they ought to be if there were any honest desire to recuperate the earth with the products of decomposition. So soon, on the other hand, as sentiment is imported into the controversy there are numerous and weighty reasons to be found on the side of old fashions. Many persons, for instance, may, and do, object to burning, on the ground that something of the sort is supposed to go on in the other world and that a practical anticipation of the threatened process is sacrilegious. Others, again, and they are not a few, conceive that the calcination of the bones offers an indefinite impediment to a successful resurrection. These good people decline to apply their analysis to the case of the martyrs, or else get over the stumbling block by claiming a subtle distinction between death by fire and fire after death. Many, too, there are in whose eyes the body is never truly inanimate. Even after the breath of life is gone out of the nostrils, the clay still remains heir to

all the associations and sympathies that grew up about it in its sentient days. Such persons think with Cicero, *supremus ille dies non nostri extinctionem sed commutationem offert loci*; and it seems to them a terrible thing to convert into a handful of white ashes the "fleshy tabernacle" in which the spirit, perhaps, has still an interest. Finally, there are those whose affections are outraged by the notion of cremation; who would strew flowers, rather than light flames, about the mortal remains of the departed.

Lay her ! the earth ;
And from her fair, unpolluted flesh,
May violets spring !

Who is so hard-headed and phlegmatic that he can refuse to respect these feelings? After all, we are only human. We cannot afford to substitute philosophy for memory; to be entirely practical in the presence of irremediable loss; to say with Eloise:—

O death, all eloquent ! You only prove
What dust we doat on, when 'tis man we love.

Even Miss Gordon-Cumming, completely as she professes to have divested herself of prejudice and sternly as she condemns our preference for "the horrid process of decomposition, whereby the innocent dead so often endanger the health and safety of the living," confesses to have felt "something like a shock" when she learned some details of the artificial fashions of treating the dead in the United States, and heard that "the frivolities of dress are never more carefully considered than in the solemn presence of Azrael." She does not perceive that it is a development of this very feeling about the "solemn presence of Azrael," and so forth, that renders cremation intolerable to half the world. That the general principles she advocates will meet with widespread support sooner or later, we cannot for a moment doubt. The pity is that when writing of Japan and holding up Japanese mortuary customs as examples worthy of imitation, she did not care to furnish herself with accurate information. She tells us, for example, that there are about half a dozen crematories scattered over the principal suburbs of Tokiyo, whereas, in reality, there are only two—one at Senji beyond Asakusa, and the other at Kirigaya beyond Meguro. Both are at about the same distance, five miles, from the centre of the city, *i.e.*, Nihonbashi. This, however, is a trifle. Where she is most misleading is in her assertion that people in Japan have "the option of disposing of their dead in such manner as each may prefer." This used to be the case, indeed, before the Restoration, but since 1879 cremation has been compulsory for all interments within the limits of the great cities. If people wish to carry anything more than the ashes of their dead to the grave, they must choose the latter in some of the suburban cemeteries far away from street life. Cremation is also compulsory in the case of persons dying of certain epidemic diseases, as, for example, cholera. This, it seems to us, is the true principle upon which such questions ought to be regulated. Let people dispose of their dead as they please so long as the public health is in no way

endangered by the process, but where there is any possibility of imperilling the safety of the living, let the purification of fire be necessarily employed.

THE COUNT OF CHAMBOZ and Duke of Bordeaux, head of the elder branch of the Bourbon family, whose death we chronicled in yesterday's telegrams, was born in Paris on September 29th, 1820, and died on the 2nd or 3rd instant. He was the son of the Duke de Berri (Prince Charles Ferdinand d'Artois) who was assassinated on the steps of the Paris Opera House in March, 1820, six months before the birth of his son. The Prince, really *jure divino* titular King of France, just deceased, had for mother the famous Duchess de Berri, Princess of the Two Sicilies. When only ten years of age, during the revolution of 1830, the "Child of miracle" was proclaimed King, by his cousin Charles the Tenth, who desired to abdicate in his favor, under the title of Henry V.; but was driven out of France by the revolutionary party. He then travelled in England and on the Continent. In 1843 he was a prominent figure in London, living in Belgrave Square, and receiving in kingly state the homage of his legitimist compatriots, Fitz-James, Berryer, and notably Chateaubriand, who brought from the Jordan the water in which the "King" was baptized. His subsequent story, in most respects melancholy like that of the rest of his family, "whose members forget nothing and learn nothing" is well known. He married in 1846 Princess Maria Theresa, eldest daughter of the Duke of Modena. After the disaster of Sedan, he issued from the Swiss frontier a proclamation to the French nation, dated October 9, 1870, promising to expel the foreigner from his territory, would his people rally round him to the true national government, having right as its foundation and honesty as its principle. In January, 1871, he addressed another proclamation, this time to the Sovereigns of Europe, protesting against the bombardment of Paris. He appears to have been principally responsible for the failure of fusion between his own House and the Orleanist Princes—an union which, if effected, might, and probably would have, made of France a constitutional monarchy. His devotion to Rome, his sombre character, his staunch adherence to the royalist principles which proved the downfall of royalty in France, were all against him and fatal to any chance of his restoration. As he himself said "his personality was nothing to him, his principle was everything." He has died childless, and the next legitimate aspirants to the throne of the Capets are the Orleanist Princes.

THE ironclad corvette *Ting Yuen* went on a trial trip at Stettin on the 5th ult., and something over 15 knots was got out of her. It is stated that some anxiety exists at the Chinese Legation in Berlin about getting the ship into Chinese waters. It has hitherto been understood that the vessel would be taken to China by German officers, and a crew of Chinese already partly assembled at Stettin for that purpose, supplemented by

some men of H.I.G.M.'s Navy coming out as reliefs for others on the China station. We now learn from a telegram dated Stettin, June 24th, that the German Government have refused to allow their nationals to go in the ship. The Chinese have been calculating on the possession of the *Ting Yuen* in view of possible contingencies, and they will doubtless experience much disappointment at the dilemma in which they now find themselves placed by the loss of the promised German assistance in navigation. Had she been a Japanese vessel, it is not too much to say that no European beyond the usual local pilot would have been required.

IN more than one place now in the Settlement tea is being "fired" by foreign firms in pans rotated by machinery. The public has had no opportunity of inspecting the devices employed; but there can be, *prima facie*, little doubt that the apparatus, besides saving labor, has an immense advantage in the point of cleanliness over the ordinary fashion of hand manipulation by sweaty "coolies," women, and children. However, the foreign consuming, principally American, public, has to decide the result between the two processes.

THE *Foochow Herald* regrets to learn that cholera is rife amongst the Chinese, and that a considerable number in the city have succumbed. Our contemporary adds:—"Considering the large amount of immature fruit at the present time being vended, the prevalence of the disease is hardly surprising. The recent high price of rice has probably induced the poorer classes to make fruit a substitute for their staple diet; but we hope that the reduced price of the latter may occasion the Chinese to abstain from indulging too freely in a commodity which, although temporarily quenching their thirst, jeopardises their lives."

A SERIOUS charge is preferred by the *Yiyu Shimbun* against the promoters of the emigration for unemployed *shiseku* of Fukuoka Ken to Yezo. The story is that, of yen 12,000 borrowed, the greater part has been appropriated by speculators, and that the persons intended to be benefited are in a starving condition in the northern island. So destitute indeed is said to be their state that subscriptions are asked for among their countrymen for their relief.

THE following vessels have passed Anger for Japan:—On the 18th June, the American ship *Wildwood* for Nagasaki; on the 20th, the American ship *Stillwater*, and on the 23rd, the British barque *Furness Abbey*, both for this port.

THE *Shanghai Courier* gives currency to a rumour which, it says, prevails amongst the Chinese to the effect that the Viceroy of the various provinces are to be changed, nearly all round. Li Hung-chang will resume his former post as Viceroy of Chili; the present Viceroy of Chili will be Viceroy of Kwang-tung and

Kwangsi; the present Viceroy of the Two Kwang Viceroy of Fohkien and Chekiang; the present Viceroy of the latter provinces Viceroy of Hupeh and Honan, *vice* the present Viceroy dismissed.

WE learn that Mr. Louis Wertheimer has been nominated by the Japanese Government to the post of Assistant Commissioner for Japan at the approaching Boston Exhibition. The selection is excellent. Mr. Wertheimer's long residence in Japan, his intimate knowledge of the Japanese language and his patient researches into Japanese art are qualities not often found in those upon whom the representation of Japanese interests in foreign countries devolves.

THE *Mainichi Shimbun* states that the health of His Excellency Iwakura, Third Minister of State, is daily improving; that on the 16th instant he conferred with several Privy Councillors and Senators, and that he afterwards entertained them at dinner. We fear that this story must be received with great reserve. His Excellency is by no means in a condition to engage in conferences or entertain his colleagues at dinner.

AN extra to the *Official Gazette* of yesterday announces that the resignation of H.E. Iwakura, the Second Minister of State, has been accepted by the Government, and that he will hereafter be called by the title of ex-Second Minister of State. We learn also that His Excellency's condition is very precarious, and that little hope of his recovery is entertained. He was visited yesterday by His Majesty the Emperor in person.

TWO cases of cholera are reported from Takata, Yatsushiro, in Yamanashi Prefecture. It is curious how many rumours of this nature appear in the columns of the vernacular press. Either the epidemic has little tendency to spread, this season, or every case attended by anything resembling choleraic symptoms is recklessly set down as cholera.

THE 14th July *fête* was celebrated by a promenade concert and display of pyrotechnics in the charming grounds of the French Mountain. The services of the Kiododan band having been secured, a very pleasant evening was spent by guests of all nationalities.

IF the *Choya Shimbun* may be believed, a very useful precaution has been taken by the Customs Department, to wit, that certificates shall be furnished to lightermen of established good repute. Without such credentials no boatmen shall be allowed to enter the sheds of the Customs House.

ISOLATED cases of cholera are reported from various districts. One in Nihonbashi-Ku is said to have been almost instantaneously fatal. Another, in Idzu, was also mortal.

CURRENCY INFLATION.

A WELL known American financier once observed that the only way to accomplish the resumption of specie payments is to resume. Amid the mass of confused controversy stirred up by the condition of Japan's inconvertible currency, one's mind recurs to such an axiom with a sense of relief. If only Japan could proceed at once to resumption and put an end to all this doubt and disaster, what a benefit it would be to the nation at large, and what a comfort to those who are responsible for the country's solvency!

Meanwhile, of all that has been said and written on the subject, how much stands to-day beyond the reach of question or dispute? A month ago we should have answered, without hesitation:—the imperative necessity of restoring the convertibility of *Kinsatsu*. But even that simple creed is now assailed. We find a writer maintaining that what the country wants is, not a metallic currency, but more paper. Our correspondent "X." thinks that the notes at present in circulation are not sufficient to develop the industrial capabilities of the nation. He would double the bulk of the currency, and in order to get the additional paper into circulation, he suggests that it should be devoted to employing labour on extensive public works. It must be confessed that this theory has many plausible aspects. Everybody admits that the country is impecunious, and that one of two steps only is possible,—reduction of expenditure or increase of income. The former does not appear feasible. In fact a nation cannot always choose how much or how little it will spend. A thousand uncontrollable circumstances may force its hand, as is the case with Japan at present. To secure herself against possibly fatal disaster from without, she has to make some temporary sacrifice—has to impose heavier burdens on her people at a time when their strength is already taxed severely. Her natural course, then, is to develop her sources of revenue, and beyond doubt the first step in that direction must be the improvement of facilities of transport. If more *Kinsatsu* are to be issued, surely they could not be issued for a more legitimate purpose than the construction of roads and railways.

We find this plan advocated in one form or another on all sides. Thus a second writer, though holding views diametrically opposed to those of "X." in the matter of a return to hard money, sees a panacea in increased facilities of marine transport. He would encourage the export of rice by

permitting its carriage from closed ports in foreign bottoms. Of the two schemes that of "X." seems the more rational. He, at least, recognises that specie can never circulate side by side with depreciated paper. If one tradal channel brings the former into the country, another will carry it away again, unless exceptional measures are employed to keep it there. "As for waiting," says the *History of American Finance*, "for the balance of trade to turn and bring gold into a country which has a depreciated paper currency, one might as well take one's stand at the foot of a hill and wait for it to change into a declivity before climbing it." The balance of trade has not really turned in Japan's case. The excess of exports shown by trade returns during the past eighteen months, is the outcome, directly or indirectly, of the present Administration's financial programme—directly, because a large proportion of that excess was officially stimulated: indirectly, because here as elsewhere, currency restriction has impaired the nation's purchasing power. The Government, in short, is endeavouring to bring about what all its critics recommend; with this added advantage, that the silver thus procured is kept in the Treasury until the time when it can be trusted to remain in circulation. The doctrine advanced by "X." leaves these fundamental principles of economy unassailed. He does not contemplate such a phenomenon as the spontaneous replacement of paper by silver. In adopting measures to stimulate commerce, resumption of specie payments ought not, he thinks, to be an object. The best money for Japan, according to him, is the money she already possesses. She only wants some more of it.

HERBERT SPENCER, in his catalogue of gigantic popular delusions, gives a prominent place to the notion that monetary facilities can be increased by additional issues of inconvertible notes. The value of paper money depends chiefly upon its functions; or, in other words, upon the limitation of its quantity relatively to the demand for it. This is a truth which receives the endorsement of all economists. Our correspondent cites the experiences of the United States in support of his contrary doctrine. Let the report of the United States Monetary Commission of 1877 answer him:—

The aggregate of the money value which can exist in any country is limited and fixed automatically by its environments. It bears a sure relation, however indeterminate, to the population, wealth, and exchanges of such country, as modified by the character and habits of the people, their modes of transacting business, the rapidity with which their exchanges are effected, and many other considerations. • • • The aggregate of the money value can only be increased by an increase or diminution of the productive forces and wealth which it measures and which govern it. The increase or decrease of the number of the units of money can have no

effect upon the aggregate of the money value, but the number of such units simply determines the fractional part of the whole value belonging to each unit.

That the volume of *Kinsatsu* already in circulation exceeds the national requirements, or, to speak more accurately, exceeds the functions which the nation consents to impose upon them, is incontrovertibly proved by their depreciation. Yet "X." advocates the issue of 150 millions more. He refers American prosperity to an abundance of green-backs, which abundance he regards as a synonym for "cheap money." Here, however, he is at issue with the most prominent American financiers. Professor FRANCIS WALKER, writing on this very subject, in 1878, says:—

Let us hope that the losses and sufferings to which the people of the United States have been subjected during the past sixteen years will at last bring about some good result by enlightening the public mind as to the nature and the laws of money, and by firmly establishing certain principles at once of public faith and public policy from which no contemplation of present advantage nor even the stress of warlike exigency shall ever again be able to move the nation.

Professor FRANCIS BOWEN, writing in 1870, that is to say, writing in the very midst of the period to which "X." refers, says:—

During the last eight years, the United States have been trying experiments in the management of the currency. The trial has cost the country much; we have not yet recovered from its consequences, and probably it will yet be long before we shall cease to feel them.

Mr. G. M. WESTON, writing in 1882, says:—

I dedicate this book to you • • • in the hope that • • • you will be stimulated • • • to do your part in resisting the mischiefs of a fluctuating currency, which is the most insidious and wide-reaching evil afflicting mankind, and from which the United States have suffered more during this century than any other country.

Such unequivocal statements as these refuse to be reconciled with our correspondent's theory. We quote them in preference to any detailed exposition of the causes which underlie the effects they describe. Japan has already lost tens of millions by unsound finance, by dealing in an unsteady money, which is synonymous with a dishonest money. We do not pretend that there are any scientific objections to paper money. The objections to it are political, but as such, they are fatal in this country's case. The people have no securities whatsoever against over-issue. Never yet has any government successfully withstood the temptation. Least of all can the effort be expected of a bureaucratic and practically irresponsible Government. "The prudence and self-restraint of years count for nothing, or count for but little, against any new onset of popular passion, or in the face of a sudden exigency of the Government. A single weak, or reckless, administration, one day of commercial panic, a mere rumour of invasion, may hurl trade and production down the abyss. Not only does the danger of over-issue never cease to menace a community having such money in circulation, but the moment an over-issue in fact occurs, the impulse to

excess acquires violence by indulgence."* It is not necessary, we presume, to explain why over-issue and consequent fluctuations are fatal to national prosperity. "X." is evidently no stranger to their injurious influence. But he maintains that the volume of *Kinsatsu* in circulation may be doubled without danger of depreciation or fluctuation, provided only gambling on 'Change be stopped. Does he seriously believe that that is possible? The United States once tried the experiment. On the 17th of June, 1864, Congress passed a bill constituting it an offence punishable with fine or imprisonment to make any bargains relative to the purchase of gold except on terms of immediate delivery and cash payments. "The statute," as BOWEN well says, "merely added to the premium on gold the cost of insurance against the heavy penalty that might be incurred by speculating on its price; it raised this premium 33 per cent. in just five days. The oscillations then continuing more wildly than ever, the law had to be repealed in three weeks after its enactment." Our correspondent appears to think that gambling in *Kinsatsu* has been put down by the "strong hand" of the law. He is mistaken. The Authorities have taken no step towards that end beyond the imposition of a tax on Exchanges. How far that tax has proved prohibitive may be judged from the fact the Yokohama Stock Exchange declared a dividend of 50 per cent. on its shares for the half year ending June 30th, 1883. It is true that the Government, by refraining altogether from operations on 'Change, has immensely curtailed private opportunities for speculation. But gambling of this sort still goes on and will always go on so long as *Kinsatsu* remain inconvertible. We do not agree with "X." that this is the only cause of fluctuation, but there is no necessity to go beyond his theory. He attributes the fluctuations to gambling, and as the latter is still in operation, the former, on his own showing, must continue. As yet there has not been devised anything capable of steadying Japan's paper money except to render it convertible. Towards that end the Government is resolutely working, and we cannot see that any case for a change of programme has been established by our correspondent, or by those, and they are not a few, who think with him. If the MIKADO'S Ministers have any plain duty before them it is to rescue their country from an evil "the most insidious and wide-reaching" by which any nation can be afflicted—a dishonest currency.

* Walker.

FOREIGN INTERCOURSE.

WE have frequently drawn attention to the curious features of resemblance which exist between the present and past attitude of asession of the Japanese people towards their foreign visitors. Every student of Japanese recent history is familiar with the fact that foreign policy was the rock upon which the TOKUGAWA Government virtually split. To be quite correct, indeed, we should say that their conciliatory treatment of Westerns was the pretext, not the cause, of the fall of the Yedo Regents. The country was weary of feudalism and only waited for some plausible reason to effect its overthrow. Be this as it may, however, the fact remains that in those days the national sentiment was keenly impatient of foreign dictation. Men had learned, not without good cause, to be mistrustful of European adventurers who, coming in the guise of peaceful traders, stirred up religious and political feuds, and added largely to the difficulties of quiet government. It had become a sacred tradition that all such visitors were to be kept at arm's length, and when the TOKUGAWA Regents violated that tradition, they made the business of intrigue very easy to their enemies. Yet the latter, so soon as they found themselves face to face with the same conditions, yielded to the irresistible pressure from without, and became in their turn the advocates of liberal reforms such as the BAKUFU Government never, in its most progressive moods, ventured to contemplate. Then came that course of foreign travel wisely prescribed as an eye-salve for stubborn patriots who persisted in regarding everything beyond the Four Seas with the same old-fashioned spectacles; and then, too, came that headlong pursuit of novelties, that seemingly reckless adoption of foreign things and foreign thoughts, which, if it nearly brought the nation to the brink of financial ruin, forced the people to lay aside once and for all the prejudices to which they had so long been wedded, and to forget that the men who were leading them along these new routes were the same who on coming into power had pledged themselves to the very opposite policy. It was a bold programme, that which the Government of the Restoration pursued, and there is little likelihood that we shall ever learn the full extent of the obstacles its advocates encountered. This much, however, we do know, that for a long time the change of front which the reformers had shown remained a weak spot in their armour, not sufficiently weak,

perhaps, to invite independent attack, but always a dangerous supplement to other shortcomings. It was certainly in accordance with the duty, no less than conducive to the interests, of foreign Powers to prevent any conjuncture which by increasing this peril might lead the nation to feel that its dignity was sacrificed to its ease when the enemies of the TOKUGAWA Dynasty remodelled their policy on the lines of the men they had overthrown. How far that duty has been fulfilled and how far those interests have been consulted, may be learned from a recent article in the *Fiyu Shimbun*, entitled "Peaceful Times." The writer, after touching briefly on the social disturbances which necessarily accompanied the abolition of feudalism thirteen years ago, and noting the fact that this brief period has sufficed to efface from men's minds the memory of the days when the partisans of the MIKADO and SHOGUN stood face to face in the battlefield, and hundreds of political enthusiasts immolated themselves on the altar of reform, goes on to criticize the indolent fashions of the day and to compare them with the perfunctory and listless existence of the feudal government in its old age. He likens the people to a pleasure-party chaunting ditties in a leaking boat, or to men sleeping over a powder-magazine, and asks them whether they have not yet grown weary of the *Sat-chō* (Satsuma and Choshu) rule, and whether they find the accord between themselves and their Government diminishing daily or increasing. Of the effects of the paper currency on the national finances, the losses suffered by the agricultural classes, and the failures among the commercial, he draws a vivid picture, and then suddenly passes to another question, that of Japan's foreign relations. With what motives, he asks, was the Restoration effected, and on what grounds were the TOKUGAWA Regents overthrown? Was it not to restore the Imperial authority and to remodel the unpalatable foreign policy to which the country had been committed? But has this been accomplished? Have the present rulers of Japan recovered for her the rights infringed by foreign nations? It is now more than ten years since the time when the treaties should have been revised, yet the Western Powers are as far as ever from consenting to any revision in a sense favorable to Japan. Japanese authority is still powerless to reach the five Treaty Ports, and the nation still labours under the imputation of being incompetent to administer justice within its own borders. "If those in power," the *Fiyu Shimbun* continues, "have any earnest desire to attain the purpose for whose ac-

complishment they were entrusted with the government of the country thirteen years ago, they will shrink from no sacrifice calculated to remove this disgrace; otherwise they must know that the souls of the patriots who perished for that cause will not find repose."

This species of writing contains much to which the epithet "wild" is fairly applicable. The *Fiyu Shimbun* talks; it does not reflect. It is true that the treaties have not been revised, and it is true that extritoriality has not been abolished. It is also true that Japan may justly feel impatient at seeing herself forbidden to control her own tariff or to exercise complete jurisdiction over those residing within her borders. All her honest efforts to free herself from these disabilities deserve and receive sympathy, nor is it denied by those who take the trouble to think that, if she were strong enough to enforce her claims, they would have been fully respected long ago. But it is impossible to believe that the protests of the *Fiyu Shimbun* are dictated by a sincere desire to assist in procuring recognition of those claims. The obvious purpose of our Tokiyo contemporary's essay is to bring discredit on the Government; to persuade the people that to the apathy, not the helplessness, of their rulers must be ascribed these national disabilities. And here it is that we find the resemblance between the present and the past alluded to at the beginning of this article. Fifteen years ago the spirits of political intrigue and public reform were fused into one party of opposition to the TOKUGAWA Regents by the pretext that the latter's foreign policy was a national indignity. To-day the Radical party formulates its indictment against the Government in exactly similar terms, and on scarcely less plausible grounds. The leaders of the Restoration have not fulfilled their pledges, we are told. It is admitted that a liberal assent to foreign intercourse was inevitable, but in return for that assent the people are reminded that they have a right to claim equality of intercourse, and that by failing to assert that right their rulers have betrayed the trust reposed in them.

It is beside our present purpose to examine the justice or injustice of these charges. We merely desire to point out that, whether through our own fault or that of the Japanese, the conditions under which foreign intercourse is carried on in this country are still a source of danger to the public peace. The Government of the Restoration accepted foreign intercourse as a necessity, and ultimately succeeded in persuading the people that it was at once a

pleasant and profitable necessity. Suppose that Government—the *Sat-chō* combination of which the Radical journal speaks with such ill-disguised dislike—overthrown tomorrow and replaced by the party which, according to its own statement, receives the support of the English local press—what would be the policy of the new administration? Would it consent to extend the limited privileges we enjoy; to preserve a five per cent. basis for the tariff, and to leave the abuses, the injustices, and the glories of extraterritoriality exactly as they are? And if it did consent, would it not thereby arm sedition with a weapon far more trenchant than that wielded by the present Opposition? We find no satisfactory answers to these questions; nor can we persuade ourselves to believe that the discontent and mortification breathed as well in the manifestoes of the Radicals as in the protests of their political opponents, are entirely due to the intolerance and impatience of the Japanese people.

FRANCE AND CHINA.

IF any reliance can be placed on the version now made public of France's latest proposals, or rather declarations, to China, it is not difficult to understand that the official who was charged with the duty of making them known to LI HUNG-CHANG may have considered anything like courtesy or tact not only superfluous but inconsistent. That China should unconditionally surrender all title to suzerainty in Annam and consider the latter an independent country; that every Chinese soldier taken by the French in Annamite territory should be shot forthwith; that any movement of Chinese troops towards the Annamite frontier or the presence of any Chinese vessels of war in the waters of Tonquin, should be regarded as an act of war, and that, in such an event, China should be held responsible by France for all expenses which the latter might incur in the prosecution of the campaign—such are the terms said to have been put forward by M. TRICOU, who must have recognised that they could have only one of two objects, either to force China to fight or to put upon her a humiliation which would do more to weaken her position as a great nation than the heaviest disasters in the field. A country that fights for its rights and is beaten, may forfeit prestige but not respect: a country that surrenders its rights without venturing to defend them, forfeits both prestige and respect. To understand the cruelly harsh nature of this *ultimatum*, if such it be, one must remem-

ber that there are settled in Annam large numbers of Chinese subjects, generally estimated at about twenty thousand, and that there are serving in the ranks of the Annamite army many Chinese adventurers, whose motive in enrolling themselves under the banners of the TUDUC must be presumed to have been partially derived from a knowledge of the relations in which that monarch's Kingdom has stood for centuries to the Dragon Throne. However little capable of resisting any practical tension the links that join the two countries may appear to France, it is her plain duty not to snap them asunder without some show of deference, unless, indeed, the common rules of international courtesy have ceased to have any weight for her. It is true that those rules have generally been neglected in dealing with Oriental States. France can plead a multitude of precedents whose value varies directly with the morality of the nation adopting them. But it would be difficult to find a single example of a peacefully disposed Government formulating such demands as those which report puts into the mouth of the French Envoy. If China is to be openly shamed or driven to bay, then it may become France to fashion her conduct on whatever rough and arbitrary models she may find in the past, but it is difficult to imagine her so careless of the issue and of her own reputation as to desire either of these alternatives.

It would appear, indeed, that M. CHALEMEL LACOUR, who must be held responsible for the instructions given to M. TRICOU, though he cannot be justly blamed for the fashion of their observance, fails altogether to perceive, what the world has lately learned to recognise, that the Chinese empire is held together by the very absence of vitality in its members, and that direct contact with an European Power might awaken forces capable of defying the control of the Dragon Throne. Against such a contingency China is bound to struggle with a strength proportionate to her love of national life, and some respect is certainly due to the instinct underlying her resolve to preserve a neutral zone between herself and the new French province—for such Annam is plainly destined to become. Further, the accumulation of indignities to which she fancies that she has been subjected by half the nations of the West during recent years, is an unfortunate preface to such treatment as France is now meting out to her. The conference which ended so abortively at Shanghai was an occasion requiring a class of diplomacy very different from that suggested by M.

TRICOU's experience as well as by the nature of the demands he had to urge, and the best, if not the only, hope of a peaceful outcome seems to lie in LI HUNG-CHANG'S adroitness. The Grand Secretary took care, it would appear, that accurate information of every step in the negotiations should be telegraphed to the Marquis TSENG, in Paris, and so soon as the two statesmen, LI at Shanghai and TSENG at Paris, were able to be sure that they had a case strong enough to warrant an appeal to England's interest and England's sense of justice, the intervention of the Cabinet at St. James's was solicited. It is therefore permissible to trust that the event has been removed beyond the disturbing influence of local diplomacy and that France may ultimately be persuaded not wholly to exclude justice and courtesy from her new programme of colonial aggrandizement.

REPORT ON THE DRAFTS OF CRIMINAL CODES FOR THE EMPIRE OF JAPAN.

COMMUNICATION BY MR. DESJARDINS, &C.

The *Société de Législation Comparée* has received a *Draft of a Penal Code for the Empire of Japan*, presented to the Senate by the Minister of Justice in the eighth month of the tenth year of Meiji (August, 1877); and a *Draft of a Code of Criminal Procedure*, presented to the Senate by the Minister of Justice in the ninth month of the twelfth year of Meiji (September, 1879).

These two drafts are offered to us in the name of the Commission which has prepared them, and whose President, the Minister of Justice in Japan, belongs to our Society, as does another member, a French savant, Mr. G. Boissonade.

A great change will be accomplished in the Empire of Japan when the new Criminal Law is applied there. No legislation will approach more closely to our own than that which will then enter into operation: none was farther from it than that which will cease to exist there.

While the new Penal Code recognizes and protects absolute liberty of conscience, the ancient law proscribed Christianity, foreign creeds in general, and any reformation in Buddhism itself, and treated as a crime the practice, even in secret, of a forbidden religion. The state recognized many cults; but it behoved any one changing from one to another to be authorized to do so. This remarkable application of the system of previous authorization disappears before the new Public Law.

While some subjects of accusation are suppressed because there is no longer any reason for their survival, others are absent from the present draft (although the deeds which used to occasion them might recur) because the legislator appears to be inspired with the ideas which rule the private morals of Western Europe. It is less timorous than those which preceded it: and so it shows itself less implacable. The ancient Japanese law had infinite dread of the temptations to which women might be exposed by the feelings or complacency of servants. The servant

(1) Translated from the French of Mr. A. Desjardins, Professor to the Faculty of Law in Paris. (Extracted from the *Bulletin de la Société de Législation Comparée*: No. IV, April, 1880.) Tokio: Reprinted at the Imperial Printing Office, 1883.

who secretly pandered to the intrigues of his master's daughter was simply banished from the house; and if he gave her a love-letter he was deported; but he who allowed himself to be employed in a love intrigue by the wife of his master, or incited her to it: he who made that woman a declaration of love in writing, sought to seduce her, or, in order to attempt her honor, secreted himself in her chamber, was decapitated. In case he succeeded in seducing her, he was taken on horse-back to the execution ground, and his head was exposed on a stake. Other provisions showed the legislator as severe in repression as foreseeing in the detail of breaches of morality. In abandoning them, he bears witness to his confidence in the nation, and allows us to believe in a grand amelioration of private morals.

It was not only matters regarding the conduct of woman which occasioned so much severity towards servants. The law had constantly in view the security of masters. The pain of death, more or less surcharged with aggravations, was incurred both by those who killed them wilfully and those who wounded them, and even by those who threw a sword or a piece of wood at them. Special protection was extended even to the relatives of masters and former masters. This was nothing but the application of a general idea, the respect due to certain social superiorities, created as much by the political institutions of the country as by the relations of ordinary life. We will only cite one example, to wit, the formal precept that any one who killed the proprietor of his house should be decapitated.

Another feature of the law which is about to be replaced appears to be great concern for detail. It is probable that the new law is much more simple, because each one of its provisions is drafted in terms much more general. Nothing appears more to tend to limit the power of a Judge than a law which dictates to him beforehand the decision to give in each particular case. But, on the other hand, he had sometimes a singular discretion allowed him. The penalty varied in certain cases according as the author or the victim was a bad person (*méchante*) or not.

The ancient Japanese law contained many rules which had for their object to insure, by means of penal sanctions, the conduct of the public services, especially the administration of justice and the execution of sentences. It was feared, not only that functionaries might commit infractions themselves, but further that they might protect persons who did so, or cause the traces to disappear. It was also dreaded that indifference or fear might prevent the people from aiding the authorities in their search for crimes and criminals. A police agent who retained money, jewels, or other objects found by him in his diurnal or nocturnal round, was tied on horseback, thus carried to the place of execution, and beheaded. If his find was of small value he incurred only the scourge or the brand. He who found, when on a beat submitted to his surveillance, exposed infants or sick persons unable to continue their journey, and took them into another beat, was beheaded. He who played a game of chance in his room or in the guard-house was transported to an island. Confinement (*les arrêts*), censure, and fine, awaited the mayors, heads of districts, and even bonzes, who lent themselves to conceal, or did not endeavor to verify, an assassination, the traces which it left, him who committed it. Any person concealing another against whom a warrant had been issued was liable to decapitation.

The system of penalties was not the same for people of the lower class and those of high condition. The pain of death was very frequently

pronounced. On the former it was inflicted in many different fashions: decapitation by the sword, crucifixion, the stake, beheading by the saw; and each one of these penalties might receive aggravations destined to render it more infamous: for instance some culprits were taken to their doom in their shirts, tied on horseback wearing a placard which proclaimed their crime and name: their heads were exposed: their bodies cut to pieces. There were horrible details in these various executions. As for Japanese of distinction, they opened their bodies or had their heads cut off: this latter was the graver penalty. Voluntary disembowelment, which no person condemned to ever shirked, sometimes took place in the temples of Buddha, among the priests and in the fashion of a ceremony. It is certain that penalties of this nature must have been very frequent, inasmuch as the art of opening one's body according to rule was taught, and every nobleman was bound to keep in his wardrobe the costume which he would wear on the day that he had to perform it. Further, it was not only a means of executing the fatal sentence: it was also the exercise of a privilege to anticipate judgment, avoiding infamy for oneself and one's descendants. A person might thus efface the gravest crime; and the sentiment of honor impelled the employment of the same means of expiating the most trifling fault. The legislator has only tried to render rarer the suicide that was honored by custom. We understand why its practice should be contemplated in the present draft. For the lowest classes were reserved the bamboo and manacles. Among the infamous penalties applicable to the women belonging to them a singular contrast is to be signalled. Side by side with seclusion in a convent was relegation to a place of ill fame. Deportation was common, but of most frequent employment in the case of persons of inferior condition. Imprisonment, on the other hand, was proper to the higher classes.

This information, borrowed from an article published in the *Echo du Japon* of October 23, 1876^a shows us what distance the Japanese had to cover in order to come to us and borrow the principles of a penal legislation.

The two drafts are of peculiar interest to Frenchmen. Our codes have served as a model for them; but the compilers have proposed to themselves to better the works that they imitate. In the legislation thus prepared for Japan we, too, may find the means of perfecting our own.

It was desirable to make between the two Codes a better division of matter. Thus, in the Penal Code are found the rules laid down on the subject of Crimes and Delicts committed in foreign countries as well as those which relate to the prescription of penalties. The order of each Code has been changed. It doubtless appeared little conformable to the exigencies of science and logic, and the compilers have sought to arrange the material in a more rational manner, following in that the criminalist rather than the legislator. The codification is more complete: it has been possible to bring into the body of the work some laws which, with us, have been passed subsequent to the Code, as for example those for the Press, Elections, and the sale of unwholesome food. The rules regarding judiciary organization and competence are included in the Code of Criminal Procedure. Provisions in which our experience has discovered gaps have been rendered more complete: those whose obscurity has caused controversy have been cleared up: the legislator formally recognizes some principles which our jurisprudence has gathered from tradition or painfully extracts from text-books, for example the maxim of *una via electa*. It is not the spirit of the legislation

(a) The article in the *Echo du Japon* is refuted in many points by Mr. E. Labbé, professor, in a work upon the Japanese drafts.

which is changed: it is to the method and arrangement that the compilers have principally devoted their efforts, which are often felicitous.

The Penal Code, like our own, is divided into four books: Book I., *General Provisions*; Book II., *Crimes and Delicts against the Commonwealth*; Book III., *Crimes and Delicts against private persons*; Book IV., *Contraventions*. The first Book unites the matters which form in the French Code the *Preliminary Provisions* and the *First Book or Penalties in Criminal and Correctional matter and their effects*. The arrangement of this book gives a good idea of the new work. After having treated of *The application of Penal Law in general* in Chapter I., and *Penalties in Chapter II.*, the authors occupy themselves successively with *the gradual Elevation and Diminution of Penalties* (Chap. III.); with *Causes which exclude or diminish Penalties* (Chap. IV.); with *Causes which aggravate Penalties* (Chap. V.); with *Concurrent Causes of aggravation and diminution of Penalties* (Chap. VI.); with *Several Concurrent Infractions committed by the same person* (Chap. VII.); with *Concurrence of several persons in the same Infraction* (Chap. VIII.); and, lastly, with *Unconsummated Infraction* (Chap. IX.). The compilers do not leave, in their subsequent books, any provision of a general character, just as they do not insert in the Code of Procedure any rule which has a properly penal character. While forming a systematic whole, they obtain a double result. Not only do they foresee, in the spirit of him who has to study or apply the law, all the uncertainty of the extent of such or such prescription, but they, further, put into their work more logic and harmony.

In Chapter I., *On the application of Penal Law in general*, we will remark Sections 5 and 6 of Article 5, which subordinate prosecution before Japanese tribunals of Crimes or Delicts committed abroad to these two conditions: "If the infraction has not been amnestied by the foreign Government: if prosecution is not already extinct by prescription according to the law of the foreign country." Article 6 applies a principle admitted in France, but contested by distinguished juriconsults, to wit, that the extradition of a subject cannot be accorded by his government. Article 7 submits to the Penal Law foreigners who commit infractions within Japanese territory, but a note informs us, that the notification which will promulgate the new Penal Code will have the following provision:—"The period at which the present Code shall be made applicable to foreigners will be decided later on by treaties and diplomatic conventions."

The general system of penalties, treated in Chapter II, also faithfully reproduces ours:—"The pain of death is carried out by hanging. Execution takes place within a prison, in the presence of persons designated by the general regulation for the execution of penalties." The same measure, it will be seen, is proposed simultaneously to the Parliament of France and the Senate of Japan. Differing from our legislation, the Draft admits temporary deportation, for from sixteen to twenty years (Art. 26). Reclusion, involving hard labor, is divided into *major* and *minor* (Art. 28): no other difference but that of time is here indicated. So of detention (Art. 29). After two years of major detention or one of minor detention convicts may be allowed to work out the balance of their sentences in an island set apart for deportation (Art. 30). There is not, any more than with us, any forced work for those condemned to deportation and detention. Article 31 distinguishes between two kinds of correctional imprisonment, namely, with compulsory work, and simple imprisonment. The draft provides a rule which is found in many

foreign legislations—the conversion of unpaid fines into imprisonment, which must only be simple imprisonment.

Among accessory penalties the draft does not discern, at least by name, civic degradation in purely correctional criminal matters—the interdiction of certain civic rights, civil and family. It simply employs the expression, *Privation of civic rights*. Article 39 indicates, under three heads, the incapacities that this privation implies: the list is even longer than that in our Article 34: the compilers retain incapacity to give testimony before justice, otherwise than as simple intelligence, and they add inability “to be a syndic, or administrator of goods in bankruptcy, of a society, corporation, or whatsoever other collective industry.” Perpetual privation of all the rights enumerated in Article 39 is attached to every criminal penalty (Art. 40). Sentence to correctional imprisonment involves, *per se*, disability to fulfil public functions and employments (Art. 41): all the other rights enumerated, except (? including) those of bearing, whether nobiliary or honorific titles or national decorations, are suspended during the term of imprisonment (Art. 42); and this suspension may be prolonged by the tribunals, “according to the nature and circumstances of the infraction,” in whole or in part, “during a time equal to the term of imprisonment, such as it is fixed by law.” One sees that, while the Draft provides civic degradation in all but its name, that which creates with ourselves the subject of interdiction from certain civic rights, civil and family, is very differently arranged.

The Draft provides, like our Code, for special confiscation, but with a two-fold difference. On the one hand Article 55 determines with precision three categories of objects which are subject to it:—“(1) manufactured goods, produced or possessed contrary to law, no matter to whom they belong: (2) the material which has served for the infraction: (3) objects directly obtained or acquired by means of the infraction, when, in these two last cases, the property belongs to the convict or when the owner cannot be found.” On the other hand, this is an imperative provision and not merely an implied one like that of our Article 11: the judges must pronounce special confiscation in virtue of this text whenever an object is found to belong to any one of the three categories; and it is only on the hypothesis of an object coming outside of them that a special text would be necessary. Solidarity is only pronounced for costs and civil sentences; and, further, the judges can suppress or restrict it in regard to one or several convicts or persons civilly responsible (Art. 59).

Preventive detention (term of imprisonment served previous to sentence) is allowed for all penalties privatory of liberty and temporary: “(1) Day for day or month for month in simple imprisonment: (2) for three quarters of its duration in imprisonment with toil: (3) for half its duration in temporary criminal penalties” (Art. 63).

One Section, forming Articles 65 to 67, is devoted to preparatory liberation; that institution which several European countries congratulate themselves upon having adopted, but is only availed of with ourselves in the case of young prisoners, and which penitentiary science commends as one of the fittest to enable the prisoner to get back into society without danger to himself or to it.

Article 68 enumerates ten methods of extinction of sentences. Article 70 lays down for prescription seven different terms, namely:—from thirty years for the pain of death to one year for detention (*arrêts*) and simple police fine.

In Chapter III., *On the Gradual Elevation and Diminution of Penalties*, the compilers give general rules for the calculation by which they shall be regulated every time when there is a question of increasing or reducing penalties. They content themselves with saying that such and such shall be augmented or diminished by one or several degrees, without for instance indicating the figure of the fine or the term of imprisonment which shall result from such augmentation or diminution.

In Chapter IV., *On Causes which exclude or diminish Penalties*, special note will be taken of that part which concerns the young. The compilers distinguish four periods: up to twelve years there can be no infraction, but the Court has power to order correctional imprisonment (*emprisonnement de garde*) up to sixteen years of age, as a maximum: from twelve to sixteen years of age the minor will be acquitted with the same proviso or condemned according as he has acted with or without discernment: from sixteen to twenty the ordinary penalty is reduced by one or two degrees: only after twenty years of age does complete responsibility begin (Arts. 91 and 93). The deaf and dumb are always exempt from penalty; the utmost that they can be subject to is a limited imprisonment for five years. (Art. 94). The spontaneous avowal of a prisoner who gives himself up, “before any trace or revelation has been produced against him,” is a valid excuse, and involves reduction of the penalty by one degree (Art. 96); and, in the case of Crimes and Delicts against property, voluntary restitution or reparation, with confession added, implies a fresh reduction, by two degrees if it is complete—by one when it is at least only half effected (Art. 97). Extenuating circumstances may be admitted in all cases: they may be combined with excuses as with aggravating circumstances, but the effect is limited to a reduction of penalty by one or two degrees (Arts. 99, 100).

Chapter V., *On causes which aggravate penalties*, opens with Receiving. The point of departure is the penalty. In the case of a criminal penalty, (1) a second crime carries the temporary penalty to the maximum, and augments by one quarter the criminal penalty already carried to the maximum by virtue of the fact itself; (2) a delict is punished by one degree. In the case of correctional imprisonment, the penalty incurred for a new delict is augmented by one degree (Arts. 101 and 102). Article 105 deals separately with the consequences of every new infraction committed during the period of the first penalty, a subject at present occupying the attention of the French legislator, *à propos* of crimes which have been committed in our penitentiaries.

According to Article III., if there be in the same affair general and special causes, whether of aggravation or extenuation, the special causes are first considered:—“If there exist, at one and the same time, causes of aggravation and causes of extenuation, a balance shall be taken as of one degree of aggravation against one degree of extenuation, first observing the similarity of causes, if that be possible.”

The Penal Code, in Chapter VII. of the first part, deals with *Several Concurrent Infractions committed by the same person*. Two systems are presented. The majority of the Commission proposes, for Crimes and Delicts, simply to impose the highest penalty, considering the longest the highest, imprisonment severer than fine, and on the principle that, in case of differences of maxima and minima, “sentence cannot descend below the lowest minimum and can attain the highest maximum” (Art. 112). According to the minority, distinction should be made: in certain cases only the

severest penalties should be pronounced; but, in others, there is room either for cumulation or augmentation of the severest penalty. Art. 114, equally subscribed to by both parties of the Commission, settles the hypothesis of successive prosecutions, so embarrassing to our jurisconsults:—“The smallest penalties are cancelled by fusion. If they are punishments privatory of liberty, the time which has been actually undergone is counted day by day with the severest penalty. In the case of fines which have been actually paid they are restored, or counted as part of the new fine if the latter is the higher of the two.”

Chapter VIII. defines co-authors (Sec. I.) and accomplices (Sec. II.). To the first are assimilated such as, “by gifts, promises, threats, abuse of authority, or whatever other culpable means, provoke or determine another to commit a crime or delict,” and such as provoke to crimes or delicts by word or writing when provocation has been followed by an act: in any case neither the first mentioned nor the others, when they take no part in the accomplishment, “are reckoned as forming plurality of authors, in cases where such involves an aggravation of the penalty” (Art. 120). When the author, “under the influence of provocation,” commits a crime or delict different from that which the provoker had in view, the latter only answers for the one he has instigated if it be the less grave, and for that which has been actually committed in the other case. The same distinction is applicable if the difference between the act provoked and the act accomplished bears upon the methods of execution (Art. 121). Among accomplices are included “those who, subsequently to the accomplishment of a crime or delict have aided the culprit in acts tending to insure its effects” (Arts. 122, 123), a provision which is would be criticized by the greater number of criminalists. Ordinary accomplices are punished with the penalty attaching to the infraction committed, but with reduction of degree. Whether there be question of co-authors or of accomplices, causes of aggravation are only deemed effective in regard to those who have known or foreseen them; and those which relate to the personal qualities of one person are only prejudicial to himself; but to him they are always prejudicial, barring a reduction of one degree, in the event of there being but one accomplice.

There is no general provision analogous to our Article 61. We must refer to the special portion to find (Art. 146) “punished as accomplices of crimes committed according to the preceding article those who, knowing the object and character of the said acts, may, voluntarily, before or after the fact, have provided the guilty with shelter for meeting or escape,” with absolute excuse in the case of near relations or connections.

The compilers, in Chapter IX. *On Unconsummated Infraction*, carefully establish a distinction between divers degrees, (1) resolution formed individually or collectively to commit an infraction, (2) and preliminary actions, which are not punished outside the cases provided for by law: (3) an “attempt at crime manifested by beginning of execution which has only been suspended by a circumstance independent of the will of the author is visited with the penalty of the same crime achieved, with the reduction of two or three degrees:” (4) any crime aborted by a circumstance independent of the will of the author is punished as the crime itself with a reduction of one or two degrees: (5) the evil-doer who voluntarily stops in the course of accomplishment, or who voluntarily fails after having achieved all the acts necessary to accomplishment, is punished only for the wrong actually inflicted: (6) a crime, impossible by reason of the nature of the act or the means employed, is

(3) Gallic, “libération Préparatoire,” answering apparently to the English “Ticket-of-leave” system.—*Franklin*.

not punished, "if the act and the means employed could only produce an injury less than that which the author proposed to himself, it is only punished to the extent of the wrong actually produced." Attempted delict and delict aborted are only punished in virtue of a formal text. Attempt at contravention and contravention aborted are never punished.

With Book II., *On Crimes or Delicts against the Commonwealth*, we enter upon the special portion of the Penal law. From the very first provision we find a dissidence between the two parties of the Commission. They agree on the principle that every Crime or Delict committed against the persons of the Emperor, the Empress, the Empress Mother, and the Prince Imperial, are to be punished as though they were committed by descendants against ancestors, but the minority proposes certain provisions whose object is to strengthen or to assure repression (Art. 131). A wise foresight suggested to the compilers, who are acquainted with the history of parliamentary countries, Article 137, punishing "with major detention those who, united in bands, and employing force against a Deliberative Assembly of political or administrative standing, or against a Juridical Body being part of Central or Departmental Power, have prevented it from uniting or deliberating, or constrained it to deliberate contrary to its will."

The compilers settle, in Articles 144 and 145, the question of crimes against Common Law involved with political crimes, by applying the penalties of Common Law. The pain of death is, as with ourselves, suppressed in purely political matters.

The minority of the Commission proposes (Art. 154 *bis*, Chap. 3 *bis*) provisions relative to Crimes and Delicts against the Law of Nations. Chapter 3 *bis* contains two Sections—one treating of *Piracy*, the other of *Trade in Slaves and the Sale of Free Men*.

Chapter VI., *On Crimes and Delicts against the Public Health*, contains a Section against which we have nought to say, *On the Commerce in and use of Opium*. To give an idea of the dread that opium inspires in Japan, we will only quote Article 268:—"Whosoever may have manufactured, imported, or exposed for sale opium intended for smoking, shall be condemned to Penal Servitude for Life."

On the other hand, we find traces of our own legislation in Chapter VII., *On Delicts against Public Morals and the Respect due to Cults*, and in Chapter VIII., *On Delicts against Freedom of Trade and Industrial or Agricultural Labor*. It is not only jurisconsults: it is economists who have drafted this latter Chapter. These Chapters comprise the provision, that our Penal Code classes in its Book III., *On Crimes and Delicts against Private Persons*:—for instance those which concern unauthorized lotteries and obstacles thrown in the way of free purchase at auctions.

Section II. of Chapter XI., entitled *On Crimes and Delicts of Functionaries against the Person*, is remarkable for the respect it testifies for individual liberty, security, and dignity. Let us quote only Article 316, according to which "any Judge, Officer of the Public Ministry or Police, who may use, or cause to be used, upon a suspected person, violence or ill treatment in order to extort from him avowals or declarations, shall be punished by imprisonment with labor for from six months to three years, and with a fine of from twenty to one hundred *yen*, without prejudice to severer penalties, if occasion requires, for wilful blows or lesions." Rights are protected as carefully as persons, as proved in Article 318, which punishes refusal and delay to decide, on the part of any Judges, civil or administrative, criminal or military.

Book III., *On Crimes and Delicts against Private Individuals*, contains incriminations almost all of which are borrowed from our legislation, but notice has been taken of the criticisms which have been passed upon this latter. For example, Waylaying, useless to say accompanied by premeditation, because it implies that necessarily, disappears in the definition of Assassination (Art. 327). Poisoning is no more than wilful homicide resulting from the administration of substances of a deadly nature (Art. 329). "Certain gaps are filled up, or certain additions are made." Murder is still qualified as *Assassination*, even in the absence of premeditation, "when it has been preceded or accompanied by mutilation, physical torture, or other acts of barbarity" (Art. 328). Counsel maliciously given to commit an act which causes death is punished, according to circumstances, as assassination, poisoning, or murder (Art. 332); and that which entails lesions and bodily and mental infirmities is punished as would be such lesions wilfully inflicted (Art. 342). The case in which, desiring to kill or wound some one person, a person kills or wounds another, is specially provided for: the crime is treated as wilful (Arts. 333 and 339).

Legal excuses and causes of justification (same Chapter, Sec. III.) are the same as with us. Excuse resulting from provocation is formally refused "to him who, by his own fault, has exposed himself to provocation" (Arts. 343 and 342). The generous notion which sees a cause of excuse "in the transports of anger caused by blows or grave injury inflicted upon another in the presence of the accused" is endorsed by Article 344. Excuse is allowed to both parties when it is not possible to determine who has been the provoking party (Art. 345). It is extended in a case wherein "murder or violence has been the sole means either to prevent a robbery without violence from the person or to recover immediately the objects stolen" (Art. 349).

Article 352, while reducing legitimate defence to an extenuating excuse when the measure has been exceeded, in admitting none but this excuse when the injury has been inflicted after the danger has disappeared, gives legislative sanction to decisions which with us are only furnished by maxims or jurisprudence.

The very force of circumstances did not allow the compilers to leave homicide by imprudence unpunished; but Article 353, which foresees it, is not easy of reconciliation with Article 89, according to which, "there is no infraction so long as the accused had no intention to commit it or to do harm in committing it, except in cases wherein the Law punishes simple disregard of its provisions and its rules." Not always can general principles be propounded without danger. The same remark might be made, for instance, *à propos* of Article 369, assimilating to homicide and wounds inflicted through imprudence any threat made in jest resulting in mental disease or death, Articles 454 and 400,—*à propos* also of the first of which punishes incendiarism, the second, inundation, caused not only by disregard of the regulations but by imprudence.

Complicity in suicide is the subject of a special Section (Art. 356 to 358).

Complaint of the injured party is necessary for the exercise of Public Action in case of threats (Art. 367), abduction, or kidnapping children or minors (Art. 383), offences to modesty with or without violence, and rape (Art. 390).

The gravity of the penalty, in case of threats, varies with the injury produced upon the physical or moral health of the person to whom the menaces have been addressed (Art. 368).

Another Section represses, together with the

abandonment of children, that of the aged, the sick, and the infirm (Arts. 374 to 379).

In Section XI., *On Crimes and Delicts against Good Morals*, actions contrary to modesty are divided into two classes, according as the victim is more or less than twelve years old (Art. 386). In Article 389, it is the minority of the Commission that proposes to admit the aggravating circumstances allowed in our Article 333: it is permissible to ask how dissidence could occur on this point. Article 392 (2) "punishes as a co-author him who by gifts, promises, threats or otherwise, has procured constitutive agency—"incited to debauch."

In Section XII., *On Crimes and Delicts against the reputation of others*, we will mention Article 395, which punishes a lying plaint or denunciation made in writing or verbally, Article 402, which guards the principle of professional secrecy, in making, of cases applicable, a more complete enumeration than that in our Article 378.

Chapter II. of Book II., *On Crimes and Delicts against Property*, deals with *clandestine thefts or those committed without violence* (Sec. I.), *open robbery, or such as is committed with violence* (Sec. II.); and expressly provides, in Section III., for punishment for *embezzlement of objects or treasure found*. Among the other Sections we must take note of Section VIII., *On Inundations*, and Section IX., *On collisions, and sunk or foundered vessels*, which shows the Japanese legislator completing the work of the French legislator.

The inspiration of Roman Law is not perhaps foreign to Article 412, aggravating the penalty in case of a robbery committed "during fire, inundation, shipwreck, tumult, or any other calamity."

Leaving on one side many points upon which we could indicate differences from our own legislation, we will conclude this study on the draft of the Penal Code, by signaling the arrangement of Contraventions in six classes (Book IV.).

The draft of the Code of Criminal Procedure contains, first *General Provisions*, and then five Books:—Book I., *On the Organisation and Competence of Repressive Tribunals*: Book II., *On Search after, Prosecution and Instruction of Infractions*: Book III., *On Judgment of Infractions*: Book IV., *On the Attributes of the Court of Cassation*: Book V., *On the Execution of Judgments, Rehabilitation and Pardon*.

In the *General Provisions* the rule that the criminal's status is civil, is not only laid down, but is explained with precision by Article 1:—"If the two actions are pending simultaneously, whether before the repressive jurisdiction or before two different jurisdictions, the civil suit cannot be decided before the criminal one, at the risk of the nullity of the two decisions if, a civil sentence having the precedence, a penal condemnation follows."

Among the methods of extinction of prosecution, Article 8 (4) mentions "the abolition of penalty inflicted in virtue of a law passed after an infraction." Does this paragraph mean that the infraction will thereafter remain unpunished, even in case the new law should substitute another penalty for the one that it abolishes? The authors most probably supposed that an infraction ceases to be punishable in virtue of a new law; but this time they have not expressed themselves with sufficient clearness.

Prescription of procedure is confined to six months when it is question of contravention (Art. 40). If, in principle, civil action is prescribed within the same delay as criminal action, it falls, under the application of Civil Law when that has occasioned a judgment (Art. 11), and generally, "notwithstanding the pre-

scription of criminal action, and so long as the term of ordinary civil prescription has not expired, the aggrieved party preserves the right of action for damages and for restitution, conformably to the rules of Civil Law, but without power to attribute to the alleged fault the character of an infraction." (Art. 12). Article 13 expressly includes in the term the day on which the act was committed. Articles 14 to 16 regulate in detail the cases and bearings of the interval.

Damages are awarded the accused, not only "in case of nonsuit or acquittal," if there has been bad faith or grave fault on the part of the accuser, plaintiff, or prosecutor, but even in case of condemnation and acquittal "if the fault of the plaintiff or accuser has consisted in serious exaggeration of the acts incriminated (Art. 18).

Articles 21 to 23 contain general rules as to the manner of calculating such adjournments as are allowed by the Code: Articles 24 to 26, on the manner in which notices have to be given: Articles 27 and 28 on all documents drawn up by a public officer.

The first Book treats of the *Organization and Competence of Repressive Tribunals*. The rules which our legislators have laid down, in our codes and special laws, are here coordinated: it is in the *Common Provisions* and not by themselves in a category of infractions, as in our *Code of Criminal Instruction*, Article 227, that connexity, approximately as it were, is defined as it is with us.

Articles 41 to 44 deal with competence *ratione loci*: cognizance of an infraction is attributed to that one of the tribunals within whose circumscription the infraction has been committed; and the place of arrest is only taken into consideration. (1) if there is any uncertainty as to where the infraction was committed: (2) if the same infraction was perpetrated at the same time or successively within the range of many tribunals: (3) if many distinct infractions have been committed in different jurisdictions:—"In a case where several tribunals are competent, if there has been no reason for preliminary arrest, or if it could not be effected, the tribunal which first commenced instruction or procedure is alone competent" (Art. 44).

A privileged Court is provided for Justices of the Peace, Judges, officers of the Public Ministries, and Secretaries. The derogations from the ordinary rules of procedure which this renders necessary are laid down in Articles 49 to 54.

Articles 56 to 60 deal with competence. The rules are the same as those we follow; but they are here expounded in such a manner as to form a separate theory, to understand which is easy, and whose application is general.

As with us, the Justice of the Peace discharges the functions of simple Police Magistrate; but the Deputies (*suppléants*) of a Justice of the Peace may sit on the bench with a consultative voice [Art. 62 (2)]. In case of a Commissioner of Police being prevented from attending, the functions of the Public Prosecutor will be fulfilled by his Deputy, if there be one, or failing that by a Deputy of the Justice of the Peace [Art. 63 (3)].

Correctional Tribunals are the subject of Chapter II., Article 66 (2) charges them with preliminary instruction in case of Delicts and Crimes:—"The functions of the correctional Judge are conferred for one year, in each tribunal of *arrondissement*, on one or several titular Judges, by the President with the advice of the tribunal and Government Commissioner Assembled in Council. They cannot be conferred on the same Judge for two consecutive years, nor be given to the same Judge a third time before all the Judges of the Tribunal have

been called to discharge the said functions during one year at least." It is a rotation surrounded by guarantees; and the same system applies to the Court of Appeal sitting on correctional matters (Arts. 75 and 76). In the Correctional Tribunal, as in simple Police cases, the right to be present, with consultative voice, is given to Deputy Judges [Art. 69 (2)].

Enumeration of officers of judiciary police is found in Article 72. Some correspond with the Government Commissary. Such are the Prefect and the Vice-Prefect of Police in Tokiyo, Prefects and Vice-Prefects in the Departments: the second are Commissaries-General, Commissaries of Police, Sub-Prefects, Judges of the Peace, Mayors, in the districts where officers of one of the grades above described have not their residence (Art. 72). It is not a question here of the Judge of Instruction as in our Article 9. The officers who have just been named, if they have deputies, are replaced by them in case of hindrance. The right of conferring rogatory commissions and the necessity of filling them are defined with the greatest minuteness by Article 73. Lastly, Article 78 permits the Procurator-General to "make by himself or one of his substitutes, in the whole extent of the circumscription of the Court of Appeal, the acts of judiciary police and prosecution, which are attributed to the Government Commissary in the correctional Tribunals."

Criminal Tribunals are composed, like our Assize Courts, of a President, two Assessors, and Jurors to the number of ten only. The rules according to which the President and Assessors are designated remind one of the French system even in its complications, with modifications destined to give more safe-guards to the defence. The composition of the jury depends upon a double drawing by lot, the first giving a Session list, the second a judgment list (Arts. 86, 89 to 91, 454 to 460). But there is a special law for the jury which prescribes the mode of drawing up the annual list. The functions of the Public Minister "are filled by the Procurator General or a substitute designated by him. The Procurator General may also designate for these functions that prosecuting official who took part in the preliminary instruction. Failing special appointment, or in case of inability to act on the part of him who has been designated, the said functions shall be fulfilled by the Government Commissary in the civil tribunal where the session is held or by substitutes nominated by him."

Book I. closes with the organization of a High Court, doubly competent by reason of the quality of certain persons and the nature of certain affairs.

Book II. treats of the *Inquiry into, Prosecution and Instruction of Infractions*.

We will specially remark, in what concerns complaints and denunciations, the double competence of the Judge of Instruction and the Government Commissary. If they are preferred before the latter he may, in case of urgency, and if the deed appears to involve imprisonment or a graver penalty, preside at the first verifications and at the interrogation of the accused and witnesses, after which he will send the documents to the competent Judge of Instruction, with his advice in his requests, if there is occasion. The officers of the Judicial Police may also, in case of urgency, make the verifications and interrogatories, and must send the documents to the Government Commissary under whom they serve" (Art. 107). These provisions relate to the case of urgency, which is not provided for with us. What is borrowed from us is what is special to flagrant infractions (Art. 114 *et seq.*). The difficulties to which Article 106 of our Code of Criminal Instruction has given rise are removed

by Article 116 of the Japanese Code, thus conceived:—"Any Agent of the public force, any functionary having the right to command or require its services, or being in the exercise of his duty, who shall surprise a person in an act of crime or flagrant delict of a kind involving imprisonment or a graver penalty, must arrest the said person, or cause him to be arrested, without warrant or order for arrest."

The methodic spirit of the whole work is found in Article 123, in which the Government Commissary is shown the various actions that he may have to take when he has terminated his inquiries. The attributes of the Judge of Instruction are detailed with precision in Articles 29 *et seq.* The legislator takes care to describe to him explicitly his part and that of the Government Commissary, by fixing the cases in which they act separately or in concert.

One section (Arts. 133—155) is devoted to warrants. This is not a point in which the compilers of the Draft have made any concessions to the criticisms directed against our Code. We find our four warrants—to appear, to bring, hold, and to arrest; but the cases wherein they must be issued, the conditions to which they are subordinated, the effects which they produce, are determined in a more precise manner. For example, "after ten days from the execution of a *mandat de dépôt*, the Judge of Instruction must either change it into a *mandat d'arrêt* or set the accused provisionally at liberty with or without bail." Solitary confinement (for accused persons) is established. The conditions of its infliction are carefully explained in a special section (Arts. 156 to 159); the power of the Judge of Instruction is only limited by the necessity of making a report, giving his reasons to the President of the Tribunal in case of its renewal, and by that of interrogating the accused at least twice in each period of ten days after which such solitary confinement, if it is not renewed, expires.

In our Code of Criminal Instruction there are only scattered provisions for the proofs to be furnished before the different jurisdictions, rules of detail laid down in regard to divers categories of infractions; and one has often some difficulty to decide whether what is said of one category should be extended to another. The compilers of the Draft have thought fit to devote one Section to proofs generally (Arts. 163 *et seq.*): their system is that of conscience proofs (Art. 160).

They employ, generally, such methods of investigation as are in use with us, without enfeebling them, and sometimes even strengthening them, but leaving out all that is insidious and liable to abuse:—"The Government Commissary may always assist at the interrogation of the accused, and ask the Judge such questions as it may appear to himself advantageous to put" (Art. 164). "The Judge may urge the accused to avow his guilt, to designate his co-authors and accomplices, and to make any such other declaration as he may think is in accordance with the truth; but he must not, in order to obtain confessions, use either threats or intimidation, either illusory promises or false allegations" (Art. 165). The accused may obtain a copy of his statements.

The right of delegation is expressly extended to acts for which it is practised in fact, but contested in law, with ourselves. "In matters of small gravity, the Judge of Instruction may charge the Justice of the Peace, even within his circumscription, with visits to places and domiciliary investigations such as are above described" (Art. 183). Article 184 bestows on the Judge of Instruction in most ample terms the right of intercepting letters, despatches, etc., "addressed

(4) *Compassion, d'Amour, de Dépôt, et d'arrêt.*

to the accused or other persons concerned in the instruction, or forwarded by them."

A remarkable provision is that which limits the number of witnesses:—"If the number of persons designated to be summoned (before the Judge of Instruction) exceed five in correctional, and ten in criminal, matters, whether on the side of the prosecution or the defence, the Judge may confine himself to summoning, first, the five or ten persons who have been first indicated to him or whom he may deem to be the best informed, with discretion to summon, afterward, a greater number, if he thinks it necessary for the discovery of the truth" [Art. 185 (2)].

"If the witness refuses to take oath, he will be condemned, without appeal, to a fine of from five to twenty yen at the discretion of the Public Prosecutor" (Art. 196). Article 197 enumerates those who are not required to take oath; and Article 191 those who are not allowed to do so. Article 201 punishes a refusal to explain in the same way as failure to appear, with a reservation in favor of professional secrecy.

The matter of expert testimony is treated in a special paragraph. We observe that, according to Article 209 (2), "women and foreigners may be appointed experts."

Instruction of flagrant infractions (Art. 208 *et seq.*) is regulated on the same principle as with us; but if the Government Commissary is informed earlier than the Judge of Instruction, he may, after having informed the latter and without waiting for him, proceed in whole or in part with such proceedings as are in the function of that magistrate (Art. 220), the same rights only devolve, in a less degree, upon subordinate officers of the Judiciary Police (Arts. 222 and 223).

The Judge of Instruction may always order an accused person to be set, provisionally, at liberty, "with the understanding that he must comply with every order to appear during the course of the instruction and to receive judgment if necessary," subject to asking for the conclusions of the Government Commissary, and subject also to the protest of the latter, when the accused is under a warrant of arrest (Art. 230):—"Liberation may always be subordinate to a bail guaranteeing the appearance of the accused, the amount to be fixed by order of the Judge according such liberty." (Art. 232). We may remark here the exclusive employment of bail for the appearance of the accused (cf. Art. 234).

In Section VI. the Code treats of the *Closure of the Instruction*. After having determined the functions and obligations, both of the Judge of Instruction and the Government Commissary during the term of instruction, in such a way that the former retains all his independence, and the latter is never left ignorant of the process, the Draft indicates the five different orders that may be given, thus, order of incompetence, of *non lieu*, sending before a simple Police Court, sending before a Correctional Tribunal, and lastly, sending before the Criminal Court in state of accusation (the machinery of the Chamber of Accusation having been suppressed), the consequences of these orders, notably as regards individual liberty, and the question of contumacy.

Chapter IV. is devoted to *Methods of Relief from Acts of Instruction*. The draft takes notice, first of all, of a class of acts including, (1) decisions rejecting a declinatory or an exception of incompetence, (2) service of an order of *dépôt* or *d'arrêt* contrary to law, (3) grant or refusal of provisional freedom when the Judge has not complied with the forms and conditions prescribed by law on this subject, (4) any other decision which may constitute an abuse of power. Protest is open to the accused as well as to the Public Prosecutor (Art. 258).

It is the Tribunal which decides the point, in Council Chamber with three Judges at least (Art. 260), save an appeal which can only be received together with an appeal against the order for closing. A second class includes these Orders for Closing. They may be, in all cases, protested against by the Public Ministry (Art. 274), by the prosecutor in certain defined cases (Art. 275), and by the accused (Art. 276). Here also it is the province of the Council Chamber to decide. The orders of the Council Chamber, deciding on a protest, may themselves be appealed from in which case the higher Court has very extensive powers (Arts. 282, 287, *et seq.*). It will be seen that the accused is treated far more liberally in the Japanese Draft than by the French Code; and that the institution of the Council Chamber is invested with attributes whose object is to offer guarantees without fettering procedure.

Articles 261 to 263 treat of the exception of "conflicting jurisdiction" which may be taken by the Public Ministry, the accused, or the prosecutor, when two Judges of Instruction, or one Judge of Instruction and a Tribunal may simultaneously have taken up the same affair or kindred cases. The order of the Judge of Instruction can be protested against: the conflict may be stopped by the Council Chamber, when it has not been stayed by the Judge of Instruction himself; and it is only in case the exception has been carried to these two degrees that there is need to refer to the ruling of the Judges.

Articles 264 to 273 contain very perfect provisions anent the causes for challenge of Judges of Instruction, Clerks of Court, and all officers of Courts of first Instance or of Appeal deciding upon recourse against an act of instruction. The same system, with the modifications which may be necessary in procedure, is applicable to Jurisdictions of Judgment. Thus, one of the gaps in our own criminal legislation, forcing us to apply the provisions of the *Code of Civil Procedure*, is filled. As for the Government Commissary, he only can challenge himself: he cannot be challenged.

Book III. treats of *Judgment on Infractions*. Faithful in all respects to an excellent system, this Draft includes (in Articles 301 to 375) the provisions common to the three orders of jurisdiction. There are many more than with us.

In the very first Article in the Book, Article 301, we find a precaution taken against a species of arbitrariness:—"The roll of the cases to be heard, for each day of audience shall be arranged according to the order of their inscription in the registry of the Tribunal concerned.—Notwithstanding, the President of the Court may modify this order, whether of his own motion, to shorten preventive detentions, or on the demand of the parties, for weighty and justifiable causes."

The rights of the defence are recognized on the same principles as with us. The reservations which the violence of the accused in the famous trials of 1830 to 1835 forced the legislator to introduce, will be found reproduced in Article 305. The necessity of suspending the debates when the accused is unable to attend by illness and when he is in a condition of mental alienation, is here recognized by formal text, that of Article 306.

The attributes of the Presidents are nearly the same in all the jurisdictions. There is no discretionary power proper to a Court of Criminal Justice.

Acquittal is distinguished from "placing beyond prosecution" (*mise hors de poursuite*) which is pronounced in the following cases:—(1) if the deed incriminated is not punishable by the law; (2) if prescription from prosecution has been acquired; (3) if the infraction has

already been the subject of a judgment: (4) if the deed has been amnestied; (5) if the accused finds himself possessed of an absolutive excuse allowed by the law; but always provided that the exception has not been already rejected during the instruction by the Court of Cassation" (Art. 366).

Article 357, holding that "by the judgment which shall decide on a prosecution, the Tribunal shall decide at the same time on the civil suit brought by the party who feels himself aggrieved, and upon the suit in indemnity by the accused," makes no distinction according as the process terminates in condemnation, acquittal, or "placing beyond prosecution." It effaces that distinction in our law which reserves for the Court of Assizes the faculty of deciding upon damages in all cases.

Among other provisions favourable to the defence we will mention Article 363:—"The convict may be relieved from failure resultant upon the expiration of the adjournments fixed for his various remedies, if he proves that there has been for him or for his representative any hindrance resulting from *force majeure* or fortuitous circumstance, without fault on his part or that of his representative. In this case recourse must be formulated within the term of legal delay beginning with the removal of the hindrance, by reason of a petition stating the motives with proofs in support." The Public Minister has, it is true, the same right; but he will very rarely have to make use of it. The same spirit of liberal justice is apparent in Article 368, where it is said, without distinction between the jurisdictions, that, in case of contradictory sentences the President will apprise the condemned of the privilege which he enjoys to obtain, at his own expense, copy of or extract from the judgment, of such rights to appeal, or powers in cassation, as may belong to him; and of the period within which he can apply this remedy.

Many points of detail are foreseen by a legislator who has appeared late enough to profit by knowledge whereof experience has proved the importance, to appropriate whatever useful rules practice has spontaneously admitted, and to adopt and complete them. We cite Article 369, relating to the rectification of errors or omissions in minutes of judgments, and Articles 374 and following relating to the docket of cases kept by Clerks of Courts.

The Common Provisions are followed by three Chapters, containing Special Provisions for the three kinds of infractions. Each of these Chapters commences with an Article (376, 406, 431) wherein the legislator enumerates, with his habitual care, the various methods of settling competent jurisdiction: he does not wish his interpreters to be obliged to assemble scattered provisions, but presents a complete picture.

The method of interrogating the prisoner both before the Criminal Court [Art. 465 (11)] and the other two Tribunals (Art. 383 and 414) is prescribed. The only difference is in what concerns the effect of a confession. Before the two inferior jurisdictions, "if there has been full avowal on the part of the prisoner there will be no occasion for the production of other proofs except in case the prosecuting party requires it, or the Court orders it of its own accord" (Art. 384). If there is only an imperfect confession other proofs are produced (Art. 385). On the other hand "a confession, however full, by the accused does not absolve the Court" (criminal) "and the Jury from proceeding to the full investigation of the affair." [Art. 465 (3)].

The procedure which ought to be followed in cases of default by the accused in simple Correctional Police cases, offers some peculiarities worthy of remark. The processes-verbal or reports are read; but the witnesses for the pro-

secution are not heard unless the pursuing party desires it. The witnesses of the prosecutor are heard in support of his demand: the rebutting witnesses present are heard, if the Public Minister, the Prosecutor, or the parties civilly responsible, require it, or if the other side's witnesses have been heard. The Judge may also hear any witnesses of his own accord (Art. 389).

Right to appeal from a simple Police sentence is accorded not only to the prisoner condemned to *arrêts* (the mildest form of detention) but to the Public Ministry if the Court has not ordered the *arrêts* in conformity with its conclusions. In this case the right of the prosecution is strengthened by the Draft. Appeal is open, with us, "when fines, restitutions, and other civil reparations exceed the sum of five francs in addition to the costs" (Art. 172, *Code d'instr. crim.*). The Draft leaves the fines on one side and adopts another principle. "Appeal will be allowed on the part of the prosecutor, the prisoner, and the persons civilly responsible respectively, on the subject of damages, whenever the claim exceeds the scope of the civil competence of the Justice of the Peace in last resort." Lastly, appeal is receivable, "on the part of all the parties to the cause, for incompetence, abuse of power, and any violation of the penal law or of the form prescribed, on pain (if they do not succeed) of nullifying their interests" (Art. 396). An appeal, primarily limited to certain heads of judgment, may always, even at the hearing, be extended to others; and, on the other hand, the respondent can always formulate a counter appeal (Art. 401). Finally, Article 403, which Article 415 declares applicable in correctional matters, determines the effects of the appeal according to the principles followed by our legislation, although they are not expressed in our Code.

In Chapter III., *On sentence for Crimes*, we will remark Article 452, including the address that the President should make to teach Jurors their rights and their duties. It is a veritable treatise, very complete, on the matter; and the Draft takes the sage precaution of distributing printed exemplars among those who have heard it. True, it is only pronounced once, in the solemn audience where the Session list is definitely arranged. The Jurors take oath for the whole term of the Session at this sitting: they have to affix their seals to the written form of oath (Art. 453): here we have a detail peculiar to Japan.

We will mention Article 475, which deals with the summing up of the President, to whom it recommends the greatest impartiality: Article 484, holding that "in the matter of prescription, the jury will only be interrogated if there is doubt or dispute as to the period at which the crime was committed;" Article 486, determining the question, that may be asked as the result of the debates, independently of the questions relating to the indictment, as it is framed in the order or the warrant for sending: Article 508 which provides for the case in which the Court, after the verdict has been given, can send the Jury back to its Deliberative Chamber. According to Article 415, when the accused is declared not guilty, it is the Court which pronounces his acquittal. The Chapter terminates with rules of Procedure for contumacy. We will mention Article 523, a paragraph of which permits the Court "to recognize, in favor of the accused, legal excuses or the existence of extenuating circumstances."

Book IV. treats of *the Attributes of the Court of Cassation*; and the first Chapter, *Of Appeal in Cassation*. Article 533 enumerates the causes which may open the way to Cassation: they are fifteen in number; but Article 537 indicates the cases in which the different parties may avail themselves of one or other of them.

Further, an extraordinary appeal may be formed by the Procurator-General with the Court of Cassation either of his own accord or by order of the Minister of Justice "from judgments or orders carrying a condemnation not authorized by law, in regard to the facts recognized by the judgment, and which neither the person sentenced nor the Public Prosecutor with the Tribunal would have assailed within the prescribed delay" (Art. 540): against "judgments or orders, be they of acquittal, 'beyond the reach of prosecution;' or of lighter sentence than that which the law ordains, (1) if there has been corruption of Judges or Jurors; (2) if violence or grievous threats have been employed toward those persons; (3) if there have been false declarations in rebuttal, obtained by the same means, whether on the part of witnesses, experts, and interpreters, or of the public officers charged with the verifications;" on condition that "the accused has been condemned as author, instigator, or accomplice in the said acts of corruption, violence and threats" (Art. 541): finally when there is contrariety in the provisions of the same judgment or of two different judgments" (Art. 542). This appeal may be formulated at any period against decisions susceptible of protest or appeal, thus differing from the ordinary appeal. In the case foreseen by Article 540, the Court itself, after having annulled the decision, applies the law: this is not so in the cases foreseen by Article 541, except if the sentence passed is too light in view of the facts established. Article 543 regulates, with distinctions, the deduction of penalties privatory of liberty, already undergone on a sentence cancelled, from the new penalty inflicted.

Cases of the non-receivability of appeal are limitatively determined, and are the subject of special and expeditious procedure (Arts. 552 and 553).

We have seen that the Court of Cassation decides without return, at least in certain cases, upon extraordinary appeal of the Procurator General. It should act in the same manner when it breaks a decision for false application of the law to deeds of which the accused has been found guilty (Art. 561): when a Court of Assize, after the Jury has returned a verdict of "guilty," has wrongly admitted an exception against the lawfulness of the prosecution, and pronounced the acquittal of the accused; but if the same method of cassation is proposed against the decision of a Correctional or simple Police Tribunal, the Court will quash the sentence and send back the affair to another Tribunal of the same order (Art. 562). This idea of the Draft is clear, and commends itself without difficulty, whenever there is only question of applying the law: a sending back is then useless, the Court of Cassation pronounces. In simple and correctional Police cases, an exception accepted against the propriety of prosecution has prevented searching examination: the case must be sent elsewhere. In a Criminal Court the Jury has pronounced for guilt, the examination of the facts is complete: and the question of receivability is the only one to decide.

The decisions of the Court of Cassation have, from the first cassation, the force of *chose jugée* in points of law. "Further, the Tribunal to the Court to which a cause is sent back cannot, without being guilty of a denial of Justice, declare itself incompetent for the cause on which the Court of Cassation has decided, nor admit any exception against the receivability of a prosecution which may have been rejected by the said Court" (Art. 570).

Article 573 prohibits protest against the decrees of the Court of Cassation, but establishes certain guarantees to insure that the legal explanations

shall reach the unsuccessful petitioner. On the other hand civil petition is permitted (Art. 577).

A remarkable provision is that of Article 575:—"In all cases where cassation of a judgment or decree may occur, in virtue of Articles 532, 540, 541, and 542, if the Court recognizes that there has been grave fault or serious negligence on the part of one or several known members of the Tribunal or Court, it can pronounce against them, at the request of its Procurator General, by warning, reprimand, or censure, according to the gravity of the case, without prejudice to more serious penalties, if occasion requires in the case of Article 541.—The Court has the same right, when, adjournments or term of appeal having expired and cassation having become impossible, the Procurator General submits to it documents or judgments, smirched with the same vice." One sees that the Court of Cassation is invested with immense power over all the magistracy.

In Chapter II., *On Appeal in Revision*, we must signalize Article 582, which adds two cases to the three provided for by the French law: (1) If after a sentence for a Crime or Delict committed in a place and at a time determined it is afterwards proved by an authentic document, drafted at the same time and in another place, that the prisoner was present at the making of that document; and if, further, this place is so far from the site of the infraction that the prisoner could not in any probability have been the author of the said infraction: (2) if one or several of the Judges or Jurors who have taken part in the judgment have been condemned for corruption on the occasion of the affair in which sentence was passed, save the case in which such corruption may have been exercised by the prisoner himself. Let us congratulate ourselves that a similar provision did not appear necessary to the French legislator.

Finally, Book V. treats of *The Execution of Judgment, Rehabilitation and Pardon*. Although we have noticed in the scheme rather what differs from our legislation than what resembles it, we will signalize Article 628, which places penitentiary establishments under the control of the Minister of the Interior. Such is with ourselves the actual condition of matters; and, as is known, it has been briskly attacked of late years. Article 629 adopts legislatively our useful institution of a judiciary cash-box. On the other hand Article 625 is a proposal very proper to the Code. It confers right to petition for pardon or commutation of sentence on the Judges and Jurors who participated in the conviction, within three days, on the Government Commissary of the jurisdiction that condemned, and on the Governor of the penitentiary establishment where the penalty is being worked out, at any time. It also permits the Minister of Justice to recommend whenever he pleases, the prisoner for pardon to the Emperor; and it keeps perfect silence as to the convict himself.

REVIEW.*

The book before us forms the second part of the first volume of a *magnum opus* undertaken by Dr. A. J. C. Geerts, of the Imperial Japanese Laboratory, Yokohama. The first part was published in June, 1879. Dr. Geerts announces that the third and last portion of the first volume, dealing with what remains to be treated of in connection with minerals and inorganic substances, will be published with the least possible delay. Many circumstances, independent of the will of the author, have retarded the publication of the present instalment.

* *Les Produits de la Nature Japonaise et Chinoise, comprenant la dénomination, l'histoire et les applications aux arts, à l'industrie, à la médecine, etc., des substances qui dérivent des trois royaumes de la nature, et qui sont employées par les Japonais et les Chinois; par A. J. C. Geerts. Partie inorganique et minéralogique, contenant la description des minéraux et des substances qui dérivent du royaume minéral, avec Parties, Yokohama, L. Lévy et S. Salabelle.*

Doubtless, Dr. Geerts intends to issue an index with the whole work when completed. Meanwhile, we would suggest that the value of a compilation eminently technical, destined to be so comprehensive and useful as Dr. Geerts evidently proposes that his shall be, would be enhanced by the addition of an index with each number. Yet it is only fair to say that the arrangement of the contents is so well conceived, that the inconvenience entailed by the absence of such an aid to reference is reduced to a minimum. The typographical get-up of the book reflects much credit upon the publishers, Messrs. Lévy and Salabelle.

This instalment is devoted, in its first seventy pages, to the consideration of the lighter metals—Potassium, Sodium, Ammonium, Calcium, Barium and Strontium, Magnesium and Aluminium. The most esteemed of the salts of potassa is saltpetre, anciently known as the "Spirit of Ashes" commonly described here as *shioeki*, or "flux" for ore. It has several other more or less poetic appellations. In China a special license is required for its exploitation, the internal resources of the empire being insufficient for its needs. Hence large quantities are imported from Hindustan, Malacca, and Japan. In the last mentioned country, as in the neighboring empire, its use has been familiar for many centuries. It is produced spontaneously under the basements of houses, a fact which validates the recent theory of nitration propounded by Messrs. Schloesing and Muntz, who attribute an oxidizing power to organized and living beings. Japan has more than enough saltpetre for her own requirements, and is in a condition to export it in some quantities. Other salts of potassa obtained in this empire are the sulphate and carbonate—the latter being the ordinary potash of commerce, which might easily, the author thinks, be obtained in considerable quantities by the ordinary processes, and some minor salts, employed, like most other substances mentioned in this book, in the charlatany of the Chinese pharmacopoeia. Of the salts of sodium, the chloride (common salt) is, of course, the most regarded. It is principally prepared from sea water, and there are salt pans of large extent in Hiogo, Nagato, Higo, Tosa, and Yehime. In Oshiro, province of Iwashiro, is a mountain lake, strongly impregnated with salt, whence large supplies are derived. *Umi mo naku Ama naradaru shi'te Michinoku no Yamaga shiwo kumu Oshiro no sato.* "Though there is neither sea nor diver, there are mountaineers who gather salt in the hamlet of Oshiro." Glauber's salts, carbonate of soda, and many other mineral combinations of sodium, including borax, are extensively found in both countries, and enter largely into the prescriptions of old-style practitioners. Of calcium there are many local varieties, including the beautiful white marble of Yunnan, so largely employed—a fact which the author omits to mention—in the gorgeous but crumbling palaces in and around Peking. The districts of Japan in which marble is produced, with descriptions of the various kinds of stone, are carefully tabulated. We observe quaint illustrations of limestone quarries and lime-kilns as worked in Omi and Mino.

Under the general heading of Silicates is alumina, including Kaolin, one of the most important, both from a domestic and artistic point of view, of Japan's and China's natural productions. Doctor Geerts derives the name from Kau-ling, a mountain situated about sixty miles East of the famous porcelain factories of King-teh-chin, Kiangsi, China. It is remarkable, however, that the material extracted from this mountain is solid and hard and resembles rather a feldspathic formation than what we Europeans know as Kaolin or China clay. Analyses of a certain number of the different *pâtes* used in Japan in the manufacture of porcelain have proved that the principal constituent is not pure Kaolin or Kaolinite, but rather a combination of many feldspathic rocks, richer in silica than in kaolin. The Doctor here pertinently remarks that it would be more accurate to speak of rock or porcelain "stone" than porcelain "clay." Mr. Salvétat has shown clearly that feldspar quartz clays and rocks in China are mixed in proportions varying with the nature of the product; and he has also proved that the porcelain of China is more silicious than that of Sévres and Europe generally. So of Japan, whose *pâtes* and porcelains are, as a rule, rich in silica, and contain less alumina than do

those of Europe. Mr. Würtz has said that he discovered that, of eight samples of matter employed for porcelain in Arita only one had less than 74 per cent. of silica, and concluded that Japanese porcelain is, in no degree, made of what we understand by porcelain clay. This statement, Dr. Geerts thinks is a little exaggerated, because almost all the porcelain *pâtes* in Japan are a mixture of petro-silex (rock-stone or adinole in English) and Kaolin, in proportions varying according to the nature of the porcelain. From the analyses of Würtz, Atkinson, Berthier, and Salvétat, our author formulates the proposition that the Kaolins of Japan and China are somewhat richer in silica than those of France, the latter being nearly pure Kaolin. Yet in both of the eastern countries the best methods of purifying, by washing, their clays are familiar to potters. The finest particles held in suspension, after separation from the sediment by decantation, are employed in the best porcelains. Apart from its employment in the arts, Kaolin is (of course) a factor in the Chinese *medica medica*. Mixed with camphor it is presented by the faculty in cases of burns and for tooth powder, recipes which, if we mistake not, are not unfamiliar to the old wives of the West. Washed Kaolin is sold in China in the form of bricks. The Japanese article is made up in squares of some three decimeters (about one foot) in length by six decimeters (two feet) deep. The value of all the porcelains manufactured in Japan is estimated by the government at about \$3,000,000 annually. The various earths of China and Japan are carefully described principally, it seems, in view of their quaint application by medical charlatans. Thus, we have "the earth from below the threshold," which, steeped in warm wine, is good for ladies after child-birth; "earth from the yard" excellent in allaying bubonic swelling; "earth collected from old shoe-soles," infallible in the case of a traveller rendered sick by change of drinking water, and so on, absolutely *ad infinitum*.

Passing over other silicates, felspars, garnets, micas, and serpentines—we come to the section treating of precious stones, wherein is included, for obvious reasons, a serpentine which in Japan, and more especially in China, is deemed precious, the "Jade" to wit. This poetic stone is symbolic of the five virtues with their concomitant actions and attributes. It is benevolent, modest, valiant, just, and polite; (1) because it is as transparent as a cordial and beneficent person; (2) when it is uncut and unpolished it hides its beauty as a modest man conceals the goodness of his heart; (3) it will break rather than bend or humiliate itself, even as does the gallant and courageous man; (4) the pure and enduring sound which it gives out when it is struck resembles the wisdom of a well balanced soul. All the sages and poets of China have chanted its excellences and compared human virtues to them. Dr. Geertz enumerates fourteen classes of the stone, a category which, as he admits, is far from complete. The derivation of the European word, which has an unpleasant significance, apart from any context of the poetic and medicinal fame of the mineral, to an English ear, is ascribed to the Spanish word *hijada* (the reins), owing to the fact that the Mexicans of three or four centuries ago, believing in its therapeutic and preventive qualities, used to carry specimens of it slung as amulets round their loins. Here we find an almost identical superstition observed in very different latitudes by Cortes and Marco Polo. Oriental Jade, according to Dr. Geertz' comparison of several analyses, contains from 58 to 59 per cent. of silica: its other principal constituents being magnesia (22 to 27 per cent.), lime (about 12 per cent.), with alumina, some oxides, potash and water in comparatively small traces. The gem (for so, with its local value, it may justly be called) though largely esteemed is not apparently much found in Japan. Jadeite differs from jade in that it contains a large percentage (22 to 24) of alumina, and 12 per cent. of soda. In other words jadeite is a double silicate of alumina and soda, while jade is a double silicate of lime and magnesia.

Coral, although not a mineral properly so called, is included under the heading of "precious stones," because it is the gem, when cut and polished, *par excellence*, of Japanese ladies, and ranks in the *Hon so Ko moku* immediately next in order to

the jade. Coral is one of those seven precious Buddhist gems which together form the treasures of Paradise. Here, as usual, we find preparations of powdered coral largely prescribed in old style medicine, while, as was analogous in ancient Roman custom, the branches are a favorite amulet. The places of coral production in Japan are Sado Island, Tosa (the main producing district) Kii in Kamano, and, still nearer, Venoshima, where, as is fairly well known, the material is of very inferior quality. Other gems including crystals, are mentioned, with emeralds and sapphires, which latter, though much regarded, are not indigenous but imported. No mention is made of the diamond proper.

The remaining four hundred pages of our author's work on the products of these regions are devoted to a description of such heavy metals as Iron, Manganese, Chrome, Cobalt, Zinc, Tin, Lead, Antimony, and Copper, the longer descriptions being accorded, naturally, to Iron, Copper, and Lead. In treating of all these metals the author displays remarkable industry in his classifications, his studies and personal observations, and his arrangement of the work of his predecessors. He gives admirable descriptions of the various methods employed in mining operation, and lists of the localities where the metals are to be found, with some half dozen illustrations of processes of manipulation in smithies and foundries. Dr. Geertz' work is evidently encyclopedic in the scope of its author's intention. We trust that he will have the opportunity and leisure to bring it to a happy completion, adding an exhaustive and valuable series of references to the present meagre scientific or student's library on Japanese and Chinese productions.

CORRESPONDENCE.

(Our readers must distinctly understand that we are in no sense responsible for the sentiments or opinions of our Correspondents, for the accuracy of their assertions, or for the deductions they may choose to draw therefrom.)

THE CURRENCY QUESTION.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—The currency of Japan and the means and methods wherewith to remedy the existing evils which seem to environ the financial situation of the Empire, being a subject of the most vital importance, the *Japan Mail* is doing good service by opening its columns to an extended discussion of the matter. It is well that there is at least one newspaper in Japan that can afford to give to its readers the arguments of those with whom the editor may differ most essentially. The wealth of all the wisdom and experience in the world is not concentrated in the brain of any one individual, consequently there may be some good evolved in a free interchange of opinion on this momentous subject of currency needs and adjustments. In my letter, discussing the proposition of the native press to contract a foreign loan of \$50,000,000 in silver for the purpose of retiring the *Kinsatsu* money now in circulation, I had no thought of advocating a gold standard for Japan. Not at all. The suggestions in that regard were only in the way of badinage, intending that the inference should be seen by the reader, that the substitution of another fluctuating currency in the exchange markets of the world was not a complete panacea for the evil that was deplored in regard to the *Kinsatsu*. What I thought to make apparent was that there is no demand for the substitution of any other money for the *Kinsatsu*. Your correspondent, "T.W.," in your issue of the 14th seems to have fallen into the same error the *Mail* did, in attributing to me an advocacy of a gold standard. I must have written very obscurely to have failed in my intention of advocating the retention of the *Kinsatsu* as the currency of the people. The line of argument held by

"T. W.," if carried to its logical conclusion, runs on all fours with my conceptions of the needs of Japan as they are manifest to-day. I claim that *Kinsatsu* is the money that the Government should give the people, and that Japan has no more need of a silver currency than she has need for an absolutely gold standard and gold money. The argument is that silver, since it is ostracised as a legal tender money in Europe and thereby cheapened, is the currency for Japan, or, to quote "T. W.,"—"What I wish to impress upon your readers is that a currency of silver, or of notes convertible into silver, is just now the very best currency this country could have." The argument is all in favor of silver because it is cheap money,—and the argument is a good one. Silver, cheap as it is, cannot be utilized by the Government of Japan as a currency for its people and for its own disbursements in its domestic affairs for years to come without it is procured at a large cost. Fifty millions, added to the twenty millions in the coffers of the Government, if used to displace the volume of paper to the extent of seventy millions, would leave the country such a wreck of financial ruin that the present state of affairs would be prosperity in comparison. The *Kinsatsu* is just the currency for Japan to-day and for all time; let Silver and Gold take such place as the commercial needs of foreign merchants may demand for them—but for the general requirements of the 35,000,000 of population of the Empire the *Kinsatsu* is the most desirable, for the reason that it can be procured in quantities sufficient to develop the industries and energies of the mass of the people, while it is without the grane of possibility to procure sufficient coin money, even of silver, except at a cost so ruinous as to render it impracticable of consummation. The great demand, financially, is more money. The paltry sum that there is now in the channels of circulation is insufficient to lubricate the wheels of enterprise in any one direction. And when it is remembered that the appreciation of the *Kinsatsu* from an average of 165 to 127 has whelmed the land in woe, it is strange that it can be seriously advocated that a rapid appreciation from 127 to 100 shall take place. The majority of all people are of the debtor class, and when they are crowded to the wall, the fabric of financial and national prosperity is shaken from turret to foundation stone. The cheap money of the United States, ground out by Salmon P. Chase, from the money mill of the United States Treasury, was as potent in the grand problem of saving the Republic to freedom and humanity as if there had been stores of gold behind it. The green-back of the United States was fiat money, irredeemable upon its face,—so is the *Kinsatsu* of Japan. During the suspension of specie payment on the part of the United States Treasury, and when gold and silver coins were only seen in brokers windows as merchandise for sale, all the varied industries of the land were amazingly developed. The energies of the Government were taxed to the uttermost and the enterprise of the people was given full play; cheap money coursed through thousands of channels; the trade and manufactures of the land were opened up; cheap money gave an impetus to the development of great interests which were consummated and which, five years previously, had been declared impracticable because there was not money enough in the United States to prosecute them to a successful termination; cheap money gave to the world the Central Pacific and Union Pacific Railroads; cheap money saved the Union and left the regenerated

country the richest nation on the face of the earth. It is within the province of the *Kinsatsu* to elevate the condition of Japan to the level of the most prosperous nations of the earth, if the Government will only place enough of them among the people. While the Government of the United States was spending at the rate of three million of her green-backs daily she was piling up wealth for those who came after. I have in my pocket one of these green-back notes, which to-day is worth 10 per cent. premium in Japan over the silver dollars of the Empire, and I have seen this same kind of money worth only forty-five cents in silver. The history of the United States green-back note is better than all the theories any man can put forth. Facts are better than words at all times. Your correspondent, "T. W.," seems to be under the impression that Gold is the standard money of the United States to the exclusion of Silver. Under the Administration of President Hayes the remonetization of Silver was effected; and to-day the Green-back, Silver dollar and Gold, are legal tenders for any and all sums. The gloom and disaster that darken the present and casts their baneful shadows far into the future might be made to give way to the rosy tints of jubilant prosperity if the Government would promulgate the fact that, in the immediate future, it would inaugurate an expenditure of funds for the improvement of the country, in road building especially, that would give opportunity for labor to employ itself at remunerative wages. Three hundred millions of paper would not be an excessive volume of currency for Japan; with that amount the possibilities of the Empire would take shape, and the world would witness such an advance on the part of this people as the past twenty years have failed to demonstrate. A country not burthened with foreign debt or embroiled in war is independent of the world besides, and as the people have loyalty and faith toward the government, it can establish fiat money, for its own needs and purposes, that shall answer all the requirements of Gold or Silver. The *Kinsatsu*, bearing the broad seal of the Empire, should be as good for Japan as is the gold sovereign bearing the stamp of the Empress of India and Queen of Great Britain; or the double eagle of the United States bearing the impress of the Goddess of Liberty. Had gambling in *Kinsatsu* by the exchange boards of the country never been allowed, this question of a substitution of Silver in place thereof never would have had standing room. The strong hand of the Government should have throttled these institutions long ere it did. More currency, and no gambling in it, is the moto for the future.

Yokohama, June 14th, 1883.

YOKOHAMA JOURNALISM.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—There is a pebble occasionally found in Ceylon, and commonly called "Cat's Eye," which Dana classifies as mere ordinary Quartz holding some fibres of Asbestos so placed as to refract light and give to the stone a dim luminosity. It is so rare that it has some value among gems, and curious people have been known to pay high prices for fine specimens of it, though it possesses neither beauty nor brilliancy.

A similar kind of value attaches to an Editorial in the *Japan Herald*. Its light is by no means bright, but its rarity renders it interesting.

I was, then, with a sense of real refreshment that, faintly glimmering among the usual mass of clippings from old British or American newspapers (often uncredited), detailed accounts of the performances of our local cricketers, elaborate notices of sporting events in every quarter of the globe, extended reports of the arraignment of tipsy sailors before the patient Assistant Judge of Her Majesty's Consular Court, and other like "items," I found in this evening's paper a remarkable expression of the Editorial Wisdom on financial questions.

Some of us here in Yokohama, who feel that our affairs are touched at many points by the currency irregularities which now prevail in this country and abroad, and who desire to bring to our business an intelligent apprehension of the subtle and powerful influences thus affecting it, are simple enough to imagine that some careful occasional discussion of the subject in print may prove useful, not only to ourselves but to our neighbours.

It appears however, according to our local Solomon, that, in this notion, we are quite irrational. He assures us that his readers, at all events, care far more about the date when a coming steamer is likely to arrive (query, for betting purposes?) than about any such paltry matters as Finance or Currency, and that articles or communications on these subjects are not only not amusing but positively repulsive.

If the *Herald's* readers resemble its editor this opinion may be entirely just. For it is easy to believe that any one who can enjoy a daily dose of stale extracts, and cheerfully pay for the same at the rate of \$30 per annum (if in advance, but with 20 per cent. extra if in arrear) would no more re-lish matter of the kind in question than the good folk of Berlin did fresh oysters when their railway first brought them the mollusc in that unusual condition. But are the readers of the *Herald* only of this calibre? The editor ought to know. Yet I would fain think he does some of them an injustice in so classing them, and that, if he would deign to bend his Mentoric mind, or to open his costly columns, to something with more flavor than the pap he ordinarily administers, his paper would be more acceptable, and would give people in other countries, who may happen to read it, a better idea of the prevalent topics and tone of this community than it at present conveys. It is not, I think, quite generous of him to represent us all as wholly absorbed in "events" of the kind he most loves to chronicle, and quite indifferent to anything bigger. It strikes me that this is presuming rather heavily on the good-nature which sustains, in this poor place, one of the dearest, though one of the dreariest, journals in the world, mainly because it is "the oldest newspaper in Japan."—Your truly,

W.

July 19th, 1881.

[If those who have been kind enough to discuss in our columns the vital subject of Japanese currency, think it worth their while to notice criticism such as that which has evoked this letter, we, who have been indirectly the means of exposing them to impertinence, cannot in fairness decline to publish their remonstrances. We do so, however, with extreme reluctance and in violation of a rule which has forbidden the insertion of many similar communications.—Ed. J. M.]

HIS EXCELLENCY THE LATE IWA-KURA TOMOYOSHI.

We extract from the columns of the *Japan Mail* of August 10th, 1880, the following biographical notice of His Excellency Iwakura Tomoyoshi:—

The subject of this sketch is the son of Iwakura Tomoyoshi, and has ever enjoyed the reputation of being the possessor of great ability, in addition to his undoubted gifts as a most eloquent speaker. While yet a youth, Iwakura was appointed one of the chamberlains attached to be Emperor Komei Tenno, the father of the reigning Sovereign, an office which he fulfilled to the satisfaction of his superiors.

In the fifth year of Ansei (1858) Hotta, a member of the *Gorajin*, or Council of State, visited Kiyoto as a representative of the Shogunate Government, and requested permission from the Emperor to conclude treaties with Foreign Powers which would have the effect of throwing open the country to intercourse with the western strangers. Iwakura, who naturally shared in the detestation then felt by the Court party for the intruders, opposed the proposition with all his power, and eagerly accepted the suggestion, made by the Envoy, that the Imperial and Shogunate parties should unite their forces for the purpose of expelling foreigners. However, in consequence of the marriage of Her Imperial Highness, the Princess Kazumiya (younger sister of Komei Tenno) with the reigning Shogun, Tokugawa Iyemachi, in 1861, the design came to nothing, and the principal movers were banished from the Court. In token of his regret for the part he had taken, Iwakura, when in exile, shaved his head and remained in strict seclusion at his residence at Iwakura Mura.

At this time His Excellency was generally looked upon as a supporter of the Bakufu Government and therefore avoided by the adherents of the Court party. Notwithstanding this, several influential persons knew the real aims of Iwakura, and formed a means of communication between him and Saigo Takamori, Okubo, Kido, and other prominent leaders of the southern confederacy to restore the lustre of the Imperial throne by the overthrow of the Shogunate. This connection of Iwakura with the Court party was altogether unknown to the Bakufu officials, and it was therefore a general surprise when, on the Restoration being accomplished, he was openly recognised as one of the chief leaders of the movement. Imperial gratitude recalled His Excellency to Court, where he was appointed *Sanyo*, Councillor, Vice-Administrator, and Vice-Prime Minister, besides receiving other substantial marks of favour. All these offices he shortly after resigned, and retired into private life.

In the second year of Meiji (1869) Iwakura was again called into the councils of the Empire and appointed *Dainagon*, receiving at the same time an annual pension of 5,000 koku of rice, as an acknowledgment of his eminent services.

His Excellency was then sent on a special mission to Satsuma and Choshu, where he succeeded in persuading Prince Shimadzu and Prince Moori, to return with him to Tokio.

In 1871, Iwakura was appointed Minister for Foreign Affairs, and was accorded the unprecedented honour of a visit from the Emperor in person. His Majesty is reported to have addressed him on the occasion in the following terms:—"Ever since the restoration of Our Imperial authority to the pristine splendour of Our ancestors, you have laboured earnestly and successfully, day and night, in the administration of the affairs of Our kingdom. You have spared no toil and known no fatigue in Our service, and it is to you, under the favour of the Gods, that We owe the flourishing condition of Our kingdom. As a special mark of Our favour, We have departed from the usual etiquette and have visited you in person, to thank you for your service."

Shortly after this unparalleled token of Imperial favour, His Excellency was appointed *Udaijin* and visited Europe and America in the capacity of Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary to the Government at Washington, and the various Courts of Europe.

Returning in 1872, his mission having proved successful, Iwakura found the Cabinet engaged in debating the question of invading Corea. His Excellency saw that financial ruin must inevitably result from a declaration of war, and opposed the project with all his influence. His Excellency Sanjo was at the time in ill-health and the Emperor sought advice in the difficulty from Iwakura. The result may be easily imagined. The war-cloud dispersed, and by skillful negotiation Japan obtained from Corea all the concessions desirable. The position taken by His Excellency in the Korean and other questions—notably that of the

Samurai pensions—raised against him a host of enemies, and on the 14th of January, 1873, a desperate attempt was made to assassinate him by nine *ronins*—eight from Tosa and one from Satsuma. Returning in the evening from an interview with the Emperor, His Excellency's carriage was stopped outside the castle moat, close to the gates of the Akasaka Palace. Instantly the coachman and betto were cut down, and the body of the vehicle pierced with sword and spear thrust. Wounded, but fortunately for the future of the Empire only slightly, Iwakura leaped into the moat and escaped under cover of the friendly darkness. In a few days His Excellency was able to attend to his official duties, and also plead for mercy to be extended towards his would-be assassins. In commemoration of this narrow escape the Emperor conferred upon Iwakura the Japanese Order of the junior first rank.

In 1876, His Excellency accompanied the Emperor on his progress through the northern provinces, and subsequently to Kiyoto, where he remained in attendance upon the Sovereign during the Satsuma rebellion, acting as his most trusted councillor while that grave crisis was pending. Peace being restored to the troubled land, Iwakura received the decoration of the Rising Sun of the first class. After the cold-blooded assassination of Okubo Toshimichi in 1878, His Excellency Iwakura became the most influential member of the Cabinet.

EXTRACT FROM THE REPORT OF THE BANKING BUREAU.

We have to acknowledge the receipt from Mr. Kato, President of the Banking Bureau, of the third annual report of that office for the period from the 1st July of the 13th year of Meiji (1880) to the 30th June of the 14th year of Meiji (1881). It consists of some three hundred and fifty-one pages and is very neatly printed and bound. The work has lost much of its value on account of the delay in its publication, the information conveyed there in being two years old. We proceed, however, to translate the most interesting part of it as follows:—

GENERAL REMARKS.

Prior to reporting upon the nature of the transactions carried on for the period under review by the various national banks, it seems necessary to publish a statistical account of them which is as follows:—

I.—NUMBER OF BANKS.

| | |
|---------------------|-----|
| National Banks..... | 150 |
| Branches..... | 105 |
| Specie Bank..... | 1 |
| Branch..... | 1 |

II.—CAPITAL.

| | |
|---------------------|-----------------|
| National Banks..... | yen. 43,216,100 |
| Specie Bank..... | 3,000,000 |

III.—RESERVE FUND.

| | |
|---------------------|----------------|
| National Banks..... | yen. 1,861,374 |
| Specie Bank..... | 16,800 |

SPECIAL RESERVE FUND.

| | |
|---------------------|--------------|
| National Banks..... | yen. 324,008 |
| Specie Bank..... | 7,100 |

VI.—BANK NOTES AND SPECIE NOTES.

| | |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------|
| Bank notes { nominal issue..... | yen. 34,396,880 |
| { actual issue..... | 34,385,133 |
| Specie notes { nominal issue..... | 1,500,000 |
| { actual issue..... | 302,920 |
| Total Nominal issue..... | 35,896,880 |
| Total Actual issue..... | 34,688,053 |

V.—MONEY AND PUBLIC LOAN BONDS IN POSSESSION OF THE BANKS.

| | NATIONAL BANKS. yen. | SPECIE BANK. yen. |
|------------------------|-------------------------|----------------------|
| Gold..... | 988,191 | 500,000 |
| Silver..... | 902,045 | 435,655 |
| Copper..... | 206,706 | 3 |
| Paper money..... | 9,634,270 | 450,325 |
| Bank notes..... | 1,199,009 | 21,537 |
| Public Loan-bonds..... | 65,322,937 | 1,030,650 |

VI.—BUSINESS ITEMS OF THE BANKS.

| | NATIONAL BANKS. yen. | SPECIE BANK. yen. |
|------------------------------------------------|-------------------------|----------------------|
| Investments..... | 942,963,828 | 55,368,009 |
| Government Deposits..... | 107,460,729 | 4,641,259 |
| Public Deposits..... | 239,632,496 | 17,284,621 |
| Bills of exchange..... | 13,139,865 | 2,245,600 |
| Loans to the Govern- ment..... | 15,621,163 | — |
| Loans to the public..... | 162,138,466 | 10,449,482 |
| Advances to the Go- vernment..... | 32,944,866 | 1,810,000 |
| Advances to the public..... | 68,387,826 | 385,456 |
| Bills discounted..... | 20,947,189 | 454,241 |
| Advances on goods..... | 14,057,724 | 1,203,282 |
| Bills collected..... | 2,677,012 | 234,123 |
| Sale and purchase of Public Loan-bonds..... | 13,066,961 | — |

VII.—PROFITS.

| | NATIONAL BANKS. yen. | SPECIE BANK. yen. |
|--------------------------|-------------------------|----------------------|
| Gross profits..... | 11,044,867 | 380,672 |
| Expenses and losses..... | 4,106,966 | 60,123 |
| Net profit..... | 6,937,901 | 320,509 |
| Dividends..... | 5,683,677 | 147,901 |

Of the above items, the 1st to the 5th were made up to the end of 1880. But the 6th and others following it are twelve months old. According to the report, there is a decrease of two in the number of the banks as compared with previous years, this is due to the amalgamation of two banks with others. As regards the capital, there is an increase of yen 1,100,000 as compared with that of the previous year, which was yen 4,211,000. This is due to the number of shares having been augmented. The total amount of the bank and specie notes aggregate yen 35,896,880. This sum shows no difference; but there is a decrease of more than yen 300,000 in the amount of the actual issue, a decrease which is traceable to the reduction of paper money, and the falling off in the demand for silver, owing to the decline of trade. During the year, the various sums of money employed by the National Banks and Specie Bank in financial operations, amounted to yen 998,331,836. This is nearly twenty-one times as much as the aggregate capital of the banks and shows an increase of yen 214,000,000 as compared with previous years. This, divided according to the number of days, say three hundred days a year, gives an average of more than yen 3,320,000 per day. This cannot but be called prosperous. The manner in which this large sum of money was employed can be found in the items under Section VI. as enumerated above. Deposits and bills of exchange added together, show an excess of more than eight times the capital; loans and remittances three times; advances twice; discounting bills, fifty per cent., advances on goods nearly thirty per cent., and transactions in public loan bonds, more than twenty per cent. The collecting of bills shows a very insignificant increase, yet it nearly amounts to yen 3,000,000. Thus, it appears that the great advantage of banking operations or the economical appliance of money is making itself felt in every quarter. The business transacted by the banks under the afore-said headings, amounts to more than yen 715,000,000. As the prosperity or otherwise of the banks cannot be ascertained by the report for one year only, it is necessary to compare it with the reports for other years. A comparison shows that in 1880 the fixed and temporary deposits were yen 7,520,000 and yen 143,780,000 respectively, whereas in the present year (1881) the former shows a decrease of more than yen 1,210,000 and the latter, an increase of more than yen 29,000,000. As regards bills of exchange, the decrease is more than yen 7,880,000 against yen 21,960,000 last year. There is, however, an increase of yen 7,280,000 in the special

contract deposits, which together with the fixed deposits amounts to more than *yen* 33,230,000. In the year under review the total increase in the deposits of the public was upwards of *yen* 17,000,000. The reason why the fixed deposits decreased while the temporary deposits increased, is that the people find much more convenience in the temporary deposit system, and do not like to invest money at a low rate of interest while it can be more lucratively employed. The decrease in the bills of exchange is traceable to the enactment of the regulations for the control of this business in October, 1879, which curtailed their circulating capacity. The special contract deposits are the funds for the maintenance of schools and for municipal purposes, etc., which are nowadays deposited in the banks. The money borrowed from other banks is often placed under this heading, hence the cause of a steady increase in that item. As regards loans, the increase is more than *yen* 31,010,000. This shows the development of the banking business and the brisk demand for money. The commercial prosperity of the nation depends upon the amount of the products, and banking business is so closely connected with it, that the decline of commerce means a corresponding decline in the business of the banks. As this country abounds with natural products, the markets are usually more active in Autumn, for by that time the harvests are sent into the towns for sale. Therefore, the demand for money is always brisk in the second half of the year, whilst the contrary is the case in the first half. To ascertain the prosperity or otherwise of the banks, it is essential first to note the condition of the money market. In the second half of 1880, the money market was very tight. This was due to the excessive rise in the value of silver. In the months of January and February, 1880, it rose from thirty to forty per cent.; and in May reached upwards of fifty-four per cent. The Minister of Finance then suspended transactions on the Bourse; but his efforts were not as successful as were anticipated. In the month of September it rose as high as seventy-eight per cent. As silver rose in value, the paper currency depreciated, causing a rise in the price of commodities. The farmers sold their crops at this favorable opportunity: therefore their purchasing power was greatly augmented, and traders were obliged to steadily increase their stocks to meet the pressing demand. The scarcity of money was severely felt throughout the country and the rates of interest were exorbitant. In Kobe and Osaka, the slightest fluctuation produces a great effect in the market, sometimes the merchants are in the possession of a large amount of silver when they want paper currency; on other occasions they are compelled to receive paper money when they want silver. Thus, the irregular supply of the currency, both paper and metallic, causes great inconvenience to those concerned in trade. It is a matter of frequent occurrence that the daily interest ranges from ten *sen* to fifteen *sen* per 100 *yen*, but the people willingly pay it. In such times, the banks are heavily drawn upon and loans are eagerly sought for. In consequence, there is not much money left in the banks and they are compelled to refrain from making loans for long periods, and obliged to employ their money in such a manner as to secure speedy repayment. In the first half of 1881 a reaction ensued, and as the silver currency depreciated, there was a corresponding fall in the value of commodities. The banking business for the year under review was limited, but, on the whole, it manifests a marked improvement as compared with the preceding year. Thus, discount and advances on goods show an increase of more than *yen* 40,000,000. The profit is 15 per cent. on the capital; and dividends average 13 per cent.

TRANSLATIONS FROM NATIVE JOURNALS.

ON THE TAXATION OF RICE AND STOCK BROKERS.

(Translated from the *Bukka Shimpō*).

With regard to the proclamation of regulations for the levy of taxes upon *saké*, tobacco, patent medicines, Rice and Stock Exchanges, some of our contemporaries have asserted that the taxation of members of the Bourse must be regarded as a measure specially intended to prevent speculation on the part of brokers. Such an assertion, however, must be condemned as a display of ignorance of the legitimate functions of the Rice and Stock exchanges. The prime object of taxing these establishments no doubt is to provide a revenue, just as is the case with *saké*, tobacco, and patent medicines. We may then reasonably declare that the Government ought to adopt the simplest methods of attaining its ends so that the people may as easily as possible perform its duties of tax-paying. Some time ago we raised the question whether it would not be impossible for the Government effectually to levy a tax upon the Bourse, we urged the necessity of reducing the impost upon the brokers to 1-500, 1-1000, or even 1-2000 (per cent). In order to show that it is very easy for the Government to obtain a million or a million and a half *yen* by adequate taxation, we investigated practically the amount of transactions actually carried on in the various exchanges of the Empire, and determined the rate of contribution which they are able to make, for the maintenance of the functionaries who are responsible for the management of taxation. It must be remembered, further, that the reason why we have made such a special investigation is because we desired to show the propriety of increasing the taxes upon Rice and Stock Exchanges, in spite of those who entertain the opposite view, and because we wish that our Government should not fail to obtain its ends, and to supply its treasury.

The financial estimates issued by the Privy Council for the 16th year of Meiji show the revenue to be *yen* 75,606,059, which gives an increase of *yen* 8,791,936 as compared with the previous fiscal year. The principal cause of this augmentation is the proposed extension of the Army and Navy as well as improvement in our internal administration, both of which require a considerable amount of expenditure. A new method of taxation is enforced, and the former rate of taxes is increased. The most important augmentations were those provided in Proclamations, Nos. 51, 65, 61, and 63 issued in the 15th year of Meiji (1882), defining the taxes to be levied on *saké*, tobacco, patent medicines, and Rice and Stock Brokers. These assessments on *saké*, tobacco, and brokerage have increased the revenue by *yen* 7,800,000. Moreover, postage stamps and railway traffic under the superintendence of the Public Works Department have realized more than *yen* 2,710,000. Accordingly, although there is a decrease of *yen* 2,350,000 in the profits derived from mining enterprises conducted by the same Department and in the taxes levied on the productions of Hokkaido, precise calculation shows the whole revenue to be augmented by *yen* 8,791,937. As regards the tax on companies, a diminution of more than *yen* 77,000 is noticeable on account of the fact that some of the National Banks were ordered to suspend business, and that dues on Rice and Stock Exchanges were decreased by Notification No. 67 issued in the

15th year of Meiji (1882). But it is nevertheless plain that, as taxes were levied on Rice and Stock Brokers by Notification No. 65 of the same year, and as the Rice Exchanges have arranged to continue their transactions under fresh charters from the Government, the revenue from such sources was increased by *yen* 930,000 and *yen* 130,000 respectively. From this we may perceive that the Government is desirous to impose a tax upon tobaccoists, *saké* brewers, medicine dealers, and Rice and Stock Brokers to the amount of *yen* 8,400,000, of which *yen* 930,000 (or one-ninth) is to be exacted from the brokers. This sum is much smaller than we anticipated, and yet suffices to prove that the intention of the Government is not the prevention of speculative enterprises, but must be traced to the simple desire to augment its revenue. In other words, the sum of *yen* 930,000 must be regarded as a tax which is absolutely indispensable for the extension of the army and navy as well as for the improvement of systems of internal administration.

Thus, the amount of *yen* 930,000 collected from the brokers must form a portion of the revenue, and therefore be mentioned in the financial estimates. There is no objection to the sum collected exceeding the estimates, but in case it falls short the authorities must adopt measures to make up the deficiency.

They may have already devised a scheme to meet such a contingency, and it is scarcely necessary for us to say anything more on the subject, but when we consider that, under this pressure of circumstances, Government is compelled to enforce a new method of taxation as well as to increase the old taxes, we may reasonably assert that it ought to carry out its schemes in such a manner as to ensure prompt success, while on the other hand, it should adopt such means as will enable the people to pay the imposts without difficulty. This is the case with rice and stock brokers, whom Government can most effectually tax, as they are well able to disburse the money. The amount of taxes should be as high as possible. For our own part, we regard *yen* 930,000 as an exceedingly low figure, and we are inclined to propound that the brokers are able to contribute a million or a million and a half *yen* annually. A simple method by which the tax payers can easily fulfil their obligations should be adopted. Whether they will find it easy to pay *yen* 930,000 under the existing system of taxation, or whether they might find it difficult to pay a million or a million and a half with a decreased rate of tax, we will endeavour to show in the following lines.

We have already stated that the regulations issued by the Government to define the rate of the tax to be imposed upon the brokers, are evidently intended to augment the revenue. Whether it is easy or difficult for them to pay *yen* 930,000 we are unable to say without reflection. Yet it is undeniable that since the regulations commenced to operate on the 1st of April, the apparent prosperity of the Stock and Rice Exchanges in the capital as well as in Yokohama, Osaka, and other localities, has dwindled away; and that the brokers have sunk into a deplorable condition. Their distress is far greater than is supposed by outside observers. Should the present anomaly continue, not only will they be unable to pay the tax of *yen* 930,000, but are likely to fall into greater calamity. Hence the Rice and Stock Exchanges will be unable to maintain themselves, and this cannot fail to deter the progress of agriculture and commerce. We cannot then lament the present state of affairs.

A glance at the two Rice Exchanges in Tokiyo will show that scarcely any transactions have taken place since April last, and that although a greater amount of business was conducted at Kakigara-cho than at Kabuto-cho, even there it did not exceed three or four thousand *Koku*. Sometimes the transactions were so small that the transfer of some tens of *Koku* only were registered, the daily average being less than 1,200 or 1,300 *Koku*. Our readers may remember that in the prosperous days of these institutions, the average amount of daily transactions was twenty-thousand or thirty-thousand *Koku*. Now they have remarkably declined, and the brokers are involved in great embarrassments. The recent amalgamation of the two institutions under the name of the Tokiyo Rice Exchange must be regarded as a result arising from this depression. There is no certain prospect of the possibility of the brokers maintaining their present organization. Such being the case with the Rice Exchange in Tokiyo, we are justified in supposing that similar institutions in Osaka, Shimonoseki, Niigata, and other localities have shared a similar fate. We are informed that members of some provincial exchanges have lately arrived in Tokiyo, where, having consulted with regard to the regulations, they have determined to investigate the actual condition of the amalgamated Rice Exchange at Kakigara-cho, and then forward a memorial to the Government. We are unable to tell what the prayer of their petition may be, but we suppose that it will refer to the abatement of taxation. All this tends to the conclusion that provincial institutions have likewise sunk into serious embarrassment. As regards the Yokohama Stock Exchange, the public are aware that it suspended business on the 1st of April this year, declaring its inability to bear the duties imposed. It petitioned the authorities for a decrease, but was persistently refused. We are unable to foretell the future of this institution, but it is not altogether unlikely that it will be constrained to relinquish its business. It is the case, the maintenance of similar establishments in Tokiyo and Osaka is also beyond all hope.

Of the various Rice Exchanges in the Empire, the largest transactions are carried on in Tokiyo, while the Yokohama Stock Exchange surpasses in prosperity all other similar establishments. Should present stagnation continue in Tokiyo and Yokohama, we may reasonably assert that the Government will be hardly able to collect the estimated amount of *yen* 950,000 in the shape of taxes levied upon the brokers of the various exchanges in the country. We earnestly hope that the authorities will take resolute steps to lower the rates in such a way that the brokers may be enabled to pay without any great difficulty. Such a scheme should not fail to realize the sum of a million or a million and a half *yen* if necessary.

THE CATASTROPHE IN THE HIROSHIMA PRISON.

(Translated from the *Choya Shimbun*)

Some time ago we published a series of articles concerning the management of the various prisons in the Empire, and urged the necessity of treating prisoners in such a manner as to inflict a proportionate amount of pain on each, so that by discrimination of age, physical constitution, and profession measures may be effectually enforced to protect them from falling sick or losing their lives through insufficiency of work, clothing, or food. The reason why we take the trouble of making lengthy statements with regard to the management of prisons is not only because we take pity on those who are liable to imprisonment for discussing public affairs or leading a journalistic life, but also we consider that ordinary convicts who are put in irons and carry wood or stone on the road, are some of our thirty-five million brethren. Of these,

some may have become criminal to society by misbehavior: others have fallen into the clutches of the law for devoting their energies to the promotion of what they think the public interests. Which of them has no parents? Which has no wife and children? The most hardened criminals desire to return to their home in good health on the expiry of their term of imprisonment. More assuredly should this be so with educated persons or those of prominent position who recognize the importance of their personal health and reputation. In short, the Criminal Code ought to aim at removing evils in society; its provisions are not to be enforced for motives of private spite. Should imprisonment injure the health of convicts or endanger their lives by inflicting on them an undue amount of suffering, the result must be condemned as the outcome of efforts made in contravention of the true motives of the government. Since the Prison Regulations were revised many persons have been thrown into gaol for criticising public affairs, and it was very seldom that they did not fall sick there. Several of the editors of our office were released from custody this year, but all of them have been seized with dangerous illness, while some are almost expiring. These circumstances lead to the question whether it is not because the existing system of imprisonment is defective. We request the attention of the authorities to this point.

Great caution is necessary even in the treatment of ordinary convicts. What feelings must our authorities have when prisoners awaiting trial lose their lives in consequence of an unexpected catastrophe? Such is a question of great moment and requires immediate consideration. A fire that sometime ago broke out in a prison in the prefecture of Hiroshima, where prisoners awaiting trial were confined, was so serious as to cause grievous lamentation. It is said that sixty-one were burned to death, and about a hundred and sixty severely injured, while a hundred and twenty criminals escaped. There is no doubt that prisoners awaiting trial should be presumed to be innocent. We ought to feel piteous for the death by fire of even such convicts as are under sentence of penal servitude, or imprisonment, with or without hard labour. How much more should we be so in the case of those unconvicted. Not a few persons have hitherto been committed to gaol on mere suspicion of guilt, and subsequently acquitted. We can hardly pretend to say that there was none among the sixty-one prisoners burned, who might not have been similarly released. Nor is it altogether unlikely that some of them deserved to be punished with one or two months' imprisonment, and that their parents and children should be supported by them. But should any such persons perish in prison, what must be their agony and the sorrow of their families? Many fires are reported to have lately occurred in the local prisons, but none of them were so serious as that of Hiroshima. It is said to have occurred in the cells where prisoners were confined, and is ascribed to the work of an incendiary. We do not doubt that the prison authorities took the best measures to extinguish the fire, but failing to master it they allowed it to produce most calamitous results. There is one thing to which our Government should direct its special attention. It must be remembered that the burning of sixty-one prisoners by fire is a serious event in so far as the loss of lives is concerned. When the Government establishes prisons for suspected persons whom it deprives of liberty it must be responsible for their immunity against disaster. In case the fire spread so rapidly that the prison authorities were really unable to adopt measures for the protection of the prisoners, we cannot blame them; but in case the disaster is traceable to the negligence of the authorities, we ought not to regard the death of convicts as an ordinary misfortune. Should our Government receive a report from the Prefect of Hiroshima on the recent conflagration to the effect that there was really no time to let out the prisoners on account of its rapid extension, would it not be well to make a strict enquiry into the conduct of the Superintendent? If not, it deserves blame for not duly recognizing the value of the lives of its people. The Government ought to despatch special commissioners to Hiroshima to investigate the facts and act disinterestedly. The Government ought to proclaim the result throughout the Empire. As

regards the responsibilities of the Government, the escape of a hundred prisoners should be as nothing against the salvation of one from injury or death.

In the time of the Shogunate, the prisons at Demmacho were frequently destroyed by fire, but we have not heard that any of the prisoners perished in the flames. This must be due to the caution of the authorities, who did not hesitate to release them on such occasions.

In the Prison Regulations at present in operation, Article 35 provides that, in case a fire breaks out in the vicinity of the prison and threatens to spread to it, the prison authorities must, according to circumstances, adopt measures to remove the prisoners to some other place where they may be guarded; and that in case such measures cannot possibly be adopted on account of the gravity of the fire, inundation, hurricane, earthquake, or similar catastrophe, all prisoners may be temporarily set at large, except such as are confined on suspicion or for the production of their testimony. From this it seems that, according to the Regulations, the most grievous criminals can be liberated in case of emergency, while those who have not been convicted, or who are supposed to be able to furnish evidence cannot be released however serious the event may be. What may be the true object of such regulations we are at a loss to understand. The prisoners lately devoured by fire in Hiroshima were of such a character. Their death was perfectly legal, and the prison authorities must be regarded as having consumed them in the execution of their duty. Can anything more unjust be found in any legislation of ancient or modern times?

JAPANESE MERCHANTS IN IN-CHHON.

(Translated from the *Fiji Shimpō*.)

A traveller who has lately returned from the port of In-chhōn, Korea, states that, since it was opened to foreign commerce in January last, no steamers have arrived there except war vessels or such as have been despatched on special service by the War Department, and that there are none available for commercial purposes. The Mitsu Bishi Company's mail steamers may be serviceable in this respect, but they do not visit the place more than twice a year. Since the opening of the port, only one of the company's mails has arrived. The summer has set in: the bay is deadly calm. Traders imagine that they will visit In-chhōn in order to develop the internal commerce of Korea. They wait for an opportunity to embark with merchandise ready for transportation. In May last, the small steamer *Chinsei Maru* and the Mitsu Bishi Company's steamer *Chitose Maru*, both private vessels, arrived in In-chhōn with lading from private individuals. The number of Japanese residents has considerably increased. They are now about a hundred and fifty. Ché-mul-pho, where the Japanese are settled, was originally one of the smallest hamlets of the peninsula, without streets, warehouses or stores, and presented a most dreary aspect. A parallel for its barrenness may be found in the Yokohama of some thirty years ago. Any Japanese landing must, first of all, provide for his immediate necessities, namely, a dwelling to protect him from rain and wind, and water to quench his thirst, as well as mats, screens, doors, tubs, and other articles of daily use. These necessities, generally speaking, have to be provided from the mother country. Before entering into mercantile transactions with the natives, Japanese settlers in In-chhōn must look for the supply of all their wants from home. In summer, during which the voyage is free from marine perils, even such small steamers as the *Chitose Maru* and *Chinsei Maru* can take provisions and save one hundred and fifty Japanese from starvation. But, in the autumn, the waters about In-chhōn become perilous to such vessels. Should we, then, arrange to despatch large instead of small steamers, in order to supply the settlers with provisions as well as merchandise? Notwithstanding that the port of In-chhōn may probably advance in prosperity to the same extent as was attained by Yokohama, it is at present in a chaotic condition, as regards its foreign commerce. The export and import of merchandise is considerable; and therefore the employment of such

small steamers as the *Chitose Maru* or *Chinsei Maru* is quite sufficient for present purposes. The charter of a large, seaworthy, steamer would be likely to entail loss on account of the smallness of outward and inward foreign trade. Indeed, it would not be possible for traders to maintain such a steamship service in view of the loss of thousands of *yen* for each voyage. Suspension of all trade communication becomes inevitable when the cold weather sets in. The Japanese in In-chhōn will find themselves left, helpless exiles, as it were on a desolate island. Is it too late to seek for means to avert their misfortune? Would they return home? They have no ship in which to embark, even would they sail about five hundred *ri* across the perilous sea. Will they remain until next spring? They have no shelter to protect them from rain and snow; no fire to warm them in the rigid cold. Clothing and provisions they have not sufficient for half a year. If they do not perish in snow and ice, they must congratulate themselves upon their good fortune. To avert such calamities imminent to Japanese in In-chhōn, our Government ought to grant a subsidy to the establishment of a regular steamship service, so that communication may be practicable at any time; and Korean commerce may be fostered.

Such is the position as stated to us by a person who is perfectly familiar with the actual condition of In-chhōn. We have ever complained of lack of communication with Korea, and have frequently urged the necessity of establishing a regular steamship service to and from In-chhōn. But no measures have yet been taken, a neglect which we regret, not only for itself, but because it puts our compatriots to grave inconvenience. This true account of the condition of In-chhōn makes us grieve. Who taught the Koreans that there are many countries beyond their own? Who persuaded them to open the ports of Pū-san and Wōn-san to foreign commerce? Who opened the way for the visit of Europeans and Americans to the peninsula? Who prayed for the growth of civilization in Korea, of her independence, power, wealth, and commercial prosperity? None but the Japanese, to be sure! The trouble that occurred in Sōul last year did not induce us to take up arms; and the Koreans becoming aware of the just motives of our Government, the event actually afforded a chance for the consolidation of mutual friendship and commercial relations. We regret to have to add that the opportunity so offered was not availed of to produce beneficial results. In-chhōn was opened six months ago, yet the difficulty of communication remains as it was before. Two months hence, Yang-hwa-chin will likewise be opened. Is the adoption of protective measures not likely to be attended with remunerative results? Is our Korean commerce to be left to mere chance? Several tens of thousands of *yen* may be economized, but our people are likely to suffer.

THE TOBACCO TAX.

(Translated from the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*).

Inquiry made by the Kiyoto-Fu authorities on the 18th of June last as to whether Government stamps should be attached to cigars and whether persons other than those engaged in the trade can sell them, elicited an answer from the Finance Department to the effect that no such measure was contemplated. Article II. of the Tobacco Tax Act, enacted on the 27th of December last, says that those who make cigars and smoking tobacco shall be considered "manufacturers." Nobody, whether manufacturer, broker, or retail dealer, can carry on the trade without a licence from the Government. Such is at least, the spirit of the regulations.

Formerly cigars and cigarettes were largely imported. Owing to a steadily increasing demand among the well-to-do classes, local manufactures were started. Although our cigars are not as yet perfectly good, differing in quality according to the places where they are made, great improvement is noticeable in the cigarettes which, in some respects excel the imported article. They are now extensively smoked by the higher classes in preference to foreign made cigarettes, the importation of which is nearly abolished. This is a matter for congratulation. Considering, how-

ever, the mere point of taxation, a question arises why cigars and cigarettes should be exempt from taxation, while smoking tobacco is subject to a heavy tax. An explanation may be found in the fact that the former are not as yet widely availed of, while the latter is used all over the country. This reason is eminently unsatisfactory to the public. There is no cause why a tax should be imposed according to the amount of consumption. The production of cigars and cigarettes is no doubt meagre as compared with that of ordinary smoking tobacco, but still the actual quantity must be great. Unable to make an exact calculation, in the absence of statistics, we can only speak of what we see. People of high society, including functionaries of distinction and wealthy merchants, smoke cigars and cigarettes. It is a matter of common occurrence, when we enter the houses of well-to-do persons, to find cigars or cigarettes on the table, but seldom or never do we see Japanese tobacco with its accompanying utensils. Visitors too, whether dressed in Japanese or European costume, bring cigars and cigarettes with them. This fashion, inaugurated by the gentry, is largely imitated by the poorest students, not alone in Tokiyo, but in Kiyoto, Osaka, Yokohama, Kobe, and all other places where there are shops for the sale of foreign goods. Thus, we are convinced that the consumption of tobacco of foreign manufacture is great. Furthermore, we do not see why Government stamps should not be affixed to it. It is more convenient than Japanese tobacco, being packed in boxes. Why then should these cigars and cigarettes be exempt from tax. The irregularity is either directly or indirectly traceable to existing treaties with foreign powers. In all countries, a heavy duty is imposed on tobacco and spirits. But according to convention, Japan cannot impose any duty higher than five per cent. No other country in the world has so low an impost upon these articles of luxury. Since the Restoration, tobacco and spirits have been received as essential to progress and civilization. They are now looked upon as necessary embellishments of civilization. Whatever law is made, it cannot have effect on the importation of tobacco, since no higher excise duty can, now, be imposed. Fortunately, however, the local manufacture of cigarettes having been started, an end has been put to their importation; and that of cigars is also about to be arrested. With this we must be content for the nonce. If a tax is imposed the price will be enhanced: manufacturers will be deprived of their advantage in competition with Occidental makers; and, finally, the use of foreign tobacco will be revived in society. One may illustrate this by the story which tells of a man who killed the bull while attempting only to cut its horns. Such is the reason why cigars and cigarettes are exempt from the stamp tax, as is the case with home-made wine, beer, and spirits, which at present enjoy an exemption from excise, but which, if a heavy tax were imposed upon them, would soon ruin their manufacturers. On the other hand, *saké* is subjected to an exorbitant tax. Therefore, it appears that the burden is put upon the poor alone, the rich having nothing to carry. The anomaly is the outcome of the existing treaties. When they are amended, a duty of 30 or 40 per cent. should be imposed on foreign tobacco and spirits as well as on the home-made articles. Thus anomalies of taxation would be removed.

THE SILK CROP IN FUKUSHIMA.

(Translated from the *Keisai Zasshi*).

Silkworm education in Kakeda, in the Rural Division of Date, Fukushima *Ken*, has been very successful this year, and preparations are already made for reeling. A large proportion of the worms entered on the insect stage of existence and produced their eggs; but the market value of these is unsettled. It is generally believed, however, that cards will fall in price considerably. The production of immense numbers of eggs for transportation to Yokohama having been singularly unfortunate for educators last year, they have arranged to confine their production to half the previous quantity. What the condition of the market will be hereafter remains to be seen. The cocoons are more or less light in all parts of the

Prefecture as compared with last season. This may be due to the sudden rise of temperature after the period of the "fourth sleep." In former years the cocoons were perfected in eight days, but this year they have only required six in some districts. The worms had not fed sufficiently. In Kawamata and Jino, the perfection of cocoons appears to have been effected also in six or seven days after the fourth lethargy. We have not received any precise information concerning the result of these premature cocoons. But when we consider that cool weather prevailed during the past few days, accompanied with rain, we may safely say that it must have been very satisfactory.

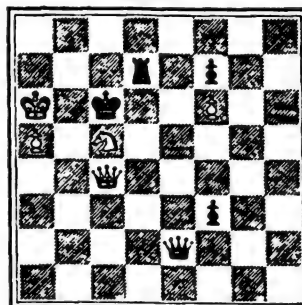
The Rural Division of Shinobu has failed in some respects, and the general result is reported to be worse than that of last year; but the magnanerie under the management of Mr. Murai, at Isa-mura, has met with complete success, some fourteen *koku* of cocoons having been produced by grubs which at first weighed forty-two *momme* in all. No other districts in Shinobu have witnessed such good results. On the whole, success was only noticeable where the eggs were hatched as early as possible. In the main street of the town of Fukushima, a market is held every night for the sale of mulberry leaves. A packet of ten *kuwamme* is purchaseable for eighty or ninety *sen*. The abundance of mulberry leaves this year is ascribed to the sudden arrival of the hot weather. A telegram was lately received from Mayebashi announcing that new silk had been quoted at \$540. Some merchants in the town attempted to sell their cocoons, and the result was that what was hitherto sold at *yen* 25 per *koku* has risen in value to *yen* 36 or *yen* 37. Twin cocoons are saleable at one *yen* per eight *sho*, but since unfavourable information was received from other silk producing districts, the trade has temporarily ceased. Quotations of silk in the market of Hobara on the 30th ultimo were as follows:—*Teppo*, *yen* 290 per bale; *Orikaye-shi*, *yen* 400 per 1,500 *momme*; floss silk, *yen* 130 per bale.

Owing to the insufficiency of the stock, no considerable settlements have yet been made, and merchants are watching each other.

CHESS.

From Agnelli's Book on Chess.

BLACK.



WHITE.

White to play and draw.

Solution to Chess Problem of 14th July, by J. W. ABBOTT.

- | | |
|--------------------|--------------------|
| White. | Black. |
| 1.—R. to K. sq. | 1.—K. to K. Kt. 4. |
| 2.—Q. to K. 3 ch. | 2.—K. moves. |
| 3.—Q. or R. mates. | if 1.—B. moves. |
| 2.—Q. to K. Kt. 8. | 2.—Anything. |
| 3.—Q. mates. | |

Correct answer received from "Tasa."

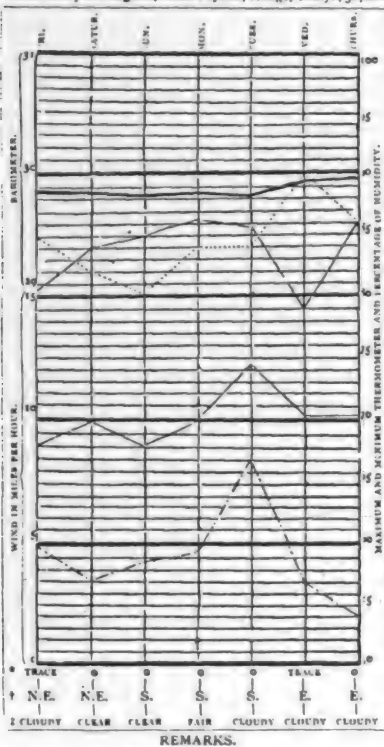
SUNDAY CHURCH SERVICES.

Christ Church: 11 a.m. and 5-30 p.m.
 Union Church: 11 a.m. and 8 p.m.
 Roman Catholic Church: 8 and 9-30 a.m.
 English Church, No. 12, Sakaicho, Shiba, Tokiyo: 11 a.m.

METEOROLOGICAL REPORT.

FOR WEEK BEGINNING FRIDAY, JULY 13TH, 1883.

Observatory of Daigaku, Moto-Fujicho, Hongō, Tokyo, Japan.



LATEST SHIPPING.

FREIGHTS.

Two trifling engagements took place during the week just ended, viz., the German brig *Minerva*, from Nagasaki to this port, at \$1.50, and the British steamer *Chinkiang*, from same port to Hongkong, at \$1.50. Enquiries reach occasionally from the China coast, but at such low figures that disengaged vessels prefer coal at a dollar and half per ton, to venturing on that side where port charges is so high. For London, the steamship *Benedi* is loading and should get away on the 22nd instant. For New York, via Suez Canal, the steamships *Yorkshire* and *Ehrenfels* sailed via ports on the 19th instant, leaving the steamships *Euphrates* and *Ascalon* filling that berth. For New York direct, the *Annie F. Marshall* is circulated both here and at Kobe; while for San Francisco, the American barque *Mary Winkelman* follows the *Grecian* dispatched on the 19th instant. For Havre and Hamburg, the steamship *Feronia* sailed on the 19th instant, and the German barque *l'Alparaiso* is now loading for same destination.

ARRIVALS.

Wakanoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,342, A. F. Christensen, 15th July,—Kobe, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S. S. Co.

City of Tokio, American steamer, 3,128, J. Maury, 16th July,—Hongkong, 10th, July Mails and General.—P. M. S. S. Co.

Sooloo, British barque, 473, Baikie, 16th July,—Nagasaki 4th July, Coals.—Mitsu Bishi M. S. S. Co.

Euphrates, British steamer, 1,300, Mitchell, 16th July,—Kobe, General.—Smith, Baker & Co.

Kashgar, British steamer, 1,515, W. J. Webber, 16th July,—Hongkong 8th July via Nagasaki and Kobe, Mails and General.—P. & O. S. N. Co.

Kworio Maru, Japanese steamer, 617, G. Withers, 16th July,—Yokkaichi, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S. S. Co.

Niigata Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,091, Hubbard, 17th July,—Hakodate 15th and Oginohama 16th July, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S. S. Co.

Arabic, British steamer, 2,728, W. G. Pearne, 18th July,—San Francisco 28th June, Mails and General.—O. & O. S. S. Co.

Genkai Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,084, G. W. Conner, 18th July,—Shanghai and ports, Mails and General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S. S. Co.

Tsuruga Maru, Japanese steamer, 580, Dithlefsen, 18th July,—Kobe 16th July, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S. S. Co.

Gembu Maru, Japanese steamer, 670, F. J. Brown, 19th July,—Yokkaichi, General.—Kiyodo Unyu Kwaisha.

Godavery, French steamer, 1,049, Du Temple, 20th July,—Hongkong 14th July, Mails and General.—Messageries Maritimes Co.

Suminoye Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,320, Frahm, 20th July,—Kobe 18th July, Mails and General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S. S. Co.

DEPARTURES.

Hiogo Maru, Japanese steamer, 866, R. N. Walker, 15th July.—Hakodate, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S. S. Co.

Oxfordshire, British steamer, 998, Jones, 6th July,—Hongkong 15th July, General.—Smith, Baker & Co.

Tanais, French steamer, 1,730, Drujon, 15th July,—Hongkong Mails and General.—Messageries Maritimes Co.

Kworio Maru, Japanese steamer, 617, G. Withers, 17th July,—Yokkaichi, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S. S. Co.

Wakanoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,342, A. F. Christensen, 17th July,—Kobe, Mails and General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S. S. Co.

Ehrenfels, German steamer, 1,588, Fischer, 18th July,—New York via Japan and China ports and Suez Canal, Tea and General.—Adamson, Bell & Co.

Feronia, German steamer, 1,115, F. Nagel, 18th July,—Havre and Hamburg via ports, General.—Simon, Evers & Co.

Grecian, American ship, 1,621, A. H. Dunbar, 18th July,—San Francisco, Tea and General.—Frazar & Co.

John C. Munroe, British barque, 613, W. Summers, 18th July,—Burrard's Inlet, Ballast.—Cormes & Co.

Takasago Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,230, C. Young, 18th July,—Shanghai and ports, Mails and General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S. S. Co.

Yorkshire, British steamer, 1,425, Arnold, 19th July,—New York via ports, Tea and General.—Smith, Baker & Co.

Chinkiang, British steamer, 799, S. M. Orr, 19th July,—Nagasaki, Ballast.—C. Illies & Co.

City of Tokio, American steamer, 3,128, J. Maury, 20th July,—San Francisco, Mails and General.—P. M. S. S. Co.

Kworio Maru, Japanese steamer, 617, G. Withers, 20th July,—Yokkaichi, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S. S. Co.

Sumanoura Maru, Japanese barque, 925, Spiegelthal, 20th July,—Nagasaki, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S. S. Co.

Takachiho Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,360, C. Nye, 20th July,—Hongkong via Kobe, Mails and General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S. S. Co.

Tsuruga Maru, Japanese steamer, 570, P. Dithlefsen, 20th July,—Kobe, Mails and General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S. S. Co.

Arabic, British steamer, 2,728, W. G. Pearne, 21st July,—Hongkong, Mails and General.—O. & O. S. S. Co.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per American steamer *City of Tokio*, from Hongkong:—For San Francisco: Miss B. Emerson, Miss M. Clarke, and W. Johnstone in cabin; and 1 European, and 277 Chinese in steerage. For Yokohama: C. B. Mosby in cabin; and 3 Chinese in steerage.

Per British steamer *Kashgar*, from Hongkong via Nagasaki and Kobe:—Mr. and Mrs. Dangerfield, Mr. and Mrs. Durant, Mrs. Hill, Miss Johnson, Rev. Long, Messrs. Wauchop, Rickett, Warry, Hake, Townsend, Sagel, Groom, Bennett, Haselwood, Miyosuke, and Ty Sing in cabin; 3 Europeans in second class, and 16 Chinese in steerage.

Per French steamer *Tanais*, for Hongkong:—Miss Stillfried, Messrs. Ikeda, Koidzumi, Manuel Diago, Sueyoshi Taki, Hori, and Ito Gimbei in cabin.

Per British steamer *Arabic*, from San Francisco: Rev. and Mrs. S. W. Merrell, Miss N. Johnson, Miss K. Brown, Miss J. Grant, Miss A. Smith, Messrs. T. W. Peters, E. D. Peters, Jas. T. Hatfield, and C. Abegg in cabin. For Hongkong: Bishop Vobontero, Messrs. F. N. O. Wilson, I. Santori, and Abel Skin in cabin; and 216 Chinese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Genkai Maru*, from Shanghai and ports:—Dr. and Mrs. J. W. Hall and infant, Bishop F. Blanc, Rev. F. Coste, Rev. L. H. Gulick, Messrs. D. Nowrojee, J. Pestonjee, L. H. Wigton, A. Kirby, N. Y. Martin, Nathersole, Yamao, Iwasaki, Kaneko, Hamada, Orita, Sayegi, Iwata, and Torii in cabin; and 1 European, 6 Chinese and 102 Japanese in steerage. For San Francisco: Mrs. J. E. Tyler, Messrs. C. Lucas, and Yung Wing in cabin.

DEPARTED.

Per Japanese steamer *Takasago Maru*, for Shanghai and ports:—His Excellency Yoshida, Mrs. Makoshi, Mrs. Konishi, Miss R. Gillingham, Miss K. Brown, Miss Johnson, Miss J. Grant, Miss A. Smith, Messrs. A. H. C. Haselwood, T. Mullins, Watanabe, Namba, Kojima, T. Sasaki, Sakurai, and Kumasaki in cabin.

Per American steamer *City of Tokio*, for San Francisco:—Miss B. Emerson, Miss Clark, Mrs. J. E. Tyler, and Mr. Jas. R. Morse in cabin; and 20 Europeans and 271 Chinese in steerage. For New York: Mr. and Mrs. Meacham, Miss Maulton, Miss M. A. Spencer, Miss Fletcher, Messrs. S. A. Williamson, U.S.N., and Yung Wing in cabin. For London: Mr. and Mrs. Jas. Edwards and 4 children, Messrs. E. Zellweger, Aug. Von der Muhll, Percy Holt, and Z. Miyabara in cabin. For Liverpool: Lieutenant Evershed, Messrs. J. O. Bishop, and W. Johnstone in cabin. For Hamburg: Mr. Adolph Meizer in cabin.

CARGOES.

Per American steamer *City of Tokio*, for San Francisco:—

| | TEA. | | | |
|----------|----------------|-----------|---------------|--------|
| | SAN FRANCISCO. | NEW YORK. | OTHER CITIES. | TOTAL. |
| Hongkong | 718 | 66 | 179 | 963 |
| Shanghai | 135 | 2,980 | 3,282 | 6,487 |
| Nagasaki | — | — | 273 | 273 |
| Hiogo | 107 | 3,002 | 5,875 | 9,074 |
| Yokohama | 2,688 | 1,896 | 2,814 | 7,398 |
| Total | 3,698 | 8,034 | 2,423 | 24,155 |

| | SUGAR. | | | |
|----------|----------------|-----------|---------------|--------|
| | SAN FRANCISCO. | NEW YORK. | OTHER CITIES. | TOTAL. |
| Hongkong | — | 17 | — | 17 |
| Shanghai | — | 102 | — | 102 |
| Yokohama | — | 119 | — | 119 |
| Total | — | 238 | — | 238 |

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

There has been during the week a considerable falling off in transactions of Yarns, only some 700 bales being reported sold, dealers in this article as in most other goods only buying from hand to mouth. The steady appreciation of *kinsatsu* is given as the reason for this, the dealers hoping to buy later at a cheaper cost (in currency). Prices of Yarns are not altered since our last report. In Shirtings there has been next to nothing doing. In other Goods there has been more doing in Mousselines, while Velvets and Satins show rather more activity at low prices. In Metals, the business generally is very small, as usual at this time of the year, the weather being too hot to "work" Iron.

COTTON YARNS.

| | PER PICUL. |
|-----------------------------------|------------------|
| Nos. 16 to 24, Common to Medium - | \$35.25 to 38.50 |
| Nos. 16 to 24, Good to Best - | 39.25 to 30.60 |
| Bombay, No. 30, Good to Best - | 25.50 to 28.25 |
| Nos. 28 to 32, Common to Medium - | 31.25 to 32.25 |
| Nos. 28 to 32, Good to Best - | 33.00 to 35.25 |
| Nos. 38 to 42 - | 35.25 to 37.25 |

COTTON PIECE GOODS.

| | PER PIECE. |
|------------------------------------------------|----------------|
| Grey Shirtings—8½ lb, 38½ to 39 inches - | \$1.70 to 2.15 |
| Grey Shirtings—9 lb, 38½ to 43 inches - | 1.8½ to 2.40 |
| T. Cloth—7 lb, 24 yards, 32 inches - | 1.45 to 1.55 |
| Indigo Shirting—12 yards, 44 inches - | 1.35 to 1.67½ |
| Prints—Assorted, 24 yards, 30 inches - | 1.10 to 2.40 |
| Cotton—Italians and Sateens Black, 32 inches - | 0.07 to 0.09 |
| Turkey Reds—2 to 2½ lb, 24 yards, 30 inches - | 1.15 to 1.35 |
| Turkey Reds—2½ to 3 lb, 24 yards, 30 inches - | 1.35 to 1.65 |
| Turkey Reds—3 lb, 24 yards, 30 inches - | 1.70 to 1.82½ |
| Velvets—Black, 35 yards, 22 inches - | 5.90 to 6.70 |
| Victoria Lawns, 12 yards, 42-3 inches - | 0.72½ to 0.80 |
| Taffetas, 12 yards, 43 inches - | 1.75 to 2.07½ |

WOOLLENS.

| | PER PIECE. |
|----------------------------------------------------|----------------|
| Plain Orleans, 40-42 yards, 32 inches - | \$3.80 to 5.25 |
| Figured Orleans, 29-31 yards, 31 inches - | 3.25 to 4.00 |
| Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches - | 0.18 to 0.29½ |
| Mousseline de Laine—Crape, 24 yards, 31 inches - | 0.15 to 0.15½ |
| Mousseline de Laine—Itajime, 24 yards, 31 inches - | 0.18½ to 0.26 |
| Mousseline de Laine—Yuzen, 24 yards, 31 inches - | 0.30 to 0.37½ |
| Cloths—Pilots, 54 @ 56 inches - | 0.30 to 0.40 |
| Cloths—Presidents, 54 @ 56 inches - | 0.40 to 0.50 |
| Cloths—Union, 54 @ 56 inches - | 0.30 to 0.55 |
| Blankets—Scarlet and Green, 6 to 5 lb, per lb - | 0.35 to 0.40 |

IRON.

| | PER PICUL. |
|---------------------------------|----------------|
| Flat Bars, ½ inch - | \$2.90 to 2.90 |
| Flat Bars, 1 inch - | 2.80 to 3.00 |
| Round and square up to ½ inch - | 2.80 to 3.00 |
| Nailrod, assorted - | 2.25 to 2.50 |
| Nailrod, small size - | 2.85 to 3.10 |

KEROSENE.

Sales during the week amount to 31,000 cases and deliveries to 35,000. Stocks now amount to about 613,000 cases sold and unsold oil. The Market is steady at quotations:—

| | PER CASE. |
|----------|-----------|
| Devco - | \$1.70 |
| Comet - | 1.68 |
| Stella - | 1.62 |

SUGAR.

White sorts continue to move off slowly and the transactions are limited, but prices have not varied during the interval, and a large Stock remains on hand. Formosa Browns are mostly held for higher rates, and, as buyers will not accede to the demand, the quantity of the commodity that has lately changed hands is very small.

| | PER PICUL. |
|-----------------|----------------|
| White, No. 1 - | \$8.50 to 9.00 |
| White, No. 2 - | 8.00 to 8.50 |
| White, No. 3 - | 7.25 to 8.00 |
| White, No. 4 - | 6.25 to 6.75 |
| White, No. 5 - | 5.25 to 5.50 |
| Brown Formosa - | 4.95 to 5.00 |

EXPORTS.

SILK.

Only a moderate business during the week. Buyers do not seem very eager, and, while arrivals are so scanty, sellers are in no hurry to reduce quotations. Settlements are about 170 piculs; export to date 856 bales (against 1,127 to same date last year): in addition to these figures the *Kashgar*, leaving this afternoon, will take a few.

Hanks.—A few bales of Tomiyoka grading about 2 have come in and been taken at \$517½, beyond this the business has all been done in 2½ to 3½ kinds at about quotations. Better class Maibashi and Shinshu hanks may now be looked for daily.

Filatures.—A few bales Nihonmatsu came in and were taken at \$665. Arrivals of good Silk are small; and the bulk of the shipments per *City of Tokio* were Koshiu sorts, grading 1½ down, being of good bright colour, and fair quality but with the old fault of uneven size.

QUOTATIONS.

| | |
|---------------------------------|--------------|
| Hanks—No. 2½ - | \$490 to 495 |
| Hanks—No. 3 - | 470 to 480 |
| Hanks—No. 3½ - | 450 to 460 |
| Filatures—No. 1, 14/16 denier - | 630 to 640 |
| Filatures—No. 1½ - | 620 to 630 |

TEA.

The same quiet tone mentioned in our last weekly issue has again prevailed throughout the past week, and both settlements and shipments of Teas are beginning to exhibit a marked falling off, which at present seems likely to continue, as buyers show but little disposition to purchase. Settlements aggregate but 3,155 piculs, consisting of the following grades:—Common 15, Good Common 570, Medium 1,020, Good Medium 920, Fine 425, Finest 85, Choice 90, and Choicest 30 piculs. Settlements here and at Kobe are 157,650 piculs against 172,940, at the corresponding date last year. The P.M. steamer *City of Peking* is advertised to leave here on the 3rd of August taking Tea at 2½ cents per lb. gross to Eastern States and Canada and 2 cents per lb. gross to San Francisco. The steamship *Ehrenfels* sailed for New York, via ports, on the 18th with 3,800 packages Tea. The steamers *Ascalon* and *Euphrates* are still loading Tea for the same destination at 45/50 shillings per ton of 40 cubic feet. The American ship *Greician* left here for San Francisco on the 19th, taking about 6,000 packages Tea. The American bark *Mary Winkelman* is advertised for San Francisco with "quick despatch," rate of freight \$6.00 U.S. gold per ton of 40 cubic feet.

QUOTATIONS.

| | |
|---------------|--------------|
| Common - | \$12 & under |
| Good Common - | 13 to 14 |
| Medium - | 15 to 17 |
| Good Medium - | 18 to 20 |
| Fine - | 22 to 24 |
| Finest - | 25 to 27 |
| Choice - | 28 to 31 |
| Choicest - | 32 & up'ds |

EXCHANGE.

Only small transactions have taken place during the week, and rates at the close are slightly firmer.

| | |
|-------------------------------------------|--------------|
| Sterling—Bank Bills on demand - | 3/7½ |
| Sterling—Bank 4 months' sight - | 3/8 |
| Sterling—Private 4 months' sight - | 3/8½ |
| Sterling—Private 6 months' sight - | 3/8½ |
| On Paris—Bank sight - | 4.60 |
| On Paris—Private 6 months' sight - | 4.71 |
| On Hongkong—Bank sight - | 100 o/o dis. |
| On Hongkong—Private 10 days' sight - | 100 o/o dis. |
| On Shanghai—Bank sight - | 73 o/o |
| On Shanghai—Private 10 days' sight - | 73½ o/o |
| On New York—Bank Bills on demand - | 88½ |
| On New York—Private 30 days' sight - | 89½ |
| On San Francisco—Bank Bills on demand - | 88½ |
| On San Francisco—Private 30 days' sight - | 89½ |

KINSATSU QUOTATIONS.

The following table shows the rate of the day, and the fluctuation during the past week:—

| | |
|----------------------------|------|
| Monday, July 16th | 124 |
| Tuesday, July 17th | 122½ |
| Wednesday, July 18th | 123½ |
| Thursday, July 19th | 124½ |
| Friday, July 20th | 122½ |
| Saturday, July 1st | 123 |

IMPORTANT NOTICE.

SMALL CAPITALISTS, wishing to establish a business, should see if there is an opening for a Mineral Water Manufactory in their District. All information and recipes for the purpose of making Lemonade, Soda Water, &c., is given, previous knowledge is not necessary. The demand for these drinks is so much on the increase in all parts of the world, that the outlay for the machinery in all cases leads to a profitable and safe business. Catalogue forwarded free, on application to

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May 1st, 1883.

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in his work entitled "The Nile Tributaries in Abyssinia," says—"I ordered the dragoman Mahomet to inform the Fakar that I was a Doctor, and I had the best medicines at the service of the sick, with advice gratis. In a short time I had many applicants, to whom I served out a quantity of Holloway's Pills. These are most useful to an explorer, as possessing unmistakable purgative properties they create an undeniable effect upon the patient, which satisfies them of their value."

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July 1st, 1883.

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ESTABLISHED 1799.

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THE Japan Weekly Mail,

A REVIEW OF
JAPANESE COMMERCE, POLITICS, LITERATURE, AND ART.

No. 13, VOL. I.]

YOKOHAMA, JULY 28TH, 1883.

[£24 PER ANNUM.]

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The Japan Weekly Mail.

"FAIS CE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL," must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith. It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, JULY 28TH, 1883.

BIRTH.

On the 22nd July, the wife of LANCELOT C. MASFEN, of a Son.

WEEKLY NOTES.

THE obsequies of His Excellency the late Third Minister of State, Iwakura Tomomi, were performed on Wednesday. The funeral was a most imposing affair. It was attended by almost every person of consequence in the capital. The posthumous rank of First Minister of State was conferred on the deceased statesman by the Emperor's orders, and every possible mark of honour was shown to his memory. The vernacular press unanimously referred to his biography in terms of high eulogy, though one or two of the Radical journals professed themselves unable to discuss his acts at any length owing to the restrictions imposed upon liberty of speech. His Imperial Highness Prince Komatsu is spoken of as likely

to succeed to the office of Third Minister of State, but rumour also points to Shimadzu, ex-Daimyo of Sasshiu.

THE trial of the Fukushima suspects on a charge of high treason has been going on throughout the week. Four of the prisoners have been examined, and each has taken the same line—viz., that of retracting the admissions made before the Court of First Instance on the grounds that cruelty was employed to extort confession, or that the admissions were improperly recorded. The prisoners appear to be receiving every consideration at the hands of the Fokiyo Court; and the vernacular journals are wisely reporting the proceedings in detail.

THE railway from Tokiyo to Kumagai, a distance of 38 miles, was opened on Thursday. This is the third line in Japan which has been built entirely without foreign assistance. The two others are in the South—one from Nagahama, on Lake Biwa, to Sekigahara, and another from Nagahama to Tsuruga. The Tokiyo-Kumagai line runs through a level country and is nearly parallel to the Nakasendo throughout a great part of its length. Kumagai is a town which owes its origin to the development of Japan's foreign trade in silk; and its growth, already remarkably rapid, is likely to assume large dimensions in the near future. When the Tokiyo-Kumagai line was first projected, foreign critics were not slow to predict that the enterprise would never be carried through on the proposed conditions, but fortunately this forecast has proved erroneous.

THE heat throughout the week has been most oppressive; and the want of rain is beginning to be severely felt. Cholera, however, is keeping at a distance. A few scattered cases have been reported, but nothing resembling a serious outbreak seems probable.

M. JOUSLAIN, Consul for France in Yokohama, has addressed a very strong letter to the *Echo du Japon* apropos of a violent attack upon himself and two other officials, which has lately been published in that journal. The attack sets out by drawing attention to comments made by certain French Chambers of Commerce with reference to the incapacity of the members of the Consular body, the majority of whom, according to the *Echo's* version, have been found to owe their appointments to favoritism and to

have been originally "sworn and zealous functionaries of Napoleon III." At the instance of the Minister for Foreign Affairs, the President of the Republic recently authorized the appointment of a Commission to examine into the condition of the Consular Service, but the *Echo du Japon* thinks that Commissions generally succeed better in obscuring than in elucidating the questions they have to consider. Our contemporary, accordingly, assumes the functions of a commission himself, and proceeds to relate various instances, just or unjust, of fragrant consular incompetence. Soon he fixes upon M. Jouslain by name, and speaks of him in terms which, whether they be well or ill deserved, are certainly most insulting, and fail to find justification in the somewhat frivolous evidence upon which they are apparently based. Hence M. Jouslain's remonstrance, couched also in pious terms and speaking of proceedings at law, civil, criminal, or otherwise. It has elicited from the *Echo du Japon* a rejoinder in which we find such expressions as "*M. Jouslain ment impudemment*;" "*M. Lévy lui donne un démenti formel*," &c. We have seen something of this sort in an English local journal of Yokohama, but we were not prepared to find a parallel in the *Echo du Japon*.

NOTES.

WE do not know exactly who Monsieur F. Granet may be. His address, as given by himself, is "France," which leaves something to be desired in point of perspicuity. That he is a forcible writer, however, nobody will deny who may happen to have read his last essay* on Annamite affairs and the attitude of political parties in France. It would appear that some disloyal Frenchmen have attempted to throw the blame of the Rivière episode upon the President of the Republic. They pretend that, in December, 1882, M. Dœclerc, viewing with apprehension the perilous situation of the expeditionary force in Tonquin, resolved to send reinforcements to Commandant Rivière. Accordingly the Minister of Marine, Admiral Jauréguiberry, drew up a plan of procedure, which, however, in consequence of the obstinate opposition it encountered from the President, was ultimately consigned to the flames by the Admiral, in a fit of patriotic indignation. So the reinforcements did not go, and in the issue Commandant Rivière lost his life. The formulators of this statement do not hesitate to add that, in vetoing

* Vide *L'Echo du Japon*, 29rd instant.

Admiral Jauréguiberry's scheme, President Grévy consulted, not the national honour, but the love of peace and repose felt by all egoistical grey-heads. Thus he becomes directly responsible for what they are pleased to call "the massacre of the Garrison of Hanoi." This charge the other side, represented by M. Granet, repel with indignation. They remind the calumniators that their attempt is "not only culpable, but rash:" that "the honored name of the President has preserved in the country, in Parliament, an authority which it would be imprudent to shake by rash assaults," and that "on the day when Democracy shall be called on to pronounce between an unscrupulous coterie and the President of the Republic, the decision will be given without hesitation." With all these assertions right minded persons will doubtless sympathise. What specially interests us, however, is the reason assigned for the President's veto, for it is admitted that he did veto M. Duclerc's proposal. Everybody knows, we are told that the object of M. Jauréguiberry's scheme was, not to send a few companies to Tonquin by way of reinforcements, but to despatch a force capable of completely occupying the country. To carry out this plan, the employment of a considerable number of troops would have been required, and the expenditure of a large sum of money, probably twenty or thirty million francs. "Such a vast enterprise went beyond the limits of the prudent and reserved policy which the Chamber had declared itself desirous of following in Tonquin. Many Ministers were disturbed at the prospect, and their scruples compelled its abandonment." But how does it happen, one is disposed to enquire, that no minister is found to oppose a still more extensive project to-day? How does it happen that President Grévy, having refused to permit such a "vast enterprise" as the occupation of Tonquin six months ago, readily consents to-day to a much vaster enterprise, namely, the occupation of the whole of Annam; the extension of France's Indo-Chinese colonies to the very borders of the Chinese Empire? Here is the reason, as given by M. F. Granet himself:—

La Chambre avait offert dans la séance de samedi (28 mai) un noble spectacle. En présence du drapeau insulté, au souvenir des braves tombés à plusieurs milliers de lieues; majorité et minorité, oubliant pour une heure leurs disputes, ont fraternisé dans une frêve de patriotisme. Les partis avaient disparu; il n'y avait plus que des Français.

Union touchante, honorable pour tous, mais éphémère! L'esprit de parti n'abdique jamais; il ne devait pas tarder à prendre sa revanche.

The question, then, has altogether ceased to be one of the wisdom or unwisdom of a national policy. Nothing remains to be considered but an "insulted flag" and "brave men who had fallen thousands of miles away." One reflects involuntarily what it was that Commandant Rivière proposed to himself as the object of his disastrous reconnaissance. Surely it was to kill as many Annamese soldiers and insult as many Annamese flags as possible. Had he succeeded in driving back the forces of the Tuduc and in dealing a fatal blow to that potentate's power, France would have continued to pursue her "prudent and reserved policy." But inasmuch

as he suffered himself what he hoped to inflict upon others, there can no longer be any exercise of prudence or reserve. It is well that this doctrine should receive the recognition it deserves. It amounts to this—that an assault becomes proper and prudent from the moment it encounters any resistance. If Commandant Rivière had shot down two or three scores of half-armed, half-savage Annamese, it would have been a glorious feat of arms; but since by a military blunder he managed to get his own men shot down, it was a "massacre." This is the logic of aggression.

THERE are a number of terms which the law excludes from the list of libellous utterances, but which cannot be counted conducive to the preservation of the public peace. Among these a prominent place will be given by common consent to the double-barrelled compliment of placing a man's mother among the canine species and calling him her son. Probably the sting of the remark lies in its impartiality. One cannot be quite sure about the gravamen of the insult, or in resenting it, whether one's motives are chivalrous or purely selfish. At all events, it may be safely predicted that very few persons would preserve their equanimity did they suddenly become aware that a gentleman was leaning over the gangway ladder of a ship and whispering such amenities as "Boo! Son of a b——h!" This is what seems to have happened the other day to a Yokohama shipping agent, Mr. C. H. Cobden, and our readers will not be surprised to learn that he lost no time in communicating his appreciation of the compliment to its author in the form of a blow in the face that drew blood. To appreciate the occurrence thoroughly it is necessary to observe that the person whose face suffered was a Japanese Custom House official, and that the origin of the trouble was a difference of opinion between him and Mr. Cobden as to the scope and employment of shipping permits. Mr. Cobden had frankly stated that the official's knowledge of his duties was *nil*, and the official, whose mind does not seem to have been of a very logical order, attempted to combat this proposition by querying the humanity of Mr. Cobden's mother. With such divergent data the discussion could scarcely have proceeded satisfactorily. The upshot was that, at the instance of Her Majesty's Assistant Judge, Mr. Cobden had to choose between the alternative of ten days' imprisonment or a ten dollars' fine. On the whole he has reason to congratulate himself. We doubt whether he could have indulged in the luxury of blacking the eye of a Custom House Officer equally cheaply anywhere else. But, on the other hand, it must be admitted that the behaviour of the officer was a little abnormal. The Assistant Judge pointed out that the Japanese was probably unaware of the offensive import of the epithet he employed. We trust that the surmise is correct; for to abuse a man's mother is a sin of infinite gravity in the eyes of Orientals. Cases are common where serious offence has been given by Japanese whose ignorance of the subtleties of English betrayed them

into rudeness when they desired to be markedly polite. This is, perhaps, unavoidable, but the line must be drawn somewhere, and we should be inclined to draw it at this side of all disrespect to a man's mother. Mr. Cobden would have done well had he subjected the flippant official to a catechism of slang terms, before proceeding to extremities, but the Custom House Authorities would do better if they were careful to provide altogether against the occurrence of such questions. Their officers might be required, without any undue infringement of personal liberty, to confine themselves to the use of language which they *do* understand. The representatives of Japanese sub-officialdom in Yokohama cannot be cited as salient examples of the courtesy for which their countrymen are generally remarkable, and as some of them have to do with shipping agents of Mr. Cobden's type, it would be judicious, perhaps, to warn them against the profuse employment of English maledictions. Otherwise the course of public business is not unlikely to be interspersed with racy incidents.

THE following is the text, as published by the *Official Gazette*, of His Excellency Iwakura's memorial, which he addressed to the Throne the day before he died:—

I have the honour to state most respectfully and sincerely that, in spite of the inferiority of my character, having received special favours at Your Majesty's hands, and occupying a prominent position in Your Government, in the present glorious era, I have devoted my utmost energies to render myself competent for the discharge of my duty, and to evince, by moderation and perseverance, a thorough interest in such affairs as have come within my functions for more than ten years. Your Majesty has had to enforce special laws in cases of national emergency and adopt measures for the extension of Your power as well as for the maintenance of Your Empire. The task has devolved upon You from Your remote ancestors and directly from Your father. But You have not yet brought Your work to perfection; and this is the reason why I have occupied an eminent position in Your Government and worked assiduously, in utter disregard of my lack of personal qualifications. Unfortunately, I have fallen sick through over-exertion; and I have thought that if, while I receive at Your hands favours with distinguished rank and honors, bestowed in recognition of my faithful, but unworthy, service, I remain unable to attend the Cabinet and participate in the management of public business on account of an indisposition which threatens to deprive me of the power to return my thanks for Your singular urbanity,—in this case blame must inevitably be my portion. In these circumstances, I earnestly beseech Your Majesty to take pity on me, and accept my resignation, so that I may be released from my duties and submit to treatment in the most effectual manner. Should my request be granted, I can regard myself as alive even in case of my death. Some time ago You honoured my sick-bed with a personal visit, and subsequently despatched special messengers to enquire after my health, but You would not allow me to resign. I know not how to express my thanks for Your favor. Yet I am compelled to ask you to consent to my resignation, even in violation of Your sentiments, by reason of my illness. I swear that I will never misbehave myself in any way, but will always remember the duty of a subject to his Sovereign, no matter whether I resign or hold my office. I implore your Majesty to grant my request for medical treatment. As soon as I recover from my indisposition by the employment of medicines, I will again wait on Your Majesty, and with the utmost sincerity and loyalty endeavour so to labor that each day shall afford an opportunity for a panegyric upon some of Your achievements. Hoping that Your Majesty will clearly realize my sentiments, I remain, Your most obedient and humble subject,

IWAKURA TOMOMI, Third Minister of State.

THE *Yi-yu Shimbun* states that a meeting of the Privy Council was held on Sunday last, presumably with regard to the death of H.E. Iwakura. The same journal says that on every occasion of receiving a visit from his colleagues, the dying statesman explained with great earnestness his views on political matters, and that he had two interviews with H.E. Yamagata, to whom he solemnly bequeathed the task of

carrying out the reforms now in contemplation. General Yamagata, who for several years held the portfolio of War, is now President of the Privy Council, and popular report indicates him as not unlikely to succeed to the high office vacated by the decease of Mr. Iwakura. He is a native of Choshu, so that his accession to the ranks of the *Daijin* would tend to strengthen the hands of the *Sat-cho* coalition in the Cabinet.

THE *Fiji Shimpō* states that a telegram has been received announcing the arrival of General Foote, on the 21st instant, at Nagasaki. It is also said that Min Yong-ik, Adviser to the Board of Foreign Commerce in Korea, has arrived at the same place. The purpose of the latter official's journey is not mentioned, but there are rumours that Japan is not his ultimate destination.

THE past year has been a bad one for underwriters both in England and America. In the United States over-competition was first stigmatized as the cause of disaster. If that is the trouble, it is not without parallel. Some of the largest English companies found, at the end of the year, that they had made a deficit, while the thirteen principal companies averaged but three per cent. profit. The result was not due to a decline in business, which was larger than ever before, but thirty per cent. of the premiums was swallowed up in expenses, which is considered too large a proportion. Reckless competition is the cause of the bad condition of the business in both the United States and Great Britain; but in the former it takes the form of assuming unsound risks, while in England excessive salaries and commissions are the leak.

A SAN FRANCISCO Exchange of late date remarks that a sudden rise has taken place in the price of silk, the cause ascribed being the failure of the crop in China and the partial failure of the European crop, an occurrence rightly deemed of considerable importance in connection with the efforts to establish the business of silk culture in California, for the higher the price of the article the greater the chance that it can be successfully produced there. "If the Chinese crop for this year is a failure, the price is likely to rule higher for several years to come. The failure may be due to disease of the eggs or other causes which will prevent the gathering of a full crop for a number of years, and California will receive the benefit of the higher prices in the initiation of her experiment under more favorable circumstances. Japan is rapidly increasing her export of silk, it is true, the quantity now sent abroad being four times as great as a dozen years ago, but still the demand is likely to keep ahead of the supply. If the business of sericulture is once firmly established in the United States, we may trust to American mechanical genius to devise inventions for reeling the silk which will go far to neutralize the advantage of cheap labor enjoyed in China and Japan. Indeed, it is claimed that this has already been done in the invention of Mr. Serrell, which is now being tried in the

principal silk-producing districts of France." We have already more than once alluded to this mechanical appliance. It was first brought before public notice by Mr. Peixotto, U.S. Consul at Lyons, some months ago, in his official reports to Washington. For obvious reasons it is well to refrain from predicting either its success or failure until it is reported upon by the Silk Association of America, which according to latest accounts had it under practical consideration.

ONE of the mono-metallist journals of New York writes that, "according to the monthly report of the Treasurer of the United States, 108,821,977 silver dollars lie rotting in the Treasury vaults at Washington." This is a new count in the indictment against the dollar of the fathers. There have been many and various charges against the big, round dollar, but never before has it been alleged that they rotted. If it is a fact that the large accumulation of silver coin in the Treasury of the United States is in a state of decay and putrefaction, no time should be lost in doing something to avert the loss that will inevitably descend upon the Government.

NOTICE has been received by the Imperial Telegraph Office to the effect that, notwithstanding the strike among the staff of the Western Union Telegraph Company, arrangements have been made whereby trans-Atlantic telegrams for all the principal towns in America will be transmitted as usual.

RECENT vital statistics from France indicate increasing sterility in that country. The census of December, 1881, showed a total population of 36,905,788, an increase over the census of 1876 of 766,260. The gross increase was 945,643, and the decrease (in thirty-four departments) was 179,383, thus leaving a net increase as given above. Of this augmentation five-sevenths was in larger towns, for 561,869 of the gain was reported from cities of over 30,000 inhabitants. This indicates that the great centres of population still attract the rural inhabitants. The increase of the population of France in fifty years, as shown by the difference between the census returns of 1831 and 1881 (32,569,229 and 37,672,048 respectively), was 5,102,825. The gain in the population of the United Kingdom in the same fifty years, exclusive of emigration, was 10,854,148, and it was estimated that 2,453,481 persons left Ireland between 1851 and 1877. The emigration from France, of course, has been comparatively insignificant. But notwithstanding the heavy emigration from the United Kingdom and Ireland, the latter have witnessed an actual growth of 18,000,000 population, as against the 5,000,000 in France. Taking the five years ending 1880, the population of England increased at the rate of 340,118, against 95,039 per annum in France. This contrast is the more conspicuous when shown in connection with the yearly increases in various countries of late years: France (average for fifty years) 95,039; Germany (for five years) 493,360,

and United States (for ten years) 1,155,446. The yearly gain in population per 10,000 of inhabitants has been: France 26; Great Britain 102; Germany 115, and United States 260.—*Bradstreet's*.

THE *Pall Mall Gazette* "Fisheries Exhibition Supplement," published June 2, in addition to a double-page diagram of the exhibition showing the location of the various exhibits, etc., contains a lengthy description of the display from the United States. Of the exhibition as a whole it is said that it is very popular, and is constantly crowded. The United States section is said to grow in importance with every inspection, and with fisherman and angler it holds the supreme position. It is noted that this exhibit forms a flattering manifestation of international courtesy, as the largest part of the contributions are from the National Museum at Washington and from the storehouses of the United States Fish Commission, private or trading exhibitors being very few. The account published of the various classes of exhibits in the American section are sufficiently detailed to give a fair notion of what has been sent abroad, and how the list of models, pictures, and specimens constitute, with proper explanation, an illustrated history of the fishing industry in the new world. All the varieties of American fishing boats from the earliest times are to be seen, with the dates of use, sectional views, and particular properties possessed. In conclusion are furnished some facts in reference to evolution in shipbuilding in the United States. Models of American types of fishermen are described, photographic views of their homes, and specimens of their handiwork are noted, which soon satisfy the visitor that the New England fisherman is much better off than the fishermen of the British Isles. Whale-ship models, models of American whalemen engaged upon a whale, and other scenes from the palmy days of this industry, are found of exceeding interest. A model of the United States steamship *Albatross*, launched last autumn, and specially designed for deep-sea research, together with the deep-sea electric light and other paraphernalia of this department of investigation, in which the United States has already made so important a record, serve only to whet the appetite of the visitors to the exhibition to see the *Albatross* itself, which is expected in the Thames in July as an exhibit of the United States section of the Fisheries Exhibition. The remaining features claiming special mention are shells, ornaments and sealskins, an angler's camp, and fish hatching. Last, but not least, are specified the entertaining exhibits of the Signal Service, the Lighthouse Board and the Life-saving Corps of the United States. The display of dried and canned fish is a large one. Fifteen American firms exhibit, in addition to the United States Museum and departmental exhibits. In the centre is a huge tin containing an 86 pound salmon.

THE *Friend of China* for June contains a reply, by the Rev. George Cockburn, of Ichang, to an official report addressed by Mr. Consul Spence,

late of that port, to Her Majesty's Government. The reverend author asks whether, when the Consul asserts that "of all the products of Szechuen, the most important now-a-days is opium," to those acquainted with China it is enough simply to remind him that he has for the moment forgotten rice and salt, and silk and medicines. Mr. Cockburn, while admitting that the poppy is far too largely cultivated in the province, denies that it is grown to anything like the extent asserted by the Consul. With reference to official interference Mr. Cockburn avers that it is very extensively exercised. He says a word on behalf of H.E. Ting, Governor-general of Szechuen, and his "most extraordinary" proclamation, which began by denouncing the growth of the poppy, and ended by giving notice that the transit duty on opium was to be raised. "The man must have a wonderfully keen moral sense that can detect hypocrisy in this, and it is no more extraordinary than it would be for an advocate of local option in the meantime to record his vote for an increased duty on spirits. I have no high idea of Chinese veracity, but if we only admit that, when men do not get all that they want, they may honestly take what they can get, it will be hard to show that the Chinese have been remarkable for duplicity in their negotiations respecting the opium trade." We read that, at Ichang, the magistrate interfered in a very practical way a few years ago by sending out companies of soldiers to root up the poppy, nor has any one dared to cultivate it in the district (*hien*) since. In some places the law may be a dead letter, but it does not follow that it will not be enforced when the time comes. The cause of the present laxity is not far to seek. If opium is to be forced upon China, it would be much to her advantage to produce it at home instead of importing it. Were the Chinese Government indifferent as to whether the people smoked opium or not, and only solicitous about securing a revenue and preventing silver from leaving the country, they would extricate themselves from their difficulties to-morrow by formally withdrawing all restrictions on the home-growth of opium. It serves their purpose in the meantime to let the law fall into abeyance. It mitigates to a certain extent the financial difficulties of the opium trade, and it is showing the foreigner that China could, if she wished, produce all the opium she can consume at a cheaper rate than it can be imported. Such are, doubtless, the motives underlying this strange apathy. The Chinese contrived to have the ammunition sent out by Britain against themselves, used on their behalf in suppressing the Taipings; they have subdued the Mohammedan power in the north and also in the south; they have been a match for progressive Japan; they have vindicated their suzerainty over Korea when it seemed lost; and, strangest of all, they have, without firing a shot, recovered territory from Russia by paying what is perhaps no more than a just claim for the cost of administration. At home they are winking at the cultivation of opium, and abroad they are making treaties with other nations, binding them not to engage in the

business of importing it. Britain will not again go to war to maintain the trade, and of this, too, they are aware. The Chinese know what they are about, and if we are not wise enough to do the right thing in time, we will find one day that they have overreached us. As for the injury done by the drug to its votaries, Mr. Cockburn affirms that it is prodigious, and cites numerous proofs of his opinion, one that certainly cannot, with any appearance of success, be controverted by apologists for the custom. He concludes:—"Evidence, purely Chinese, that opium is altogether evil can be produced *ad infinitum*. The streets of Ichang furnish it in abundance. To-day I went from my house to the British Consulate, eight minute's walk, and I saw posted up eleven advertisements of medicine for curing opium smoking (all purely Chinese), six sheet-tracts pointing out its evils and exhorting people not to use it (also purely Chinese), and a proclamation by the magistrate as to the repression and better regulation of opium shops. This, too, at a time when there are fewer bills allowed upon the walls than usual, as the people are cleaning up for their New Year. Why does Mr. Spence mention none of these things? He tells us 'Ichang has 700 opium shops at least,' an estimate which used to be given by those who pretended to know best, but a recent census by the magistrate has reduced the number to 550."

At the annual meeting of the Society for the suppression of the Opium Trade, held in May, the principal speaker was the Rev. J. Hudson Taylor, a medical missionary who has had thirty years work in China, where his experience has been largely among opium-smokers. As early as the year 1858 he assisted in the management of a missionary hospital in Ningpo, which had for one of its objects the cure of opium-smokers; and in 1859 and 1860 that hospital was under his exclusive management. He had thirty beds continually filled with opium-smokers, many of whom came 200 miles, or even more, in order to escape from the cruel bondage of a habit which they could not throw off. "Thus, twenty-five years ago I often saw men wrestling with the opium craving, strong men determined to throw it off, but the sufferings through which they passed were almost more than they were able to bear. The health and strength of their own bodies, the honour and purity of their wives, the success of their worldly prospects, and, what was more to them, as Chinamen, than all these, the grey hairs and tears of aged fathers and mothers, nerved them to endurance. But I have heard such men, not once or twice, say in despair, 'It cannot be helped. I can bear the craving no longer.' Thank God, many such men were saved. But, oh, there were many who came from a great distance, and at great cost to themselves in the hope of being cured whom we could not receive, for our accommodation and power to receive them were limited; and of those received not all were cured; and of the cured some relapsed into opium smoking." In Ningpo and Hangchow the experience of the

speaker was the same; and his testimony is borne out by all the members of the China Inland Mission, as well as by evangelists of other bodies and more worldly observers.

Canon Wilberforce, a name that will always be associated with benevolence and emancipation, addressed the meeting, insisting upon the vice of the practice of opium smoking and the wickedness of the trade in the narcotic. He was followed in the same strain by Messrs. Samuel Smith, M.P., and Samuel Morley, M.P., David MacLaren, and an Indian Baboo. Mr. Thomas Hanbury (for many years a merchant at Shanghai) moved the concluding resolution, which was seconded by Mr. James Cropper, M.P., and carried with applause. It runs:—"That the report and balance-sheet of the Society, which have been presented to this meeting, be adopted and printed; that very cordial thanks be given to Sir Joseph Pease for presiding on the present occasion, and also to Sir Joseph Pease and Mr. Samuel Smith for their able advocacy in the recent debate in the House of Commons, and to all those members of Parliament who supported them; to the Chairman and Members of the Executive Committee, the Honorary Treasurer and the Honorary Auditor, for their constant attention to the Society's work; and that the Executive Committee be re-elected, with power to add to their number."

On the other hand, the seventh annual report of the Society, says that the Marquis of Hartington's despatch to the Government of India, written in fulfilment of his lordship's promise to the House of Commons, was published last autumn, together with the Indian Government's reply. In this despatch, Lord Hartington, although not agreeing with the views of the society, acknowledges in respectful terms the importance of the Anti-Opium Movement, and "the ability, activity, and high character of those by whom it is supported," and calls upon the Indian Government to consider whether it cannot make some concession to public opinion in England. The reply of the Viceroy and his Council is an elaborate argument against any change of system or policy. They withdraw their opposition to the ratification of the Chefoo Convention, and are even willing "to consider any reasonable proposal made by the Chinese Government to increase their import duties;" but they rigidly guard themselves against a too liberal construction of this concession by a declaration that "the total loss of the revenue at present derived from opium in Bengal, would render the Government of India insolvent, and, on that account, any proposals which would involve the loss of so large a sum cannot be considered within the scope of practical politics."

THE *Express de Lyons* gives a fuller version than we have yet seen of the Treaty proposed by M. Bourée and Li Hung-chang. It runs as follows:—

The Chinese troops shall evacuate the provinces which they occupy in Tonquin and return to their cantonments in Yunnan and Kwangsi, the limits of

which they shall not in any cases or under any pretext pass by more than *_____* miles.

M. Bourée shall transmit to the Chinese Minister of Foreign Affairs a despatch from his Government, in which it shall be declared that France will not pursue in Tonquin any idea of conquest, and that she will not attempt any enterprise against the sovereignty of Annam.

France seeks chiefly to open across Tonquin a route by water so as to bring the Chinese province of Yunnan into free communication with the sea.

The town of Laokai, being considered the terminus of the navigable waters of the Red River, shall be recognized as a part of the possessions of China. Chinese Custom Houses shall be established there, and foreign goods destined for importation into China shall be subjected, after they have passed the barrier of Laokai, to the ordinary rules which obtain in the case of merchandise coming into the Chinese Empire by the open ports.

The Chinese Government pledges itself to adopt all measures necessary to assure the security of the import and export trade at Laokai.

The Governments of France and China shall mutually arrange for the tracing of a line of demarcation across the country comprised between the frontiers of the Chinese Empire and the left bank of the Red River.

The territory situated to the north of this line of demarcation shall be placed under the surveillance of the Chinese Government: that situated to the south, under the administration of the French authorities.

Under these conditions France and China reciprocally pledge themselves to protect the integrity of Tonquin against every enterprise of other nations.

These terms bear out, in some degree, the remarks made by M. Challemeil-Lacour to the Senate in reply to the questions of M. de Saint-Vallier. "M. Bourée," the Minister for Foreign Affairs said, "had never demanded or received any authority to negotiate. He took it upon himself to do so, under the belief that a war between France and China was inevitable, though nothing showed, and nothing as yet shows, that his forecast was right." M. Challemeil-Lacour then went on to explain that there had been nothing more than *pourparlers*, and that even these were couched in somewhat vague and contradictory terms. "M. Bourée made a useless declaration. He recognised that Annam was a vassal of China, which was simply to tear up the treaty of 1874." He made another error also, according to M. Challemeil-Lacour. He inserted a clause providing for the establishment of a Chinese Custom-house at the terminus of the Red River. "That," exclaimed the Minister, "was to hand over to China the key of the river's navigation."

And why should not China have the key? We speak of course from the standpoint of right, not of commercial expediency. Why should not China have the key? It is not an uncommon thing for people to keep the keys of their own doors; and since France's chief object, according to the showing of the same draft, was to obtain access to a Chinese province, Yunnan, *vid* the Red River, China might, with some show of reason, put forward a claim to act as gate-keeper. We hear a great deal about the treaty of 1874. That is to be held inviolable at all hazards. But we hear nothing of France's treaty with China; a treaty by which certain ports and no others are open under certain conditions to French trade. Is it quite consistent with the latter treaty that France should open for herself another port in Chinese territory—for that is what the Red River route to Annam

virtually signifies—without letting China have any voice whatsoever in the matter. If China is not to have a Custom-house at Laokai, where is she to have one, or is she to have one at all? Imagine these principles applied to the Danube, or to some other river in the navigation of which European Powers are interested.

So far as we can discern, M. Challemeil-Lacour failed altogether to explain the cause of M. Bourée's recall. No treaty had been concluded by that official with China. He had confined himself to hearing the Chinese prepositions and embodying them in a note to be submitted to the Cabinet at Paris for approval or rejection as M. Challemeil-Lacour and his colleagues should decide. In short, the limit of his fault was that he negotiated. It was probably because M. Tricou understood this that he took so much pains to make it clear that he had come to China expressly not to negotiate. Even to suffer himself to be enticed into *pourparlers* might lead to being recalled. Truly, having regard to the senseless language of M. Challemeil-Lacour when he hinted that England is egging China on, and spoke of the "revival of passions which were supposed to be extinct," one is tempted to credit the suggestion of certain London journals which declare that M. Bourée was recalled chiefly because he made the mistake of being on too good terms with the English Minister at Peking, and partly because he is not a personal friend of the Minister for Foreign Affairs.

IMMENSE excitement seems to have been caused in Paris by the victory of Frontin in the *Grand Prix*. The race was established in 1863 chiefly through the exertions of the Duc de Morny, the Municipal Council voting a credit of fifty thousand francs and the five principal railway companies fifty thousand more; generosity which was rightly described at the time as a piece of excellent financial wisdom. And so the event has proved, for the number of visitors drawn to Paris by the great race increases enormously every year and includes thousands of Englishmen and Americans. This time the contest had come to be regarded as a sort of duel between the French and English stables. For among the competitors from across the channel was St. Blaise, the winner of the Derby, while on the French side was Frontin, who made his first appearance last March, and running only four times in all, had obtained four victories. Still the odds were in favour of the English horse, though Frenchmen tried to console themselves with the thought that in 1864 Vermont won the *Grand Prix* against Blair Athol, while in 1873 Boiard beat Doncaster. Since 1863 the French Derby had been run 19 times—1871 having been a blank year—and of the 19 winners 9 had been French, 8 English, 1 American, and 1 Hungarian. For the three years, 1880, 81, and 82, however, the victory had fallen to a foreign stable, and there was naturally an absorbing anxiety about the result of 1883. Frontin is by an English sire out of a French dam, and

is the property of the Duc de Castries, brother-in-law of Marshal MacMahon. He was ridden by Cannon, while Archer steered St. Blaise, and so great was the enthusiasm over the former's victory that ladies were seen to kiss his boots; poor Archer, on the contrary, being so heartily hissed by his countrymen that his confusion was painful. The total value of the *Grand Prix* this year was 165,900 francs; namely, the stakes, 100,000; forfeits (399 horses), 57,900, and entries 8,000.

THE faculty of acquisitiveness occasionally takes curious forms. The other day a post office clerk at Berchem, near Anvers, committed suicide, and after his death the people of the district were surprised at receiving letters dated years before. Widowers, who had taken heart of grace and married again, found themselves suddenly perusing epistles from their former spouses; debtors, who had long before discharged their liabilities saw themselves menaced with all sorts of pains by irate creditors; lovers, who had forgotten one another, once more exchanged vows of affection and fidelity. The neighbourhood was aghast. It seemed as though the inhabitants of ghost-land had become frolicsome and were indulging in practical jokes. At last it turned out that the deceased clerk had been a gentleman of acquisitive eccentricities. There were days when he could not bring himself to part with the letters that came to hand, so he stowed them away in a portmanteau. The Post Office authorities found them there after his death, and thought it wise to distribute them, causing immense confusion thereby.

THE year 1883 will at least be memorable for its exhibitions. In Tokiyo an exhibition of Fishery appliances and produce, and a grand Fisheries Exhibition in London, have been held. Louisville, Kentucky, has a show opening on the 1st of August, and classic Boston, Mass., opens hers on the 1st of the following month. Calcutta has a grand exposition from the 1st of December. Even Poonah proposes to have one; and an Australian Exhibition to be held in London is also in contemplation.

THE confidence of persons who advocate trial by jury everywhere and under all circumstances must have received a somewhat rude shock when, at the Star Route trial, Juror Vernon lay down in Court and became unconscious of passing events owing to an unwise attempt to cut off his usual supply of liquor, and when it was found necessary to keep what he was pleased to call his mind in working order by periodical doses of whiskey. One ceases to appreciate the full force of subtle legal arguments, carefully collected testimony, lucidly enunciated laws and fine displays of judicial acumen, if the ultimate arbiter of the whole performance is to be a sot, wavering between delirium tremens and alcoholic discernment. Juror Vernon, however, may be dismissed as an accident rather than a type. A better illustration of the dangers of the system is furnished by a case which occurred the

other day in Greece. According to the *Messager d'Athènes*, a sub-lieutenant of gendarmerie was put upon his trial for theft, and an overwhelming mass of testimony was produced in proof of his guilt. Nevertheless, the twelve citizens who formed the jury, brought in a verdict of not guilty. To complete the farce, their foreman had no sooner pronounced the words than the whole twelve men were marched off to prison at the instance of the public prosecutor, on a charge of having taken bribes from the accused.

MARINERS in the China Sea have been given another guide to navigation, the already extensive service of the Lighthouse Department of the Chinese Imperial Maritime Customs having been augmented by the erection of a Lighthouse on Bonham Island, in reference to which the usual notice has been issued from the Coast Inspector's Office.

Two cases of cholera, both of which terminated fatally, are reported to have occurred in Tokyo on the 19th instant. Whether this be true or false, there does not seem to be much cause for apprehension on the score of cholera this year.

ACCORDING to the latest advices from the North, the other schooners had met with varied success in hunting, the *Penelope*, the new craft launched last year, having at the beginning of the month the biggest bag, 16 otters and one pup. The *Helena* had 4, the *Olone* 7, the *Rose* 2 and one pup, the *Diana* 5 and four pups, the *Stella* 8 and two pups, and the *A. Cashman* 10 or 12 otters. No accident or casualty from the fleet has to be reported, and fair weather had mostly been met. The sealing season had not commenced when the last news left.

TUESDAY'S *Hochi*, *Shimbun* publishes a report from Sapporo to the effect that a fire had broken out on a mountain where charcoal is manufactured and that all efforts to extinguish it had proved unavailing since water could not be obtained. Grave apprehension prevailed for the safety of a neighboring gunpowder magazine, but all possible precautions were being taken to prevent an explosion. The origin of the fire is ascribed to an escaped convict.

TELEGRAPHING from ships at sea to shore is by no means a new notion, as *Engineering* reminds us. There are things much more unlikely of realization. The chief difficulty in the way of establishing mid-ocean-Telegraph stations has hitherto been the necessity of keeping the ship connected, by a branch cable, with the main cable lying on the bottom, and anchoring her so as to maintain this communication in all weathers and depths. Professor A. E. Dolbear has now proposed a plan which may render this fixed communication unnecessary. A large metal plate attached to an insulated conductor is lowered from the ship to the bottom on the track of the cable, and another plate is merely submerged. Between these two plates a battery

and Morse key is inserted. On working the key the Morse currents induce other currents in the cable, which can be heard in telephones attached to the cable on shore.

THE now proved ability of India to supply tea, and the favorable reception of the leaf in England naturally produce satisfaction in both countries. A recently published tea chart shows the great increase in the consumption of Indian tea during the past six years. In the first three months of 1878 it was 3,215,000 pounds, and in the first quarter of 1883, 5,152,000 pounds. The price has also declined from 1s. 7d. to 1s. 1d.

Whether the leaf be Indian or Chinese, there can be no doubt that, as an American journal just reminds us, Great Britain's consumption of tea is one of the marvels of commerce. Last year the revenue derived from duties on tea, at six-pence per pound, amounted to £4,200,000, showing that the importations must have been 198,000,000 pounds. This is at the rate of five pounds per head for the total population, and is far in excess of the largest importation of that article into the United States. In the fiscal year 1882 the importation of tea into the United States amounted to 78,789,060 pounds, valued at \$19,392,102. But the import of coffee was 459,922,768 pounds, valued at \$46,041,609. Why the United States should be a coffee-drinking nation and Great Britain a tea drinking nation is a question to which the students of social science have not devoted sufficient attention. It is reasonable to suppose that in the course of half a century this difference in habits might create important physiological peculiarities and distinctions.

THE following interesting note on the employment of the blind in Japan appeared in the *Philadelphia Medical Times* of last April. It is from the pen of Doctor W. N. Whitney, of Tokyo:—

On a fine day one can scarcely walk a square in any of the more thickly populated districts of Tokyo without hearing the shrill whistle of the blind shampooer, as, with long stick in hand, he slowly feels his way, calling out from time to time his fee for a complete shampoo.

A system of employment for the blind so suited to their condition, affording as it does fair profit and an abundance of healthful exercise in-door and out, certainly deserves at least passing notice.

Shampooing, or perhaps, more properly speaking, massage, as practised by these blind men (called *amma*), consists of a gentle rubbing with the palms of the hands of the surface of the whole body, together with passive exercise of the joints, and a slow kneading of the superficial muscles, more particularly those of the trunk and extremities. The sensation to the subject is usually very pleasant, especially if submitted to after violent or continued exertion, as after a difficult climb or a long walk.

Japanese physicians recommend it in tabes dorsalis and certain other forms of paralytic disorders, as well as in hysteria and some kinds of headache, in lumbago and in many other diseases, also in convalescence from diseases in which there has been loss of power or wasting of the muscles. It is much used, and probably often abused, in cases of difficult labor. One Kagawa, who first employed it for this purpose, called it "the body-regulating art." It is also generally employed after labor to soften the breasts.

Massage is not employed in rheumatism, gout, or acute fevers. Acupuncture, too, was formerly performed by some of these *amma*; and I am told that the examinations for license to practise these, especially the latter, were very rigorous.

The skill and anatomical knowledge sometimes acquired by these unfortunates are truly wonderful, for, besides a gentle touch and an almost instinctive appreciation of the seat of pain, many of them know all the superficial muscles, and can even tell in what position to insert needles for the cure of certain diseases. Unfortunately, scabies has been occasionally communicated by these shampooers, as well as certain contagious diseases,—a fact, however, which does not seem to lessen the demand for shampooing.

I am told that over one-half of the cases of total blindness in former days were attributable to small-pox; and it is probable that purulent ophthalmia and syphilitic disease were responsible for the larger portion of the remainder.

The number of blind, deaf, maimed, etc., according to the published census of 1875, was 101,587, of whom 63,759 were males and 37,828 were females, the total population at that time being 33,110,825. Of this number it is probable that the greater part were blind, and it is not at all unlikely that in former days the proportion of this class to the total population was still greater, as the gradual institution of compulsory vaccination, the regular examination of prostitutes, and the growing popularity of Western methods of treatment of ophthalmic disorders have tended, on the one hand, to limit the spread of the most potent causes of blindness, and, on the other, to increase the number of eyes rescued from actual loss.

Since the "restoration" in 1868, the ancient laws allowing these blind certain rights and privileges have been repealed, and the profession is now open to all. Formerly the blind belonged to the so called "long-robed" or professional class, in which were also included those who practised the arts of acupuncture and divining, the priests and the doctors. Various titles or degrees were bestowed upon the blind upon passing examinations and the payment of certain fixed sums of money. The lowest of these degrees, next to that of the common *amma*, was the *shibun*, which gave the possessor certain rights and privileges and raised him to the rank of the military or two-sworded class. He was also permitted to wear a ceremonial dress on certain occasions and to carry a white stick surmounted by a wooden ball. The fee for this degree was about one hundred dollars. Upon obtaining the next degree, that of *ko-to*, the blind man ceased to practise the art of shampooing, and became a teacher of music, for which position he had been preparing during the chrysolia state, so to speak, of shampooer. Above the degree of *ko-to*, came that of *ken-yo*, or inspector, the fee for which was one thousand dollars. To obtain this degree was considered a great honor, and among its possessors were to be found some very remarkable men. One of these, Hanawa Kenya by name, a professor of mathematics, is said to have possessed such a wonderful memory that he could recognize at once any quotation made from any book in his great library, and could give the title of the book and even the number of the page from which the quotation had been made. It is also said that, although he had been blind from infancy, he knew the names, forms, and meanings of nearly all the Chinese characters in use, and was, besides, a writer of note.

The highest degree or rank was that of *soro-ku*, of which there were, I understand, only two holders at one time in each of the capitals. All the appointments and honorary titles were conferred through these *soro-ku*, who also acted as judges in matters relating to their own people.

A certain amount of authority was attached to the lower ranks, and no doubt added considerably to the income of the possessors. On occasions of great rejoicing in any household, as, for instance, a birth, a marriage, or elevation in office, one of these blind shampooers would call for a present, which by law it was necessary to make, and which ranged from ten or fifteen cents upwards, according to the wealth and position of the family. The collection of these fees fell to each *shi-bun* in every district in turn, besides which fees were also received from apprentices.

In order that a blind man might travel from place to place, and yet not interfere with other blind practising in these places, his stay in each town or village was limited to three days, during which time only he might receive fees for professional services.

The blind were also allowed to lend money, for which they received high rates of interest, popular sentiment protecting them from loss. A blind man might marry only after he had taken a degree, as this was considered proof that he would be able to provide for a family; but marriages between blind and blind were strictly forbidden. There were societies or guilds of blind men, which afforded their members considerable protection.

This whole system has proved of great utility in giving these unfortunates an opportunity of competing on a most favorable footing with their more fortunate brethren, and at the same time stimulating them to higher attainment. Such, indeed, was its success that

the blind, unfortunate as they might be in the loss of sight, led happy and comfortable lives, supporting themselves and families, and proving as well a benefit to their fellow-creatures. It is, therefore, not without some feeling of regret that we see these old institutions passing away, and in their stead attempts being made to care for the blind in large asylums and at public expense.

The experiment of teaching a few of our own blind this most useful art, though, I believe, yet untried, is perhaps worthy of consideration, especially as massage is beginning to have an important place in the treatment of so many disorders.

ONE need not come to the Orient to find newspapers remarkable for the strength of their language. Hear, for example, what the *République Française* has to say:—"If the inhabitants of Kamtschatka, if the Iroquois or the Redskins, have deliberative assemblies, as they doubtless have, the language used there is more polished than the language spoken at the Municipal Council of Paris." It must be gratifying to Frenchmen who have any care for the proverbial courtesy of their countrymen, to find the preservation of that quality so vigorously recommended. But the interesting part of the matter is that it is not politeness which is at stake but gas. The Gas Company of Paris is a political institution. It is "the Citadel of Opportunism." One of its founders, M. Dubonchet, is said to have left to M. Gambetta several millions of francs, gained in business, for the express purpose of paying the expenses of Opportunist propagandism. The Municipal Council, however, is Radical, and it gave the Company notice the other day that the price of gas supplied to the city must be reduced from 15 to 12 centimes, and that of gas supplied to private consumers, from 30 to 25 centimes. The grounds of this reduction were that the price of production having been largely reduced, consumers ought to profit by the fact. And indeed there is room for participation. For it is calculated that the Company has recovered its original outlay seventeen times over. Its shares, of a nominal value of 250 francs, were selling a few months ago for 1,600, and paying a dividend of 82 francs. Nevertheless the directors have refused to make any reduction, and threaten to shut off the gas if consumers persist in declining to pay more than the rates fixed by the Municipal Council, which, in its turn, promises to annul the Company's Charter if the latter ventures upon any such course. Now the *République Française* is the leading organ of the Opportunists, and hence it is that it finds the language employed by the Municipal Council less polished than that heard in the deliberative assemblies of the Iroquois and the Redskins. The connection needed explanation.

In the little Ile Maurice there is published a journal called the *Cernten*. It has a correspondent at Tamatave, who gives some interesting particulars of the state of affairs in Madagascar. The Hovas, he says, are much concerned about the ill-health of their queen. Her death is daily expected and her successor is quite uncertain. The chiefs of the Government are by no means unanimous in their election, and the decease of the queen may be the signal for

a general battue. Added to these perplexities are the complications with France, and the dissatisfaction caused by the failure of the embassy to England and Germany, which Powers seem disposed to leave Madagascar to its fate; meanwhile the manufacture of arms and levying of soldiers goes on apace. The more violent patriots declare that not one inch of Malagassy soil shall pass into foreign hands, while the moderate party is not indisposed to purchase peace at the expense of a little territory. The strangest feature is that the military preparations are all carried out without any cost to the Government. Those who work on the fortifications not only receive no pay, but are obliged to support themselves and furnish the materials required for the undertaking. Even the soldiers have to fight gratis, to find their own food, arms, and ammunition. It may well be supposed that under these circumstances, the trade of war is not very popular.

We published on Saturday last a telegram announcing that the British Government had agreed with M. de Lesseps for the construction of a second Suez Canal, and that three millions would be contributed by England towards the cost. We now see by a telegram to the *Shanghai Courier* that the amount is stated to be eight millions. Supposing this latter sum to be correct, which we cannot yet believe, it will be altogether a British undertaking. A subsequent telegram states that Sir Stafford Northcote has given notice of a motion to reject the agreement, but in face of the recent agitation for a second canal, the Devonshire baronet's proposition will hardly receive the support necessary to carry it.

H.I.M. THE MIKADO has conferred the posthumous title of the *Daijo Daijin* upon the late Ex-Third Minister of State, accompanied by the following Rescript:—"The Ex-Third Minister of State aided me with unflagging fidelity and loyalty in the accomplishment of the great work—the work which is destined for eternity. He was the pillar of the nation and a model for my subjects. I ascended the throne in my youth. Dependent upon the Ministers, I listened to their counsels. The deceased was my teacher. Heaven has deprived me of his aid! How grieved am I! In honor to his memory, I confer on him the posthumous title of First Minister of State.—*Official Gazette*."

An enterprising French "interviewer," Mr. Maurice Francais, has sounded Mr. Dupuis, the famous Tonquin explorer; and the result of his investigations into the recesses of that energetic traveller's opinion, cannot fail to be respectfully received at the present juncture. The time will come shortly for some student of French opinion to analyse its different developments and hesitations and angers, as now manifested. The mere chronicler's mission is to seize words and facts as they fly. One can readily understand the interest that the visitor had in eliciting the opinion of his illustrious compatriot, whose ideas may also be accepted as those of a very large

class, fortunately not a majority class, of modern French Society. However, allow Mr. Maurice Francais to speak of his exploitation of Mr. Dupuis for himself. We are indebted to a quotation in the *Echo du Japon* for our ability to report it. Mr. Dupuis lives in small and very modest rooms in the Rue Saint-Georges. There, in one chamber simply furnished, in the midst of maps, pamphlets, and packets of newspapers, the explorer of Tonquin received his visitor with affability and an evident disposition to answer the questions that might be addressed to him. Viewing Mr. Dupuis in such modest state, Mr. Francais could not help thinking of the big fortune possessed by Mr. Dupuis when he became "possessed of the idea to open Tonquin to the commerce of the world, and the patriotic scheme of endowing his country one day with a rich province." Of course Mr. Dupuis was quite free of any notion of adding more to his own already sufficient resources. Ambition and love of wealth are not incompatible with patriotism. However, as for Mr. Dupuis personally, he speaks in an animated tone of voice accompanied with original gestures and phrases. His physiognomy, both pleasant and masterful, appears to reflect the sorrows that he has so long endured. As regards the subject, he entered upon it at once *avec une cordiale brusquerie*; and this is about what the reporter says he said. The death of Rivière and his unfortunate comrades in arms was doubtless the result of "a heroic imprudence" something like that which caused the death of Garnier the brave. To-day the matter is to avenge the French blood which has been spilt, and finish with the Tonquin question. Its solution is impatiently awaited. Tonquin might have been taken without striking a blow. It is well known that the Tonquinese are already gained, and that they await with impatience the French who have to rescue them from the tyrannical Annamite yoke. What ought to have been done, whether according to Mr. Dupuis himself, or his interviewer, or both, was to send the explorer to Tonquin to announce that France was about to intervene and drive out the Annamite mandarins. "The Tonquinese notables and the whole population would then have been prepared to receive" their French liberators. If the troops of the republic had arrived with proper introductions from their President—we beg pardon, with "a French administration ready to take possession of the administrative posts"—the Tonquinese would have abandoned the Annamites and opened the gates of all their towns to the French; and thus "the military expedition would have consisted in a simple demonstration made in the midst of a benevolent welcome from the populace." Arcadian Mr. Dupuis! When, oh, when, have European settlements in Asia been so peacefully founded? Were you not, worthy and adventurous explorer, somewhat "pulling the leg" of your admiring interviewer? But to resume. "Why did the French wait so long, to realize all this, for the massacre of Commandant Rivière and his companions in arms?" Mr. Dupuis whispers in reply (and Mr. Maurice Francais is, in his interpretation

of Mr. Dupuis, in close accord with Mr. Grant who perhaps draws inspiration from a similar source) Mr. Gambetta took the greatest possible interest in Tonquin: it was only his short tenure of power that prevented him from taking up the question, . . . which, however, he intended to resume as simple deputy.

According to the interviewer, Mr. Dupuis is convinced that there is no prospect of Chinese intervention any more than there was in 1878, when the French first occupied Hanoi. We are reminded that the situation was then, much more than now, delicate for France, whose home provinces were hardly evacuated by the German armies, and Mr. Dupuis, "officially charged by the Chinese Government, had just forcibly opened to China's profit the road from Yunnan to the sea by the Red River." At that time France and China met on level ground, and "the Court of Peking might have complained of what it would have had perfect right to consider as a defection on the part of its Agent, Mr. Dupuis, in favor of the French whose presence he desired with all his heart, and to whom he had furnished opportunity, to interfere."

The Annamites have still to be considered; "and they are in no respect to be dreaded" (in spite of Rivière's experience). For when the Tonquinese see the arrival of the French, and realize that they are certain to be protected this time and not abandoned, they will second their Gallic visitors to the best of their ability to chastise and expel the Annamites. And, after all, what is there to fear—it is the reporter interpolating now—from such Annamite troops as Dupuis and his little band and that handful of heroes commanded by Garnier, invariably put to flight? Did not Commandant Rivière, abandoned as he was to his meagre resources, hold them victoriously at bay for more than eighteen months? Once again, and finally, in this interview, Mr. Dupuis insisted upon the friendliness of the Tonquinese people for the French, and their desire to be once and for all rid of their Annamite "oppressors." Probably the views attributed to the traveller are those entertained by him. At any rate they are such as he might naturally be supposed to hold; and, as the reporter suggests, none than he would be better suited to guide French schemes in Indo-China, provided they be schemes of adventure and conquest.

DEPUTY RIVIÈRE recently proposed in the French Chamber a bill abolishing that article of the civil code which forbids inquisitions into the paternity of a child. One of those who supported the measure instanced a case of a father who had openly espoused a natural daughter of his own, in the very teeth of the authorities, who were unable to prevent him as the child had no legal status. M. Rivet himself told the following story:—"One day there came into the office where I acted as clerk an individual who was known to us all because he had lent some money through us on mortgage, and came twice a year to receive his interest. He had left his wife to

live with his servant, by whom he had had a daughter. Addressing himself to the chief clerk, he said:—"I have come for a marriage license. I am going to espouse my daughter." "Your daughter!" exclaimed the astonished clerk. "Certainly. Why not?" "But you are married." "My wife is dead. Here is her burial certificate." "You used always to say that if ever you became a widower you would marry your servant." "Yes, I used to say so. But she is too old now. I prefer the young one." "Your daughter?" "My own daughter, whom I have not been able to recognise because she was born out of wedlock, and who, so far as you, the Mayor, and the Code are concerned, is not my daughter at all." "How old is she?" "Seventeen." "But will she consent to marry you?" "I should think so, considering she has been my mistress since she was fifteen!" "And the other, what will you do with her?" "I put her out of doors fifteen days ago." The chief clerk got up and went into the notary's office. A few moments afterwards the notary came out, pale, and with trembling lips. "Get out," he cried to the would-be bridegroom, pointing to the door. "All right," the other replied, "we shall see. According to the law my daughter is not my daughter. I can marry her therefore, if I please, and you have no right to refuse me my certificate." He spoke the truth. A less scrupulous notary drew up the certificate, and a few days later the incest was duly legalized."

A NICK question came before the German Courts two months ago. Article 303 of the Penal Code provides for the imposition of a fine upon anyone who injures or destroys an object that does not belong to him. The principle is clear enough, but the application is sometimes attended with perplexities. A Prussian gentleman of Rospitz hung himself by the neck to the rafters of his room. One of his neighbours, happening to have business with him, came in and finding him in this unbusiness-like position, cut him down without preamble. "He would-be suicide was furious. He summoned his neighbour before the local tribunals for violation of domiciliary rights and destruction of property, to wit, one cord. The tribunal, after due deliberation, decided that Article 303 could not safely be applied to this busybody, although everybody was obliged to admit that, in the words of his accuser, "he had meddled with something which in no wise concerned him."

THE unfortunate occurrence at the funeral of His Excellency the late Third Minister of State is a subject to which we would fain avoid any renewed reference. We have pleasure, however, in saying that from what we have since been able to learn, the affair was in great part the outcome of inadvertence. The ladies and gentlemen who appeared in the stalls set apart for Japanese officials taking part in the funeral, had, in the main, no conception of the blunder they were committing. Ignorant of the arrangements made either on their behalf or in connection with the obsequies, they failed, it is said, to

recognize the nature of the place where they found themselves, and, not unnaturally, reposed implicit trust in the discretion of their guides. In our previous comments we scarcely thought it necessary to observe that some such explanation might be presumed in the case of the Yokohama residents, who certainly may be acquitted of any willingness to give offence. But this explanation cannot be stretched beyond a certain limit. It leaves much to be accounted for. A correspondent who addresses us to-day on the subject seems, however, to be under a misapprehension. He does not distinguish between the picnic party and the rowdies who apparently thought that a national funeral in Japan was a good opportunity to display European independence of decency and etiquette. His confusion is a pregnant comment on the whole affair, but we do not hesitate to publish his letter, our original notice of the event having been dictated not less by a desire to show that the thoughtlessness of which we complained is not common to foreigners, than by a conviction that a majority of those who inadvertently performed such a regrettable rôle at the funeral would themselves be the first to condemn it.

AUTOBIOGRAPHIES are not uncommon. A great many people have undertaken to write them, but very few have ever made any profession of speaking the whole truth, and none have succeeded in persuading their readers that they had any such intention. Jean Jacques Rousseau is an exception to the former statement, but not to the latter. He makes a show of being perfectly candid, but fails to sustain the effect. Yet writing is in some respects like acting. To be quite natural is the highest art an author can cultivate. Boswell had a gift in that direction, and the consequence was that he achieved immortality. Mr. M. Z. Martin, who was shipwrecked in the *Sumida-maru*, and who has published his experiences through the columns of a local journal, is similarly gifted. From the very outset he plunges into the greatness of simplicity. Embarking on board the *Sumida-maru*, he tells us, "we had as passengers only one other gentleman as well as myself." There were two gentlemen, in short, and myself was one of them. Then "the time passed quickly until the fatal moment; and in the face of the fact that the ocean was perfectly calm and scarce a breeze to be felt at all, little did we, on that fatal morning, think that at any rate one of our number would be within a stone's throw of eternity; but such alas! was my fate." The ship struck. "As soon as I felt the shock," continues Mr. Martin, "I jumped out of my berth, rushed forward to the bridge, and there met the captain who told me at once to get my things up ready for transshipment into the boats." But Mr. Martin had no care for his "things." After pausing a moment to admire the captain's "grand composure at that terrible moment," he "immediately ran aft to find that all the boats save one were lowered. I was quickly pushed into one, but owing to some mistake the 'painter' gave way and I found the tide taking me away

from the ship; so I shouted to those on the wreck, but they failed to hear me, and at once turned their attention to lowering another boat." His craft drifted on and began to leak, and he was in his "pajamas and night-shirt only." The oars were heavy; the boat, large and clumsy. He drifted on to within a stone's throw of eternity and then swooned. Having lain thus for "one, two, or three hours" he recovered consciousness. Probably by that time he was within pop-gun range of eternity, but he still had time to say his prayers and drift a little farther. Presently to his hopeless ears there came a shout "wafted o'er the breeze." Then he suddenly remembered what a rich prize he would be to the Japanese pirates, the "bands of lawless ruffians" who frequent the shores of these islands seeking to expose a man to "an agonizing death by starvation and torture" for the sake of his pajamas and night-shirt. Then for the first time he began to appreciate the charms of a "quiet, watery grave." "With almost "bated breath he strained his eyes in the direction of the now more audible shouts," though even the full benefit of this resource was denied to him, he being, as he parenthetically explains, short-sighted. Soon, however, he discerned, "dashing towards him over the now roaring sea, the second officer of the *Sumida* with a gallant crew." He was saved, landed at a Japanese fishing village, and taken into a hut "where he lay down in an exhausted condition." His sufferings had been terrible. The mad rapidity of his journey to and from the confines of eternity; the harrowing anxiety of the moment when blood-thirsty pirates were supposed to be bearing down on his pajamas and night-shirt; the overwhelming effect of the rescue from an agonizing death by starvation and torture—all this was well calculated to upset his mental equilibrium. The poor fishermen, pitying his condition, "cooked up" for him a cake made of rice flour and water and baked it on a charcoal fire. But it didn't rise properly, and proved of the "consistency of heavy suet pudding," not at all the proper aliment for a gentleman who had just been within a "stone's throw of eternity." His "exhausted condition prevented his doing justice" to the fishing folk's dough. He had to be taken on to another place where, obtaining a pony, he performed the feat of riding 13 miles to Shimonoseki; a truly marvellous performance, when one reflects that he had but a short time previously been swooning, praying, getting within a stone's throw of eternity, bating his breath, straining his short-sighted eyes, barely escaping a lawless band of piratical ruffians, and attempting to swallow rice cake of the consistency of heavy suet pudding. It is not often that such hair-breadth escapes and heroic conduct are to be found among the realities of life. Mr. M. Z. Martin is well qualified to cite his own case as an example of the admirable advice he gives to shipwrecked people:—"Under all circumstances, keep perfectly cool and collected." Nobody could have been more cool and collected than he was. While fully sympathizing with him, however,

we cannot honestly regret that he happened to be on board the *Sumida-maru* on "the fatal morning." The world would otherwise have been deprived of a charmingly artless narrative. The true inwardness of the tale is incomparable. Nobody but Mr. M. Z. Martin could have written a column of matter about his experiences at the wreck of the *Sumida-maru* without travelling an inch beyond Mr. M. Z. Martin and his concerns. The author must not be surprised if certain scoffers make a mock of his genius.

Sometimes nature will betray its folly,
Its tenderness, and make itself a poisine
To harder bosoms."

He must not be surprised if unkind slanderers give a different version of his sufferings: tell how a fussy, egotistical, short-sighted, and nervous individual, of middle age, taking passage, in the *Sumida Maru*, became the *bête noir* of all busy men, until one morning, the sea being perfectly calm, and the sky clear, the ship ran on a rock within a few hundred yards of shore: how the nervous passenger rushed up in his night clothes, and on being assured that there was no danger whatsoever, and told to go below and collect his things, resumed his rushing, got among the sailors who were lowering boats to tranship the mail, entreated them to save him and made himself generally such an obstacle to progress that in sheer self-defence they had to push him into a boat and send it adrift. How, finding himself adrift, he first shouted wildly to be rescued, but failing to attract attention and seeing that the boat leaked, swooned away; how, coming to, he was observed to say his prayers; how his presence being now less likely to create confusion, the second officer went to bring him back, but hailing him after the fashion of sailors, was mistaken for a piratical chief and nearly threw the nervous man into convulsions; how the reaction from abject terror to a sense of safety proved almost equally disastrous; how these varied emotions so completely prostrated him that he had to be thenceforth treated like a bale of goods, and was unable to swallow a rice dumpling; how he forthwith became in his own short-sighted eyes a sort of Sinbad the Sailor, and how publishing his experiences in a local newspaper, he created a vast amount of merry pity. Mr. M. Z. Martin must not be surprised, we say, if this story gets abroad. But let him take comfort. No such artist has appeared among us since Yokohama was opened to foreign trade, and if he will give us his experiences of men and things in Japan, with some deductions similar to his advice to shipwrecked men, he may confidently count on seeing himself a celebrity.

A RECENT letter from Pusan, Korea, to the *Mainichi Shimbun* refers to the kidnapping last year of the Dai-on-kun, father of the Korean King, and the supposed originator, or mainspring of the *emute* in Sôul last year. The correspondent says that some of the old prince's countrymen believe him to be in Japan, while others hold that he is in China in possession of great wealth. The Chinese Government coerces

the Korean Government, which is petitioning the Emperor of China to liberate the captive. The Commissioner in charge of foreign intercourse at Pusan is a man of progressive views and an enthusiastic advocate of external relations. He has lately visited the Japanese Consul-General, Mr. Mayeda, and expressed his willingness to execute any commissions in Sôul for that gentleman. When the Consul requested him to obtain autographs and pictures of the Dai-on-kun, he was surprised at the friendly feeling thus evinced after the occurrence of the outrage at Sôul. Mr. Mayeda speaks of the Commissioner as a man of much ability and has great hopes of him. The Korean officer was highly pleased and promptly complied with the request of Mr. Mayeda for the writings and likenesses. The Korean Government has been financially embarrassed by the rebellion. A bad harvest has increased the number of thieves, but the statesmen of the peninsula are working hard to remedy existing evils. Rice planting is impeded by drought, and in every province prayers are offered up for rain. A very curious custom prevails in Korea, and is resorted to with the sanction of the Government in case of dire necessity. It is throwing dirt on the top of mountains. Religious books speak of it as infallibly producing a rainfall. The execution of members of the anti-progressive faction has added to the number of the internal enemies of the Government, which is said to repent the harsh measures it adopted under the pressure of a grave occasion.

AN example of what it is for a country to be without proper systems of transportation is nowhere more evident than in Russia, and, there, in no respect more painfully clear than in the question of coal. Although possessing vast measures of excellent coal, that empire imports half of what it consumes of the mineral. Possessing the cheapest labor in Europe and coal equal to the best found elsewhere, but lacking railroads or other means of conveyance operating at low rates, Russia finds it impossible to bring her produce to the consumer.

CINCHONA is to be largely cultivated in Java. Indeed, a recent writer, Mr. Moens, upon the condition and prospects of Netherlands India, believes that while there will not be any great fall in the price of the bark for four years, yet after that the produce of South America will be to a great extent shut out; and that Java will supply the world within fifteen years time. This is not very probable, as India and Ceylon are both rapidly developing their cinchona plantations, and are at least likely to have a share of the business. There seems no reason, from its history, why the tree should not thrive in Southern Japan; but we are unaware that any effort has yet been made for its acclimatization.

THE *Hioغو News* reports that the *Hakodate Maru*, one of the vessels transferred to the Union Shipping Company by the Government, has had a successful trial trip upon the com-

pletion of the extensive repairs done at Messrs. E. C. Kirby & Co.'s Iron Works. While at Ono a hurricane deck was added to this steamer, her hull was thoroughly overhauled, and she was supplied with new engines and boilers made at the Works. On the trial trip the *Hakodate Maru* attained a speed of a little over 9 knots, while with the former engines 6 knots were the utmost that could be got out of her. Naturally the owners of the steamer were much gratified at the improvements effected in their vessel, and after the successful trial trip they entertained Mr. Kirby and his principal employes at a dinner given to commemorate the satisfactory completion of the work.

NORMAN MACLEOD appeared at H.B.M. Court on Monday, sued by a Chinaman for an amount, \$26.95, for carpenter's work done. The defendant, who appears from the evidence to be in the habit of keeping his accounts on the wall, had no case whatever, and after deducting an amount admitted as having been paid on account, His Honour ordered the defendant to pay the balance.

At the U.S. Court before Consul-General Van Buren on Monday, two seamen named Hammond and Andersen, belonging to the *Annie H. Smith*, were charged with being drunk and assaulting the police; the latter was also charged with stealing a dollar. Besides having to pay for damage, they were each fined \$5 or 10 days.—Another seaman, named Stoken, belonging to the *R. R. Thomas* appeared before the Court, also on a charge of drunkenness and assault, and was fined \$3, and to pay *yen* 3 damage.

We have received from the office of the *Echo du Japon* a *Carte du Tonkin*, arranged on the projection adopted by Dr. G. Maget. The map is of large size and delineated with great clearness. It should be of considerable service to those who wish to follow present operations and future developments in that region, but are quite unable to do so with the best Atlases. The sheet is presented by the Proprietors of the *Echo* to subscribers to their paper. Non-subscribers may procure copies at the *Echo* office for one dollar per map.

We are requested to call attention to a change in the place of meeting for the appointment of a Committee to take into consideration the departure of Sir Harry Parkes. The meeting is now announced to take place at the United Club instead of the Rooms of the Chamber of Commerce.

COMMUNICATION between Europe and the East is being rapidly improved in matters of facility and convenience. The Vienna correspondent of *The Times* tells us that the first of the new express trains running part of the journey between Paris and Constantinople arrived in Vienna at 11.25 p.m. on the 6th of June. It had left Paris the evening before at 7.30 p.m., and was due in Constantinople on the following morning, at 8.15 a.m., making the whole journey, *vid*

Varna, with the sea passage, in 84 hours, or three days and a-half. The train consisted of two sleeping cars, each constructed to carry 14 people, a dining car, with a kitchen, and a waggon for provisions and baggage. The fares are moderate; and accommodation is ample.

Our account of the opening of the new railway between Ueno Park and Kumagai, published elsewhere, is made complete by the following table of time and fares. No doubt many foreigners will avail themselves of the opportunity this line affords to make a pleasant trip through a fertile country and one entirely new to most people:—

| LEAVES. | | ARRIVES AT. | | | | | |
|-----------|---------|-------------|--------|---------|----------|--|--|
| Uyeno. | Oji. | Urawa. | Age-d. | Konosu. | Kumagai. | | |
| 6 A.M. | 6.15 | 6.45 | 7.23 | 7.54 | 8.24 | | |
| 1.30 P.M. | 1.45 | 2.18 | 2.53 | 3.24 | 3.54 | | |
| Kumagai. | Konosu. | Age-d. | Urawa. | Oji. | Uyeno. | | |
| 9 A.M. | 9.35 | 10.06 | 10.37 | 11.10 | 11.24 | | |
| 4.30 P.M. | 5.05 | 5.36 | 6.07 | 6.40 | 6.54 | | |

| FROM. | | FARES TO. | | | | | |
|---------------|------|-----------|--------|---------|----------|--|--|
| Uyeno. | Oji. | Urawa. | Age-d. | Konosu. | Kumagai. | | |
| Special Class | 25 | 70 | 1.10 | 1.50 | 2.00 | | |
| First Class | 14 | 44 | 68 | 92 | 1.20 | | |
| Third Class | 7 | 22 | 34 | 46 | 60 | | |

| Kumagai. | Konosu. | Age-d. | Urawa. | Oji. | Uyeno. | | |
|---------------|---------|--------|--------|------|--------|--|--|
| Special Class | 50 | 90 | 1.30 | 1.75 | 2.00 | | |
| First Class | 25 | 52 | 76 | 1.6 | 1.20 | | |
| Third Class | 14 | 26 | 38 | 53 | 60 | | |

DISTANCES FROM UYENO.

Oji, 4 miles; Urawa, 12½; Age-d, 21½; Konosu, 29; Kumagai, 33.

THE body of a well-dressed Japanese man of middle age was found floating in the Honmura Creek opposite the Buddhist temple yesterday afternoon, and was removed by the police. That the deceased had died a violent and cruel death was evident from wounds in his head and neck. His hands and feet had been tied together before he was thrown into the water which has given up its dead. Strangely enough, this corpse was discovered immediately opposite the place where six years and more ago the dead body of an English sailor, one Bourne, was found murdered, to the tragedy of whose death no clue has even yet been discovered.

THE festival on the river Sumida at Riogoku is fixed for Wednesday the 1st proximo. It is to be hoped that a third postponement will not be necessary, but the weather prophets say that there are not wanting signs of an approaching change in this persistent sunshine.

SO FAR as the knowledge possessed by the French Government is concerned, it would appear that the fate of Commandant Rivière is still to some extent wrapped in mystery. The unfortunate officer disappeared in a sortie, that is all the authorities know about it, and that is all they have been able to tell to Mme. Rivière when she requested that the body of her husband should be brought back to France.

THE *Shanghai Mercury's* Tientsin correspondent says, of Mr. Tricou's alleged rudeness

to Li Hung-chang, that the statement is untrue:—"H.E. when he was here said it was not true that he telegraphed to Tseng Hou that Mr. Tricou was rude. He telegraphed that he was firm and unyielding, we think, but our informant could not recollect the precise word; it was to the effect that Mr. Tricou was impervious to 'soft sawder.' In fact Li could not talk him round him as with Sir Thomas Wade at Chefoo."

We are glad to be able to state that the cable steamer *Scotia* has successfully completed the laying of the duplicate cable between Nagasaki and Vladivostock. We understand the electrical condition of the new cable gives every satisfaction.

We are informed that the Pacific Mail steamship *City of Peking*, with the next English mail on board, has been detained in Hongkong, and only left that port on the morning of the 26th inst. Consequently she is not to be expected here till Tuesday night.

THE *Official Gazette* states that terrible destruction, to the extent of four thousand houses, has been wrought by a fire in Niigata.

THE Occidental and Oriental Co.'s steamship *Oceanic* left San Francisco for this port on the 10th instant.

THERE will soon be a new road from the Far East to the Far West. According to Canadian and American papers, the Canadian Pacific Railroad is now driving ahead at a more rapid rate than ever before, and its completion is not very far off. The road is completed from Winnipeg west about 775 miles and, advancing at the average rate of four miles per day, will reach Calgary, 150 miles further west, by August 5th. From Calgary, at the base of the Rockies, to their summit is a further distance of 121 miles, of which completion is promised before Winter sets in. At three other points on this great line the work is advancing, though by no means as rapidly—in British Columbia, east; from Prince Arthur's Landing, on Lake Superior, east; and from the Ottawa side, west. From Prince Arthur's Landing the road will be finished 65 miles east to Nepigon by August 15th, and it is promised that 40 miles farther will be made on this division before the season closes. Work is also advancing on the main line west of Sturgeon river, leaving a gap of less than 350 miles between the east and west ends at the close of the season. Though the company has till 1891 to finish the road, it seems fully assured that it will be done inside of three years. From Lake Superior to Port Moody this road is estimated to be 1,945 miles, of which not more than 200 miles will remain unfinished at the end of the year. The section around Lake Superior from Prince Arthur's Landing to Lake Nipissing, 600 miles in length, will be the last completed. From Halifax to Burrard's Inlet the distance of the completed line will be 4,500 miles. The company is granted immunity from taxation for ever, from competition for twenty years, and virtually for ever, and, until the earnings of the road exceed ten per cent. interest on the capital, the Government cannot interfere to regulate freight or passenger rates.

THE RESUMPTION QUESTION.

IT is with a feeling of something like hopelessness that one approaches the discussion of such a question as that suggested by a correspondent whose interesting letter we publish to-day. Nobody has dealt with the problem of Japanese finance more logically or lucidly than "T.W.," and from the first he has continued an unvarying supporter of the "Quality" versus the "Quantity" theory. We ourselves have endeavoured to show, in previous articles, that the two are virtually inseparable: or, in other words, that if the volume of inconvertible notes capable of circulating at par in any community be a function of the services they are required to perform, those services, in their turn, are a function, to some extent, of public confidence in the value of the notes. It is conceivable that the uses to which such notes are applied may be strictly limited to the payment of taxes. In whatever quantities they are issued by the Treasury, the people may decline to employ them in the transactions of every-day life. In such an event defective quality would obviously be the cause of their exclusion from circulation, and their depreciation might remain the same whether the aggregate issue were ten or fifty millions. Japan herself has furnished an example of this nature. The specie value of *Kinsatsu* was never lower than in the early days of their issue, when as yet but three or four millions had been emitted, and it was only by a liberal exercise of its despotic powers, supplemented by the hereditary submissiveness of a law-abiding people, that the Government succeeded in overcoming public repugnance to a form of money associated, in the history of the various fiefs, with all sorts of financial inconveniences. This repugnance once fairly overcome, however, it really did not appear to signify, for a time, how much inconvertible paper was issued. From 24 million *yen* in 1868, the volume rose to 73 millions in 1872, and then remained virtually stationary till 1877; yet all this while the premium on silver was so small as to be scarcely significant. Looking back at the story of those ten years, it seems plain that defective quality, otherwise expressed as popular mistrust, was the only difficulty the *Kinsatsu* had to contend with. But when we come to 1877, two new and powerful factors enter the calculation. In 1876 there were 5 national Banks with a note issue of less than 3 millions. In 1877 there were 28 of these institutions; in 1878, their number had suddenly swelled to 120 with a note

issue of twenty-seven millions; and in 1880 there were 152 with a note issue of thirty-three millions. Can there be any doubt about the effect of all this? The Central Government, by an extreme exercise of its well nigh limitless power, had with difficulty usurped the position of a solvent note-issuer, when suddenly, in the space of two short years, there sprung up throughout the country a hundred and twenty new issuers, almost entirely divested of the mystery of authority, working under the very eyes of the people, and directly connected with the representatives of feudality, under which every Chief had his own fluctuating paper money. It was a perilous experiment. The marvel is, not that it shook the credit of the inconvertible currency, but that any shred whatever of public confidence survived such a shock. The other factor to which we allude is the Satsuma rebellion. Not only was the Government compelled to increase its issues by more than twenty-five per cent., but its very stability was threatened, and its opponents resorted to the same expedient of paying their way with inconvertible notes. Depreciation may be fairly said to have set in from 1878, and the rest of the story is familiar to everybody.

There is nothing in this retrospect which militates against the "Quality" theory, but, on the other hand, there is nothing which need seriously embarrass those who maintain that the depreciation of inconvertible paper money is chiefly due to its issue in quantities disproportionate to the functions it has to perform. Among the advocates of this latter doctrine are numbered so many leading economists that we cannot afford to dismiss their opinions off-hand. Thus RICARDO says that there need be no depreciation provided only the notes "are not supplied in excess of the amount of money of full value which would circulate as the community's distributive share of the world's stock of money." TOOKE expresses the same opinion in similar terms. WILSON remarks that "if inconvertible paper he kept somewhat below the amount of currency required there is no reasons whatsoever why such notes should suffer depreciation." PRICE endorses this, citing the evidence of experience in support of his doctrine; and COURCELLE-SENEUIL writes:—"La valeur de ce papier, résultant uniquement de l'usage auquel il sert, est limitée par cet usage même. Si les émissions étaient médiocres, la papier-monnaie pourrait valoir autant que la monnaie métallique." A host of other authors might be quoted

to the same effect, but these will suffice to show that in accepting depreciation as a proof of redundant issues we are not without weighty and numerous warrants. The upshot of the matter is that what we encounter here is not a radical difference of opinion, but a phraseological difficulty. Quantity and quality are, in this case, interchangeable terms. Too much *good* money cannot remain in circulation in any country. If at any time its amount reaches a height which, having regard to the number of exchanges to be effected, will not allow the commodities of that country to be exchanged at home at prices on a level with those of other countries, a movement at once begins for the importation of commodities, and the exportation of gold and silver. But with inconvertible paper, there exists no such security against redundancy. It cannot leave the country, and the only effect of its presence in excess is a rise of prices, that is, depreciation. To say then that depreciation is due to defective quality,—i.e., non-convertibility,—is only another method of stating that the depreciated money is redundant.

With all this "T.W." will probably agree, and for our own part we are decidedly of opinion that, speaking accurately, defective quality must be regarded as the prime cause of depreciation. Excessive quantity is in reality a consequence of that cause. Good money cannot be redundant. But when we come to the definition of the terms "good" and "defective," we go somewhat further than our correspondent seems disposed to lead the way. We hold that the essence of "goodness" is the fact, not the prospect, of convertibility. "It will be a happy thing for all concerned," "T.W." says, "when it is recognized that convertibility is the only important object, and that the moment it is fairly in sight there will be no more talk about redundancy." Assuming, however, that the final purpose of contraction and resumption alike is to restore stability, we cannot think that any promise of resumption, on whatever assurances based, will suffice to accomplish that end. The experience of the United States is against such a theory. The Resumption Act became a law on the 14th of January, 1875. Yet during 1875 the premium on gold was higher than it had been during 1874, 1871, 1872 or 1873. It was as high in 1876 as in 1871 or 1872. It showed no distinct fall until 1877 and 1878, and WESTON says:—"The opinion of the soundest minds has always been, and still is, that the gold premium did not fall in 1877 and 1878 in consequence

of an expectation of resumption on January 1st, 1879, but that resumption at that date was a *consequence of the preceding fall in the gold premium*, brought about by commercial causes, such as great grain crops in the United States contemporaneously with deficient crops in Europe, large favorable balances in our foreign trade, &c. The question to be answered in Japan's case is this:—Can the Government reasonably hope that if it openly devotes itself to gather specie towards final resumption and leaves the currency alone meanwhile, the latter will appreciate, so gradually as not to induce any serious commercial disturbance, but so sensibly that the act of resumption will ultimately be brought within safe reach? "T. W." replies in the affirmative. He is distinctly opposed to the supplemental measure of currency contraction, and he quotes England's sufferings in support of his position. But what was it that happened in England? In the debates on the Act of 1819, the bullionists held that the depreciation of the inconvertible paper was measured by the premium on gold, which, at that time, had sunk to 3 per cent. They carried their point, and the Act passed, providing for the gradual exchange of bank-notes for gold, *at current rates of depreciation* at the outset, the operation to be extended over a period of nearly three years. With the commercial and industrial misfortunes that ensued, readers of history are only too familiar. It would not perhaps, be just to lay those misfortunes entirely at the door of the Act, but nearly all economists are agreed that it was responsible for much of the subsequent suffering. People had been persuaded that, having regard to the insignificant depreciation of bank-paper as against gold, the effect of resumption upon prices would be slight, but as a matter of fact the operation was followed by extensive disturbances in trade. The prices of the most important staples fell through many degrees, bringing to distress, if not to ruin, large manufacturing and commercial interests. With this experience before their eyes, it is not surprising that Japanese financiers are impressed with the advisability of paving the way, as far as may be, to resumption by removing the effects of inflation, that is to say, by reducing the bulk of the inconvertible paper in circulation.

It is necessary to observe here that the operation of restriction, as carried out during the past eighteen months, has been for the most part free from any arbitrary element. The debts called in by the Treasury were of comparatively insignificant amount, and it will scarcely

be contended that the authorities would have acted wisely in leaving them outstanding. Something, too, was doubtless effected by the periodical redemptions, provided for in the estimates; but the chief measure, the sale of Government Bonds, might have taken place at any time since 1872, had the people been disposed to purchase. The original idea of these specie bonds was to provide an outlet for redundant currency. It was erroneously supposed that a low rate of interest is a feature of currency inflation, and that the demand for this class of commodity would be encouraged by the depreciation of *Kinsatsu*. The converse ought to have been anticipated. It is precisely when the circulating medium begins to appreciate sensibly that rates of interest diminish and enterprise turns in the direction of stocks which bring in a fair annual return and are constantly appreciating as against the commodity for which they have been exchanged. For some months past all classes of Government securities have been in brisk demand, and it seems very doubtful whether anything more than an acceleration of currency appreciation can be laid to the charge of the sales of bonds effected by the Treasury. It may be justly replied that this leaves untouched the general advisability of providing for inconvertible notes such a means of exit from circulation. But what we desire to emphasize here is that, for any shrinkage the bulk of the currency has undergone, the people themselves are scarcely less responsible than their rulers. Our correspondent describes the process as "a simple contraction of the volume of the currency without putting anything that can be used as money in the place of what has been withdrawn," and adds that this contraction "has already produced most distressing effects and to carry it further may lead to general ruin." We cannot quite endorse this forecast; but having regard to the crippled condition into which, from whatever causes, energy and enterprise have plainly fallen, it seems desirable that the Government should discontinue any process calculated to encourage a further diminution of the general volume of money seeking investment.

"T. W.," while fully agreeing that a gradual accumulation of silver in the Treasury for purposes of future redemption is the only wise policy, nevertheless concludes that Government operations in produce are a questionable method of carrying out that policy. With his reasons for this view we cannot differ. They are, in short, what we ourselves have already noted. All that can be urged in favour of the plan is that it is the lesser of two evils.

Our correspondent, however, suggests another course—"the direct sale of national bonds for silver, even if made abroad." It seems to us that such sales would *have* to be made abroad. There are doubtless hoards of specie in Japan which might be brought into use with great advantage, but to draw them from their hiding places, terms of an exceptionally favorable nature must be offered. The Bank of Japan has projects of this nature, but it apparently experiences some difficulty in carrying them out. Ultimately, therefore, this method of procuring silver would assume the form of a foreign loan, and the country's aim at present, so far as can be judged, is to emerge from financial embarrassments without any recourse to foreign aid. They are not very alarming embarrassments. When compared with her extraordinary career, with the feats she has accomplished and the difficulties she has overcome, her national debt is a mere bagatelle; and as for her inconvertible notes, their fluctuations are scarcely perceptible by the side of those recorded in the case of other countries now solvent and prosperous. All she wants is breathing time. There is nothing very delicate about her present system of finance. It is not a masterpiece of science or subtlety. On the contrary, the scheme for the recall of the National Banks' paper excepted, the programme presents no remarkable features. But there has not yet been proposed any other device exclusive of European assistance, and that adjunct the Government, which may be credited with some knowledge of the country's wishes, considers prohibitive.

THE LATE IWAKURA TOMOMI.

THE Funeral of His Excellency IWAKURA took place on Wednesday morning. Long before daylight the whole of Tokiyo was astir, and at sunrise thousands of people might have been seen wending their way from all quarters of the city towards the streets along which the procession was to pass. Not only the newspapers, but also official notices exhibited in conspicuous positions at the Government Departments and near the residence of the deceased statesman, had furnished accurate information of the routine to be observed at the ceremony, and every available space from which the procession could be viewed was crowded with eager but orderly spectators. There was, however, one notable exception to this display of curiosity—an exception which, as a revival of now obsolete customs, and as a purely voluntary act

on the part of the people, was significant of the respect in which the great Minister was universally held. All along the line of route the upper windows looking on the streets were untenanted, or only used by persons seated so far back as to be nearly invisible to those passing below. In old times these windows would have been closed, and to peep from them at all would have entailed serious consequences; but such restrictions have long ceased to be imposed, and if the citizens of Tokiyo reverted in this instance to their former habits, it was entirely because they felt that the occasion demanded some exceptional mark of reverence. Six o'clock A.M. was the hour fixed for the *cortège* to set out, and despite the extensive nature of the preparations to be made, scarcely fifteen minutes delay took place. The order of the procession was as follows:—

A Company of Pioneers,
50 Men.

The Band of the Imperial Guards.

Two Double Companies of Imperial Guards,
250 Men.

Two Squadrons of Cavalry,
150 Men.

The *Naga-biru* (Travelling Valise) of the Deceased, Draped in White and carried by Servitors in White.

A number of Shinto Priests in White robes, carrying long Bamboo Poles with Streamers and large Bouquets of Artificial Flowers.

THE BIER.

The Carriages of the two Chief Mourners; Arima, Duke of Kuruma, and Nabeshima, Duke of Hizen.

A number of Shinto Priests, carrying Flowers and a tall Bamboo Pole with White Stays, to which was attached a White Banner with the name and titles of the deceased inscribed.

Four Chief Priests on horseback, their horses led by two Grooms each.

Two Carriages, with Ladies of the deceased's household.

Three Hundred and Twenty Carriages and Four Hundred and Seventy Jinrikishas, containing the Imperial Princes, Ministers of State, Officers of the Army and Navy, &c.

Mounted Field Officers—Thirty-five.

Two Battalions of the Tokiyo Garrison,
800 Men.

A Battery of Mountain Artillery,
Six Guns.

Two Batteries of Horse Artillery,
Twelve Guns.

A Company of the Military Train.

The troops were in full dress, and fortunately for them, as well as for the high officials, whose heavily laced tunics are ill fitted for midsummer use, the morning was cloudy and comparatively cool. The bier was made of snow-white pine-wood, of graceful shape and the most skilful workmanship, but entirely without ornamentation, except the mountings which were of silver gilt. The ladies of the deceased's household were dressed in soft white crape, and constituted the most charming, if not the most picturesque, feature of the pageant. Nothing could have been more striking than the stillness of the immense crowds which lined the streets on either side throughout the whole length of the route.

Instead of the buzz and clamour generally inseparable from these huge gatherings, even the ordinary sounds of life seemed to be hushed, and beyond the tramp of the soldiers and the roll of the carriages nothing was audible. Only six foreigners, of whom two were missionaries and the rest *employés*, present or past, of the Japanese Government, joined the ranks of the procession. Not there was any lack of desire to pay the last tribute of respect to the memory of the great Minister, but because special provision had been made elsewhere for the attendance of strangers. It was thought, apparently, that the early hour and the slow rate of progress over so long a route might advantageously be dispensed with in their case, and instructions were accordingly issued to the effect that foreigners wishing to take part in the ceremony should proceed at once to the neighbourhood of the temple, where they would find a house prepared for their reception. This course was adopted by the Corps Diplomatique, the foreign *employés* of the Government, and a few others.

The Temple of Kaianji, where the funeral service was performed, lies at the Southern outskirts of Shinagawa. Like many other notable places in the environs of the metropolis, it owes its fame to the beauty of its scenery, for the people are wont to say that nowhere else does "autumn's fire burn ruddier along the woods," or "the dead leaves fall and melt" more tenderly. It is a quiet spot, with no architectural grandeur to recommend it, nor do the tombstones in its cemetery bear any name more illustrious than that of the man who has just been laid among them. The procession reached the Shrine a little before nine o'clock. With the exception of the carriages containing the lady mourners, all the vehicles were stopped at a considerable distance from the entrance, and their inmates dismounting, followed the bier on foot. On either side of the temple avenue there were erected large stalls draped with white, and in these the principal officials ranged themselves, the artillery meanwhile firing a salute. For the foreign visitors the neighbouring Temple of Kaiunji had been set apart, and in an inn at the opposite side of the street similar preparations had been made for the accommodation of the *Kwasoku* (nobles). The Temple of Kaianji itself is small, and could never have been destined by its builders for such a ceremony as that of yesterday. Some confusion was caused by the difficulty of carrying the bier, with its lofty roof, through the door of the fane, nor was the latter by any means large

enough to accommodate the numerous assemblage of Princes, Ministers, and Officials seeking admittance. The burial service was exceedingly simple. The officiating prelate, a member of the Imperial family, standing before the bier, read two funeral orations, the first written by the EMPEROR himself, and the second composed by the priests. Each person present, one by one in due order, then approached, and making a last obeisance to the dead, deposited before the bier a branch of *shikimi*. It was pleasant to see that even the Foreign Representatives took part in this performance, though at Mr. OKUBO'S obsequies they were prevented from doing so by some scruple with which not many will sympathise. This brought the service to a conclusion at a few minutes before eleven, and the body was afterwards lowered into the grave in the presence of a select few. The sun, meanwhile, having dispelled the mists, shone brightly over the woods and waters on which the grave of the dead patriot looks down.

We cannot close this brief notice of the obsequies of one of the greatest and noblest men Japan has ever possessed, without noting an occurrence which for callous discourtesy stands alone in the story of foreign relations with Japan. We have said that on either side of the steps forming the temple avenue, stalls were erected for the accommodation of Japanese officials, and these places had, of course, been duly allotted according to the grade of the occupants, the higher stalls being reserved for officers of *Chokunin* rank. In Japan, as elsewhere, all persons are at liberty to attend State funerals, but it is presumed that, doing so as a mark of respect to the deceased, they will come in mourning dress, and observe the dispositions made by the Master of the Ceremonies. On this occasion, out of the immense number of persons who followed the remains of the Minister to the grave or assembled at the Shrine to take part in his obsequies, all, with one notable exception, were attired in full uniform or in black clothes as prescribed by the regulations. That exception was this Highness the Maharajah of JOHORE and a party of foreign ladies and gentlemen who were understood to be his guests, and who, with their host, made their way into the front seats of the highest stall on the right of the temple avenue, and there, dressed in picnic costume, many coloured and conspicuous, formed a group not less out of harmony with their surroundings than embarrassing to the order of the ceremony. There were two or three roughs from Yokohama who thrust them-

selves into the circle of the mourners or broke into the stalls from the back and sides, treating the affair as though it were a holiday show, not the expression of a nation's sorrow. For this sort of thing, however, the police are the only remedy, and as the police do not generally officiate in cemeteries, rowdies who take advantage of their absence must be left to the enjoyment of rowdyism. It is humiliating, though for the moment unavoidable, that our civilization should present such phases. But that a potentate who has been the honored guest of the EMPEROR of JAPAN should find a fitting opportunity for a picnic in the funeral of a Japanese Prime Minister and member of the Imperial family, should conduct his guests into a place set apart for the principal officiators at the obsequies, and should take his departure in the middle of the ceremony, is a proceeding which cannot honestly be described as mere thoughtlessness, and had best, perhaps, be left undescribed. We do but echo the sentiment of all the foreigners who attended the funeral when we say that this most deplorable incident has remained a memory of shame and humiliation. The occasion could scarcely have been more solemn: the act less decorous. It may, perhaps, be said that the Japanese have themselves to blame; that their want of resolute self-assertion encourages liberties otherwise impossible, and that they themselves too often set the example of a lack of earnestness. Let those who please avail themselves of these excuses. For our own part, we are well assured that the codes of Western courtesy and kindness have sufficient strength to resist the attraction of such opportunities or the force of such precedents.

OPENING OF A NEW RAILWAY.

THE railway between Uyeno (Tokyo) and Kumagai was opened on Thursday. For many months this line has been in some measure a mystery to the foreign public. More or less scepticism used to be expressed as to whether it would ever be completed at all without foreign assistance. From the time the road was first surveyed until the last load of ballast was thrown down, no recourse whatsoever was had to western engineers, and people were not slow to predict that this independence was premature and must result in disaster. How little reason there was for such a forecast will be understood when we say that a line presenting incomparably greater engineering difficulties, namely that from Nagahama to Sekigahara, had already been

successfully laid by Japanese experts. The same may be said of the road from Nagahama to Tsuruga, which, however, though open to traffic, cannot be regarded as entirely completed—one of the tunnels not being yet pierced. It was easy to see that the constructors of these roads would not be embarrassed by the Uyeno-Kumagai line, which traverses a series of level plains, and, with the exception of one river, crosses nothing worthy of mention. Still, it must be confessed that the Japanese have shown very remarkable aptitude in the matter of railways. Their opportunities of learning have been circumscribed, but they have evidently profited by them to a degree which bespeaks great diligence and ability. The line of which we set out to speak has its Tokiyo Terminus on the east of the hill which overlooks the Shinobadzu Lake and within less than a furlong of the main entrance to the Uyeno Park. So far as its permanent buildings are concerned, the terminus exists as yet only in name. The Directors have wisely contented themselves for the nonce with wooden structures, and the place which at present does duty for a station is destined ultimately to become a goods' shed. Indeed, a portion of this remark applies to all the stations along the line, five in number. They are plain, wooden buildings, in Japanese style, as far as possible removed from any pretence of elegance or diletanteism, but thoroughly well adapted to the work they have to do, and showing plainly that they have been erected at a minimum of cost. Economy, in fact, has obviously been a ruling object throughout. In nothing does this strike the observer more than in the width of the road. There is not a foot to spare on either side of the rails. Up to the very edge of the permanent way farmers cultivate their rice and buckwheat, and village urchins, unimpeded by fence or bank, come to make the acquaintance of the novel monster which has begun to career across the plains. Those that desire to view once more that spectacle so strange in these times of overtaxed practicality,—unsophisticated curiosity in its frankest phases, cannot do better than take a trip to Kumagai before the lads and lasses have ceased to gird up their loins and come galloping through dust and sunshine to feel the earth tremble under the tread of the snorting giant, or before wrinkled rustics have ceased to be startled into the instinct of old times, and to squat down in the paddy-fields with humble heads as though the train of a Daimiyo not of a steam-engine were passing.

Leaving Uyeno the road runs by Oji,—

where there is a station,—passing almost within arm's length of the picturesque gardens and tea-houses so much frequented by Tokiyo pleasure-seekers. Thence through a long succession of rich valleys, where the young rice plants are just now pushing upwards with a lusty luxury that does not much endorse recent predictions of poor crops, and then on to Kawaguchi, where the Arakawa is spanned by a bridge of scanty dimensions. It is a trestle bridge of the simplest construction, solid and strong enough for all practical purposes, but so narrow that the steps of the carriages seem to overhang the water as they pass. This stream promises to be a somewhat troublesome customer hereafter. Its dimensions just now are insignificant—much smaller than the river at Kawasaki—but the flood-bed appears to have considerable width. The intention is to span it ultimately by an iron bridge similar to that on the Tokiyo-Yokohama road, and the line of the permanent structure is already laid out. But for the next two years, at least, the work must be done by trestles. From this point the road rises almost imperceptibly, and entering an immense upland plain, runs without obstruction right through to Kumagai, a total distance of 38 English miles. Beyond this a section of nearly ten miles is approaching completion, but between Kumagai and Mayebashi the Tonegawa has to be crossed, an operation of a somewhat serious nature. The Arakawa, as we have said, does not suffer itself to be easily negotiated, but, on the other hand, it has conferred an immense boon upon the company by supplying them with excellent gravel in quantities almost unlimited. The whole of the line between Tokiyo and Kumagai has been ballasted from this source, and the pits will doubtless suffice for the second section also. Fortunately, too, the work of taking out the gravel has largely benefited the river, which had gradually silted up and showed a disposition to commit troublesome encroachments upon the neighbouring country. The rolling stock, with the exception of the engines, has been built in Japan. We say "built" because, although the woodwork is entirely Japanese, the metal for springs and axles was imported from England. The carriages are after the English fashion. They are only first and third, a second class being wisely dispensed with. It would, however, be more correct though less literal to say that there are no first-class carriages, for the so-called *Jōdō* is little if anything better than the *Chiuto* of the Tokiyo-Yokohama line. A special

arrangement (*Dokubetsu*) enables passengers who desire privacy to secure a compartment to themselves by paying a slightly increased fare, and this most convenient plan is intended to provide a first-class, properly so called, on the rare occasions when it may be required.

We have spoken of an opening, but in truth, the ceremony of Thursday only admits that description in a most practical sense. There was no parade of any sort: no display of bunting, no reception, no presentation of addresses. A number of people, sixteen carriage-loads, assembled quietly in the terminus, that is to say, the future goods' shed, at Uyeno; rode to Kumagai and back; dined at Uyeno on their return, and separated very soberly at nine o'clock in the evening. Among them were their Imperial Highnesses the Princes KOMATSU and KITA-SHIRAKAWA; their Excellencies SANJO (First Minister of State), General YAMAGATA (President of the Privy Council), General YAMADA (Minister of the Home Department), SASAKI (Minister of Public Works), INOUE MASARU (Vice-Minister of Public Works); Messrs. YOSHIKAWA (Governor of To-kiyo), YOSHII (President of the Nippon Railway Company), DATE (ex-Daimiyo of Urajima), ISHII (Director of Telegraphs), and several others, officials and private persons, with half a dozen ladies and as many children. Of foreigners only two or three were present by special invitation. Mr. YOSHII, President of the Company, received the guests, and without further ado they took their seats in the carriages. Leaving Uyeno at ten minutes past 1 o'clock, the train reached Kumagai at 3.40, and, starting on its return journey at 4.20, arrived in Tokiyo at 6.50. The trip was in all respects successful. The time named in the table was punctually kept, and the carriages ran smoothly and steadily. The road opened for general traffic to-day (Saturday). Only three trains *per diem*, two for passengers and one for goods, are to be run at first, but doubtless the number will be increased hereafter. That the line will pay and that it will have an immensely valuable effect in opening up the rich district to the north of Tokiyo, there can be no question; and considering the rapidity with which it has been constructed as well as the auspicious nature of its prospects, the congratulatory speeches made at the dinner on Thursday evening seemed unnecessarily temperate.

CORRESPONDENCE.

[Our readers must distinctly understand that we are in no sense responsible for the sentiments or opinions of our Correspondents, for the accuracy of their assertions, or for the deductions they may choose to draw therefrom.]

THE CURRENCY QUESTION.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—Your articles on finance and currency are generally so sound that I reluctantly dispute the accuracy of the statement in that of 14th instant that "there can be no question that paper money is now redundant in Japan." If you mean by that statement that the existing currency of Japan is, as currency, excessive, I think you are in error. There is no real analogy between the case referred to by Professor Walker—that of the United States in 1862—and that of Japan now. The United States in 1862 had a metallic currency, and the question was whether the Government, to obtain funds for the war, should displace that currency by the issue of inconvertible paper, or sell, at low prices, its interest bearing bonds. The former course was adopted, and it has been correctly described as insane and injurious, not because paper money is necessarily bad money (for it is excellent money to-day in America, France, and England) but because, under the circumstances of the United States in 1862 a flood of it was sure to prove "a curse" to the people by unsettling all private contracts and calculations. That the Government should inflict such an evil on the nation merely to avoid or postpone selling its bonds below par was an outrage on equity and common sense which can only be excused by supposing Congress at that time to have been thoroughly bewildered on financial questions and hardly knowing what it did.

The case of Japan is entirely different. She has practically no metallic money, and her problem is how to deal with an *existing* paper currency, and to improve its value. The first point to determine in considering this problem is whether that currency is, or is not, redundant. If a thorough comparison could be made between the present prices of commodities and those current here when metallic money was abundant, some light would be thrown on this point. But so many changes of circumstance, other than currency changes, have occurred meantime, that such a comparison is hardly possible, and one is reduced to mere estimate. Mine would be that 140 millions *yen* is rather a deficient than an excessive volume of currency for these 36 millions of people under present conditions. That this money is not at par with Silver does not prove that it is redundant, but only that it is defective in quality, is, in short, not good money because it is not convertible into metal. If its quantity were but half what it is and this defect attached to it, it would manifest itself precisely as it does now. It is actual or prospective convertibility which alone gives value to any paper money, and that convertibility has no necessary relation to the quantity in circulation. As this question has been much obscured in the discussions of it which have taken place it is not surprising, though it is very unfortunate, that the Government itself has been perplexed about it. It will be a happy thing for all concerned when it is recognized that convertibility is the only important object, and that the moment it is fairly in sight there will be no more talk about redundancy. If the Bonds now issuing were calculated to procure the silver requisite to assure convertibility for *Kinsatsu*, they

would be unobjectionable. The nation can well afford to pay a large sum for interest on these Bonds, during many years, for the sake of obtaining immediate stability in its current money. But have these Bonds that object? If not they are but a useless and costly change in the form of a national debt which is in better form as it stands. And this, I fear, is the fact of the matter. The Bonds produce no Silver, but, as far as the Government is concerned, merely substitute an interest-bearing debt for a currency debt bearing no interest. The advantage of this operation, even to the Government, is not clear. But its injurious effects on the people seem to be evident enough. It works a simple contraction of the volume of the currency, putting nothing that can be used as many in place of what is withdrawn. If this policy were pursued till all the *Kinsatsu* were retired, and replaced by bonds, the country would have no money at all. Already the contraction accomplished has produced most distressing effects, and to carry it further may lead to general ruin.

I do not deny that the Government may properly call on the people to bear, now and at once, some part of the cost and pains of reforming the currency; or that measures leading to a reduction of previously inflated prices, to smaller importations of foreign goods and greater exportations of native products, are a wholesome method of putting that part of the burden on the people's shoulders. Nor do I doubt that when the people require new money for their transactions they will find a way to obtain it. But if the present generation are not to be utterly crushed, or goaded into insurrection, their burden and the effort demanded of them must be adjusted to their ability, and this is probably now very near exhaustion. The fall in prices of commodities, the increased weight given to all debts, in consequence of the rapid contraction of the currency, may easily prove fatal. It is no answer to say that this is but the reversion of a previous inflation of prices and injustice to creditors. For two wrongs do not make a right. If no other remedy were possible this severe one might be justifiable. But that is not the case. The malady does not need heroic excision, but strengthening nourishment. And such nourishment can only be supplied by a gradual accumulation of Silver in the Treasury, towards the conversion of *Kinsatsu* into coin by and by.

As to the best means of obtaining that supply of Silver opinions will differ. To obtain it by means of Government operations in produce is first, costly, owing to the incapacity of governments for profitable trading; and second, demoralising, owing to the disorder such operations introduce into the markets and into private business. Moreover, they tend to increase rather than to diminish the paper in circulation, so that the Silver they yield to the Treasury loses much of its efficiency.

To apprehend the full force of these objections let us imagine the American Government resorting to such shifty measures for gathering bullion. It is not conceivable that the American people would tolerate an administration which did so. The circumstances of Japan may be peculiar; the Government may have the right as well as the power to raise money in that way if it chooses, and the people may submit to it very patiently. Still it is a questionable method, and it must seem to any foreign observer that the direct sale of National Bonds for Silver, even if it had to be made abroad, would be a better operation, more dignified for the Government, and less costly in the end to the nation. One may agree that shipments of produce on Government account are preferable, from every point of view, to the "bulling" and "bearing" transactions in the exchange market which were practised some time ago. Still the new plan is not a good one.

What I wish to show, however, is that "removing the inferior money," without putting superior money in its place, is too drastic and cruel a process. England tried it in the early part of this century and men still shudder over the wretchedness which resulted. America, France, and Italy have lately adopted the contrary policy of letting the volume of the paper currency alone, and improving its value by gathering specie towards its final redemption, and this policy has restored convertibility in all those countries with none but good effects.

Japan seems disposed to try both these plans at once. But, clever as the Japanese undoubtedly are, I doubt if they will succeed in this feat, and that they will have any reason to congratulate themselves if they do.

T. W.

Yokohama, July 17th, 1883.

THE FUNERAL OF HIS EXCELLENCY THE LATE THIRD MINISTER OF STATE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—As one of the oldest of the foreign employés of the Japanese Government—and as most of our number are now absent from Tokiyo—perhaps you will allow me to express the thanks of the foreign community here for your well-merited strictures on the conduct of certain persons from Yokohama who were present at the funeral of H.E. Iwakura. That the persons referred to were guests of the Maharajah of Johore was unknown to us at the time, but the indignation evoked by their unbecoming appearance was, as you say, unanimous. It was an insult not only to the authorities who, with mistaken courtesy, as I think, refrained from removing them from the position they had taken, but also to all respectable foreigners resident in this country. In only one of your remarks do I think you mistaken, and that is where you state that the obnoxious personages were "dressed in picnic costume." Surely, sir, even at a picnic people put on *clean* clothes, whereas, at the ceremony referred to, even this decency was neglected. The whole episode was calculated to bring foreigners into disrepute with the upper classes of Japan. Let us hope that the Japanese officials can distinguish between the mass of their foreign guests and those "rowdies" who did their best to bring discredit on their compatriots.

I may add, in confirmation of your remarks, that those of us who were invited to attend the funeral were specially requested to rendezvous at the Temple of Kaianji, instead of joining the procession, which we should otherwise willingly have done.

I am, &c., faithfully yours,

EMPLOYEE.

Tokiyo, 26th July, 1883.

SUMMARY OF THE FOREIGN TRADE OF JAPAN FOR THE YEAR 1882.

The Annual Summaries of the Foreign Trade of Japan that have hitherto been compiled in this Legation have been based on the Reports furnished by Her Majesty's Consuls at the several Treaty Ports. The present one of the Trade during the year 1882 has, however, been prepared from the Return published by the Bureau of Customs which has for the first time been issued by that Department complete for the calendar year. The value and nature of the Trade is shown in the following seven tables:—

- General Summary of the Foreign Trade of Japan for the year 1882.
- Synoptic Table of the Foreign Import and Export Trade of Japan for the year 1882.
- Comparative Table of the Import and Export Trade of the various Treaty Ports during the years 1881 and 1882.
- Comparative Table of the Principal Articles of the Foreign Import Trade of Japan during the years 1881 and 1882.
- Comparative Table of the Principal Articles of the Foreign Export Trade of Japan during the years 1881 and 1882.
- Return of Treasure imported from and exported to Foreign Countries during the year 1882.
- Return of Foreign Shipping entered at the Open Ports of Japan during the year 1882.

From the first of these Tables (Table A) it appears that the Foreign Trade of Japan during the year 1882 reached a total value of \$66,403,816.19, shewing, as compared with that of 1881, viz.: \$61,359,349, an increase of \$5,044,467.19. It also exceeds by over two million dollars the largest value which the Foreign Trade of Japan reached during any previous year since the country has been opened to Foreign Commerce, and by over nineteen million dollars the average annual value of the trade during the fifteen years 1867-1881:—

The Trade of 1882 consisted of—

| | |
|-------------------|-----------------|
| Imports..... | \$29,168,040.68 |
| Exports..... | 37,235,775.51 |
| as compared with— | |
| Imports..... | \$31,032,742 |
| Exports..... | 30,326,607 |
| in 1881. | |

It will be seen from these figures that the increase in the total value of the trade is owing entirely to an increased value of Exports, these exceeding the amount which they reached in 1881 by \$6,909,168.51, and by a still larger amount the total of any previous year. Imports, on the other hand, show a considerable decrease during 1882, falling short of those for 1881 by \$1,864,701.32, and their value during the latter

year was again less than that for each of the three years immediately preceding. The comparative values of the Imports and Exports during 1882 leave a balance on the trade of the year in favor of Japan of \$8,067,734.83, the Exports exceeding the Imports in the cases of three of the ports as follows:—

| | Imports during 1882. | Exports during 1882. | Excess of Exports over Imports |
|----------------|----------------------|----------------------|--------------------------------|
| Kanagawa | \$20,119,060.69 | \$26,659,807.45 | \$6,540,746.76 |
| Nagasaki..... | 1,156,781.57 | 3,313,390.48 | 2,156,608.91 |
| Hakodate..... | 7,417.48 | 504,953.12 | 497,535.64 |

While in the case of Hiogo and Osaka, on the other hand the following figures show an excess in favor of the Imports:—

| | Imports during 1882. | Exports during 1882. | Excess of Imports over Exports |
|-----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|--------------------------------|
| Hiogo and Osaka | \$7,884,780.94 | \$6,757,424.46 | \$1,127,356.48 |

The distribution of the trade among the several ports during the past year shows that, as compared with 1881, there was a decrease in both Imports and Exports at Hakodate, that the Increase in Exports was divided between Kanagawa, Hiogo and Osaka, and Nagasaki; that at Kanagawa and Hiogo and Osaka there was a decrease of Imports, Nagasaki alone showing an increase in this respect; and that at all the ports with the exception of Hakodate there was an increase in the total value of the trade. The following table shows the amounts of increase or decrease in each of these several cases:—

| PORTS. | IMPORTS. | | EXPORTS. | | TOTAL INCREASE OR DECREASE IN THE TRADE OF PORT DURING 1882. | |
|-----------------------|-----------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------|------------|
| | Increase in 1882 as compared with 1881. | Decrease in 1882 as compared with 1881. | Increase in 1882 as compared with 1881. | Decrease in 1882 as compared with 1881. | Increase. | Decrease. |
| Kanagawa | \$ | 1,352,965.31 | 5,505,143.45 | | 4,152,178.14 | |
| Hiogo and Osaka | 154,959.57 | 545,841.06 | 810,914.40 | | 265,973.40 | |
| Nagasaki | | | 931,785.48 | | 1,086,745.05 | |
| Hakodate..... | | 120,854.52 | | 338,674.88 | | 459,529.40 |

IMPORTS.

In the Synoptic Table (Table B) of the Imports a slightly different arrangement has been adopted of the principal descriptions of merchandise to that of previous years. Arms and Ammunition—the value of which has fallen to a trifling amount—have been omitted as a separate item, while on the other hand, Kerosene Oil and Sugar, which have become important staples, have been inserted. The former of these has heretofore been included under the heading of Miscellaneous Foreign, and the latter (with the exception of loaf sugar) under that of Miscellaneous Eastern.

The decrease in the total value of the Import Trade is divided as follows:—

| | AMOUNT OF DECREASE OF VALUE IMPORTED IN 1882 AS COMPARED WITH 1881. |
|------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Cotton Manufactures | \$1,658,545.07 |
| Woolen and Mixed Cotton and Woolen Manufactures..... | \$1,732,851.92 |
| Metals including Manufactures | \$ 92,520.82 |
| Miscellaneous Foreign | \$1,246,041.07 |

The falling off in the values of the various articles comprised under these four headings reaches a total of \$4,729,957.98, but this is in some degree compensated by an increased import of Kerosene Oil, Sugar, and Miscellaneous Eastern to the extent of \$2,865,256.66, divided as follows:—

| | AMOUNT OF INCREASE OF VALUE IMPORTED IN 1882 AS COMPARED WITH 1881. |
|-----------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Kerosene Oil | \$1,341,972.12 |
| Sugar | \$ 712,832.37 |
| Miscellaneous Eastern | \$ 810,452.17 |

thus making the total falling off in the Imports amount, as has been before stated, to \$1,864,701.32.

COTTON MANUFACTURES.—The decrease in the value of the articles of merchandise imported

under this heading amounts to \$1,658,545.07, and it will be seen from the following table that the decrease is divided among all the principal articles with the exception of *Shirtings*, in which case the quantity imported in 1882 exceeds in value that of 1881, by \$401,333.17:—

| ARTICLE. | VALUE IMPORTED IN 1881. | VALUE IMPORTED IN 1882. | INCREASE IN 1882 AS COMPARED WITH 1881. | DECREASE IN 1882 AS COMPARED WITH 1881. |
|--------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|
| Yarn | \$ 7,263,776 | 6,562,011.50 | | 701,764.50 |
| Shirtings | 2,328,000 | 2,729,333.17 | 401,333.17 | |
| Turkey Roods | 706,465 | 817,775.99 | 111,310.99 | |
| Chintzes | 406,924 | 107,441.53 | | 299,482.47 |
| Velvet | 820,470 | 331,435.92 | | 489,034.08 |
| Lawn | 264,343 | 92,430.26 | | 171,912.74 |
| Satins | 416,478 | 96,178.78 | | 320,299.69 |
| Drills | 149,202 | 153,444.05 | 4,242.05 | |

WOOLEN AND MIXED COTTON AND WOOLEN MANUFACTURES.—Of the total falling off, amounting to \$1,732,851.92 in these goods the principal item, Mousseline de laine, alone shews a decrease of \$1,487,556.20. Blankets, Lastings, Orleans and Woolen and Cotton Mixtures not specified, have also been imported to a less extent than in 1881, while the values of Flannels, Italian and Woolen cloths on the other hand are in excess of those during the latter years.

The amounts in each of these cases are as follows:—

| ARTICLE. | VALUE IMPORTED IN 1881. | VALUE IMPORTED IN 1882. | INCREASE IN 1882 AS COMPARED WITH 1881. | DECREASE IN 1882 AS COMPARED WITH 1881. |
|------------------------------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|
| Mousseline de laine | \$ 2,709,341 | 1,221,784.80 | | 1,487,556.20 |
| Blankets | 231,187 | 310,130.93 | 78,943.93 | |
| Flannels | 80,110 | 105,784.93 | 25,674.93 | |
| Italian Cloths | 531,858 | 573,404.59 | 41,546.59 | |
| Lastings | 121,434 | 46,949.35 | | 74,484.75 |
| Orleans | 145,073 | 75,397.31 | | 69,675.76 |
| Woolen Cloths | 89,010 | 181,081.33 | 92,071.33 | |
| Woolen and Cotton Mixtures not specified | 509,080 | 353,891.00 | | 155,189.00 |

METALS.—Metals also exhibit a falling off in value, though one which is slight as compared with the entire quantity imported. The decrease

is common to all the principal items in the class with the exception of Steel :—

| Article. | Value Imported in 1881. | Value Imported in 1882. | Increase in 1882 as compared with 1881. | Decrease in 1882 as compared with 1881. |
|------------------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|
| Iron (including manufactured)..... | 1,503,404 | 1,342,976.66 | 8 | 159,427.34 |
| Lead..... | 97,180 | 57,833.85 | 39,486.75 | — |
| Silver and Zinc..... | 110,380 | 35,049.23 | 75,330.77 | — |
| Steel..... | 1,074 | 147,485.37 | 87,701.77 | — |
| Tin..... | 97,314 | 84,150.53 | 13,163.77 | — |
| Yellow Metal..... | 97,715 | 48,625.82 | 49,089.38 | — |

KEROSENE OIL.—A very large increase has taken place both in the quantity and value of Kerosene Oil imported during the year 1882, the figures being gallons 20,682,205, valued at \$2,320,905.12, as against gallons 8,006,210, valued at \$978,933 in 1881.

The value of that imported in 1882 reaches a larger amount than that shown in any previous year—the figures for the five years from 1878 (when the value first exceeded a million of dollars) to 1882, being :—

| 1878. | 1879. | 1880. | 1881. | 1882. |
|-----------|-----------|-----------|---------|-----------|
| \$ | \$ | \$ | \$ | \$ |
| 1,856,881 | 2,185,223 | 1,400,378 | 978,933 | 2,320,905 |

SUGAR.—This staple also shows a large increase in both quantity and value over 1881, the only descriptions in which a falling off has taken place being that of Loaf Sugar, which has hitherto been included under the heading of Miscellaneous Foreign, while the others have, as has been already remarked, classed as Miscellaneous Eastern. The Customs Return shows that the quantity and value of each kind in 1882 were :—

| | 1878. | 1879. | 1880. | 1881. | 1882. |
|------------------|----------------|------------------------|-------|-------|-------|
| | | | | | |
| Brown Sugar..... | piculs 601,290 | valued at 2,887,887.93 | | | |
| White Sugar..... | piculs 189,156 | valued at 1,545,821.00 | | | |
| Candy Sugar..... | piculs 8,780 | valued at 83,843.29 | | | |
| Loaf Sugar..... | piculs 1,177 | valued at 12,085.19 | | | |

Total.....piculs 800,403 valued at 4,529,639.27 as against—

| | 1878. | 1879. | 1880. | 1881. | 1882. |
|------------------|----------------|---------------------|-------|-------|-------|
| | | | | | |
| Brown Sugar..... | piculs 487,251 | valued at 2,287,158 | | | |
| White Sugar..... | piculs 172,050 | valued at 1,420,485 | | | |
| Candy Sugar..... | piculs 8,899 | valued at 85,390 | | | |
| Loaf Sugar..... | piculs 2,174 | valued at 23,774 | | | |

Total.....piculs 670,404 valued at 3,816,807 in 1881.

MISCELLANEOUS FOREIGN.—Kerosene Oil having been removed from the list of articles hitherto included under this heading, the total value reached by them is considerably less than that of previous years. Even not taking this staple into account, however, the value of the import during 1882 still falls short of that for 1881 by \$1,246,041.07, the respective amounts for the two years being :—

1881, excluding Kerosene Oil... \$6,146,332.00

1882, excluding Kerosene Oil... \$4,900,290.93

The comparative value of the Import during the two years of some of the numerous and varied articles included in the class are given in the following Table :—

| Article. | Value Imported in 1881. | Value Imported in 1882. | Increase in 1882 as compared with 1881. | Decrease in 1882 as compared with 1881. |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|
| Books..... | 8 | 8 | 8 | 8 |
| Paper..... | 43,253 | 43,934.78 | 681.48 | — |
| Stationery..... | 56,683 | 111,318.74 | 54,635.74 | — |
| Clocks..... | 122,100 | 130,627.36 | 8,527.36 | — |
| Machinery..... | 482,927 | 330,705.48 | — | 152,221.52 |
| Watches..... | 186,124 | 108,899.72 | — | 77,224.36 |
| Silk and Cotton Manufactures..... | 320,108 | 468,700.10 | 148,592.10 | — |
| Glass..... | 188,326 | 70,577.13 | — | 117,748.88 |
| Leather..... | 373,411 | 370,140.05 | — | 3,270.95 |
| Umbrella Frames..... | 77,493 | 29,099.40 | — | 48,393.60 |
| Wines, Beer, and Spirits..... | 304,811 | 304,099.70 | — | 711.30 |
| Coal..... | 256,623 | 149,715.90 | — | 106,907.10 |
| Coral..... | 146,461 | 78,046.32 | — | 68,414.68 |
| Lamps..... | 72,524 | 27,356.78 | — | 45,167.22 |
| Provisions..... | 157,395 | 324,128.30 | 166,733.30 | — |

MISCELLANEOUS EASTERN.—The following list contains the principal articles imported under

this heading together with the value of the quantity imported :—

| ARTICLE. | VALUE IMPORTED IN 1882. |
|-----------------------------|-------------------------|
| Raw Cotton..... | \$467,248.86 |
| Beans, Peas, and Pulse..... | \$200,651.65 |
| Oilcake..... | \$44,468.39 |
| Gunny Bags..... | \$60,363.74 |
| Packing Mats..... | \$57,413.42 |
| Rattans..... | \$45,324.53 |
| Chinese Paper..... | \$78,652.90 |
| Drugs..... | \$145,258.45 |
| Dyes and Paints..... | \$195,422.55 |

EXPORTS.

The large increase in the Export Trade of Japan during 1882 is divided among three of the Ports as follows :—

| | INCREASE IN 1882 AS COMPARED WITH 1881. |
|----------------------|-----------------------------------------|
| Kanagawa..... | \$5,505,143.45 |
| Hiogo and Osaka..... | \$810,914.46 |
| Nagasaki..... | \$931,785.48 |

The trade of Hakodate alone shows a falling off in this respect to the extent of \$338,674.88.

The principal articles of Export are detailed in Table E, which shows that an increase took place in the Export of each of the following articles to the extent named :—

| ARTICLE. | INCREASE IN 1882 AS COMPARED WITH 1881. |
|----------------------|-----------------------------------------|
| Raw Silk..... | \$5,971,863.10 |
| Cocoons..... | \$52,800.67 |
| Tea..... | \$8,859.11 |
| Copper..... | \$138,824.84 |
| Wax (Vegetable)..... | \$18,219.67 |
| Camphor..... | \$162,992.93 |
| Coal..... | \$72,905.52 |
| Dried Fish..... | \$331,843.42 |
| Rice..... | \$1,390,379.94 |
| Lacquered Ware..... | \$29,922.23 |

The following articles on the other hand show a decrease :—

| ARTICLE. | DECREASE IN 1882 AS COMPARED WITH 1881. |
|--------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|
| Silkworm's Eggs..... | \$188,654.10 |
| Tobacco..... | \$160,685.28 |
| Earthenware and Porcelain..... | \$140,950.28 |
| Seaweed..... | \$309,695.93 |
| Miscellaneous..... | \$469,457.23 |

The large increase in the value of Raw Silk is alone more than sufficient to account for the increase in the general Export trade of Kanagawa, the value of this staple exported during the past year having not only exceeded that during 1881, but also during any previous year since the opening of the port. With very trifling exception, the export is limited to Kanagawa, and the following figures show the increase that has taken place both in its quantity and value during the past five years :—

| | QUANTITY OF RAW SILK EXPORTED FROM JAPAN. | VALUE. |
|-----------|-------------------------------------------|--------------|
| 1878..... | piculs 25,708 | \$8,995,341 |
| 1879..... | piculs 32,545 | \$11,148,640 |
| 1880..... | piculs 30,134 | \$9,062,879 |
| 1881..... | piculs 36,855 | \$12,667,121 |
| 1882..... | piculs 52,321 | \$18,638,984 |

Both quantity and value have thus more than doubled in the space of five years ; and though the great increase in 1882 must be to some extent accounted for by certain exceptional causes, it is at the same time owing in as large a degree to an increased production of silk throughout the country, and a consequent increase in the surplus left for Export after the Japanese have satisfied their own requirements.

Next to Silk, the staple which reaches the highest value in the return of Exports is Tea, and here also an increase is observable in 1882, as compared with 1881, though to a small extent. Taking, however, the figures for five years, as has been done in the case of Silk, it will be seen that there is a marked increase both in

quantity and value, though neither has reached to the extent of doubling itself. The quantities and values for the five years were as follows :—

| | QUANTITY OF TEA EXPORTED FROM JAPAN. | VALUE. |
|-----------|--------------------------------------|-------------|
| 1878..... | piculs 217,579 | \$4,417,457 |
| 1879..... | piculs 256,016 | \$7,445,489 |
| 1880..... | piculs 303,251 | \$7,497,422 |
| 1881..... | piculs 288,260 | \$7,020,859 |
| 1882..... | piculs 283,011 | \$7,029,718 |

The increase in the value of the Rice exported is divided between Hiogo and Osaka and Nagasaki, the figures in the case of these ports being :—

| | Value of Rice Exported in 1881. | Value of Rice Exported in 1882. | Increase. |
|----------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|--------------|
| Hiogo and Osaka..... | \$67,244 | \$858,933.93 | \$791,739.93 |
| Nagasaki..... | 134,593 | 775,160.97 | 640,567.87 |

Camphor also shows an increase of \$115,047.36 in the case of Hiogo and Osaka, and Dried Fish one of \$235,457.92 in that of Nagasaki.

MISCELLANEOUS EXPORTS.—Four items formerly included under this heading, viz. : Coconuts, Earthenware and Porcelain, Lacquerware and Sea Weed have been removed and separately inserted in the synoptic table—the value in each instance exceeding or being very slightly below half a million dollars. The value of the remaining goods is still large, viz. : \$2,135,996.77, but falls short of that of last year by \$469,457.23. A table of the principal items is subjoined :—

| Article. | Value Imported in 1881. | Value Imported in 1882. | Increase in 1882 as compared with 1881. | Decrease in 1882 as compared with 1881. |
|------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|
| Bamboo Ware..... | 80,227 | 82,372.63 | 2,145.63 | — |
| Bronze..... | 92,993 | 87,159.50 | — | 5,743.50 |
| Fans..... | 267,434 | 182,899.21 | — | 84,534.79 |
| Isinglass..... | 333,047 | 211,237.05 | — | 121,809.95 |
| Matches..... | 249,758 | 37,239.57 | — | 212,518.43 |
| Mushrooms..... | 381,468 | 332,104.86 | — | 49,363.14 |
| Paper..... | 126,276 | 211,632.90 | 85,356.90 | — |
| Sulphuric Acid..... | 111,391 | 40,359.10 | — | 71,031.90 |
| Timber and Planks..... | 127,660 | 195,395.66 | 67,735.66 | — |
| Umbrellas..... | 101,195 | 35,337.46 | — | 65,857.54 |
| Screens..... | 100,979 | 87,465.79 | — | 13,513.21 |
| Ginseng..... | 36,558 | 94,908.52 | 58,350.52 | — |
| Silk Manufactures..... | 81,909 | 68,559.96 | — | 13,349.04 |
| Awabi Shells..... | 83,175 | 58,254.12 | — | 24,920.88 |
| Antimony..... | 48,842 | 101,111.98 | 52,269.88 | — |

SHIPPING.—The Total foreign Tonnage entered at the open Ports of Japan during 1882 was 920 vessels measuring 888,331 tons, as against 789 vessels measuring 763,700 tons in 1881, showing an increase of 131 vessels and 124,631 tons. This increase was divided among the several nationalities as follows :—

| | VESSELS. | TONS. |
|----------------------------|----------|--------|
| British..... | 1 | 55,601 |
| French..... | 2 | 2,377 |
| German..... | 86 | 52,231 |
| Russian..... | 21 | 12,585 |
| Chinese..... | 4 | 3,322 |
| Swedish and Norwegian..... | 8 | 4,579 |

American Shipping shows a decrease of tonnage to the extent of 6,311 tons, but an increase of 10 in the number of vessels.

No distinction is made in the Customs Return between Mail and Ordinary Merchant Steamers, nor is any information given as to the Foreign vessels which entered the unopened Ports of Karatsu and Kuchinotsu under Japanese charters during the year.

TREASURE.—The Treasure Return shows a balance of \$1,523,105.10 in favour of Japan, a sum which falls short of the excess of Exports over Imports by \$6,544,629.73.

CENSUS.—The usual return of the numbers of the Foreign Residents and firms at the various Treaty ports is appended (Table D.). It shows that the total numbers of European and American residents was 2,351, against 2,553 in 1882, and of Chinese 3,545 against 3,553 in 1882.

H.B.M.'s LEGATION, TOKYO, July, 1883.

A.—GENERAL SUMMARY OF THE FOREIGN TRADE OF JAPAN FOR THE YEARS 1881 AND 1882.

| PORTS. | 1882. | | | 1881. | | |
|---------------------------------|----------------------------------------------|---------------|---------------|-----------------|------------|------------|
| | IMPORTS. | EXPORTS. | TOTAL. | IMPORTS. | EXPORTS. | TOTAL. |
| | \$ | \$ | \$ | \$ | \$ | \$ |
| Kanagawa | 20,119,060.69 | 26,659,807.45 | 46,778,868.14 | 21,472,026 | 21,154,664 | 42,626,690 |
| Hiogo and Osaka | 7,884,780.94 | 6,757,624.46 | 14,642,405.40 | 8,430,622 | 5,946,710 | 14,377,332 |
| Nagasaki | 1,156,781.57 | 3,313,390.48 | 4,470,172.05 | 1,001,822 | 2,381,605 | 3,383,427 |
| Hakodate | 7,417.48 | 504,953.12 | 512,370.60 | 128,272 | 843,628 | 971,900 |
| Total | 29,168,004.68 | 37,235,775.51 | 66,403,816.19 | 31,032,742 | 30,326,607 | 61,359,349 |
| Imports | Decrease in 1882 as compared with 1881 | | | \$ 1,864,701.32 | | |
| Exports | Increase in 1882 as compared with 1881 | | | \$ 6,909,168.51 | | |
| Total Imports and Exports | Increase in 1882 as compared with 1881 | | | \$ 5,044,467.19 | | |

B.—SYNOPTIC TABLE OF THE FOREIGN IMPORT AND EXPORT TRADE OF JAPAN FOR THE YEAR 1882.

| IMPORTS. | | | | | | |
|--------------------------------------------------------|---------------|------------------|--------------|------------|---------------|-------------|
| DESCRIPTION OF MERCHANDISE. | KANAGAWA. | HIOGO AND OSAKA. | NAGASAKI. | HAKODATE. | TOTAL 1882. | TOTAL 1881. |
| | \$ | \$ | \$ | \$ | \$ | \$ |
| Cotton Manufactures | 8,529,823.37 | 2,271,238.04 | 51,664.74 | 15.78 | 10,852,741.93 | 12,511,287 |
| Woolen and Mixed Cotton and Woollen Manufactures | 1,924,029.45 | 918,657.37 | 7,151.16 | 22.00 | 2,849,859.98 | 4,582,711 |
| Metals, including Manufactures | 1,152,747.50 | 717,003.94 | 79,521.49 | 30.25 | 1,949,903.18 | 2,042,424 |
| Oil (Kerosene) | 1,007,168.78 | 1,054,369.08 | 257,038.36 | 2,328.90 | 2,320,905.12 | 978,933 |
| Sugar | 3,108,384.60 | 1,155,305.39 | 265,949.38 | — | 4,529,639.37 | 3,816,807 |
| Miscellaneous Foreign | 3,626,033.59 | 1,084,197.00 | 186,555.68 | 3,504.66 | 4,900,290.93 | 6,146,332 |
| Miscellaneous Eastern | 770,873.40 | 683,410.12 | 308,900.76 | 1,515.89 | 1,764,700.17 | 954,248 |
| Total | 20,119,060.69 | 7,884,780.94 | 1,156,781.57 | 7,417.48 | 29,168,040.68 | 31,032,742 |
| EXPORTS. | | | | | | |
| | \$ | \$ | \$ | \$ | \$ | \$ |
| Raw Silk | 18,636,984.40 | 1,999.70 | — | — | 18,638,984.10 | 12,667,121 |
| Silkworm's Eggs | 122,485.90 | — | — | — | 122,485.90 | 311,140 |
| Cocoons | 499,893.67 | — | — | — | 499,893.67 | 447,003 |
| Tea | 4,472,272.15 | 2,471,674.01 | 85,771.95 | — | 7,029,718.11 | 7,020,859 |
| Copper | 257,122.00 | 589,364.24 | 2,184.60 | — | 848,670.84 | 709,846 |
| Tobacco | 48,521.88 | 16,060.03 | 12,442.81 | — | 76,930.72 | 237,616 |
| Wax (Vegetable) | 2,358.00 | 301,202.17 | 22,807.50 | — | 326,367.67 | 308,148 |
| Camphor | 1,703.62 | 612,995.36 | 254,428.95 | — | 869,127.93 | 706,135 |
| Coal | 30.00 | 26,466.95 | 1,150,846.47 | — | 1,177,343.42 | 1,104,438 |
| Dried Fish | 412,634.27 | 328,817.91 | 573,878.92 | 126,173.32 | 1,441,504.42 | 1,109,661 |
| Rice | 20,970.04 | 858,983.93 | 772,160.97 | — | 1,652,114.94 | 261,735 |
| Earthenware and Porcelain | 420,426.60 | 181,409.19 | 29,340.18 | — | 631,176.72 | 772,127 |
| Lacquered ware | 456,950.64 | 91,554.88 | 6,798.71 | — | 555,304.23 | 525,382 |
| Seaweed | 87,097.19 | 64,152.99 | 1,943.86 | 376,962.03 | 530,156.07 | 839,852 |
| Miscellaneous, deducting Re-Imports | 1,220,357.09 | 1,212,937.10 | 400,885.56 | 1,817.02 | 2,835,996.77 | 3,305,454 |
| Total | 26,659,807.45 | 6,757,624.46 | 3,313,390.48 | 504,953.12 | 37,235,775.51 | 30,326,607 |

C.—COMPARATIVE TABLE OF THE FOREIGN IMPORT AND EXPORT TRADE OF THE VARIOUS TREATY PORTS DURING THE YEARS 1881 AND 1882.

| PORT. | YEAR. | IMPORTS. | EXPORTS. | TOTAL. |
|------------------------|-------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Kanagawa do. | 1881. | \$21,472,026 | \$21,154,664 | \$42,626,690 |
| | 1882. | \$20,119,060.69 | \$26,659,807.45 | \$46,778,868.14 |
| | | \$ 1,352,965.31 Decrease | \$ 5,505,143.45 Increase | \$ 4,152,178.14 Increase |
| Hiogo and Osaka do. | 1881. | \$ 8,430,622 | \$ 5,946,710 | \$14,377,332 |
| | 1882. | \$ 7,884,780.94 | \$ 6,757,624.46 | \$14,642,405.40 |
| | | \$ 545,841.06 Decrease | \$ 810,914.46 Increase | \$ 265,073.40 Increase |
| Nagasaki do. | 1881. | \$ 1,001,822 | \$ 2,381,605 | \$ 3,383,427 |
| | 1882. | \$ 1,156,781.57 | \$ 3,313,390.48 | \$ 4,470,172.05 |
| | | \$ 154,959.57 Increase | \$ 931,785.48 Increase | \$ 1,086,745.05 Increase |
| Hakodate do. | 1881. | \$ 128,272 | \$ 843,628 | \$ 971,900 |
| | 1882. | \$ 7,417.48 | \$ 504,953.12 | \$ 512,370.60 |
| | | \$ 120,854.52 Decrease | \$ 338,674.88 Decrease | \$ 459,529.40 Decrease |

D.—COMPARATIVE TABLE OF THE PRINCIPAL ARTICLES OF THE FOREIGN IMPORT TRADE OF JAPAN
DURING THE YEARS 1881 AND 1882.

| COMMODITIES. | YEARS. | TOTAL VALUE OF IMPORTS. | REMARKS. |
|---------------------------------------------------|--------|-------------------------|----------------|
| Cotton Manufactures | 1881 | \$12,511,287 | \$1,658,545.07 |
| | 1882 | 10,852,741.93 | Decrease. |
| Woollen and Mixed Cotton and Woollen Manufactures | 1881 | \$ 4,582,711 | \$1,732,851.02 |
| | 1882 | 2,849,859.98 | Decrease. |
| Metals | 1881 | \$ 2,042,424 | \$ 92,520.82 |
| | 1882 | 1,949,903.18 | Decrease. |
| Kerosene Oil | 1881 | \$ 978,933 | \$1,311,972.12 |
| | 1882 | 2,320,905.12 | Increase. |
| Sugar | 1881 | \$ 3,816,807 | \$ 712,832.37 |
| | 1882 | 4,529,639.37 | Increase. |
| Miscellaneous Foreign | 1881 | \$ 6,146,332 | \$1,246,041.07 |
| | 1882 | 4,900,290.93 | Decrease. |
| Miscellaneous Eastern | 1881 | \$ 954,248 | \$ 810,452.17 |
| | 1882 | 1,764,700.17 | Increase. |

E.—COMPARATIVE TABLE OF THE PRINCIPAL ARTICLES OF THE FOREIGN EXPORT TRADE OF JAPAN DURING THE
YEARS 1881 AND 1882.

| COMMODITIES. | YEAR. | QUANTITY. | VALUE. | REMARKS. |
|---------------------------------------------|-------|-----------------------|------------------|--------------------|
| Raw Silk, including Noshi, Floss, and Waste | 1881 | Piculs. 36,855 | \$ 12,667,121 | \$ 5,971,863.10 |
| | 1882 | 52,021 | 18,638,984.10 | Increase. |
| Silkworm's Eggs | 1881 | Cards, No. 374,494 | 311,140 | 188,654.10 |
| | 1882 | 177,240 | 122,485.90 | Decrease. |
| Cocoons | 1881 | Piculs. 4,772 | 447,093 | 52,800.67 |
| | 1882 | 5,777 | 499,893.67 | Increase. |
| Tea | 1881 | Piculs. 288,260 | 7,020,859 | 8,859.11 |
| | 1882 | 283,011 | 7,029,718.11 | Increase. |
| Copper | 1881 | Piculs. 42,603 | 709,846 | 138,824.84 |
| | 1882 | — | 848,670.84 | Increase. |
| Tobacco | 1881 | Piculs. 23,635 | 237,616 | 160,685.28 |
| | 1882 | 8,074 | 76,930.72 | Decrease. |
| Wax (Vegetable) | 1881 | Piculs. 22,373 | 301,148.00 | 18,219.67 |
| | 1882 | 28,373 | 326,367.67 | Increase. |
| Camphor | 1881 | Piculs. 36,838 | 706,135 | 162,992.93 |
| | 1882 | 50,084 | 869,127.93 | Increase. |
| Coal | 1881 | Tons. 287,388 | 1,104,438 | 72,905.42 |
| | 1882 | 324,671 | 1,177,343.42 | Increase. |
| Dried Fish | 1881 | Piculs. 53,116 | 1,109,661 | 331,843.42 |
| | 1882 | 76,485 | 1,441,504.42 | Increase. |
| Rice | 1881 | Piculs. 106,560 | 261,735 | 1,390,379.94 |
| | 1882 | 650,977 | 1,652,114.94 | Increase. |
| Earthenware and Porcelain | 1881 | — | 772,127 | 140,950.28 |
| | 1882 | — | 631,176.72 | Decrease. |
| Lacquered Ware | 1881 | — | 525,382 | 29,922.23 |
| | 1882 | — | 555,304.23 | Increase. |
| Seaweed | 1881 | Piculs. 402,288 | 839,852 | 309,695.93 |
| | 1882 | 268,941 | 530,156.07 | Decrease. |
| Miscellaneous, deducting Re-Imports | 1881 | — | 3,305,454 | 469,457.23 |
| | 1882 | — | 2,835,996.77 | Decrease. |

F.—RETURN OF TREASURE IMPORTED FROM AND EXPORTED TO FOREIGN COUNTRIES DURING THE YEAR 1882.

| PORT. | IMPORTED. | EXPORTED. | TOTAL. |
|------------------------|----------------|----------------|-----------------|
| Kanagawa | \$2,073,169.96 | \$2,440,219.74 | \$4,513,389.70 |
| Hiogo and Osaka | 3,987,482.61 | 2,119,958.99 | 6,107,441.60 |
| Nagasaki | 100,073.06 | 77,441.80 | 177,514.86 |
| Hakodate | | | |
| | 86,160,725.63 | \$4,637,620.53 | \$10,798,346.16 |

G.—RETURN OF FOREIGN SHIPPING ENTERED AT THE OPEN PORTS OF JAPAN DURING THE YEAR 1882.

| FLAG. | KANAGAWA. | | HIOGO AND OSAKA. | | NAGASAKI. | | HAKODATE. | | TOTAL 1882. | | TOTAL 1881. | |
|------------------------------|-----------|---------|------------------|---------|-----------|---------|-----------|--------|-------------|---------|-------------|---------|
| | Ships. | Tons. | Ships. | Tons. | Ships. | Tons. | Ships. | Tons. | Ships. | Tons. | Ships. | Tons. |
| American | 57 | 114,531 | 14 | 15,724 | 13 | 8,235 | 4 | 1,299 | 88 | 139,789 | 78 | 146,100 |
| British | 166 | 231,959 | 123 | 150,891 | 270 | 190,066 | 24 | 10,786 | 583 | 583,702 | 582 | 528,101 |
| Chinese | 1 | 984 | 1 | 984 | 1 | 370 | 1 | 984 | 4 | 3,322 | | |
| Danish | 4 | 2,426 | 2 | 1,789 | 3 | 1,897 | | | 9 | 6,112 | 9 | 3,602 |
| Dutch | | | | | | | | | | | 1 | 263 |
| French (General) | 29 | 43,696 | 1 | 386 | 4 | 1,288 | | | 34 | 45,370 | 32 | 42,993 |
| German | 25 | 12,422 | 15 | 9,944 | 106 | 55,198 | 6 | 2,420 | 152 | 79,984 | 66 | 27,753 |
| Russian | 5 | 1,090 | 1 | 684 | 31 | 22,247 | 3 | 954 | 40 | 24,975 | 19 | 12,390 |
| Swedish and Norwegian | 3 | 1,695 | 3 | 1,709 | 4 | 1,673 | | | 10 | 5,077 | 2 | 498 |
| Total | 290 | 408,803 | 160 | 182,111 | 432 | 280,974 | 38 | 16,443 | 920 | 888,331 | 789 | 763,700 |

H.—RETURN OF FOREIGN RESIDENTS AND FIRMS AT THE OPEN PORTS OF JAPAN DURING THE YEAR 1882.

| NATIONALITY. | KANAGAWA. | | YEDO. | | HIOGO AND OSAKA. | | NAGASAKI. | | HAKODATE. | | TOTAL. | |
|----------------------------------|------------|--------|------------|--------|------------------|--------|------------|--------|------------|--------|------------|--------|
| | Residents. | Firms. | Residents. | Firms. | Residents. | Firms. | Residents. | Firms. | Residents. | Firms. | Residents. | Firms. |
| American | 255 | 22 | 80 | — | 84 | 10 | 43 | 3 | 6 | — | 468 | 35 |
| Austro-Hungarian | 6 | 2 | 2 | — | 1 | 1 | 12 | 1 | — | — | 21 | 4 |
| Belgian | 8 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 8 | — |
| British | 618 | 52 | 116 | 2 | 253 | 44 | 94 | 5 | 17 | 3 | 1,098 | 106 |
| Danish | 23 | — | 2 | — | 4 | — | 8 | — | 1 | 1 | 38 | 1 |
| Dutch | 32 | 2 | 2 | — | 1 | 3 | 3 | — | — | — | 45 | 5 |
| French | 122 | 15 | 43 | — | No | Return | 33 | 1 | 9 | — | 207 | 16 |
| German | 160 | 22 | 35 | — | 44 | 11 | 17 | 4 | 1 | 1 | 257 | 38 |
| Italian | 14 | 4 | 6 | — | — | — | 6 | 2 | — | — | 26 | 6 |
| Portuguese | 42 | — | — | — | 14 | — | 4 | — | — | — | 60 | — |
| Russian | 43 | 5 | 13 | — | — | — | 16 | — | — | — | 72 | 5 |
| Spanish | 6 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 6 | — |
| Swedish | 5 | — | 1 | — | 2 | — | 1 | — | — | — | 9 | — |
| Swiss | 32 | 6 | 1 | — | — | — | 3 | — | — | — | 36 | 6 |
| Total Europeans and Americans... | 1,366 | 130 | 301 | 2 | 410 | 69 | 240 | 16 | 34 | 5 | 2,351 | 222 |
| Chinese | 2,155 | 135 | 30 | — | 741 | 76 | 594 | 19 | 25 | — | 3,545 | 230 |
| Grand Total | 3,521 | 265 | 331 | 2 | 1,151 | 145 | 834 | 35 | 59 | 5 | 5,896 | 452 |

THE NATIVE PRESS ON H.E.
IWAKURA TOMOMI.

The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*, commenting upon the death of His Excellency Iwakura, says:—This Minister expired in his fifty-seventh year in possession of the junior first rank. The 20th day of July in the 16th year of Meiji will long be deplored. Remember that that day robbed us of the foundation-stone of the Empire and the chief support of the Cabinet in the withdrawal of Iwakura, to the great grief of the Emperor and his people. After referring to the biography of the deceased statesman published elsewhere in the same paper, the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* remarks that the most remarkable features of Iwakura's personal character were candour and loyalty. Seized last winter, after his return from Saikiyo, with illness under which he rapidly sank, he yet, when the Privy Councillors came to enquire after his health, insisted upon consulting with them on political affairs and expounding his own views. So assiduously did he discharge his duties that he cared little for his indisposition, keeping in view the adjustment of national affairs. As his condition did not show

any tendency to improve, His Majesty the Mikado visited him in person on the 5th July, and the Empress paid a similar visit on the 12th. Indeed, the Minister received special favour from their Majesties. On the 19th he sent in his resignation, and was honoured with a special visit from the Emperor, who expressed his deep distress. But destiny is uncontrollable by mere human power; and the Minister died at 7-45 a.m. on the 20th instant. What is most needed in a country is a meritorious and able Minister. Among the most prominent personages who are remembered as the originators and founders of the Restoration, may be mentioned Kido, who died in Saikiyo, before attaining his fiftieth year; Saigo Takanori who died an unnatural death at Shiroshima; and Okubo Toshimichi who, while stout and healthy, lost his life at the hands of an assassin. Most of the great men who rendered good service to the Restoration in its early days had thus perished, Mr. Iwakura alone surviving until the age of nearly sixty. It was hoped that this Minister would assist the Emperor in establishing a constitutional form of Government, and attend the National Assembly which is to be convened in the 23rd year of Meiji (1890). The public have earn-

edly cherished this hope, and their lamentation at the death of its object can easily be imagined. "A man while living is liable sometimes to aspersions and sometimes to flattery. His motives can only be accurately judged after his death." The truth of this axiom is most apparent in the case of those who have become eminent in society for some extraordinary achievements. Let us take the case of Mr. Iwakura. From his youth, he had been bound by an oath of allegiance to the Emperor; and in the epochs of Ansei (1854-60) and Bunkiu (1861-64) he devoted all his energy to the adjustment of national affairs, in spite of several accusations brought against him, and an occasional order of confinement in his own house. Yet the hardships to which he was subjected only strengthened his desire to restore the Imperial Government and establish the Empire in the utmost tranquillity. His loyalty and fidelity have been acknowledged by the people at large. Since the Restoration, he has endeavoured to manage the affairs of the Government in utter disregard of popular criticism, ready to lay down his life on behalf of his Sovereign and country. The fact that all matters of an uncommonly intricate nature were referred to him is well known by those who can recall the events by which

the Empire was thrown into confusion in times prior to the abolition of the clans and the establishment of the prefectures. When an embassy was despatched to Europe and America, he was accredited with power as Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary. During the Formosan complications he persistently opposed all propositions for war, and in the time of the South-Western Rebellion he remained in Tokiyo and took charge of measures for defence. It is certainly well known that the mental and physical exertions made by Mr. Iwakura for a space of sixteen years sprung from his enthusiastic allegiance to the Emperor and love for his country. Yet some of our own people, unfamiliar with his motives, and actuated by intense hatred, attempted to assassinate him, whilst others were disposed to criticize his proceedings, to blame his views, and to spread ill reports with regard to him. His achievements have in most cases attracted public eulogy, but in some instances received extreme censure. So soon as his death was announced to the people, adverse criticisms, however, ceased entirely; and his opponents appear to mourn as bitterly the loss of this Minister as do those who approved his measures.

The *Jiyu Shimbun* says:—In memory of the decease of Mr. Iwakura, we should wish to furnish our readers with his precise biography, but as in so doing we must necessarily refer to the proceedings of the Government, the restrictions on the liberty of the press prevent us. We will only, therefore, mention some of the praiseworthy actions of the Minister, which will serve to show his superiority. Toward the end of the 3rd year of Keiwo (1867) when the new Government was established, the whole Empire was in disorder, and some of the powerful clans had assumed an attitude of mistrust. The Minister went by night to the residence of the chief vassals of these clans, and argued them into allegiance to the Emperor. At one time when the lord of a certain influential clan appeared at the Palace, Mr. Iwakura pressed him in vehement terms for a decisive answer concerning the course which he meant to adopt. The result added considerably to the strength of the Government, at the same time as it proved the extent of Iwakura's devotion. In those times, on the allegiance or treachery of a few powerful clans hung the supremacy of the Imperial or Tokugawa Dynasty. After the Minister had arrived in Tokiyo in November of the first year of Meiji (1870), in the escort of the Emperor, he held an interview with Mr. Katsu Awa, who afterwards said to some of his friends:—"I have just perceived the reason of the Restoration. I did not know that among the Court nobles there was such an intelligent statesman as Iwakura." This incident shows the greatness of the Minister's personal ability. His death cannot fail to obstruct the working of our political machinery. How will the vacancy thus created be filled?

TRANSLATIONS FROM NATIVE JOURNALS.

THE TRIAL OF THE FUKUSHIMA RIOTERS.

(Translated from the *Choya Shimbun*).

This case which, only a short time ago, gave rise to vehement public discussion, was brought to hearing on the 19th instant. This being the first sitting of the Special Criminal Court since the New

Penal Code has been in force, the doors were besieged by an anxious crowd from early morning, but as the Court limited the audience to one hundred and fifty to prevent confusion, many failed to gain admission. At 10 a.m., everything being in readiness, the presiding Judge, Mr. Tamano, made his appearance, followed by the assessors and public prosecutors. The assessors were three senators, (Messrs. Hayashi, Kawada, and Nagaoka), and three Judges (Messrs. Okada, Seki, and Takehisa). The prosecution was represented by Messrs. Watanabe, Horida, Takeuchi, and Sumikawa. The prisoners, six in all, were placed on a bench before the Judge. In opening the case, the Judge asked them for full particulars regarding their names, birth-places, professions, ages, etc. Kono Hironaka is of lofty stature and fair complexion, a *heimin*, native of Iwashiro in the prefecture of Fukushima, aged thirty-three. Tamono, who wears a long beard, is also a *heimin*, native of Iwashiro, thirty-four years old. Aizawa Kennei is of dark complexion and has a prominent nose. He is a native of the same prefecture, a *shisoku*, aged thirty-three years and ten months. Hanaka Kiyojiro is a *shisoku* of Tokiyo, twenty-six years and nine months old. Hiroshima Matsuwo is a *shisoku* of Nihonmatsu, Adate-gori, Fukushima, twenty-eight years and four months old. The last prisoner, Sawata Seinosuke, was born at the same place as Hiroshima. His social position is not properly ascertained—as to whether he is *heimin* or *shisoku*. The counsel for the defence consists of the most prominent lawyers in the Capital, namely, Messrs. Hoshi Toru, Oi Kentaro, Kitata Masataro, Nakashima Matagoro, Yamada Taizo, and Uyeke Koji. The Judge ordered the prisoners to be arraigned according to the provisions of the Penal Code. A short discussion followed between the Judge and Mr. Hoshi as to the order in which the prisoners should sit. They were finally seated as follows:—No. 1, Hanaka, No. 2, Hirashima, No. 3, Tamono, No. 4, Kono, No. 5, Aizawa, and No. 6, Sawata. The Judge then ordered their indictment to be read. It runs as follows:—

The accused (names as mentioned above) have been found plotting to overthrow the Government, for which purpose they assembled at Mumei Kan, the head-quarters of "the Liberals" in August of the fifteenth year of Meiji (1882). The evidence upon which this indictment is based, is the confessions made by the accused during the preliminary trial, the copy of the oath written by Hanaka himself, the statements of the witnesses Kamada Naoro and Tamura Kioun, a letter from Aizawa to Yoshida Mitsukadzu, a letter from Tamono to the Mumei Kan dated the 15th August in the 15th year of Meiji, and the manifesto calling for co-operation to publish a journal. This testimony is sufficient to incriminate the accused in a plot for the overthrow of the Government. But as their scheme was only in process of hatching, they are only liable to be punished according to Article 125, Article 121, and Article 68 of the Penal Code. Article 125 says:—If there have been only levies or enrolment of bands, supplying of arms, munitions of war or provisions, or other acts preliminary to the offences before mentioned, the penalties borne by article 121 shall be diminished by one degree. If there have been only a conspiracy formed, not followed by preliminary acts, the penalty shall be diminished two degrees. Article 121 says:—All individuals guilty of having taken part in a civil war, in an insurrection or an armed sedition, having for its object either to overturn the Government of the country or to take away from the Imperial autho-

rities any part whatsoever of the territory of Japan or its dependencies, or to diminish the right and prerogatives of the Emperor in the Government of the country, shall, according to the nature of their participation, be punished as follow:—1. With the penalty of death; those who have been the instigators of the crime and those who have been the ringleaders.—2. With transportation for life, or, in circumstances less serious, with temporary transportation; those who have held command or exercised authority.—3. With major or minor imprisonment; those who have furnished arms, munitions of war, money and provisions, and those who have held ordinary positions.—4. With minor imprisonment for a period of from two to five years; those who, without exercising any function, have participated in insurrection or have been employed in different services, less important, during the insurrection. Article 68 says:—Political criminal penalties are lowered or raised in the following order:—1. Death.—2. Penal servitude for life.—3. Penal servitude for a time.—4. Major imprisonment.—5. Minor imprisonment.

At a preliminary examination held in the Special Court, it was found that the accused were guilty of a plot to overthrow the Government. Therefore the undersigned committed them for trial.

S. TAMANO, President of the Special Court.

K. WATANABE, Commissary to the Special Court.

16th April the 16th year of Meiji (1883).

After the reading of the indictment was concluded, the clerk read the report of the examination of Hanaka Kiyojiro, conducted by Iwashita Keizo, a Police Inspector at the Fukushima Police Station. It was as follows:—Report of examination of Hanaka, conducted the 17th January 1883.

Question.—Have you ever signed, with your blood, the covenant which was entered into between you, and Kono and Tamano? Answer.—Yes, I did.

Q.—Then, I will give you a short time to make a written statement of what you remember. A.—I will do so.

The accused immediately wrote the following, saying that it was the covenant referred to:—"1. We will overthrow an oppressive Government if it exist in Japan and establish a purely liberal constitution.—2. We will sacrifice our lives and property to consummate our object.—3. We will carry out whatever has been resolved upon in any of our meetings.—4. We will cut down those of our party who reveal our secrets.—5. We will not dissolve our party till the foregoing objects are accomplished." I do not remember the whole thing, but the above is the tenor of the covenant.

HANAKA KIYOJIRO,

14th January the 16th year of Meiji (1883).

Q.—I understood that, in the original, the words "bureaucratic Government" are used, instead of the words "oppressive Government." Is it really so? A.—Yes, the word "oppressive" is wrong, and ought to read "bureaucratic." I wish you to add the words "will abandon the cordon of gratitude and love" (dictate of humanity) below the words "we will sacrifice our lives," etc.

Q.—Of course, you refer to the Government of Meiji. A.—Just so.

The reading of the above report brought the preliminary proceedings to a conclusion. The prisoners conducted themselves with a considerable amount of self-possession, and appeared cheerful in spite of having been imprisoned for a long period. The examination of Hanaka came first,

Judge Tamano—Do you not observe any error in the report just read by the clerk?

Prisoner—Yes, there is a slight mistake. I have already referred to it on the occasion of the preliminary examination. I will again mention it. I have a very sorrowful recollection of the inhuman treatment I received at the hands of the Fukushima police. They arrested many persons on mere suspicion and detained them. I have been imprisoned since the middle of December last, and was frequently taken into Court to answer charges. The police inspector asked me if I intended to kill Mr. Mishima, governor of Fukushima. I was at a loss to understand why he put such an irrelevant question. Sometimes he intimidated me; and sometimes tried to coax me. I replied that I had no intention of killing Governor Mishima. The officers told me that they would give me time to think over the matter. They made me stand in snow, and on other occasions I was kept without my meals. I was subjected to such cruelty seven times. Especially, on the 4th, 6th, 11th, and 12th of January, I had bitter experiences. The recollection of these wrongs kindles my anger. One day, the police inspector inquired of me what I had meant to do, and what was my object. I said I was following the dictates of reason. He asked me, "what is reason?" I replied "reason is reason, and whosoever possesses a brain, ought to know it." My answer exasperated him. He kicked me on the breast, and I fell down. This incident alone is sufficient to show the misconduct of the police. No reliance whatever can be placed on their statements. The report of the trial just read to me consists of a few pages. It took fully three days to examine me. Therefore I should have expected that the report should be more lengthy. On the contrary, it is all comprised in a few pages. This shows the carelessness of the police inspector. In addition to this, the police employed as recording clerks are ignorant and cannot write a single sentence without error or confusion. This shortcoming even the police inspector in question observed, and suggested to me that it would be better to abridge my lengthy statement rather than have it liable to confusion. I agreed to that, intending to have the truth or otherwise of my assertions decided in this Court, as it was impossible to do so in the police station. The police inspector informed me in a most kindly manner that the rioters were all arrested and that as a certain covenant which, he said, bore my signature and stamp, had been seized by the authorities it was useless to deny my complicity. This appeared so strange that I hesitated to answer; but as I was previously informed that armed police had made a raid on the Mumei Kan and carried off all sorts of documents, I concluded that the draft of the covenant which I wrote had been captured, and that the police inspector referred to it. Accordingly, I put down what I remembered about it and gave it to him. The copy of the covenant now produced in Court is the very thing I wrote. I could not tell whether or not the draft of the covenant was resolved upon. When, afterward, I was examined in the Wakamatsu Judicial Court, I found that it had not been seized by the authorities. Then I discovered that I had been entrapped by the police. In the Court just mentioned, I corrected some portion of the copy, as I had omitted some words. When I showed the draft to a certain person, he suggested to me that the words "overthrow the oppressive Government," etc., were offensive, and I changed them to "improve the Government."

The report of the hearing of Hanaka at Wakamatsu was then read. It is as follows:—

Preliminary hearing of Hanaka Kiyojiro.

Question.—Is there no inaccuracy in the report of the case heard at the police station of Fukushima? Answer.—Yes, there is.

Q.—Tell me what part is wrong. A.—The words "If it exist in Japan" in the Article 1 of the covenant are miswritten for the words "enemy of liberty." In my answer to the question whether I referred to the Government of Meiji, etc., I replied, "Yes." I of course referred to all the beaucratic Governments in the world, including our Government.

Q.—Is that all the discrepancy? A.—Yes.

Q.—How did the inaccuracies creep into the copy of the covenant which you wrote yourself? A.—Because I forgot.

Q.—What is the use of the covenant if you forgot it? Why did you not keep a copy of it for yourself? A.—Soon after it was drawn up, I went lecturing round the province, and then I was arrested.

Q.—Is it true that a man called Sato Kiyo assisted you in writing it? A.—No, it is not true.

Q.—What do you mean by the words "overthrow the Government?" A.—I mean "to overturn it."

Q.—Do you mean by the words "to overturn it" to plot against the Government? A.—Yes, you can call it so if you please.

Q.—Who penned the characters in the original of the covenant? A.—I drafted it; and Sawata Seinosuke wrote it out fair.

In proof of the above we hereby affix our signatures.

AKASHI KINICHI, Judge.

SUDZUKI SIYONOSUKE,

Clerk of the Court.

HANAKA KIYOJIRO, Accused.

February 3rd, 16th year of Meiji.

The examination of Hanaka was continued:—
Judge Tamano—Do you wish any amendment to be made in your statement just read?

Answer.—It is nearly all correct. But to avoid confusion in the interpretation of my language, I will give an explanation of it. In Article 1 of the covenant, the words "bureaucratic government" occur. The expression refers to all the bureaucratic governments in this world, and not only to our own. It is not an easy task to eradicate the abuses of bureaucratic government, but there are many means to attain the end, such, for instance, as recourse to physical force, to argument, or publication of books. (Here the accused pointed out at great length the abuses that arose from the usurpation of the Imperial authority by the families of Minamoto and Taira; and how Rai Sanyo contributed toward the downfall of the Tokugawa Government by publishing his treatises). He continued:—Our aim is to put an end to despotism. Once I said, that I was ready to sacrifice my life in the accomplishment of our object. This expression appears too violent now; but on the occasion when I used it, it was but reasonable. When I was subjected to inhuman treatment at Wakamatsu Police Station, I was under the influence of intense indignation, and thought it better to die than be outraged by mean officers. Under such pressure, it was natural that I should have used violent words.

Q.—Have you finished your explanations? A.—No. I leave, I imagine, a doubt in your mind why I ask so many alterations to be made in the copy of the covenant I had drawn up myself. The reason is that the original was often altered at the suggestion of many men: in fact it was so com-

pletely changed when submitted to the consideration of our party that I can say that the draft had been almost abandoned. Moreover, I was informed later on that Kono had drawn up the covenant himself, and that Sawata penned the characters. In these circumstances, I could not remember all the incidents consequent upon the changes.

The report of the preliminary hearing of Hanaka at the Special Court was then read. It runs as follows:—The question as to the meaning of the words "overthrow the Government," elicited the following answer from the accused:—When I myself drew up the covenant, the words in question were intended for what they mean. It was, however, afterward changed to "improve the Government." The idea was that we should first overturn Government and then improve it. I have nothing to change in the foregoing statement. Asked whether he applied the words "improve the Government" in the same sense as "overthrowing Government and afterwards improving it," he replied in the affirmative.

We have conducted the above inquiry according to Article 151 of the Code of Criminal Procedure.*

IWAYA RIUICHI, Judge.

HIYODO MASAKI, Judge.

UNO TOMOAKIRA, Clerk of the Court.

OKAZAWA KEIICHIRO, Clerk of the Court.

March 2nd, 1883.

Judge Tamano—Do you find any inaccuracy in the report read by the Clerk? Answer.—In the preliminary hearing, I mentioned that our idea was to overturn the Government first and improve it afterwards. That was my mistake. I only intended to change the words "overthrow the Government" to "improve the Government."

The report of the preliminary trial was again read. It was as follows:—

Preliminary hearing of Hanaka Kiyojiro, conducted according to Article 378† of the Code of Criminal Procedure, before S. Tamano, President of the Court, Takahashi Michitada, Clerk of the Court, and Araki Riuhi, Assessor.

Question.—In the preliminary hearing held on the 4th April last at this Court, you said Hirashima was absent for about twenty days when the covenant was signed, and that it was shown him by Kono. Was this on the 1st of August? Answer.—I do not know whether he was absent on that day or not. But, as the covenant was drawn up in his presence seven days before the day in question, that is on the 22nd or 23rd of July, whether or no he was absent on the 1st of August, he must have been aware of its existence.

Q.—Do you mean that it was drawn up at the end of July and signed on the 1st August, and that, though Hirashima was absent, he agreed to it. A.—I do not know whether he agreed to it; but since he is one of the party, I think he was aware of the contents of the covenant.

Q.—Do you mean that the meeting was held any day before the 1st of August? A.—I said,

*Article 151.—An account of the examination and of the prisoner's replies will be drawn up by the Clerk and read by him to the accused. The accused will be asked by the Judge if he persists in his statements, and if so, he will sign the said document. If he declares that he is unable to sign, the fact will be noted in the same document. The clerk will state that preceding provisions have been observed and will sign with the magistrate.

†Article 378.—After twenty-four hours from the said promulgation of the notification, the President of the Criminal Court or one of his assessors, delegated by him, assisted by the clerk, shall interrogate the accused on the offences laid to his charge, and shall enquire of him whether he has, or has not, chosen Counsel. If he has made no choice, the President shall, by virtue of his office, designate one from among the advocates inscribed on the roll of those practising in the place. If there are several accused, the same advocate may be nominated for all of them if no objection be raised on their part or on that of the Counsel. The accused may not be submitted to examination until after three days from the designation of the advocate by the Judge-president.

"better try it." Hirashima also said the same thing.

Q.—Was the meeting held before the 1st August intended for discussing matters concerning the league? How many members were there at the meeting? A.—Kono, Tamono, Sawata, Hirashima, and I, were present.

Judge Tamano—Is there no inaccuracy in the statement just read?

Prisoner—With regard to the statement where it says that I participated in the meeting with Hiroshima, I wish to explain one thing. I have had most intimate relations with Hiroshima. At the meeting in question, I stated that reliance cannot be placed on untried men, that our opponents (here the Judge asked whom he meant by opponents. Accused answered that he referred to the Monarchical Party) have recourse to physical force; and that to destroy such a party it is necessary to compose our own side of men who know no danger. There are but few who will carry out one principle with unflagging faithfulness from the beginning to the end. To pick up such men, it was considered indispensable to draw up a covenant and thereby to ascertain their patriotism. Only six men enrolled themselves. We did not desire to increase the number of our members, but should not have failed to do everything in our power to improve the state of national affairs. Being exceedingly busy, we avoided advertising our meetings in the newspapers several days beforehand; but we met together and discussed public affairs.

The examination of prisoner No. 2, Hiroshima, was next proceeded with.

The following report of his trial at the Fukushima Police Station was read in accordance with his request:—

Trial of Hiroshima at Fukushima Police Station.

Question.—The authorities are informed that after Kono returned from Tokiyo on the 8th November of the 15th year of Meiji (1882), you met him at the Mumei Kan and consulted with him how best to take violent measures concerning the disturbances at Wakamatsu. Explain to me all the particulars. Answer.—No, I did not consult him about taking any violent measures. Despatches were sometimes sent from Mumei Kan to the head-quarters in Tokiyo, asking for a number of stout men. On each occasion, I said, "We do not hesitate to fight to the last with the Monarchical party."

Q.—Previous to that occurrence, Kono posted a letter stiling himself the *Mukiyo An* (Nihilist). To whom was it sent? A.—Yes, it is true. The letter in question was sent to Mumei Kan as well as to our party.

Q.—What did it contain? A.—It said that the head-quarters recognize its responsibility to send men and publish newspapers in order to struggle with our opponents.

Q.—Have you ever signed a covenant with Kono, Hanaka, Tamano, and some others? A.—Yes, I made oath to encourage liberalism and to hold by it even at the cost of my life.

Q.—Who took part in the oath with you? A.—Kono, Tamono, Aizawa, Hanaka, Sawata.

Q.—Who drew up the covenant, and on what day was it signed? A.—In August or September of last year.

Q.—What were the articles? A.—It consisted of five articles. The first article said, "We shall adhere to liberalism and destroy the government that obstructs it."

Q.—What was the second article? A.—The

second, I believe, contained the expression that we shall endeavor to establish a constitution. The third one said, "We will abandon, if necessary, our wives, children, and property to attain our aim," and the fourth article, "We will take the lives of those who break this covenant."

Q.—Who drew it up? A.—I do not know; but I believe that it was written by Hanaka, for he is a good scholar.

Q.—Who penned the characters? A.—Sawata. (Here Hiroshima wrote down what he remembered concerning the covenant).

Q.—The original contained the words "bureaucratic government." You just now wrote the words "oppressive government." Which is right? A.—I am sure it was written "oppressive government" in the original.

Q.—What do you mean by the words "bureaucratic government?" A.—It means such a government as that of Japan.

Q.—The first article of the covenant contained the words:—"We will overthrow an oppressive government, if it exist, in Japan," etc. Do you refer to the Government of Japan? A.—Our Government inclines toward oppression. The words "oppressive government" in the first article of the covenant admit of a wide explanation.

Q.—That is a vague and incomprehensible explanation. Do the words "inclined toward oppression" mean that the Government is oppressive. A.—Yes, we made the covenant in consequence of its oppression.

Q.—Then, of course, you refer to the existing Government. A.—Yes, I refer to the Government of Japan.

Q.—What are the means of overthrowing it? A.—We have not as yet decided.

In attestation of the above, we hereby affix our signatures.

IWASHITA KEIZO, Police Inspector.

HIROSHIMA MATSUO, Accused.

January 17th, 16th year of Meiji (1883).

Judge Tamano—Do you find any part of this report erroneous?

Prisoner—When I was arrested at Wakama, the police inspector put various questions to me. I could not answer, as I did not remember every thing. I told him that it was, and would be, my aim to sweep away oppression, and promote liberalism, and that the covenant was the outcome of this desire. Then he showed me the copy of the covenant, asking me to give an explanation of the words. I refused to do so on the ground that it was unnecessary. He inquired if the words "bureaucratic government" referred to the Government of Japan. I replied, explaining at some length the difference between constitutional and bureaucratic government, and said that the letters in question referred to all bureaucratic governments. The officer wrote what purported to be the copy of my statement. It was full of errors. But as I could do nothing, I left it in its original state. (Judge asked why he sealed the document with his thumb.—Prisoner answered that he acted under pressure of the occasion).

The following report of the preliminary trial at the Special Court was reproduced:—

Q.—In yesterday's hearing, you deposed that you did not remember the contents of the covenant and could not have written it but for instruction given by the police inspector. If you discover any inaccuracy in the first article of the covenant, point it out. A.—I do not remember the contents of Article 1 exactly. But I think it was to the effect that we wished to improve an oppressive govern-

ment by establishing a liberal constitution. No such thing was mentioned as the overthrow of an oppressive government if it existed in Japan.

Q.—Hanaka attested that, when the covenant was drawn up many discussions took place, and that as "overthrowing government alone" is not sufficiently conducive to the execution of the end in view, it was decided "to overthrow it first and improve it afterward." With this object, they resolved upon the wording—"We will overthrow an oppressive government if it exists in Japan and establish a purely liberal constitution." Kono also testified to the same effect. After Kono was arrested, Kamada Nawozo discovered the covenant at Mumei Kan and found the words in question in it. But you alone state that it did not contain them. A.—My aspiration has been, and is, to improve oppressive governments, and though I remember having read the words "improve oppressive government," in the covenant, yet as I was absent when it was agreed upon, I do not know the wording of it. It was twenty days after the covenant was resolved upon that Kono remarked to me about it, and I bound myself to it. I was then under the impression that there was no material change between the words "overthrow" and "improve," since to improve we must overthrow first, and after overthrow comes improvement. I do not see how this is against the law.

HIRASHIMA MATSUO, Accused,
KIYODO MASAKI, Judge,
TSUDA CHOKI, Clerk of the Court.

April 4th, 1883.

Judge Tamano—Do you find any discrepancy in the report just read? Prisoner—Please note that what we want is the eradication of all things that obstruct the progress of liberalism and that we do not care whether or not are mentioned the words "overthrow" or "improve" in the covenant. (Here the Judge asked if the prisoner meant, that his statement at the preliminary hearing was wrong.—Accused replied that the import of the words was, in his opinion, different).

July 20th. On opening the Court, Judge Tamano resumed the examination of Hiroshima.

The following report of the preliminary hearing of the prisoner at the Special Court was then read:—

Question.—Have you asked of any one of your compatriots who signed the covenant before you what view Kono took of it? Answer.—I made no inquiry. It may appear strange that in binding myself to a covenant which subjected me to a penalty of being cut down, I did not inquire into anything. But it is simply a matter of politics, and as we trust each other, we act in strict harmony as though we were one body with one mind.

Q.—Then, you mean that as, exactly the same political idea prevails among your party, it was unnecessary to inquire into it, and that the covenant was its embodiment? A.—Yes.

Q.—In other words, you mean that the spirit of the covenant lies, not in the oath made, but in the member's usual political convictions. A.—Yes.

Q.—Did Aizawa inform you of the contradiction made by Kono, or did you inform him of it? A.—I was informed by Aizawa.

Q.—What did he say? A.—He said that, as the existence of the covenant is likely to give offence, and as it is not good to prove men's fidelity by writing, it would be better to cancel it.

Q.—Was what Aizawa said his own opinion? A.—He learned it from Kono. I thought it inconsistent, but agreed to it.

Q.—Then, do you mean that it is not the

covenant that inspired you with a desire to proceed, but that, without it, your opinion is unchangeable? A.—Yes.

S. TAMONO, President of the Court.
HIROSHIMA MATSUWO, Accused.
SHIROTO KOJIRO, Clerk of Court.

May 25th, 1883.

Judge Tamano—Have you anything to say?

Prisoner—As we are incurring great suspicion from the public, I deem it not altogether unnecessary to explain the nature of our covenant—that it has no wicked design. It is from patriotism that we love liberalism from the bottom of our hearts, and strive to promote the national welfare. We will spare no effort to attain our end according to the dictates of the popular will. It was this very motive that prompted us to draw up the covenant. If any violent expressions occur in it, we have penned them—however improper they may have been—under the impulse of occasion. We have no reason to feel ashamed of our conduct, nor has the public any cause to despise us. We have no desire beyond that of promoting liberalism. At one time I was a journalist, once a lecturer, and I went round the provinces lecturing. What I said and wrote was all intended to promote the good of the nation; but on no occasion did I express myself with violence. I was only twice required to dismiss my audience. This was on occasions when I rebuked the conduct of Governor Miyoshi. That was not my fault, but the Governor's. He imposed heavy taxes upon the people for repair of roads—taxes which they could not bear. That functionary persisted in his own wisdom and enforced the sale of the property of poor defaulters. He had no heart. We attacked him for his unjust conduct. Our doings are always in strict unison with the dictates of justice and reason. The Monarchical party at Aizu who profess themselves to be modest and practical in their aims often resort to violence. We were bodily assaulted on many occasions. But we never on any occasion resisted. The words "overthrow government," etc., suggest, when viewed from a narrow point of view, a nefarious design. But in fact such is not the case. Who in this world would live under an oppressive government? It is the duty of every man with a brain to work hard to eradicate abuses. One suspicious feature of the covenant is the fact that it was kept secret and that only six men subscribed to it. On this point, I want to explain myself. In order to effect a political resuscitation, it is necessary to select men whom one thinks will not go back on their obligation. Therefore, we did not show the covenant to common men but rather concealed it. When I was arrested, two men, Kamada and Sasaki, were greatly surprised and immediately put the paper under the mat. This circumstance greatly increased the suspicion against our people. These men were ignorant, so they were taken aback at seeing the words "overthrow oppressive government," etc. Previous to this occasion I went to Tokiyo, where I learned that Kono was arrested. I immediately left the Capital in order to inquire into the matter. When about two *ri* from Fukushima, I met two friends of mine, and was informed that the police were on my track. I therefore decided to return to Tokiyo, and lay the matter before the Home Minister. I could not obtain any interview with him. When I was on my way to the residence of the Prime Minister, I was arrested by the police. (Here a short discussion took place between the accused and the Judge as to the meaning of the words "oppressive," etc.)

The examination of prisoner No. 3, Tamono, was next proceeded with.

Judge Tamano caused the report of the trial at the Wakamatsu Police Station to be read. It was as follows:—

Question—Have you signed any covenant with Kono, Hirashima, Hanaka, and others? Answer—I agreed to one in July of 1883.

Q.—How many persons participated in it? A.—Four persons in all, including Kono, Sawata, Hanaka, and myself. I was afterward informed that Hiroshima joined the league.

Q.—Who drew up the covenant? A.—Sato Kiyō framed it, and Sawata wrote it.

Q.—What were the contents of the covenant? A.—It was to the effect that we should strive with unflagging fidelity to establish a purely liberal constitution and accomplish the work in spite of any difficulties.

Q.—Did the covenant contain any expression entailing the loss of your life in form of penalty? A.—Yes.

Q.—Tell whatever you remember of its contents. A.—I do not remember well, and therefore cannot reply.

Q.—How can you forget the things that entail the loss of your life. A.—I do not forget the essence of the covenant, as I have already explained to you. But I have no recollection of its details.

Q.—I am convinced that you contrive to evade inquiry. If you have forgotten it, I will show you a copy produced by Hiroshima. You had better explain it. A.—Yes (copy shown).

Q.—Now, you can recollect the contents. The knowledge of the confessions made by your companions cannot fail to convince you of the true import of the contents. A.—I did not remember; but now I am convinced that it is the covenant.

Q.—Do the words "overthrow the oppressive Government" in the first article of the covenant mean the Government of Japan? A.—They refer to all the oppressive Governments in this world, and not alone to that of Japan.

In attestation of the above, we affix our signatures.

MATSUMOTO TOKIMASA, Police Inspector.

OZAKI YUKI, Assistant Police Inspector.

TAMONO HIDEAKIRA, Accused.

January, 25th 1883.

Judge Tamano—Do you find any inaccuracy in the report?

Prisoner—It is entirely wrong. Before proceeding to explain it, I want to know according to what article of the Code of Criminal Procedure, this case is to be proceeded with. (The Judge said in accordance with Article 391 § of the Code). Then, I have to demand one thing. The statements made yesterday by Hanaka and Hiroshima are productive of confusion and make the representation of facts impossible. This is due to the wrong order. I wish you, therefore, to change the order.

Judge Tamano—That is your view of the matter. I have mine. It is within my power to decide in what order the prisoners shall be examined with a view to the discovery of the truth. I can commence the examination of the principal figure first or that of his assistant, just as I deem it fit. Sometimes, I trace the cause to the effect and *vice versa*. Your counsel disputed the matter with me yesterday. But as I thought it expedient

to examine Hanaka first, I could not agree with the opinion of your counsel. Now, I cannot change the order. You had better proceed with your statement.

Prisoner—I do not dispute that: what I mean is the order of the facts. (The Judge acknowledged a misunderstanding, and told the prisoner to go on with his statement.)

Prisoner—Hanaka failed to explain sufficiently the nature of the covenant. In making the covenant, we had a great work in contemplation. We did not solely aim at promoting the good of one district or province, but we worked to promote liberalism all over the world. Civilization is not the exclusive gift of any one nation. In my opinion, the world is yet in a barbarous state: the weak is devoured by the strong. Every nation is watching for an opportunity to carry out aggressive designs. There are a few truly civilized countries, but the others do not follow their example. Born in this country, I must execute my duty as one of the people—I must sacrifice my life in the interests of the nation. It is on this account that we entered into combination. As regards the report of the declaration made at the Wakamatsu Police Station, I say that it is all wrong: in fact, it is not my confession at all. They treat inculcated persons without sense or humanity. No cruel functionaries can excel them. For many days I was given no food. I was on the verge of starvation. I was compelled to stand in the snow, exposed to the bitter wind, and often struck by the police inspector, whenever I replied to him in the negative. Mr. Konya was subjected to the same cruel treatment and became ill. He died shortly afterwards. I was most insolently treated. The police inspector brought a piece of paper to me and ordered me to write certain things on it. I refused to do so, because I was aware that the a trap was laid for me. He intended to use the writing against me afterward. On a certain occasion, they put something strange in my food. Of course, I did not eat it; and I remained three days without food. Our relations with the police were of an exceedingly bitter nature. The police extorted confessions by threats. Under these circumstances, no reliance whatever can be placed on the reports of the police. They prepared what purported to be our statement and showed it to us. We found many errors in it, and requested them to read it a second time. They then became very abusive and declined, saying that it was against their custom. Accordingly, I demanded to see the so-called statement, but my demand met with a refusal. The police inspector ordered me to seal the statement with my thumb. I refused to seal it until after I had seen it. Then a police officer pulled my hand and so sealed it. I became aware of the danger to my life, so I reluctantly signed. At one time they informed me that they had re-written a certain document, as it was soiled and torn, and they then made us sign again. Beside this, we were often confined in a dark room. These cruel actions are against the Articles 26§ and 150§. Therefore, it is not my statement at all.

Q.—What was the true issue of the affair, then? A.—What I stated a short time ago as our principles, is the true issue of the affair.

Article 95.—In the original drawing up or in the copies of informations, or proceedings either on the part of public officers or on that of private individuals, no word is to be written over another; the interlineations, the alterations, and the erased words should be guaranteed by the seal of the writer; the erased words should remain legible and their number stated; in default of which the correction will be deemed invalid.

Article 150.—The Judge should not use, in order to obtain a confession from the prisoner, either menaces or false allegations.

Q.—Is there any inaccuracy in the covenant?
A.—Yes. It is entirely different in essential features. I have forgotten to tell one thing. When I wrote what I remembered of the original copy of the covenant and gave it to the police inspector according to his order, he said, "It is entirely different from what Hanaka and Hiroshima wrote." He insisted that I had made a false declaration in order to deceive him. I explained it to him several times, but he did not listen to me and argued that there was no reason why the statement of the minority should be accepted in place of that of the majority.

Q.—What did you write on that occasion? A.—I think I wrote as follows:—1. We will alter oppressive administration, which is the enemy of liberalism.—2. To carry out our object, we will, if necessary, abandon our wives, children, and relatives.—3. All affairs shall be carried out in accordance with the decision of the majority.—4. We will commit self-despatch in case we reveal the secret of our league.—5. We will carry out our object, even though it costs us our lives," &c.

Q.—Had you in your memory these articles when you were tried at the Wakamatsu Judicial Court? A.—Yes, I remembered them.

Q.—Why, then, did you not give the statement of it to the Court? Did the Court employ threats? A.—Not exactly threats, but something very like it was resorted to. I had no time to speak about it. I will give you a short account of the proceedings in the Court. The Judge appeared as though he was drunk. He did not listen to me. He hurled all sorts of opprobrious epithets at me. He called me a scoundrel. I naturally got angry. As he left his seat, I asked the clerk what his name was. He overheard my interrogation, and turned back, saying, "What do you want to know my name for, you intolerable fellow?" Thus, I could not learn his name. Afterwards I asked the police to tell me his name, but the jailer then came and took me out of the Court, so I did not learn his name.

Q.—Have you not been tried twice in the Wakamatsu Court? and had you no time to alter the copy of your statement? A.—No I had no opportunity to correct it. The following report of the preliminary trial of Hiroshima at the Special Court was then read:—

Q.—Did you enter into the league with Kono and others in July and August of the 15th year of Meiji (1882)? A.—Yes. I entered into the league to effect a political organization.

Q.—What was the cause of the covenant? A.—It was the outcome of our patriotism and our anxiety to promote the national happiness and tranquility. Now-a-days, the strong devours the weak, and we know not when the thirst for blood will be brought to an end. Thus we are constantly feeling apprehension about the safety of the nation. If we enjoy it, it must be with difficulty. To provide for such a contingency, we united ourselves to form a political party.

Q.—When was the covenant drawn up? A.—In the end of July last year. Six men met together at Mumei Kan and accidentally the conversation turned upon the political problems of the day. We suggested then to draw up the covenant and all signed it with their blood.

Q.—How many men met together at the Mumei Kan? A.—Six men. But they did not meet together for the sole purpose of drawing up the covenant.

Q.—Were they Hanaka, Hiroshima, Kono, Aizawa, Sawata, and you? A.—Yes.

TAMANO, President of the Court.

SHIROTO, Clerk of the Court.

TAMONO HIDEAKIRA, Accused.

June 18th, 1883.

Judge Tamano—Do you find any inaccuracy in the report?

Prisoner—It is all correct. But as I did not make a sufficient explanation, I will here speak a little more. On the 18th of August, I was attacked by the Monarchical party and wounded. However, I made good my escape. I was for some time laid up in bed in consequence of my wound. During this time, Kono visited me and suggested to me the advisability of cancelling the covenant. I agreed to this proposal. Afterwards, I received a letter from him saying that the covenant was cancelled. From the beginning, I believed that the covenant contained nothing of an objectionable nature.

Q.—Why, then, did you agree to cancelling it? A.—Because no good would apparently accrue by concealing it.

Q.—What idea prompted you to cancel the covenant? A.—I had no intention of cancelling it, but as Kono sent me a letter announcing that he had cancelled it, I agreed to it.

The examination of Tamono was continued:—
The following report of the preliminary hearing at the Special Court was read:—

Question—When Sawata Seinosuke re-wrote the covenant, did anybody present suggest anything about its wording?

Prisoner—Yes. There was a difference of opinion as to the wording, especially in regard to the first and second articles. The first article said, "we will overthrow the government that is an enemy of liberalism." Some said that the word "overthrow" meant the subversion of government by means of arms; whilst in liberal principles it signified introducing improvement into the government by force of argument or writing, and that it is a very offensive term. Others said that if we did not write the word "overthrow" of an oppressive government which is the enemy of liberalism, the sentence would fail to convey the full meaning. It did not mean exclusively the subversion of the government by the use of arms. I think I remember that we decided upon the word "reform" instead of "overthrow," but I am not sure. The original draft contained the words "overthrow the government." As regards the second article that we should sacrifice our lives and property and "disregard the ties of gratitude and love" (dictates of humanity), Kono said that in ordinary times it is impossible for men to disregard the ties of gratitude and love; that it can be done only in case of great emergency; and that it would be better to suspend discussion till the time when the greater number of our compatriots should join us. We had some little debate concerning the wording of the fifth article, but it was of a trifling nature.

Judge—You had better sign the document with your thumb.

Prisoner—Yes. I will.

In attestation of the accuracy of the above, I hereby affix my signature.

TAMONO HIDEAKIRA.

June 19th, 1883.

To S. TAMANO, President of the Special Court.

In reply to a question by the Judge, the prisoner confirmed the foregoing statement. This brought his trial to a conclusion.

On opening the court, Judge Tamano commenced the examination of prisoner No. 4, Kono.

The following report of his trial at the Wakamatsu Judicial Court was read:—

Report of the preliminary examination of Kono at Wakamatsu Judicial Court.

Question.—The Court is informed that you signed a covenant with Hiroshima and some others. Is it true? Answer.—No. I have not entered into any covenant.

Q.—But the evidence adduced by Hiroshima and some others plainly shows that you entered into a covenant. I believe that there is no falsehood in his statement. A.—I have not signed anything exactly like a pledge. I wish to hear the evidence read to me. (Here the declarations of Hiroshima and others were read.)

Q.—Tell me your idea about these confessions.

A.—I was given to understand that you meant the pledge I made concerning a matter in the districts of Kitakata, so I replied, "no." You refer to the covenant respecting our political principles. Certainly I signed it. But I observe a great discrepancy in the statements just read. I remember the date. It was on the 1st of August. The object of the covenant was that, as a bureaucratic Government does an injury to the nation, we must establish a constitution. The expressions, "we will overthrow an oppressive government if it exist in Japan," etc., are all wrong. Perceiving that we had been foolish enough to sign such a covenant, we cancelled it afterward according to a suggestion made. But if I explain the cause of the cancellation here, I am liable to be regarded by my confederates as exhibiting cowardice and a desire to repudiate the obligation. Therefore, I do not explain it.

The Court ordered him to write down what he remembered of the covenant.

Accused then wrote the five articles, as follow:—

1. We will overthrow the government that is the enemy of liberalism and establish a constitution.—
2. We will sacrifice our lives and property, and disregard the ties of gratitude and love in accomplishment of our object, in effecting which we will not suffer ourselves to be deterred by any reflection.—
3. We will observe the statutes passed at the meeting of members and work in unison like that of one body and one mind.—
4. We will not dissolve our confederation till our object is accomplished, however dire the difficulties we encounter.—
5. We will commit self-despatch rather than reveal the secrets of our league. We will abide by the above five articles at the risk of our lives.

Q.—Have you made no mistake in your copy? A.—I believe there is no inaccuracy in it.

Q.—Where did you sign the covenant? A.—At Mumei Kan.

Q.—How many men signed it with their blood? A.—Six men in all.

Q.—Who were the confederates. A.—They consisted of Hanaka, Aizawa, Sawata, Tamono, Hiroshima, and myself.

The prisoner requested Judge Tamano to cause the above declaration of his own to be read again. The request was granted. The interlineation made on his confession were then read twice. The document bore the statement that the accused made the interlineation. It was as follows:—"In my reply to the interrogatories of the Court, I stated that, finding we had been foolish in making the covenant, we cancelled it. I wish to change that expression to this:—"We cancelled it because of having intentions other than those we held when the covenant was drawn up. Young men are apt to run to extremes,

and are otherwise thoughtless. They often undertake some impracticable affair and bring injury upon themselves. To stop this, it was deemed necessary to make them recognise the greatness of their responsibility."

Judge Tamano—If you have anything more to say, you may say it.

Prisoner—I will explain to you all the particulars of this affair. On the night of the 1st of December, 1882, a number of armed police suddenly broke into my domicile and attempted to arrest me. I was surprised by their sudden intrusion, and was very angry at their brutal manner. I thought then that the affair was the result of some misunderstanding, and allowed myself to be arrested. On my arrival at the police station, I was charged with being concerned in an insurrection. The officers produced many of my letters in evidence against me. At this time, they had not yet called my offence high treason. On the 25th of the same month, the police inspector asked me if I had drawn up a covenant and made preparations to rise in arms and attack the offices of the local Government. I replied that I had no knowledge of any such preparations. Then the inspector produced a piece of paper, saying that it was the confession of my confederates, and that therefore I could not plead non-complicity in the plot. On seeing it, I replied that it was the covenant I had made, but that it was not framed for the purpose of rising in arms and attacking the local Government. Before proceeding to explain further the cause of the covenant, I want to say one thing. Men look forward to reputation. Foolish as I am, I studied history while yet a boy and was inspired with a keen desire to follow the example of heroes. But I had no desire for notoriety. I was only anxious to do good to our nation. In the accomplishment of my work, I met with many dangers, the principal of which were an attempt to murder me, and the troubles then prevailing in the prefecture (Fukushima); popular feeling was in a state of ferment. The young men resorted to violence. The more the police attempted to check them the more outrageous they became. The struggle between the police and the political agitators reached a high pitch. The former stopped all political lecturers, and the latter, so soon as one audience had been dispersed, found another. Popular feeling was against the police, who attended the audiences in citizen's costume and arrested all violent speakers. To avoid collisions, I gave up delivering political lectures and counselled other youths to do likewise. The governor (Mr. Mishima) took a very serious view of the situation, and telegraphed to the district officers to meet in order to discuss the best measures to suppress the Liberals. Officers were despatched to the various parts of the province to extirpate our party. A Monarchical Party was organized to oppose the Liberals. I was informed that when a petition was made to the governor for revising the regulations of the local assembly, he summoned the district officers (the majority of whom were Liberals) and ordered them to devise some means of annihilating Liberalism. He resorted to all sorts of violence and encouraged the Monarchical Party to commit assaults upon their opponents.

(To be continued.)

A SHORT BIOGRAPHY OF THE LATE IWAKURA TOMOMI.

(Translated from the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*.)

His Excellency, the deceased Iwakura, was a son of Iwakura Tomoyoshi, Privy Councillor and Ukonye-no-Chiuze of the senior third rank, and was born in Kiyoto on the 15th September, in the 8th year of the epoch Bunsei (1825). In his fourteenth year—on the 28th October in the 9th year of Tempo (1838)—he was raised to second junior fifth rank; and was subsequently allowed to attend at the Imperial Palace, after having performed the ceremony of *Gembuku* or shaving the forelock, on the 11th December of the same year. On the 14th of June of the 12th year of Tempo (1841), he was promoted to the first junior fifth rank, and on the 18th of February of the 2nd year of Kokwa (1845), to the second senior fifth rank. On the 20th of March in the 7th year of Kayei (1854), he was appointed Imperial Chamberlain, and was promoted to the 2nd junior fourth rank. On the 2nd of September of the 2nd year of Ansei (1856), he was admitted a member of the *Waka* club (a club for the composition of Japanese poems), and on the 25th January of the ensuing year, was elected Chairman, a position which was held in the highest honour by the Court nobles, as it could only be occupied by one well versed in poetic composition. Iwakura possessed this talent; and it was generally believed that his nomination was also in great measure due to his natural ability and personal qualifications in other respects. On the 25th of January of the 4th year of Ansei (1851), he was elevated to the first junior fourth rank and appointed Imperial Chamberlain. He was then thirty-two years old. On the 29th of December of the 1st year of Manyen (1860), he was appointed Ukonye-no-Gonshōsho, and promoted to the 2nd senior fourth rank on the 5th of January of the 1st year of Bunkiu (1861). On the 16th of the same month, he proceeded to the Palace to express his gratitude for his promotion, and on the 15th May of the 2nd year (1862) of the same epoch he was nominated Ukonye-no-Gonchiujo. Honour upon honour was heaped upon him by these annual promotions. On the 28th of July of the same year, he was ordered, nominally on account of temporary illness, to discharge his duties in the Special Department with officers of similar rank. The real cause may be found in the following. In the 5th years of Ansei (1858), Horita Bitchiu-no-Kami, Councillor of the Bakufu Government, arrived in Kiyoto and petitioned the Emperor to decree the opening of the ports to foreign commerce. Nakayama Dainagon and other Court nobles, numbering more than eighty, who had achieved some notoriety by the expression of their opinions in favour of the expulsion of foreigners, forwarded a memorial to the Mikado, bearing all their signatures, beseeching him to decline the petition of the Dainagon. This was the origin of the discord between the Imperial, and the Bakufu officials. The management of political affairs was grievously impeded, to the danger of any national tranquillity. A suggestion that a conciliatory course should be adopted was mooted in the Imperial Cabinet.

When the clamour for the expulsion of foreigners ceased, and question was raised as to the advisability of reconciling the Imperial and Bakufu Governments, Mr. Iwakura, having carefully observed the general condition of the Empire, changed his views and determined not to advocate the cause of the *Fōi* faction. He then devoted his energy to persuading the Emperor to send Kadsu no Miya to

Tokiyo or marriage with the Shogun, but this unprecedented measure having failed to induce the Shogun to enforce the policy of seclusion, some of the powerful clans which were fanatic advocates of the cause of the *Fōi*, began to complain of the results as contrary to what was originally desired. Some of the Court nobles also made a similar complaint, which grew louder day by day. The Mikado became anxious about the final issue, and this eventually led to a serious disagreement between himself and the nobles who recommended a reconciliation with the Shogun. On the 20th August in the ensuing year Mr. Iwakura resigned the office of *Chiunagon*, and received a decree from the Mikado ordering him to confine himself to his house. This induced him to retire from the political arena and enter the priesthood. His Buddhist name was Yuzen—"friendly mountain." Yet the anger of the Emperor was not appeased, and he issued another decree on the 25th September prohibiting him from dwelling in Kiyoto. Mr. Iwakura, therefore, removed to a rustic villa in the hamlet named Iwakura-mura, in the Rural Division of Atago, in the province of Yamashiro, and passed his days in strict seclusion. On the 13th of January in the 3rd year of Bunkiu (1863), he received an Imperial order desiring him to keep a strict watch over himself, so as not to offend the Mikado. Whilst he was thus confined to his house, Messrs. Kagawa, now Assistant Vice-Minister of the Imperial Household Department, and Ohashi, formerly a sixth-class officer in the Finance Department, secretly met in his house for the purpose of discussing national affairs, and, subsequently, Okubo, Kido, Saigo, Sakamoto, and Ishikawa went to visit him for similar purposes. It was afterwards known that the scheme of the Restoration was decided on at this time. On the 29th of March of the 3rd year of Keiwo (1867), he was permitted to visit Kiyoto, with the condition that he might only remain there for one night on each occasion. On the 8th of November of the same year, an order was issued to the effect that he might return to Kiyoto at his pleasure. It was then that the national trouble was at its height. Finally Iwakura was released from all confinement and restored to his position on the 9th of December. He was subsequently appointed Councillor, and ordered to participate in the debates on the method of effecting the scheme of the Restoration. In February of the 1st year of Meiji (1867), he was appointed Vice-Minister of State, and, on the 17th of the same month, was nominated a Chief Commissioner of Naval and Military accounts. On the 22nd he was promoted to the post of Ukonye-no-suke and to the third junior rank. On the 21st April, he was released from his office, transferred to the position of Councillor, and ordered to act as Minister of State.

On the 20th of April he was released from these duties and ordered by special favour of the Mikado to wait upon him every day. On the 25th he was again ordered to act as Councillor and Minister of State on the ground that there was considerable pressure of business owing to the introduction of reforms. But as he had fallen sick through over-exertion and consequent irregularity of living, both of which the result of his enthusiastic participation in the management of political affairs, he declined to accept this appointment. The authorities, having approved his refusal, released him from the office of Minister, but requested him in urgent terms to discharge the functions of Councillor; and he was allowed to occupy the first seat in the Council, notice to this

effect having been issued on the 17th of January in the 2nd year of Meiji (1868). On the 25th he was nominated *Gon Dainagon* and promoted to the second senior rank. He was frequently urged to accept the appointment of Commander-in-Chief, but he declined; and subsequently he was invested with the rank of *Dainagon*. On the 11th, February of the same year he obtained leave of absence for the benefit of his health, and proceeded to Osaka, but on the 14th he was unexpectedly ordered to return to the capital on special official business. On the 13th of April, he received an Imperial order to discharge the most important portion of the functions of the Executive. On the 26th of September he was honoured with the following Imperial address:—

"You, Tomomi, lamenting the decline of the Imperial Administration, have imbued yourself with the spirit of remedying evil, and at last succeeded in bringing about the Restoration by devoting your energies to the adoption of many necessary plans and measures which you have worked out with remarkable assiduity. I regard you as the foundation of my Empire, and as the most useful member of my Ministry. I acknowledge your merit, and hereby commend your services. I look for further faithful and diligent assistance from you."

A pension of five thousand *Koku* was granted Iwakura for life in recognition of his services. On the 23rd of November he was ordered to participate in the management of naval and military affairs, but was released from this duty in April of the 3rd year of Meiji. On the 16th of July he was appointed to the *Mimbusho* (Home Department), released on the 5th of October, and despatched as an Imperial messenger to the clans of Kagoshima and Yamaguchi. At this time he received another special address from the Emperor which ran as follows:—"So far as the present state of affairs is concerned, the task we have to complete in future will involve us in great difficulty. We order you to persuade Mōri, of the second junior rank, and Shimadzu, of the third, to come to the capital to assist us in the adjustment of political affairs, so that these two lords working in unison may show what course ought to be pursued by others as a rule of conduct, and adopt measures for the consolidation of the Imperial foundations. We entrust you to convey our sincere sentiments to them." On the 6th February of the 4th year he returned to the capital from his mission; on the 14th July he was appointed Minister of Foreign Affairs in his forty-seventh year. On the 11th August he was honoured with a personal visit from the Mikado and presented with the following address:—

"Since the commencement of the Restoration, you have performed your duties most assiduously, and it cannot be doubted that our present prosperity is in great measure due to the carrying out of your judicious resolutions. We have therefore come to visit you in person and to acknowledge your merits."

On the 8th October of the same year, the Mr. Iwakura was appointed Minister Plenipotentiary and Envoy Extraordinary to European States. He left Japan on the 12th of November. His mission greatly contributed towards introducing Occidental civilization into this country and promoting friendship between this and foreign countries. Our present civilization is a gift from him. In the 6th year of the same era, his father Tomofusa died. On the 20th of the same month, at the age of forty-nine, he succeeded his father. On the 13th of the same year, he returned from Europe.

On the 20th of October, His Majesty the Mikado visited him in person and expressed himself as follows:—"The illness of the Prime Minister at this juncture, when the nation is involved in many difficulties, causes us great anxiety. We earnestly desire you, Tomomi, to assume all duties on his behalf and apply yourself with all your energy to the work in order to secure ease for the people."

On the 14th of January of the 7th year of Meiji, Iwakura was assaulted by would-be assassins, but escaped. He recovered from his wound and resumed duty on the 23d of February. In May of the 9th year of Meiji, he accompanied the Emperor on his tour to the Oshiu districts. On the 18th of the same month, he was promoted to the junior first class and granted the 1st class of the Order of Merit and the insignia of the Rising Sun. On the 24th January of the 10th year of Meiji (1876), the Emperor left Tokiyo for Kiyoto. On the eve of his departure, His Majesty honored Iwakura with the following Imperial Rescript:—"During our absence, we cannot superintend the administration. We therefore entrust it to your care. We bid you to conduct it to our satisfaction; and if any important affairs take place, let us know, asking for instruction. However, if things demand immediate action, you must decide according to your own discretion." At this time, the South-western rebellion broke out. In August he accompanied the Emperor on his journey to the Hokurokudo and Tokaido. In May of the 16th year of Meiji, he went to Kiyoto to superintend the work commenced there to preserve the Palace. In that city he was attacked by enduring illness. He returned to the capital in June, in a precarious condition. On the 5th of July, the Emperor visited him in person, while Her Imperial Majesty the Empress paid him a visit on the 12th of the same month. On the 19th, his resignation was accepted by the Government. On the same day the Sovereign again visited him. On the 20th, Iwakura breathed his last.

THE NECESSITY OF FOREIGN INTERCOURSE.

(Translated from the *Fiji Shimpō*.)

It is not long since our Japan found her way into the world to compete with its civilization. While she was yet in a state of infancy and dwelt in perfect seclusion, holding no intercourse with foreign countries, her internal affairs were limited, and the method of managing them was very simple. They were not so intricate and ramified as they are now. Our people were only aware of the existence of this Empire, and utterly ignorant of the fact that there are many countries beyond their own. Friendship and intercourse was confined within the dominion; enmity and hatred was kindled only among fellow countrymen. In short, Japan alone existed as Japan's kosmos and had not the least connection with other countries. But civilization having progressed throughout the world, and the path having been opened for foreign relations, she began to assume a different attitude, and now recognizes the truth that the name of Japan is relative; and that there are other nations. It has become necessary for the people to direct their attention to the condition of foreign nations instead of restricting their consideration to mere home affairs as heretofore. They may disregard all their domestic affairs except those of a very serious nature; but in the case of matters concerning foreigners they are called upon to exercise the utmost discretion and

to consider them with relation to the general condition of their Empire.

And one glance at the state of society shows that most of our people have not even yet developed the idea of foreign intercourse, and that therefore they do not take any interest in the consideration of foreign affairs except those of a nature to produce a directly pernicious or advantageous result upon their country. They do not think anything of a fire that "breaks out on the opposite side of the river." They were encouraged to remain in this frame prior to the initiation of intercourse with foreign nations, when they barricaded their harbours and prohibited the visit of aliens; but, should we nourish the same ideas while we have entered into friendly relations with westerns, and constantly exchange visits with them for commercial and diplomatic purposes, the result will inevitably affect our national prestige, or at least the interests of individuals. Indeed, there is no doubt that the prosperity of the Empire will be considerable impaired.

We will mention a simple instance of the indifference of our people to foreign matters. There are innumerable items or notes published in the vernacular papers; but it seems that the readers pay little or no attention to statements which concern foreign countries. Some of them have even asserted that nothing is so uninteresting. This is a cause for regret. In our Empire, subscribers to newspapers are almost confined to the higher grades of society, possessing knowledge and talents, which may be regarded as the constituent elements of the political class or as the foundation of our country. Yet they appear to take no interest in diplomatic affairs, and do not attempt to obtain any knowledge of the outer world. It is not to be wondered at, then, that the lower classes, who are disposed to exercise their wits on proximate and visible phenomena only, are utterly indifferent to what occurs in foreign countries. Nor is it an exaggeration to state that there are many among our people who are familiar with foreign literature and that persons educated in foreign languages can be found throughout the country, but that even such are not, most of them, almost, if not completely, ignorant of the changes going on in the world, in spite of their perusal of native as well as foreign journals? The people of this country ought not to confine their consideration to their internal affairs, but should also bestow due attention upon European and American politics, military and naval organization, commerce and industry, the relations between our people and aliens, as well as those between the Orient, Europe, and America, the probable effect of the doings of these countries upon Japan, the views of their ministers and dignitaries, as well as the private conduct of their statesmen; so that they may familiarize the public with the results they may have come at through foreign information, and remind it of the existence of much stronger and wealthier nations than Japan. Should they pursue such a course, they will really deserve the reputation of enlightening their fellow countrymen. Is it not extremely ludicrous that they not only disregard diplomatic doings, but also take little or no interest in the perusal of foreign journals?

It has lately been urged that it is absolutely essential for the Empire under present circumstances to augment its revenue. The proposal has been approved by all except such persons as are notorious for their narrow-mindedness. The augmentation of the revenue has no doubt had its origin in the desire to extend our national power. It is true that there are as many countries in the

world as stars in the sky, excelling our Empire both in wealth and power. We regret to have to state that Japan is in many cases treated as a mere inanimate puppet. We hope that the successful extension of our Army and Navy will protect us from such treatment. We may be allowed to say that the augmentation of income has to be traced to the desire to maintain our position as a nation abroad. Our ignorant people complain of the existing system of taxation, and hate all further imposition of taxes more than they detest venomous reptiles, simply through want of knowledge of foreign matters. Should they become aware that they are surrounded by terrible enemies, or at least despised by them, and that they are by no means able to exercise their sovereign rights, they must consent to the extension of the Army and Navy. And this will eventually lead them to approve the proposal for increasing the revenue. Accordingly, those who are familiar with foreign sciences and are inclined to act as they ought—as educators of the public—encourage a desire for diplomacy abroad and teach people that they should contribute money towards the maintenance of their rights. We have always wished that such a course should be adopted. Yet our compatriots appear to devote all their energies to the investigation of internal polity in utter disregard of other things; while works and translations from foreign books, published in the country, invariably treat of popular rights and liberties, or the duties and relationship of the Government and people. Very few have been printed likely to familiarize the people with the actual condition of the world at large, and teach them to recognize their sovereign rights. Editors appear to value the importance of their own rights: why do they not carry their ambition to the full enjoyment of national privileges? Some of them may have been inclined to think that such attempts ought to be made only after we have completed all internal improvements. They look for the time when diplomatic transactions shall entirely cease, and perfect tranquillity shall reign in the world. While all nations around us progress rapidly by the introduction of reforms, is it advisable for Japan to neglect a similar course on the pretext that she is remedying internal abuses? We would fain inculcate the idea that, of domestic administration and foreign diplomacy, one requires greater caution to deal with than the other, according to circumstances; but we would have both adjusted in such a manner as to secure collateral progress. In short, the question of foreign diplomacy requires immediate consideration; and as we have in many cases to treat with foreign countries under pressure, we assert that those who take any interest in the projects of the universe, should not spare any effort to induce our people to cherish a desire for foreign intercourse.

THE VALUE OF DECORATION.

(Translated from the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*.)

Notification No. 22 issued by the Council of State runs as follows:—"Should those who wear insignia commit any action derogatory to their Order, they shall be deprived of both decoration and annuity, and all the foreign decorations that they possess shall also be confiscated. They shall not be allowed to wear their Orders when they are detained on charge of minor and major crimes or when they are on bail. Furthermore, any rank, privileges, and annuities held by the bearers of such insignia shall not be accorded them

during the period of incarceration." A decoration forms part of a man's civil rights, as is defined in Article 31 of the Penal Code in relation to forfeiture of such rights. (3) "The loss of all pension, of all nobiliary or honorific title, and of every national decoration; (4) The prohibition of carrying in Japan any decoration, even foreign." Article 32 of the Code says that, whosoever shall be condemned to a criminal penalty shall incur, *de plein droit*, perpetual loss of all civil rights. Again Article 33 says that condemnation to correctional imprisonment entails, *de plein droit*, the forfeiture of any public functions or occupation with which the condemned was invested, and the suspension of other civic rights during the term of imprisonment. Finally, Article 34 provides:—"Condemnation to a correctional penalty, including police surveillance, entails, *de plein droit*, the suspension of all civil rights during the period of the aforesaid surveillance. The same law holds good for surveillance pronounced as sole punishment, in case of exemption from the principal penalty."

The articles quoted above show in what manner decorations are treated in the Penal Code. At first sight, it appeared to us superfluous to have framed a special act for privation of decoration. On mature consideration, however, we are convinced that it is a necessary one. Those who are guilty of grave crimes are liable to have their insignia and annuities confiscated. The same rule applies even to foreign Orders. Again, persons condemned to a correctional penalty cannot wear decorations, either foreign or national, during the period of incarceration or police surveillance; nor are they entitled to their annuities during that period. The law in question provides loss of the insignia in cases where the holders commit any shameful action of which the Penal Code does not take cognizance. Decorations are nothing but badges of honor; so that if the bearers disgrace themselves their badges are tarnished. As regards foreign decorations, we find that, though the Government has on right to seize Orders bestowed on Japanese subjects by foreign Governments, it is nevertheless justified in regranting the permission to wear them. That the Government promulgated the law prohibiting those condemned to correctional and criminal penalties to wear Orders, and denying them all the privileges associated with the rank conferred, is due to its desire to bestow distinction with its decorations. It is, however, plain that when the accused are found not guilty, they shall have such portion of their annuity paid to them as has been retained during the period of trial.

In foreign countries, there are special laws for preserving the honor of Orders. In this country, also, there was a similar law under the Tokugawa régime. The *Daimiyo* generally known as *Hokasama* or "relations" (in contradistinction to the rest of the feudal lords) and the bannerets (*Hatamoto*) who had the right of personal interview with the *Shogun*, wore a uniform bearing the crest of the Tokugawa family in honor of the privilege, and were known by the name of *Go-monpuku*. The wearers were at liberty to appear on ceremonial occasions in that costume. But in case they were found guilty of having visited places forbidden to the armed class, or of having committed any disgraceful act while clothed in official dress, they were punished. This rule was most effectively carried out, and preserved the honor of the emblem. In case of dismissal from the service, the bearers could not appear in the castle in their uniform, which also they could not wear in a judicial court, when answering a summons or giving evidence. This rule applied not only to vesture, but

also to the sword, and anything else that was the gift of the *Shogun*. However ridiculous this may now appear, yet it had the wholesome effect of preserving the true value of a distinction conferred for meritorious services.

THE STATEMENTS OF CERTAIN NEWS-PAPER EDITORS.

(Translated from the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*.)

It was almost a year ago that the Mitsu Bishi Company forwarded a memorial to the Government disapproving the establishment of the Union Shipping Association, but the statements contained therein were immediately contradicted. Since the copies of the memorial and the contradiction were published in the vernacular papers last winter, the question of maritime enterprise has become a topic of public discussion.

It was debated on all sides as to its nature and aim, but it is extremely strange that none of the newspapers which are regarded as organs of the Reform party and are notorious for making lengthy criticisms on all subjects of public discussion, have not attempted to comment upon the question, as if they meant to say—"We did not know that there were any noisy arguments concerning our maritime enterprise. At any rate, this a topic quite unnecessary for statesmen to consider." Thus they did their best to refrain from making any comments. Moreover, they attempted to withdraw in a most absurd manner their previous proposition apparently supporting the Mitsu Bishi Company. These proceedings did not fail to create mistrust in the public, who began to regard the Reform party as the partisans of the said company. Conscious that the party will inevitably lose public credit through their indifference to the maritime question, we advised them to expound their views with as great accuracy as possible. Whether they supposed our advice to be rational or whether they were pressed by some other circumstances, the editors of the *Hochi* and *Mainichi* simultaneously commenced their criticisms on the question in the beginning of last month, as though they had previously arranged with each other. The *Mainichi* published thirty articles in daily instalments headed, "A treatise on maritime enterprise and contradiction of the statements of the *Fuyu Shimbun* and *Meiji Nippo*," completing them on the 13th instant; while the *Hochi* gave twenty-two articles of similar length, headed, "Criticisms on the Mitsu Bishi Company's memorial and on the official statements contradicting it, together with essays on marine enterprise," which were concluded on the 17th instant. The two editors may have been perplexed for want of material for comment, yet we recognize their assiduity in publishing these lengthy leaders.

We have carefully perused the articles referred to copy by copy, but as the whole publication covers a period of more than a month, we should have to reread the entire series did we seek to convey the precise meaning. The style of these articles may be elegant, and their theory rational, but it seems to us that they do not follow, in many respects, the legitimate process of reasoning, while the faulty arrangement of their clauses renders it almost impossible to discern the main idea. The editor of the *Hochi* made the following statements the gist of his argument:—(1) "The protection which the Government has extended to the Mitsu Bishi, as well as the assistance it rendered in the organization of the company, must be regarded as a legitimate and inevitable

policy. The assertion that the Government specially enforced protective measures for the Company and organized a useless association through partiality, must at once be condemned as the outcome of ignorance of the actual condition of our maritime enterprises as well as of the precise nature of the various companies which were formed in those times. (2) The Mitsu Bishi Company's competition with foreign shipping establishments has enabled it to maintain its maritime power to the present day. (3) After the restoration of its maritime influence, it has reduced the rate of freight by twenty-five or even thirty per cent, as compared with similar foreign establishments. (4) The Company adopted measures to facilitate the transportation of cargo to an increased amount, and extended its maritime influence year by year. (5) Past facts show that the rate of freight fixed by the Company was neither very low nor very high as compared with the rates enforced in the seas adjacent to England, France, and northern Europe. (6) The Company has not attempted to ruin the business of all other shipowners, but deserves to be censured for the unjust competition which it had entered into with regard to the amount of cargo for transportation. (7) The company is to be blamed for having transacted two or three kinds of business other than what it should legitimately have pursued, although such business was in some respects connected with their own. The above statements show the merits and demerits due to the company with respect to its marine undertakings."

The *Mainichi Shimbun* concluded its article as follows:—"Since we have been commenting on the subject of marine enterprise, we have published thirty articles in the space of more than one month, and completed our criticisms according to the announcement we made in our first article. We will conclude by epitomizing our propositions so as to afford the Editors of the *Fuyu Shimbun* and *Meiji Nippo*, facilities to contradict our statements if they wish to do so. (1) These editors have asserted that the reason why some of their contemporaries, recognized as the fanatic advocates of the Reform party, are indifferent to the proceedings of the Mitsu Bishi Company may be found in their desire to promote some private interest. Such assertions must be regarded as the outcome of fraudulent intention. (2) The present prosperity of the Mitsu Bishi Company is due to the fact that it has conducted its transactions in such a manner as to adapt them to internal as well as foreign requirements, while the Government has protected it. It is not through the partiality of the authorities that the company made any extraordinary progress. (3) The assertion that the contradictory statements against the memorial of the Company were issued by the Government, must be condemned as irrational and unfounded, or as having its origin in an intention to criminate the authorities, when we consider it with reference to the existing system of administration and the special order issued by the Government for the benefit of the Company. Nor is it worth while to bestow any attention upon the memorial and the contradictory statements referred to, both of which contain serious errors, while the text is contrary to facts. (4) The editor of the *Hochi* piques himself upon supporting convictions expressed in contradictory statements, and at the same time approves of the protection afforded to the Mitsu Bishi and the Union Shipping association. Moreover nothing can be so diametrically opposed as the statements of the *Fuyu Shimbun*, which on the one rebukes the proceedings of the Mitsu Bishi and hand on the other approves the organization of the Union

Shipping Association. (5) The writers of the contradictory statement in questions, having employed such terms as could only be used by one in an official position, incurs the imputation of having deceived the public. And the editors of the *Fuyu Shimbun* and *Meiji Nippo* must be held responsible for having induced the writers to gainsay the Mitsu Bishi Company's memorial. (6) The Government has no right to annul the contract entered into with the Mitsu Bishi without reasonable grounds, and therefore ought to effectually carry out the provisions of the contract by adopting measures to prevent the indulgence of arbitrary proceedings on the part of the Company. As regards other evils, different steps ought to be taken.

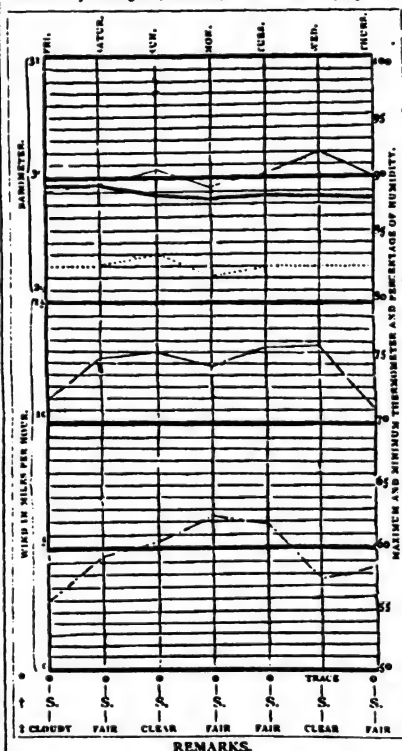
Although we desire to investigate the truth of the above statements, we are unable to do so on account of the irrelevance of the arguments; but we will take the liberty of asking some questions. It seems that the *Hochi*, in its comments covering a period of twenty-two days, assumed the position of a Judge, taking the Mitsu Bishi as plaintiff and the Government as defendant. It pronounced on the evidence adduced by both parties. It is scarcely necessary for us to say anything of the nature of such judgment as to whether it is ridiculous or not. But what we want to know is which of the two parties the *Hochi* regards as right. In so far as the arguments of the *Hochi* are concerned, we may be allowed to say that it intends to dismiss the case on the ground that the evidence is insufficient on the part of plaintiff and defendant, and that the former boasts of his merits and is unimpeachable, while the latter vehemently reproaches him. The *Mainichi* on the contrary, assumed the rôle of a defendant and denied the allegations of the Mitsu Bishi. It regards the latter's memorial and its contradictory statements as proposterous and unfounded, intimating that the Government ought to take suitable steps to check the selfishness of the Mitsu Bishi. Then the *Mainichi* finally declares that it is by no means under any obligation to be a defendant. As regards the editor of the *Mainichi* chooses place himself in the position of plaintiff or defendant, we have no concern whatever. Nevertheless, he deduces an accurate conclusion as to how our maritime enterprises may be best served. The principal assertions made by our contemporaries with regard to our maritime affairs may be summed up in three propositions. (1) There are very few vessels in our Empire, while the rate of freight is exorbitantly high. The task of extending our shipping ought not at present to be entrusted to the people alone, but the Government must adopt some protective measures. The Mitsu Bishi Company alone is likely to fail to meet the increasing demand for ships, and moreover is given to extravagance. Therefore it was necessary to organize the Union Shipping Association under the auspices of the Government, in view of the augmentation of our maritime power. (2) We have sufficient vessels with a low rate of freight. Although Government is called upon to support maritime enterprise, its patronage must be confined to the Mitsu Bishi Company, inasmuch as such protection is only to be temporarily afforded. (3) Marine undertakings ought to be left to the people. Official protection will not fail to produce pernicious results, and is not in the least conducive to profit. Accordingly it is quite unnecessary to render assistance to the Mitsu Bishi as well as to the Union Shipping Association. Besides the above three distinct propositions, there is none which need attract the attention of the authorities. The rest must be looked upon as mere castles in the air. As for us,

we approve the first proposition. But it seems that the *Hochi* and *Mainichi* entertain opinions totally different from the second and third, "intermediate" as it were, propositions. At all events we are unable to comprehend them clearly. This may be due to our want of knowledge, but it is almost certain that there are many who sympathise with us. We hope that the two editors will not spare an effort to furnish explanations. So soon as we learn the legitimate conclusions of their arguments, their lengthy articles will cease to be incomprehensible.

METEOROLOGICAL REPORT.

FOR WEEK BEGINNING FRIDAY, JULY 20TH, 1883.

Observatory of Daigaku, Moto-Fujioka, Hongô, Tokiyo, Japan.



REMARKS.
Heavy line represents barometer.
Light continuous line—maximum and minimum thermometers.
--- represents velocity of wind.
percentage of humidity.

The barometer is reduced to the freezing point and to the level of the sea.
* Rain in inches. † Direction of Wind. ‡ Weather.
Maximum velocity of wind 15.9 miles per hour on Monday at 3 a.m.
The highest reading of the barometer for the week was 30.000 inches on Friday at 10 a.m., and the lowest was 29.811 inches on Monday at 9 p.m.
The highest temperature for the week was 91.8 on Wednesday, and the lowest was 73.3 on Friday. The maximum and minimum for the corresponding week of last year were 93.0 and 72.3 respectively.
The total amount of rain for the week was .001 inches, against .036 inches for the corresponding week of last year.

SUNDAY CHURCH SERVICES.

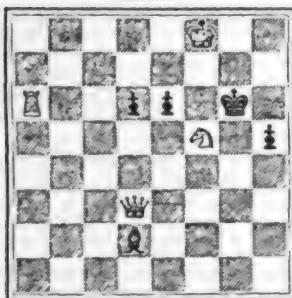
Christ Church: 11 a.m. and 5.30 p.m.
Union Church: 11 a.m. and 8 p.m.
Roman Catholic Church: 8 and 9.30 a.m.
English Church, No. 12, Sakaicho, Shiba, Tokiyo: 11 a.m.

CHESS.

By HERR CAPRAZ.

From the Illustrated London News.

BLACK.



WHITE.

White to play and mate in 3 moves.

Solution to Chess Problem of 21st July, from Agnell's Book on Chess.

White.

- 1.—Kt. to Q. 3 dis. ch. 1.—K. to Q. 3.
2.—Q. to Q. B. 6 ch. 2.—K. takes Q.
3.—Stalemated.

Correct answer received from "TESA."

LATEST SHIPPING.

The Freight Market offers nothing to report during the past week. Coast freights have gone to the lowest point reached for the year, and charters are difficult to obtain. The American ship *St. David* has been added to the list of vessels loading, having taken the berth for San Francisco; in other directions nothing doing.

ARRIVALS.

- Taganoura Maru*, Japanese steamer, 448, Matsumoto, 22nd July.—Yokkaichi, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.
Ada, British schooner, 73, Hardy, 23rd July.—Midway Island 19th June, Fish.—Captain.
Hiogo Maru, Japanese steamer, 896, R. N. Walker, 23rd July.—Hakodate 21st, and Oginohama 22nd July, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.
Kanagawa Maru, Japanese barque, 1,184, Eckstrand, 23rd July.—Nagasaki 17th July, Coals.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.
Seirio Maru, Japanese steamer, 329, G. R. Nirel, 23rd July.—Kobe, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.
Tsuruga Maru, Japanese steamer, 580, Dithlefsen, 25th July.—Kobe 23rd July, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.
Hindoo, German barque, 541, J. C. Matthiessen, 26th July.—Nagasaki 16th July, Coals.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.
Tokio Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,146, R. Swain, 26th July.—Shanghai and ports, Mails and General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

DEPARTURES.

- Kashgar*, British steamer, 1,515, W. J. Webber, 21st July.—Hongkong via Kobe and Nagasaki, Mails and General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.
Gembu Maru, Japanese steamer, 670, F. J. Brown, 22nd July.—Hakodate, General.—Kiyodo Unyu Kwaisha.
Niigata Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,096, Hubbard, 22nd July.—Hakodate, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.
Benledi, British steamer, 1,000, J. Ross, 24th July.—London via ports, General.—Mourilyan, Heimann & Co.

- Genkai Maru*, Japanese steamer, 1,084, G. W. Conner, 25th July.—Shanghai and ports, Mails and General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.
Kaorio Maru, Japanese steamer, 617, G. Withers, 25th July.—Yokkaichi, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.
Seirio Maru, Japanese steamer, 591, 25th July.—Yokkaichi, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.
Suminoye Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,320, Frahm, 25th July.—Hakodate, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.
Yechigo Maru, Japanese steamer, 751, Jones, 25th July.—Hakodate, General.—Kiyodo Unyu Kwaisha.
Toyoshima Maru, Japanese steamer, 956, Thomas, 26th July.—Hakodate, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.
Tsuruga Maru, Japanese steamer, 517, P. Dithlefsen, 26th July.—Kobe, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

- Per Japanese steamer *Taganoura Maru*, from Yokkaichi:—150 Japanese.
Per Japanese steamer *Toyoshima Maru*, from Hakodate:—1 Japanese in cabin; and 60 Japanese in steerage.
Per Japanese steamer *Hiogo Maru*, from Hakodate via Oginohama:—Messrs. Matheson and Taylor in cabin; and 121 Japanese in steerage.
Per Japanese steamer *Seirio Maru*, from Kobe: 74 Japanese in steerage.
Per Japanese steamer *Tsuruga Maru*, from Kobe:—Mr. Clausen and 3 Japanese in cabin; and 53 Japanese in steerage.
Per Japanese steamer *Tokio Maru*, from Shanghai and ports:—Mr. and Mrs. Archer, Mrs. I. G. Ross, Mrs. Fairbanks, Miss J. Chisman, Miss B. Raymond, Captain Kato, Messrs. Sarony, Lacie, Thomas, J. R. Haggitt, MacMillen, E. C. Kirby, J. A. Singleton, Hayashi, Seki, Kobayashi, Rohno, Hatano, Hagino, Yamada, Morita, Ohara, Tamakata, Kosishi, Kikuchi, and Go in cabin; and 1 European, 3 Chinese, and 306 Japanese in steerage. For San Francisco: Captain and Mrs. Bassett and 2 children in cabin.

DEPARTED.

- Per British steamer *Kashgar*, for Hongkong via Kobe and Nagasaki:—Mr. and Mrs. Dangerfield, Miss M. Parkes, Captain Popp, Messrs. H. Pryer, J. Milne, Keeling, and Tokuda in cabin; and 4 Chinese and 8 Japanese in steerage.
Per Japanese steamer *Genkai Maru*, for Shanghai and ports:—Mrs. Thomas and daughter, Mr. and Mrs. Senzaki, Mrs. Isobe, Dr. J. E. Eykman, Messrs. A. J. L. Mulder, J. J. Taylor, N. F. Guicciardi, W. R. Dunn, F. Retz, S. Samuel, Kigokuro, Ishii, Tomota, Yoneta, Shibata, Ikeda, and Iwanaga in cabin.

CARGOES.

- Per British steamer *Kashgar*, for Hongkong via Kobe and Nagasaki:—Silk for France, 206 bales; for London, 11 bales; Total, 217 bales.
Per Japanese steamer *Tokio Maru*, from Shanghai and ports:—Treasure, yen 102,349.00; \$122,000.00.

REPORTS.

- The Japanese steamer *Toyoshima Maru*, Captain Thomas, reports having left Hakodate on the 19th instant, at 6.30 p.m. and experienced light south and south-easterly winds with thick fog to Yamada; thence to port light variable winds and fine weather. On the 22nd instant, at 10.20 a.m. passed steamship *Niigata Maru* off Kawatsu, bound northward.
The Japanese steamer *Kanagawa Maru*, Captain Eckstrand, reports having experienced light S.E. winds to Satano-misaki; thence to port light southerly winds.

VESSELS ON THE BERTH.

- Ascalon*, for New York via ports—Quick Despatch.—C. Illies & Co.
Mary Winkelman, for San Francisco—Mourilyan, Heimann & Co.
Mensaleh, for Hongkong—29th July, at 9 a.m.—Messageries Maritimes Co.
Tokio Maru, for Shanghai and ports—1st August, at 6 p.m.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.
Valparaiso, for Havre and Hamburg—Quick Despatch.—C. Illies & Co.

SHIPPING IN YOKOHAMA.

STEAMERS.

- Ascalon*, British steamer, 1,523, Geo. Dinsdale, 1st July.—Hongkong via Kobe, Ballast.—C. Illies & Co.
Euphrates, British steamer, 1,300, Mitchell, 16th July.—Kobe, General.—Smith, Baker & Co.
Godavery, French steamer, 1,049, Du Temple, 20th July.—Hongkong 14th July, Mails and General.—Messageries Maritimes & Co.
Mensaleh, French steamer, 1,276, B. Blanc, 7th July.—Hongkong 1st July, Mails, Treasure, and General.—Messageries Maritimes Co.
Tokio Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,146, R. Swain, 25th July.—Shanghai and ports, Mails and General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

SAILING VESSELS.

- Ada*, British schooner, 73, Hardy, 23rd July.—Midway Island 19th June, Fish.—Captain.
Alma, American schooner, 35, Tibbey, 17th November.—Hakodate 8th November, Furs.—J. D. Carroll & Co.
Black Diamond, German barque, 585, Boyd, 30th September.—Puget Sound, Lumber and Salmon.—P. Bohm.
Evangelina, British 3-masted schooner, 345, Bell, 14th July.—Takao 25th June, Sugar.—Chinese.
E. von Beaulieu, British barque, 353, 20th November.—Nagasaki 7th November, Coals.—A. Clark.
Hindoo, German barque, 541, J. C. Matthiessen, 26th July.—Nagasaki 16th July, Coals.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.
Pearl, American barque, 536, R. Howes, 28th May.—Nagasaki, 20th May, Coals.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.
R. R. Thomas, American ship, 1,332, P. Nichols, 27th June.—New York 1st February, Kerosine Oil.—China and Japan Trading Co.
Sooloo, British barque, 473, Baikie, 16th July.—Nagasaki 4th July, Coals.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.
St. David, American ship, 1,535, W. Wallace Frost, 5th July.—New York 26th February, Oil, &c.—J. D. Carroll & Co.
Valparaiso, German barque, 486, F. Mayer, 17th June.—Nagasaki 7th June, Coals.—H. MacArthur.

VESSELS FOR JAPAN.

SAILED.

- Alex McNeil*, 1,133—New York 18th April.
Adam M. Simpson, 1,524—Philadelphia 5th May.
Antelope, American ship, 1,306—New York 20th March.
Antoinette, British ship—Philadelphia 21st April.
Brasos, American bark, 918—New York 4th November.
Edward May (Shanghai), American barque, 928—New York 29th May.
Furness Abbey, American barque, 1,083—New York 12th March.
Gloaming, American ship—New York 6th June.
Handon Hall, British ship—Middlesboro' 19th April.
Hercules, American ship, 1,332—New York 31st May.
J. V. Troop, British ship—New York 17th March.
Mary L. Stone, American ship—New York 9th May.
Normandy, American ship, 1,209—New York 22nd March.
Paul Jones (China or Japan), American ship, 1,257—New York 17th March.
Phineas Pendleton, American ship, 1,525—New York 9th May.

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

The past week has been but a very quiet one in business generally. In Yarns, there has been but a small business, and Shirtings have been dealt in only on the smallest scale, with no change in prices. Other Goods show no improvement, and at the time of going to press, there is absolutely nothing doing. Metals continue very quiet, as usual at this time of the year.

COTTON YARNS.

| | PER PICUL. |
|-----------------------------------|------------------|
| Nos. 16 to 24, Common to Medium - | \$25.25 to 28.50 |
| Nos. 16 to 24, Good to Best - | 29.25 to 30.50 |
| Bombay, No. 20, Good to Best - | 25.50 to 28.25 |
| Nos. 28 to 32, Common to Medium - | 31.25 to 32.25 |
| Nos. 28 to 32, Good to Best - | 33.00 to 35.25 |
| Nos. 38 to 42 - | 35.25 to 37.25 |

COTTON PIECE GOODS.

| | PER PIECE. |
|-----------------------------------------------|----------------|
| Grey Shirtings—8½, 38½ to 39 inches - | \$1.70 to 2.15 |
| Grey Shirtings—9½, 38½ to 45 inches - | 1.37½ to 2.40 |
| T. Cloth—7½, 24 yards, 32 inches - | 1.45 to 1.55 |
| Indigo Shirting—12 yards, 44 inches - | 1.35 to 1.67½ |
| Prints—Assorted, 24 yards, 30 inches - | 1.10 to 2.40 |
| Cotton—Italians and Satens Black, 32 inches - | 0.07 to 0.09 |
| Turkey Reds—2 to 2½, 24 yards, 30 inches - | 1.15 to 1.35 |
| Turkey Reds—2½ to 2½, 24 yards, 30 inches - | 1.35 to 1.65 |
| Turkey Reds—3½, 24 yards, 30 inches - | 1.70 to 1.82½ |
| Velvets—Black, 35 yards, 22 inches - | 5.90 to 6.70 |
| Victoria Lawns, 12 yards, 42½ inches - | 0.70 to 0.75 |
| Taffetas, 12 yards, 43 inches - | 1.75 to 2.07½ |

WOOLLENS.

| | PER PICUL. |
|----------------------------------------------------|----------------|
| Plain Orleans, 40-42 yards, 32 inches - | \$3.80 to 5.25 |
| Figured Orleans, 29-31 yards, 31 inches - | 3.25 to 4.00 |
| Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches - | 0.18 to 0.28 |
| Mousseline de Laine—Crpe, 24 yards, 31 inches - | 0.15 to 0.15½ |
| Mousseline de Laine—Itajime, 24 yards, 31 inches - | 0.18½ to 0.26 |
| Mousseline de Laine—Yuzen, 24 yards, 31 inches - | 0.30 to 0.37½ |
| Cloth—Pilot, 54 @ 56 inches - | 0.30 to 0.40 |
| Cloth—President, 54 @ 56 inches - | 0.40 to 0.50 |
| Cloth—Union, 54 @ 56 inches - | 0.30 to 0.55 |
| Blankets—Scarlet and Green, 6 to 5½, per lb - | 0.35 to 0.40 |

IRON.

| | PER PICUL. |
|---------------------------------|----------------|
| Flat Bars, ½ inch - | \$2.50 to 2.90 |
| Flat Bars, 1 inch - | 2.80 to 3.00 |
| Round and square up to 1 inch - | 2.80 to 3.00 |
| Nailrod, assorted - | 2.25 to 2.50 |
| Nailrod, small size - | 2.85 to 3.10 |

KEROSENE.

During the past week 33,000 cases have found buyers and deliveries have amounted to 24,000 cases. There have been no arrivals: Stocks amounting to about 580,000 cases. The Market remains firm at quotations.

| | PER CASE. |
|----------|-----------|
| Devco - | \$1.71 |
| Comet - | 1.68 |
| Stella - | 1.59 |

SUGAR.

No change to note in quotations, except for Brown Formosas, which appear to continue on the upward line, this commodity having changed hands in small parcels at the advanced figure of \$5.25. There is not much business, however, in any kind of Sugar at the moment.

| | PER PICUL. |
|-----------------|----------------|
| White, No. 1 - | \$8.50 to 9.00 |
| White, No. 2 - | 8.00 to 8.50 |
| White, No. 3 - | 7.25 to 8.00 |
| White, No. 4 - | 6.25 to 6.75 |
| White, No. 5 - | 5.25 to 5.50 |
| Brown Formosa - | 5.00 to 5.25 |

EXPORTS.

SILK.

Trade in this staple has continued on a moderate scale, Settlements for the week being returned at 250 piculs. Prices have ruled fairly steady, but the turn is decidedly in favor of buyers. Arrivals are now beginning to come in more freely, and we should soon have a good and well-assorted Stock

on offer. Export to date (excluding the outgoing *Mensaleh*) is 1,073 bales, against 1,443 bales to same date last year.

Hanks.—Nothing in from Shinshiu yet, and all arrivals are from provinces of Joshu and Bushiu. All Koshu cocoons, at present, seem destined for Filatures. A small daily business has been done, prices closing as at foot.

Filatures.—Transactions still confined to Bushiu and Koshu sorts. A few bales ordinary Shinshiu have come down, and been taken at \$620/630, but good, reliable, even Silks are scarce and wanted. No re-reels are yet to hand; possibly next month will bring a plentiful supply of these sorts as well as of New Kakeda.

QUOTATIONS.

| | | | | |
|---------------------------------|---|---|---|-------------|
| Hanks—No. 2 - | - | - | - | 4500 to 510 |
| Hanks—No. 2½ - | - | - | - | 480 to 490 |
| Hanks—No. 3 - | - | - | - | 460 to 470 |
| Hanks—No. 3½ - | - | - | - | 440 to 450 |
| Filatures—No. 1, 14/16 denier - | - | - | - | 615 to 625 |
| Filatures—No. 1½, 14/17 - | - | - | - | 620 to 630 |
| Filatures—No. 2, 14/18 - | - | - | - | 600 to 610 |

TEA.

More activity has been shown on the part of purchasers since our last report, and Settlements reported give a larger business than has been transacted during the past three weeks, but values are not materially altered. Settlements amount to 4,750 piculs, consisting of the following grades:—Common 450, Good Common 930, Medium 1,385, Good Medium 1,445, Fine 465, Finest 35, Choice 10, and Choicest 30 piculs. Settlements here and at Kobe are 164,236 piculs against 180,322 piculs, at the corresponding date last year. The following are the shipments of Teas to the United States since the 18th instant from this port:—The steamship *Ehrenfels* sailed on the 18th July, took 24,844 lbs., Tea, viz., 212,306 lbs. for New York and 36,141 lbs. for Canada. The American ship *Grecian* sailed on the 18th, took 250,787 lbs. for San Francisco. The steamship *Yorkshire*, sailed on the 19th, took 689,901 lbs., viz., 371,526 lbs. for New York and 318,375 lbs. for Canada. The P.M. steamship *City of Tokio*, sailed on the 20th, took 407,280 lbs., viz., 119,242 lbs. for New York, 110,178 lbs. for Chicago, 40,094 lbs. for St. Paul, 104,354 lbs. for San Francisco, and 33,412 lbs. for Canada. The P.M. steamship *City of Peking* is advertised to leave here on the 3rd of August taking Tea at 2½ cents per lb. gross to Eastern States and Canada and at \$12.00 per ton of 40 cubic feet for San Francisco. The American ship *St. David* is on the berth for San Francisco at the rate of freight \$6.00 U.S. gold per ton of 40 cubic feet, and is promised to be despatched not later than the 20th of August.

QUOTATIONS.

| | | | | |
|---------------|---|---|---|--------------|
| Common - | - | - | - | \$12 & under |
| Good Common - | - | - | - | 13 to 14 |
| Medium - | - | - | - | 15 to 17 |
| Good Medium - | - | - | - | 18 to 20 |
| Fine - | - | - | - | 22 to 24 |
| Finest - | - | - | - | 25 to 27 |
| Choice - | - | - | - | 28 to 31 |
| Choicest - | - | - | - | 33 & up'ds |

EXCHANGE.

Only small transactions have taken place during the week, and rates at the close are steady.

| | | | |
|-------------------------------------------|---|---|------------|
| Sterling—Bank Bills on demand - | - | - | 3/7½ |
| Sterling—Bank 4 months' sight - | - | - | 3/8 |
| Sterling—Private 4 months' sight - | - | - | 3/8½ |
| Sterling—Private 6 months' sight - | - | - | 3/8½ |
| On Paris—Bank sight - | - | - | 4.62 |
| On Paris—Private 6 months' sight - | - | - | 4.71 |
| On Hongkong—Bank sight - | - | - | 4 0/0 dis. |
| On Hongkong—Private 10 days' sight - | - | - | 4 0/0 dis. |
| On Shanghai—Bank sight - | - | - | 73 0/0 |
| On Shanghai—Private 10 days' sight - | - | - | 73 0/0 |
| On New York—Bank Bills on demand - | - | - | 88½ |
| On New York—Private 30 days' sight - | - | - | 89½ |
| On San Francisco—Bank Bills on demand - | - | - | 88½ |
| On San Francisco—Private 30 days' sight - | - | - | 89½ |

KINSATSU QUOTATIONS.

The following table shows the rate of the day, and the fluctuation during the past week:—

| | |
|----------------------------|------|
| Monday, July 22nd | 123½ |
| Tuesday, July 23rd | 124 |
| Wednesday, July 25th | 124½ |
| Thursday, July 26th | 124½ |
| Friday, July 27th | 124½ |
| Saturday, July 28th | 123½ |

IMPORTANT NOTICE.

SMALL CAPITALISTS, wishing to establish a business, should see if there is an opening for a Mineral Water Manufactory in their District. All information and recipes for the purpose of making Lemonade, Soda Water, &c., is given, previous knowledge is not necessary. The demand for these drinks is so much on the increase in all parts of the world, that the outlay for the machinery in all cases leads to a profitable and safe business. Catalogue forwarded free, on application to

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No. 14, VOL. I.]

YOKOHAMA, AUGUST 4TH, 1883.

[£24 PER ANNUM.]

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The Japan Weekly Mail.

"FAIS CE QUE DOIT: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whosoever is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL," must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith. It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, AUGUST 4TH, 1883.

BIRTH.

On July 25th, at Nagasaki, the wife of J. C. HALL, H.B.M.'s Acting Consul, of a son.

WEEKLY NOTES.

THE trial of the Fukushima suspects still continues. The Court, following apparently the official routine of the hot season, rises daily at 11.30 a.m., so that rapid progress is not possible. The examination of the prisoners has not hitherto elicited anything specially worthy of note. They appear to be men whose zeal for reform has betrayed them into a somewhat grotesque breadth of programme, as their scheme includes not only the improvement of Japanese bureaucracy, but also the abolition of Russian despotism and the restraint of British usurpation in India. Such fanatics deserve to be treated as children rather than as serious people. If the Government could procure some guarantee as to the order in which these aspirations are to be developed, the best plan would be to let the patriots follow their bent unopposed. The whole affair, indeed, is but little more than farcical. There has evidently been a combination of some sort, whether illegal

or not remains to be determined, and that being so, the authorities are of course bound to investigate the matter thoroughly. But the interest of the trial to the general, and especially the foreign, public is confined to the fact that it affords the first trustworthy insight into the procedure of Japanese Criminal Courts under the new *régime*. The utmost patience and impartiality have hitherto characterized the conduct of the Bench. Twice the Public Prosecutor endeavoured to have the doors closed on the grounds that the speeches of the prisoners were calculated to disturb the minds of the people, but his objections were wisely over-ruled. The Counsel for the defence alone showed a failure to follow the discreet example of the Bench, but the defence has a difficult part to play and may be forgiven a little impatience. It is, perhaps, premature to express any decided opinion yet, but we are disposed to think that, if the proceedings in this Special Court may be regarded as fairly illustrative of the future course of justice in Japan, much of the mistrust which has hitherto been felt by foreigners will disappear.

By the *Nagoya Maru*, on Wednesday, there arrived, *en route* for San Francisco, the members of the first Korean Embassy that has ever visited a Western State. It consists of an Ambassador, Mr. Min Yon-ik, who is a noble of high rank; a Vice-Ambassador, Mr. Hon Yon-sik; a Secretary, Mr. So Kwan-koin; a Chinese interpreter, Mr. Goriyoto, and four *Attachés* Messrs. Ko Yeitetsu, Gen Kiyotaku, Yukichi Chin, and Gan Kiyu-seki. Of the *Attachés*, Mr. Yukichi Chin has spent several years in Japan, where he was a pupil of the celebrated scholar, Mr. Fukuzawa. The Embassy carries an autograph letter from the King of Korea to the President. Its contents are said to be entirely complimentary, and so far as the public knows, the object of the mission seems to be nothing more serious than a desire to air Korea's newly developed taste for foreign intercourse.

THE Third National Industrial Exhibition, which was to have been held in 1885, has been postponed till 1889. The reason assigned by the vernacular press for this step is that the almost universal stagnation of trade and industry throughout the country, renders it superfluous to hold any public examination into the progress made in these matters since 1831. Whether or no the authorities have been influenced by these considerations, it is not in our power to say, but

the theory is not inconsistent with authenticated facts. A vernacular journal assures its readers that during the past two years the demand for certain classes of textile fabrics manufactured in Japan has diminished so largely that the value of the yearly sales has fallen from 4½ million *yen* in 1880 to 2½ million in 1882. Japan is passing through the same commercial phase which all countries have had to suffer in connection with currency appreciation. There is, indeed, nothing remarkable about the event save the extraordinary criticism it has evoked. We actually find persons who profess to have read and thought, asserting that currency appreciation cannot be real because it is accompanied by commercial depression. Such a confusion of cause and effect is, let us hope, unusual. Were we told that the specie value of *Kinsatsu* had risen twenty per cent. in eighteen months, but that the course of trade remained unaffected by the change, then, indeed, we should be justified in saying that the so-called appreciation was fictitious and partial.

H.E. Iro, formerly President of the Privy Council, returned to Japan by the M.M.S.S. *Tanais* on Friday at midnight and proceeded by special train to Tokujo. The vernacular journals, whose exaggerations, after all, are not so extraordinary considering that in a majority of cases they appear to be obliged to speak from pure conjecture, have been telling their readers that the Government Departments are unusually active preparing to carry out the reforms which Mr. Ito is expected to suggest. It would have been interesting to be told in what these preparations consist. As it is, we are driven to conjecture that in order to get ready for the discussion and inauguration of reforms in general, Japanese statesmen, according to the notions of some of their countrymen, have to go in for a course of training like men who contemplate putting a shot or running a hurdle-race. Meanwhile, it is to be observed that the Mikado has promised the people a Parliament in 1890, and the interval which remains for taking steps to keep that promise is not one day too long. So far as we know, nothing has yet been accomplished. The very nature of the Parliament, whether it is to consist of one or two Houses, and whether or no it will be wholly elective, is still unknown to the public. Rumour points to a partial rehabilitation of the nobility, and we cannot but hope that rumour is not mistaken in this instance. A great deal has been written and spoken about the political

unwisdom of abolishing the *Samurai* and leveling the class distinctions which centuries had set up. But the limits of choice were very narrow. To preserve altogether or to suppress altogether—these were the alternatives. There was no middle route. Had the former been chosen by the Government, the people would never have suffered it. They had long made up their minds that taxation ought to have another object than the support of worthless *fainéants*, and the only fact that seemed to impugn this verdict was the excellent good-sense with which the *fainéants* submitted to be extinguished. Insignificant, however, as were the active functions they personally performed, they had become an integral part of the country's political machinery, and if there has been no break down since their removal, it is because their places have been virtually filled by others. The question that now arises is whether the Government is to be carried on without an aristocracy, or anything resembling one, after 1890, and it must be confessed that the experiment seems somewhat hazardous. We regard this as one of the most interesting points in the immediate outlook. It was probably decided, in the main, before Mr. Ito undertook his last tour, and if, as is reported, his studies has been for the most part confined to Germany and England, we may conjecture that the formation of an Upper House finds a leading place in the schemes he brings back with him.

THE long deferred river festival in Tokiyo took place on Wednesday, the 1st instant. The attendance was not as large as usual nor could the display of fireworks compare with that of former years. Whether two postponements had proved too much for the vitality of the affair, or whether the pleasure-seeking portion of the Tokiyo community had gone in search of cooler quarters, or whether the dullness of commerce damped the public's spirits, it was universally agreed that a less successful *Kawa-biraki* had not been witnessed for many years. We are inclined to suspect that all fêtes of this sort have seen their palmiest days in Japan. They cannot survive the spirit of hard practicality which has been imported with Western civilization, and which is daily driving out the romance of old Japan. On the other hand, the advantages which the Sumida river offers for evening picnics remain to be recognised. Let the summer be ever so hot, there is always a cool breeze on the river at sunset, and considering that a large boat (*yakata-bune*)—none of your low-roofed things, in which a man can never sit upright, but a spacious lofty arrangement permitting the comfortable use of chairs and tables—can always be procured at Shinbashi, while the conveyance of provisions by train from Yokohama presents no difficulties whatsoever, it has always seemed strange that the neighbourhood of Rijogoku is not a more favorite resort. An appetite may be found there as well as a refreshing breeze, and the drift home with the tide by moonlight is not the least enjoyable part of the affair, always provided that the boatmen

are compelled to go round by the sea—a route which they never voluntarily choose—instead of creeping through the narrow, devious and odoriferous canals which lead from Shinbashi to the river.

At a public meeting held in the Yokohama United Club on Monday afternoon it was unanimously resolved that a farewell entertainment should be given to Sir Harry Parkes before he leaves Japan for Peking, and further that he should be presented with a memorial to which not only the present foreign residents of Japan, but also all those who have at any time resided there, should be invited to subscribe. The chairman, Mr. A. J. Wilkin, told the meeting that Sir Harry Parkes had expressed a wish that all unnecessary expense should be avoided, but this suggestion was quietly put aside. In most matters the community of Yokohama would be willing to defer to Sir Harry Parkes' wishes, but the case in point is eminently an exception. The desire, indeed, was characteristic, and, coming from Sir Harry, signifies something more than an empty formula; but certainly this is an occasion on which a little selfishness may be forgiven. It is not often that the people of Yokohama have an opportunity of doing anything which gives them so much pleasure. Sir Harry's return from Hakodate is expected about the 13th instant, and his departure for China will probably take place within a fortnight from that date.

NOTES.

A CORRESPONDENT asks for information with regard to the possibility of travelling without passports on the Tokiyo-Takahashi railway. His question is very pertinent, but we do not find ourselves in a position to say anything positive on the subject. There is certainly no reason why the treaty limits should be extended simply because a Japanese company has constructed a line bringing Kumagai within two and a half hours' ride of Tokiyo, though it is equally certain that the irksomeness of restriction on travel increases with the facilities for avoiding them. We presume that the system pursued here will be the same as that followed on the Kobe-Otsu line—persons asking for tickets to places beyond treaty limits will be required to hand in their passports to the booking clerk. A departure from rule in the case of a Tokiyo line of railway would of course necessitate similar action everywhere. There is not much, however, to attract tourists in the country opened up by the new road. The scenery is monotonous, and there are no hills offering escape from summer heat. Foreigners who use the line will probably be, for the most part, tourists to Nikko or Ikaru, and to them the necessity of procuring passports will not be a hardship. It may be because the prospects of such traffic are very small that the Directors of the new line have not thought it worth while to advertise the opening or the details of service in the foreign local press, but the neglect does not indicate much solicitude on

behalf of public convenience. Were the matter in the hands of the Tokiyo-Yokohama Railway authorities it would doubtless be differently managed.

A "CURIOUS SURVIVAL" is shown in one of the practices of the London Mint as exemplified in the thirteenth annual Report of the deputy master of that institution. The facts are fully set forth in an appendix to the Report by Prof. Chandler Roberts, who has recently and successfully advocated the adoption of the decimal system in the bullion transactions of the Mint. In order to make the matter clear, it may be well to state that the Troy pound, still used in England for weighing the precious metals, is believed to have been derived from the Roman weight of 5759.2 grains, the 125th part of the large Alexandrian talent; this weight, like the Troy pound, having been divided by the Romans into 12 ounces. The earliest statute of the kingdom in which the Troy weight is named is the 2 Henry V. st. 2, c. 4, but the Troy weight is universally allowed to have been in general use from the time of King Edward I. The most ancient system of weights in England was the Moneyer's pound or the money pound of the Anglo-Saxons, which was continued in use for some centuries after the Conquest, being then known as the "Tower pound," or sometimes the Goldsmith's pound. It contained 12 ounces of 450 grains each, or 5,400 grains, and this weight of silver was a pound sterling. The Tower pound was abolished in 1527 by a statute of Henry VIII., which first established Troy weight as the only legal weight for gold and silver, and from this time to the present the English system of coinage has been based on the Troy weight, the Troy pound containing 5760 grains.

The bullion transactions of the Mint have hitherto been based on an Assayer's weight termed the "carat pound," the final division of which corresponds with the number of grains in the Troy pound, and side by side with this system a curious method of expressing the "standard" or composition of ingots or coins of gold and silver has been retained until the present year. For instance, the ordinary conception of the composition of a sovereign would be that it is an alloy or mixture of the two metals gold and copper in definite proportions, and the most simple way of expressing its contents would be to describe them as consisting of 91.66 per cent. of gold and 8.34 per cent. of copper. An assayer or bullion dealer, on the other hand, using the old system, would simply consider the composition of the coin to be gold of "standard fineness," that is to say containing two carats of alloying metal in the pound; and in dealing with any particular alloy of gold and copper would in no way regard its centage composition, but would consider it as being so much "better" or "worse" than the one definite and legal standard, according as it contained more or less of the precious metal. The French 20-franc piece, which contains 90 per cent. of gold, would thus be described as

"worse 0 carats 1½ carat grains," and the Austrian ducat, which contains 98·61 per cent. of gold, as "better 1 carat 2½ carat grains." The cumbersome nature of this system is evident; it has the disadvantage of being unintelligible to those who employ the decimal system, and who are therefore in the habit of mentally referring to pure gold as 1000. It is even found wanting in clearness by many who are conversant with the ordinary operations of coinage and bullion transactions generally. For instance, the meaning of "worse 0 1½ + 1" as the assay report of an ingot is at least obscure, while the equivalent statement that the standard fineness of the ingot is 900 at once suggests that 1000 parts of the metal contain 900 parts of gold.

Nature, from whose columns we borrow most of this information, goes on to remind us that the ancient system of reporting the results of assays possesses, however, many points of interest, and Professor Roberts adds a few details respecting it, taken from a work by Snelling, an authority on the computation of the value of bullion, who, writing in 1799, observes that "by the word silver we understand not only the metal so-called, pure and unmixed, but also when in a mass with copper; and if but one-half, two-thirds, or any other proportional part of it be silver, yet the whole bears that name. The same is to be understood of gold, when by itself, or in a mass with silver and copper together, or with either of them alone." "This is the reason that inquiries are not made, what quantity of fine gold or fine silver is contained in any mixture, which seems to be the most natural inquiry; but how much standard." Thus it is that the Assay Master, in reporting the result of an assay, does not give the absolute fineness or the quantity of fine silver or fine gold present, but only the relative quantity or fineness, this is, how much the mixture is more or less than standard. In the case of gold of 20 carats fine (or 20 parts of pure gold in 24 parts of the alloy) the assayer puts down mere symbols, which, as in his other descriptions, are caviare to the general.

The point in favor of this antiquated system in that the quantity of "betterness" or "worseness" in an ingot being added to or subtracted from the weight of it, gives the quantity of "standard metal contained in it," and that therefore the "betterness" or "worseness" affords a ready means of determining the amount of copper or gold required to standardise the whole. Further, if a number of ingots of varying weights and fineness have to be dealt with, a similar result will be arrived at by taking the algebraical sum of the several products of their weights and "betterness" or "worseness." These advantages, however, apply to individual calculations, and become unimportant when standardizing tables adapted to the decimal system are available. In a letter to Mr. Fremantle, Prof. Roberts advocated the abolition of this old system of carats and grains and the adoption of the decimal

system. This has accordingly been carried into effect. Gold of the value of two millions sterling has recently been imported into England for coinage, and the simplicity and accuracy of the new system has been abundantly demonstrated.

As *Nature* says, the facts above stated may seem comparatively unimportant in themselves, but the Mint may at any time be called upon to coin (as was the case in 1872) fifteen millions sterling of gold in a single year, and extreme care has to be taken to insure accuracy in the standard fineness of the metal. It is curious that the old system described above should not have given place before now to that which has long been adopted in other countries.

ACCORDING to the *Choya Shimbun*, the port of Yang-hwa-Chin in Korea is an excellent one. Its inhabitants have ceased to exclaim against its being opened to foreign commerce, the advantages of which they are beginning to recognize. They are said even to desire that the villa belonging to the Dai-on-Kun, in the vicinity, be placed at the disposal of the Japanese and American Ministers on their way to and from the capital.

A KOREAN Embassy to the United States seemed, a month ago, one of the least likely events that could be predicted, yet it appears that the Ambassadors, three in number, are already on their way to San Francisco. What the object of their mission may be nobody appears to know. It can scarcely be a desire to obtain more favorable tariff terms. Their difficulty in this respect is not with the Cabinet of Washington, but with Governments which do not care to see their nationals engage in a commerce where large discriminations are made in favour of Chinese and Japanese subjects. Under any circumstances Korea can't hope to get better terms by going to America to ask for them than she would have obtained from General Foote upon the spot. The Ministers of the young King have had no reason to complain of the treatment accorded them by the first foreign Minister to Korea. General Foote has lost no opportunity of showing them that foreign relations may be conducted with courtesy and liberality even when one of the parties is entirely without experience. Had the Envoys been chosen from the chiefs of the anti-progressionists we should have conjectured that Korea, acting, perhaps, under Japanese advice, was about to inaugurate the plan which proved so successful in this country—namely, that of administering the physic of foreign travel to old-fashioned sceptics who refused to believe that Japan had anything to learn from the Occident or anything to gain by extending the circle of her national acquaintances. But the head of the Mission is Mr. Min Yong-ik, Adviser to the Board of Foreign Commerce in Korea, who so far from holding Conservative doctrines, gets the credit of being an advanced Liberal. After all, then, the solution of the enigma may be that the Korean statesmen mean to lose no time in

enjoying the opportunities they have helped to create, and that their trip to America is nothing more than a trip. They will certainly make a sensation in New York, though how they are to communicate their ideas to the good people of the United States we are unable to conjecture. Possibly they have made some double-barrelled arrangement for interpreting similar to that resorted to by General Foote.

THE sober *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* mentions a curious incident of His Excellency Matsukata's last visit to Kiushiu. When entering Hida, in the province of Bungo, a crowd of persons (presumably young) of both sexes, welcomed his arrival in the old style—kneeling and brow bent to earth. Naturally, the Minister inquired the reason of such a demonstration, and was informed that the obeisance was a testimony of the gratitude of those present for their being. This means that, had it not been for a beneficent piece of penal restriction introduced into the administration of the district by Mr. Matsukata, shortly after the Restoration, the extraordinary ceremony could not have been performed at all. *Le combat cessa faute de combattants*, says Corneille's Cid. If infants are not allowed to be born they cannot well in maturer years participate in a public demonstration.

SEA-BATHERS in Yokohama may congratulate themselves on the practical immunity from marine monsters which is enjoyed in this neighbourhood. That other places, not very far away from us, are, at times, less fortunate in this respect appears from a report which reaches us from Nagasaki to the effect that, within the last few days, a shoal of large sharks entered the harbour there, and that, as a consequence, all bathing has been put a stop to.

THE birthday of the Emperor of China Kwang-su (the Continuation of Glory) was celebrated on Tuesday by the Chinese of the Settlement in the usual manner. The young Emperor now enters upon the 13th year of his age, having succeeded to the Dragon Throne whilst quite a child, on the death of his predecessor Tung-chi, who died of small-pox in 1875.

It would be premature to comment as yet upon the proceedings at the trial of the Fukushima suspects, but the case has proceeded far enough to inspire a very strong hope among foreigners that the Government will see its way to treat the prisoners with the greatest possible leniency. They are evidently men of noble impulses and uncommon ability. That they transgressed the lines of legitimate agitation seems to have been the result of pardonable impetuosity rather than of criminal intention, and it would be difficult to define clearly the purpose of their association, if indeed it had any definable purpose. The occasion, so far as we can judge, is eminently one for clemency. The unfortunate men have already suffered severely, and although it scarcely seems permissible to mention prospects of popularity in the same breath with the

dictates of Justice, we cannot but think that a conciliatory attitude would go quite as far towards the preservation of the public peace at this juncture as the most rigorous measures of repression.

THE prospects of the Tokiyo-Kumagai Railway appear to be of the rosiest description. The receipts at the booking office at Ueno, on Friday morning, the day when the line was opened, were 110 *yen*, an amount which was not regarded as particularly satisfactory. On Sunday, however, the number of passengers reached a thousand, and we now learn from the *Hochi Shinbun* that the receipts on the 30th ultimo were 700 *yen*, and that the terminus at Ueno is blocked up with immense quantities of goods waiting for transmission. It is plain that the Company will soon be obliged to increase the number of trains. Two passenger, and one service, train per diem will be quite insufficient to satisfy the public requirements. The directors may confidently expect to monopolize all the passenger and goods traffic of the district as they are not obliged to compete with any water carriage.

AMERICAN holidays have of late been greatly enlivened by one of the most ingenious and characteristic of Japanese inventions. No Republican jubilee is now considered complete without a display of the clever day-light fire-works which have long been familiar to visitors and residents in this country. The fourth of July just passed was celebrated in hundreds of towns with the aid of pyrotechny derived from these outlying islands of Asia. The Chinese "cracker" has for generations been the American small boy's approved medium of patriotic expression, and now the more complicated and artistic contrivances of Japan have become essential to the fulgurant fancy of trans-Pacific children of larger growth. New York dealers in these articles state that more than fifty varieties were sold, in that city alone, for the recent national anniversary. The prices in that market were \$6.25 for the largest single specimens, and \$18.00 per dozen for the smaller. When combined in set pieces, however, they sometimes sold for \$250.00.

An impression appears to prevail in certain quarters,—or, at least, an attempt is made to disseminate the impression,—that the action of the United States authorities with respect to adulterated teas is directed particularly against the exportations from this country. This is by no means the case. The apprehensions of American merchants were excited chiefly by the knowledge that large quantities of impure tea were stored in England, awaiting the opportunity for transportation to other regions. Of these worthless wares, it is next to impossible that any could have been sent from Japan. All that goes hence is landed at San Francisco, and reaches no markets more distant than those of the Western continent. Of course the recently established rules apply as well to deleterious goods arriving in California as to those admitted

in the Eastern Atlantic ports; but it is an error to suppose that any legislation was originally instituted with the purpose of excluding or retreating the Japanese product. The precautionary measures were due entirely to the fear of derangement of the New York trade by a sudden influx of spurious tea, known to have been lying for years in the bonded warehouses of Great Britain.

THE resolutions adopted by the Public Meeting at the United Club, on Monday afternoon seem to us most felicitous. There are doubtless many considerations which render it expedient that this community should proceed with extreme circumspection in a matter of this sort; but they are considerations of a somewhat subtle nature, scarcely calculated to have much weight as against the universal and strongly felt desire to convey to Sir Harry Parkes some token of esteem more substantial and enduring than a farewell party. Nothing could be happier than the idea of getting over this difficulty by inviting former residents of Yokohama, wherever they may be, to add their names to the list of subscribers. The testimonial will thus be freed from any questionable features it might otherwise have presented, while at the same time it will derive additional value from the widened scope of its signification. We venture to suggest that since the presentation has assumed these large and cosmopolitan dimensions, the Japanese also should be given an opportunity of joining. There is no valid reason why they should be excluded, and we imagine that their coöperation would be a point of much value in the eyes of Sir Harry Parkes himself.

THE latest number of the *Maru Maru Chimbun* has a cartoon representing three pools,—one on the right, the other two on the left—marked Hongkong, China, and Japan respectively. In the centre is a masked man, riding on the back of a large tortoise, and holding in his left hand a fishing rod, and in his right a box inscribed "Astonishing Reform." His attitude is apparently intended to allegorize the retired life of old Urashima Taro, the Rip van Winkle of Japan, whose love of fishing enabled him to hold intercourse with supernatural beings. The angler exclaims:—"I am now on the point of starting from the Dragon Palace at the bottom of the ocean, to return to my own country. My voyage has given me immense pleasure, I have passed my days in amusement; but alas, I must no longer wander. I must return and exhibit the contents of my marvelous box at home." The intention is probably to suggest that His Excellency Ito, Privy Councillor, who is expected shortly to arrive in Tokiyo from Hongkong, devoted a great deal of his time to diversion, whilst sojourning in Europe, and, in order to obscure the fact of his revelry, intends to open his box and show what miraculous reforms ought to be introduced into the Japanese Government.

THE *Choya Shinbun* mentions that the jinrikisha was first invented in 1870. Its popularity was

so great that there were 140,400, 157,000, and 177,000 of these vehicles in the Empire in 1880, 1881, and 1882, respectively. Since the recent introduction of coaches and railways, in the provinces, and tramways in the capital, the number of hand-cabs plying has rapidly diminished.

PASSENGERS by the *Nagoya Maru* which arrived here on Wednesday from Shanghai were His Excellency Ming Yong-ik, Korean Ambassador to the United States and his official suite and attendants. The Envoy carries autograph credentials from his Sovereign to the President, and expects to make a stay of some duration in the territory of the Great Republic.

We read in the *Rising Sun* and *Nagasaki Express* that a malicious attempt has been made by some of the crew of the American ship *Wildwood* to burn that vessel in Nagasaki harbor. Some of the sailors having refused duty, the U.S. Marshal went on board to arrest them, and upon approaching the fore hatch saw flames issuing from the hold. The alarm was immediately given, and a boat was sent with all speed to the *Monocacy* for assistance, but before she returned the fire had been extinguished. Upon examination, it was found that one of the cases of kerosine with which the vessel was loaded was burnt completely through, and several other articles were badly burnt. A strict enquiry is being held at the U.S. Consulate. The *Wildwood* had almost the whole of her cargo on board at the time of the fire.

PERUSING the ill-judged and ill-digested comments recently made by "Sinensis" in the columns of *Nature* with regard to the comparative advantages of Japanese progress and Chinese immobility, and reading, at the same time, the astonishing records of almost brutal immorality which reach us from the Middle Kingdom, we are compelled to confess that no man ever proposed to himself a more unworthy or mischievous task than that of applauding, however indirectly, the barbarous inhumanity of the social and criminal codes which obtain in the latter country. Among daily occurring abuses of authority and outrages on the rights of the subject, none seems to call more urgently for reform than the case of females sold by their parents into families where wives for the male children are required. Commercial transactions of this nature, so far from being confined to marriageable girls, generally involve the transfer of children, sometimes of mere infants, the ruling idea being, evidently, one of economy. The little girl passes into the hands of strangers at an age when a mother's care and affection are most needed to develop the finer instincts of her nature, and from that time forth, though not a slave in name, she is the inalienable property of her purchasers, who make it their business to recoup their original outlay by forcing her to perform every species of labour. Possibly she may be fortunate enough to find favour in their eyes, but the odds are terribly against her, and

in nine cases out of ten, aye, in ninety-nine out of a hundred, the sharp misery of her lot is never softened by any touch of pity or lightened by any ray of hope. To what devilish atrocities she is sometimes exposed will be understood from the following story, which forms the subject of a memorial from the Province of Hunan recently published in the *Peking Gazette*:—"The child in question was six years old, and had been bought or adopted at the age of three. Being sickly and suffering, she had incurred the hate of her mother-in-law, and kicks and cuffs were her daily bread. The nature of the complaint from which she was suffering had left her clothes in a soiled condition, and by way of punishing her for what was probably an involuntary offence—if in a child of six it could be called an offence at all—her cruel mistress took a piece of lighted joss-stick and deliberately seared her in several places on both arms. The girl screamed, as well she might, and by way of stopping her cries the inhuman fiend next got hold of a pair of hot tongs and burned the skin and flesh about the head and neck. This treatment had the not unnatural effect of making the girl scream more and more, and her tormentor, getting more and more angry, resolved to put an end to her. She seized a wooden scoop, dipped it into a pot of boiling water and poured the contents over the head neck and chest of the poor wretch, whose cries were then soon effectually silenced for ever."

Our readers will be prepared to hear that the perpetrator of this atrocity was condemned to death or life-long imprisonment. The penalty actually imposed upon her was a fine of three mace, seven candareens, and five cash, that is to say, something less than half a crown. The *China Mail*, from which we extract these particulars, says that "nominally the penalty for killing a child, grandchild, or other young person *in potestate*, if done wilfully and maliciously, is 100 blows and banishment to a short distance—if done by way of correction or for disobedience there is no penalty at all—but in this case the offender, being a woman, is entitled to commute for a fine." It may be presumed that even in China such cruelty is condemned by public opinion, and in fact, the case under consideration led to the presentation of a memorial praying for an amendment of the Criminal Code in the sense of imposing severer penalties on the perpetrators of such acts. Doubtless it would be well that people who burn children to death should be taught to remember that the gratification of their fancy entails something worse than the payment of half a dollar, but even if their punishment were increased to crucifixion, the evil would remain virtually without remedy. That evil is that girls should be placed in such a position at all. The criminal code may extend to them any protection it pleases, but it can never make their lot tolerable. Searing with lighted joss-sticks and nipping with red-hot pincers may go on with entire impunity so long as these processes stop just short of murder. The evil, too, is self-productive. Girls who have passed through such a

terrible apprenticeship will not be troubled by many merciful impulses when their own turn comes to educate unfortunate children who are to serve ultimately as wives for their sons or brothers. Let it be recorded to the honor of Japan that among the very earliest reforms which succeeded the abolition of feudalism was the enactment of a law making all sales of females, whether children or adults, a criminal offence. We have never heard that such atrocities as that described in the *Peking Gazette* were perpetrated here. Only to those who have studied with more than common care the history of Japanese society before the Restoration of 1868, is it known how largely the provisions of the written law were supplemented by the action of tribunals over which the people themselves presided. Whatever restraining influence these may have exercised, the fate of children and adults sold into virtual slavery doubtless presented many revolting features, and there could be no better evidence of Japan's ability to appreciate Western codes of morality, than her speedy and effectual abandonment of so inhuman a proceeding. China, meanwhile, remains as far as ever from any radical reform in this direction, and yet there are intelligent writers who venture to commend the deliberation of her movements, and to draw favourable auguries from her dogged adherence to systems which suffer the most barbarous abuses to flourish unimpeded.

There is also another side to this terrible picture. Chinese parents in straightened circumstances must know well, when a female child is born to them, that in all probability long years of misery and pain are before it. The mother, perhaps, has herself served the cruel apprenticeship which too often precedes marriage, and the notion that a similar fate awaits her child may be intolerable to her. What wonder, then, if she seriously debates with herself the expediency of putting an end at once to a career destined to so much unhappiness? Chinese historians tell of a time when every morning before dawn carts traversed the several districts of Peking for the purpose of removing any living or dead infants whose parents wished to get rid of them, and travellers have described harrowing details of infanticide as practiced in other parts of the empire. But we have never read anything sadder or more inhuman than the following record of things as they actually are at present in Hongkong (we quote from the *China Mail* of 21st ultimo):—

A fortnight ago yesterday, in the afternoon, Police Sergeant Butlin was in one of the narrow, reeking, slums of Taipingshan. Apparently he was on the look-out for gamblers. He entered what he knew to be an uninhabited tenement, and found himself almost in darkness. Round about him, however, he could dimly discern empty coffins, some lying on the floor and others standing on end against the walls. Thinking that possibly he might make some discovery, the Sergeant groped about and presently noticed what looked like a bundle of clothes lying alongside one of the coffins. He touched it, and finding that under the clothes there was a body, he hastened to an adjoining house and obtained a light. Then he ascertained that the object which had specially attracted his attention was a Chinese girl, six or seven years of age, in an extreme state of exhaustion. She was so weak, or so ill, that she could neither speak nor make signs. The only piece of clothes she was wearing was a jacket, but she was lying rolled up in a portion of an old red blanket, with her knees almost up to her chin. There was no food in the room. It was a

close, damp place, with an earthen floor. The Sergeant removed the child to the Civil Hospital, where it died three or four days afterwards.

An inquest was held concerning the death, and resulted in some rather extraordinary disclosures being made. A Chinese undertaker stated in evidence that a woman had agreed to pay him \$4 for allowing the child to lie in the room, and for burying her in case she died. The following conversation then took place between the Coroner and witness:—

The Coroner asked whether the \$4 would include the cost of a coffin.

Witness—Yes. The price of such a coffin as she would require would be about \$2.40. The \$4 would cover all the expenses of the coffin and burial at Mount Davis.

The Coroner—If the child got better would it have been taken away and nothing paid?

Witness—That would be my chance. It would only remain in the place a few days.

Do they ever recover?—Yes, sometimes they do get better there.

I suppose they are never brought unless they are pretty sure to die?—Yes.

How long have you had this house?—Two months.

And during that time how many have been taken there?—Three, including the deceased.

And have any recovered?—No, only some is a house I had before.

Were they all children?—Yes.

Female or male?—Either.

What did you get for the other two?—One three dollars, and one five dollars. This is about the amount I usually get, the lowest price being about two dollars. We do not always get such jobs, only our friends bring them to us. I used to carry on the same business in Pound-lane.

What is about the average per month of children you get thus?—Only just enough to cover the expense of the house; we very seldom get these cases.

Chi Achai, hawker, living next door, gave evidence that the child was brought to the house and left by two women.

The Coroner—How many children have you seen taken to this house?

Witness—During the two months the same owner has had it, I have seen three, including the deceased.

How long does it usually take for them to die there?—About three or four days.

And after that are they taken out in coffins and buried?

—Yes.

They are not taken there unless they are very ill, are they?

—No.

They don't require any food there, do they?—I don't know; when they are taken there it is supposed that they will die, and that there is no hope of their living.

Do they make any noise there?—No, I never heard them cry.

Is anything given them to keep them quiet?—I do not know.

Does the undertaker carry them away?—Yes.

Medical evidence, based upon a *post mortem* examination, was given at the inquest, showing that the child actually died from disease, but Dr. Wharry expressed an opinion that death was accelerated by the treatment the deceased had received. The jury returned a verdict of "death from natural causes," and the two women concerned in the case on being brought before the Magistrate on a charge of endangering the life of the child by exposing and neglecting it, were discharged. So ended the matter.

It is impossible to conceive a mother more completely dehumanized than the woman who can deliberately abandon her sick child to a lingering death under such circumstances. We have no heart to conjecture the thoughts with which the life of a woman possessing the ordinary maternal instincts must be haunted after such an act. But there can be no second opinion about the social conditions of a country where these things are possible. Humanitarians may maintain that even with this knowledge of Chinese civilization we have no right to compel reform. It is a curious problem.

REPORTERS of American newspapers have discovered the presence in that country of numerous agents from China, who are engaged in purchasing war material on an extensive scale. Large orders, it is declared, have been distributed among the principal manufacturers of arms and ammunition. By instructions from the Chinese authorities, the details of these transactions are kept as secret as possible. It is nevertheless stated, "on assured authority," that eight thousand stand of rifles, with all accompaniments, have been shipped by one firm to Canton, *via* San Francisco, and that much larger orders are

in rapid preparation. Two thousand cases of cartridges are also on the way to the scene of possible hostility. Furthermore, we read that at least two of the great New England factories will be exclusively occupied for several months in supplying the immediate demands of the Peking government. Cannon have been purchased, but not in great quantities, the belief being that these weapons will be sought chiefly in Germany. Efforts are made, however, by the rival ordnance establishments of the United States, to secure a portion of this trade; and their representatives are said to be as busily occupied in China as are the purchasers of small arms in America. One prominent merchant gave a writer of the *New York Sun* the rather remarkable information that, according to his experience, war munitions for China "are usually bought by mandarins through missionaries."

The estimate placed upon China's military and naval resources by the best American judgment may be seen in an article which we reproduce elsewhere from a leading New York journal. It is needless to say that we neither accept nor dispute the writer's opinions, but present them merely as interesting and appropriate in the existing condition of affairs. As to the war-making capacity of the neighbouring empire, residents in the East will probably prefer a more direct authority than the opinion of a New York newspaper. Upon one point, however, we may be guided to some extent by the utterances of our American contemporary. Questions have been raised, not for the first time in this locality, concerning the right of citizens or officers of the United States to take service under the Chinese Government, in the event of war. It will be observed that such engagements are incidentally spoken of, almost as matters of course, and that no idea of any objection thereto seems to be entertained. Indeed, it is expressly anticipated that "the navy of the Celestial Empire, when placed on a war footing, will be substantially a European force." That the word "European" is used in a general sense, including Americans, is obvious from the context. It is evident that no interference with United States citizens who choose to fight under the Dragon banner is looked upon as probable, from the New York point of view. Our own impression,—which we are unable at the moment to verify by reference to the latest enactments,—is that all Americans actually engaged by a foreign power previous to, or at the time of, a declaration of war, may legally take part in hostilities against any other nation, even if the latter be at peace with the United States. To join the forces of a belligerent after hostilities have commenced, may be, and probably is, unwarranted by the laws of the Republic; but we are by no means convinced that the rule of prohibition would be stringently enforced, unless some special influence could be brought to bear to secure the non-participation of the putative offenders.

The French in Tonquin show no signs of activity. They seem to be waiting quietly until

the arrival of reinforcements enables them to assume the offensive, though their ability to undertake any extensive military operations at this season of the year is very questionable. The heat is described as so intense that it has not been found possible even to review the troops recently arrived from Saigon. A reconnaissance undertaken by the garrison of Hanoi in the early part of July failed to unmask the enemy and resulted in the death of six French soldiers from sun-stroke. Latest intelligence is dated July 17th, at which time 1,400 troops had arrived, viz., 1,200 from Saigon and 200 from New Caledonia. The reinforcements appear to have been distributed pretty equally between Haiphong, Nam-dinh, and Hanoi. There can be no doubt that they will be totally insufficient to attempt anything decisive. The country, though traversed by rivers and canals, seems to be virtually without roads, and if the Tonquinese really intend to resist a military occupation, France has her work cut out for her. Throughout the first half of July the garrison at Haiphong appears to have been virtually in a state of siege. The Annamites and Black Flags were known to be assembled in force in the vicinity, and the ability of the garrison to assume the offensive may be gathered from the fact that a feeling of security was entertained when the proximity of the transports was definitely ascertained. The citadel of Nam-dinh had to sustain an attack on the 11th of July, but it was a very desultory species of fighting, the record being two hundred shots fired and no casualties. The new Commander-in-chief, General Bouet, and his staff are chiefly occupied in superintending the erection of additional fortifications at Haiphong and Hanoi, and in making roads at the former place. The opinion of outsiders is to the effect that it will be impossible for the French to take the field before the end of the rainy season, late in September, but on the other hand, it is not thought likely that General Bouet will remain inactive for so long a period after the arrival of the reinforcements.

At 3 a.m. on the 1st instant a fire broke out in a shed adjoining the temple of Gokokuji, at Odzuka, Koishikawa, Tokiyo, and subsequently spreading to the main edifice, completely destroyed it. We extract from the *Hand-book for Central and Northern Japan* the following account of this celebrated temple:—

The Buddhist temple of Gokoku-ji, though the actual buildings are now falling into decay, is worth looking into if the visitor is in the neighbourhood, as the extensive grounds, the beautiful situation, the perfect quiet, the magnificent trees, and the now silent belfry, will call up before his mind the image of days when Buddhism was still a mighty power in the land. Founded in 1681, it was taken under his special patronage by the reigning Shōgun Tsuna-hoshi, who caused a variety of useful medicinal plants to be sown in the temple precincts. Azaleas (which bloom early in May) line the broad flight of steps by which the enclosure of the main hall is reached, and fine cherry-trees are dotted about the grounds. The *hon-san* is a Kwan-non of agate said to have been sculptured by nature. The chief treasure of the temple is a gigantic *zō-monō* of Shaka's "Entry into Nirvana" by Kano Yasunobu (b. 1613, d. 1685), which is shown during the month of April. E. of the Main Hall is a bronze sitting figure of the Buddha, on a stone pedestal in the open air. It is about 8 ft. high, and composed of bronze plates soldered together, the largest casting being a plate about 3½ ft. by 3 ft. The head is in 2 pieces. Close to this is a little bronze pagoda of the

shape called *ta-kō-tō*, "great treasure stūpa," originally intended to contain the relics of a saint. Next to Gokoku-ji is the small shrine of Go-ji-In, which, though insignificant in itself, must be noted as the 25th of the "Thirty-three Places" sacred to Kwan-non in the Eastern Provinces. The idea of these "thirty-three places" is taken from a similar number of shrines in the provinces surrounding the old capital, Kiōto, the pilgrimage to which was instituted by the Emperor Kwa-san, who after losing his tenderly loved consort, abdicated in the year 966, and, becoming a monk, gave himself up to devout practices. One of them, undertaken in obedience to a vision, was a pilgrimage to the temple of Fudaraku-ji at Nachi, in Ki-shū, and thence to thirty-two other shrines dedicated to Kwan-non, ending with that of Tanigumi-dera, in Mino.

THAT there should have arisen any necessity for the disclaimer made by our correspondent "Employé" is to us a matter of considerable surprise. "M.'s" letter, to which "Employé" replies, was couched in very strong terms, but if it was written under the influence of an impression such as that now referred to by "Employé," we cannot but endorse every word of it, always excepting the unworthy motives it attributed to the latter gentleman. It seems almost ludicrous to suppose that any respectable person could be found to pen, or any newspaper to publish, remarks about the cleanliness of ladies' dresses! "Employé's" first letter was doubtless open to such a construction, but that it should be so construed seemed to us impossible and still seems extraordinary. The fact is that, quite independent of the Maharajah's party, there were two or three individuals who came to the funeral to amuse themselves, and to whose costumes "Employé's" remarks were not inapplicable. Truly the misconception would be a laughable episode were it possible to regard lightly even an erroneous charge of such extreme rudeness against this journal and its correspondent.

THE counsel for the defence of the Fukushima suspects cannot be congratulated upon the part they are reported to have played at the sitting on Wednesday. Toby, in his "Essence of Parliament" tells of two honorable members who had prepared several smart things to say about a certain bill which was unfortunately relegated to the ranks of the "slaughtered innocents." The would-be orators were much disappointed, but consoled themselves with a hope that they might "get off" some of their *facétie* on another, though wholly inappropriate, occasion. Somewhat similar seems to have been the case with the counsel for the Fukushima prisoners. They had prepared a thunderbolt to launch at the head of the Judge, and when their chances of launching it appositely seemed to be growing fainter, they let it off in desperation without any regard to its utility or propriety. Both Judge and Assessors were conducting the case with admirable candour, patience, and impartiality, when one of the gentlemen engaged for the defence appears to have risen and solemnly warned the Court that "as the case had an important bearing upon the abolition of exterritoriality, the proceedings had better be conducted with the utmost frankness and publicity." Such exhibitions dispose us to doubt whether the Japanese in general have any serious sense of responsibility. If there were anything against which counsel ought

to have protested strongly, it would have been an attempt to import political considerations into a case of this sort. It is very praiseworthy that the Japanese should spare no efforts to inspire public confidence in the impartiality and thoroughness of their law courts with a view to recover their judicial independence, but that they should profess to make this their principal object is the best way to defeat their purpose. Justice inspired only by such a hope is a very untrustworthy sort of affair. The language of the counsel for the defence was not alone injudicious, but an open insult to the integrity and dignity of the Court. We only regret that the Judge did not administer an immediate and unqualified rebuke. It is, perhaps, too much to expect that Japanese Judges should yet be able to combine with patience and impartiality that unwavering sense of what is due to the representatives of Justice, which, we are happy to think, distinguishes the English Bench above that of all other countries. The disgraceful license permitted to an American barrister in the Da Rosa case is still fresh in the minds of the public, and we look with impatience for the time when counsel venturing upon such courses will receive the punishment they deserve. A Japanese lawyer who can permit himself to warn a Court of Law that the penalty of partiality and concealment will be a failure to enlist foreign confidence, shows that he has no adequate conception of the foundations upon which alone Justice can solidly rest. These are the things that sometimes inspire doubts in the minds of those who truly wish Japan well. They are of a piece with the spirit which induces her to make the employment of Western judges in her Courts contingent on the recovery of a certain portion of her jurisdiction over foreigners, instead of taking that step at once in the Courts over which she has entire control and by which cases where foreigners are plaintiffs have always to be decided. We want to see her do what is right, never mind whether it pleases or displeases foreigners. One honestly independent effort is worth a dozen conditional displays of virtue.

THE scheme for deepening the Sumida, and enlarging the channel from the mouth of that river along the North-western shore of Yedo Bay, —so as to supply a satisfactory harbour for the capital, and render it approachable by ships of deep draught,—is once more becoming a topic of discussion, and is believed, by many whose interests are nearly concerned, to have received fresh consideration from the Government. Plans have been drawn up by Japanese engineers in the service of the Tokio Fu, and estimates submitted of the probable cost of providing a permanent watercourse, and lining the right bank with a succession of docks, extending altogether for a distance of five or six miles from the neighborhood of Asakusa downward toward Shinagawa. The details of this project are said to be similar to, if not identical with, those proposed several years ago by a foreign contractor. Whatever may result from this present revival of the subject, it is certain that Tokiyo must, sooner

or later, be supplied with proper facilities for shipping. That city will not be satisfied forever with the existing anomalous methods of exportation. Yokohama desires to see no change, we may presume, and is ready to demonstrate, to its own satisfaction, that no other arrangement for traffic can possibly be so beneficial as one which would leave the foreign settlement to the perpetual enjoyment of its privileges as the natural port for the whole surrounding region. But if it be definitely shown that a system now involving wastefulness and needless loss can be replaced,—even at the cost of a tolerably heavy outlay at the beginning,—by the simple plan of enabling merchants to send out their wares directly from the great central depository, and not circuitously through a town twenty miles distant, the protest of Yokohama is not likely to be very effective. As we have said, we have no means of knowing what amount of vitality, if any, attaches to the new movement; but the conversion of Tokiyo into an actual and practical seaport can hardly be anything but a question of time.

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An example of the restlessness with which large cities, unprovided with water approaches, regard the superior position of more favoured neighbours, is given in the recent determination of Manchester to escape from the state of dependency to which it has long been subjected by Liverpool. Manchester is in fact, an inland city, without any of the physical advantages which Tokiyo possesses for the facilitation of so great a task. But it has been found that although the distance from Liverpool is only a few miles, the cost of transportation between the two places is actually heavier than the charge for carriage of freight from the western cities of the United States half way across the American continent and thence over the Atlantic, to Liverpool. So eager and resolute is the latter city in making the most of its hitherto undisputed opportunities, that the Manchester merchants are able to save money by sending their produce abroad by way of Hull, Southampton, London, Glasgow, or Aberdeen, rather than through the nearest outlet. They have therefore decided, in the face of extraordinary obstacles, to make their city virtually a seaport, by opening a ship canal to the River Mersey,—on which Liverpool is situated. Of the particulars of this design we may speak at some future time. Our purpose now is merely to indicate the energy with which an English community grapples with a problem of similar nature to that which occupies, and must continue to occupy, the thoughts of the mercantile fraternity in the capital of Japan. Comparisons, in such cases, are neither necessary nor desirable; yet we may mention that the expected cost of the Manchester enterprise is about twenty-six millions of dollars, while we are assured, on competent authority, that the necessary operations at Tokiyo can be accomplished for a little more than one-tenth of that sum.

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The importance of not only securing good harbourage, but also of maintaining it in proper

order, has been brought home in a rather startling way to the merchants of the chief city of the United States. Within the last few months it has been discovered that all the channels leading from New York are becoming so shallow as to seriously interfere with the ingress and egress of the large European steamships. No less than nine of these in succession have run aground within twenty miles of the metropolis. The obstructions are caused solely by deposits of garbage from the city;—a cause which at first glance would seem too insignificant to threaten serious danger, apart from the fact that no difficulty in dealing with it by local authority would be supposed to exist. But, while the magnitude of the evil is fully recognized, and its disastrous consequences thoroughly appreciated, the government of New York appears to be utterly incapable of taking the necessary preventive steps. Hundreds of scavenger scows are sent out each night, laden with the city's refuse, which is dumped overboard wherever a convenient place can be found; and the official inspectors of the harbour are unable to fulfil their duties of investigation into this nefarious business, for the reason that those engaged in it have so terrorized the respectable boatmen of the neighbourhood that they dare not take part in any expedition for the detection and punishment of the malefactors. The condition of affairs, as described by the New York journals, would be set down as incredible, but for the facts brought forward in evidence. In proof of its gravity, we are told that the question whether New York can expect to permanently maintain its commercial supremacy, has already been discussed by parties largely interested. The managers of the great steamship companies have been invited to give their opinions, and some of them have acknowledged the expediency of looking elsewhere for a safe and satisfactory point of arrival and departure. Others, however, declare their belief that means will be found of obviating the present difficulty. They all agree that there is no likelihood of limiting the size and draught of ocean steamers, and that the progress of naval architecture cannot be held in check to accord with the conditions of any single port, however important. A plan is said to be entertained in certain quarters for establishing a new harbour at the eastern end of Long Island, but the competition of ports already created would probably render that enterprise superfluous. Boston might be stimulated to the work of clearing and deepening her channels, the increasing impediments in which caused, several years ago, an indefinite suspension of the splendid traffic which she once enjoyed. Portland, also, might be moved to reassert her advantages as the possessor of the finest harbour in the north-eastern states of the Union, and as being nearer to Europe than any rival. Or the faded claims of Philadelphia, which long after the beginning of this century was the commercial mistress of the Republic, might revive and flourish with the decay of her powerful rival. But it is useless to speculate prematurely on such contingencies.

New York is a wretchedly misgoverned city, and the iniquities practised there in defiance of law are such as would bring ruin upon any place less bounteously endowed with natural elements of prosperity; but when a real peril impends, and the material prospects of the community are visibly menaced, the force of a determined public opinion manifests itself, and roguery is defeated,—at least for a day, if not, unhappily, for all time. Before the necessity arises for seeking a new grand outlet to the Atlantic trade, the people of Manhattan, we may confidently believe, will have found a method of ridding their streets of rubbish without encumbering the difficult sea passages of the harbour, or making the approach to their piers a matter of such danger that the most experienced pilots shrink from, instead of welcoming, the duty of taking forth or bringing in the first class steamships which were once the chief prizes of their vocation.

THE public is beginning to gather, here and there, specimens of the diplomatic methods employed by the Special Envoy of France in the recent Annamese negotiations. A telegram from Paris to *The Times*, under date June 14th, says that at one of his interviews with the Viceroy Li, M. Tricou declared that China "might possibly be no stranger to the fate of Commandant Rivière." The Viceroy protested strongly, as well he might, against such an unjustifiable and unbecoming remark, and also repudiated the suspicion that the Chinese were capable of having joined the Annamites to fight the French in Tonquin. M. Tricou's reply is reported to have been:—"I desire sincerely that you should hold aloof, for our officers have orders to shoot every Chinaman taken with arms in his hands in the Annamite ranks." The Viceroy is said to have been considerably impressed by this declaration. He had reason.

HAVING had occasion to speak with some severity, at times, of the looseness with which certain departments of the Japanese press are managed, we are the more gratified to have an opportunity of expressing cordial approval of another feature, which has of late assumed considerable prominence. We allude to the practice of notifying readers where persons in want and suffering may be found, and undertaking to act as mediums between the deserving sick and poor, and those of the public who are willing to bestow bounty when it is thus needed. Hardly a week passes without announcements, in some of the family journals,—which naturally give more attention than the political sheets to subjects of this kind,—of appropriate objects for compassion and relief. In most instances, the addresses of the afflicted are given, so that those who desire to offer aid privately and unostentatiously may seek them out and, after learning their real necessities, may make immediate bestowal of the requisite remedies. But for the convenience of those who are unable or disinclined to make a personal examination, the newspapers are always prepared to receive donations and to superintend their transmission

to the proper destination. This is generally done thorough the agency of the *Ku yaku-sho*, or municipal district offices. From careful inquiry, as well as from direct observation in not a few cases, we have reason to believe that excellent results follow this simple and unpretending system of charity, and are willing to hope that the objectionable characteristics of native journalism are in some measure atoned for by this exercise of the virtue which covers a multitude of sins.

PUBLIC attention has to a great extent been withdrawn lately from the South African continent and directed to the performances of the French in the big African island and Tonquin, and the fact that Cetewayo was again on the war-path excited but little interest in view of greater events on the *Tapis*. An occasional item, however, reached us of desultory skirmishes in South Africa, but we have now received a telegram announcing the death of Cetewayo in battle and the burning of Ulundi. This will probably restore peace to a region which has been in a more or less disturbed state for some years.

AMONGST the passengers by the French mail steamship *Tanair*, which arrived here about midnight, were His Excellency Ito Hirobumi, Messrs. Ito Miyoji, Saionji, Karahashi, Iwakura, and Toda. The party landed last night and proceeded at once to Tokiyo by a special train which had been ordered for the purpose.

THE French are taking a high hand in Madagascar, their authorities having arrested a British Consular official and imprisoned an English Missionary. The matter has been brought before the House of Commons.

THE latest Hongkong papers received this morning contain no mention of any movement being made yet in Tonquin.

THE Rev. Arthur William Poole, M.A., has been appointed Missionary Bishop to the English Church in Japan.

A LAMENTABLE accident has occurred on the Clyde. At the launch of the *Daphne* the vessel overturned and 131 persons were drowned.

BOSTON newspapers state that the finest and most tasteful entertainment at Harvard University, last "class day," was given by a party of young Japanese graduates.

A SWATOW correspondent writes to the *Amoy Gazette* on the 9th inst.:—"I am sorry to have to record that this port is put in quarantine by the Hongkong authorities on account of cholera. It has been carrying off as many as 6 or 7 victims in separate families within a few hours. In this neighbourhood, Mr. Crowell, chief officer of the steamship *Toonan* died this morning suddenly, and I hear that there are two more cases on board steamers. The symptoms vary in different individuals. In some they are diarrhoea without pain; in others soreness of

the bones and pain in the bowels. Others are taken suddenly ill as if with sunstroke: they drop down, and in two or three minutes are dead. These last cases have been on the Swatow side principally.

At a public meeting the residents, of Hongkong have decided to erect a monument to the memory of a gallant gentleman who was only lately their governor. A writer in the *Daily Press* thus alludes to the determination:—"There was but one opinion as to the result of the Sir Arthur Kennedy memorial meeting, viz., that it was a gratifying success. The theme for the various speakers was a limited one, and yet one and all seemed to infuse a wonderful amount of variety into their respective speeches in honour and praise of the late fine, courteous, old English gentleman. Sir George Phillippo's opening speech was the delivery of a practised orator. The Hon. J. M. Price's arguments in favour of a public statue were felicitous. . . . as to a statue in bronze being the most suitable form for the memorial to take, and the Kennedy Road being the most appropriate spot to erect it on. . . . The last official act of Sir Arthur was to sanction the annexation of New Guinea to Queensland, subject to the approval of the Colonial Government. This approval has not been given, much to the discontent of the Australian Colonies.

OF Mr. P. G. von Möllendorff, the *Shanghai Mercury* says that he was recommended to the King of Korea by Li Hung-chang, but received his appointment direct from the King of Korea, in whose employ he is. He is in a position completely independent of China.

At a recent meeting in London favoring the disestablishment of the Church of England, Mr. Spurgeon said that out of a population of 36,000,000 in the United Kingdom, only one-third are in the communion of the Church of England.

News was brought to Nagasaki by the U.S.S. *Monocacy* of the death of Captain Mott, who was in command of the American barque *B. Aymar* wrecked on Amakusa. In company with Mr. T. Scott, he went to Korea about two months ago, in a small Japanese schooner, which was chartered by Messrs. Lake & Co., of Nagasaki, to take over a quantity of stores, for trading purposes. The Captain of the schooner has also died, and when the *Monocacy* left, Mr. Scott himself was ill.

THE French frigate *Triomphante* arrived at Singapore on the 9th, and left the same night for Saigon. The *Straits Times* says the *Triomphante* is a second-class ironclad of 4,000 tons, 380 men, and 13 guns, and was the flagship in the Levant of Rear-Admiral Coute, when an order was telegraphed to her from Paris to proceed to Tonquin waters. She is a sister ship to the *Victorieuse*, flagship of Rear-Admiral Meyer on the China station.

JAPANESE LAW COURTS.

A DENSE cloud of mutual ignorance separates foreigners and Japanese. It would be difficult to determine which side knows less of the other's ways. Of social intercourse there is very little, and what there is must be described as essentially superficial. Whether this be due to insuperable incongruities or simply to the barrier of language, we need not pause to discuss here. Our object is simply to note the fact. Then, again, if it were not for translations which appear occasionally in the columns of the local foreign press, we should know absolutely nothing of the history of contemporaneous life and thought in Japan. Those translations do some good, but it may be doubted whether they are widely perused even by the foreign communities at the open ports. Translations are not attractive at the best of times, and the exceedingly crude affairs presented to the Yokohama public require an earnest wish for information on the part of those that peruse them. The originals convey a very different impression, but unfortunately the resources of local journalism render the employment of really first class translators impossible. It would be easy to multiply examples of similar difficulties, but they are already familiar to our readers. One of them, however, demands special notice, because of the important influence, it exercises upon the nature of our mutual relations. We allude to the ignorance of the foreign public with regard to the procedure of Japanese Law Courts. Upon this subject we have already commented at some length, and a correspondent draws attention to it again to-day. The fact is no longer to be concealed that the future of our relations with this country depends to a great extent upon the continuance of extritorial jurisdiction. Whether the Japanese be unduly impatient or foreigners unjustly tenacious in this matter, the fact is indisputable that there never can be any real cordiality of intercourse until all restrictions upon its freedom are finally removed, and that they cannot be removed until extritoriality ceases to exist. Diplomacy may find some middle route out of this dead-lock, but the most expert diplomacy must be prepared to cede something or fail in everything. Meanwhile, the chief point to be achieved is some improvement in our mutual knowledge, and, above all, in our knowledge of Japanese legal procedure. Foreigners will never be willing to submit to the jurisdiction of Japanese Courts until they know what the terms signifies. At present every possible effort is made to mislead them and to represent the practice of Japanese law

as a veritable travesty of justice. No story of judicial eccentricity is too unlikely to be seized and published as a trustworthy index of what may be expected when extritoriality is abolished. The intention of all this may not be dishonest. It may perhaps be felt that to expose everything resembling an abuse in the systems we are asked to accept is an imperative duty with those who concern themselves about our interests. Whether in the performance of this duty they are entitled to neglect strict enquiry and be guided entirely by rumour, is another question. At all events, the upshot is that what little foreigners hear of Japanese justice is confined to its reported failures. The need of the moment is an accurate report of all cases tried before Courts administering the new Criminal Codes. If there are faults, let them be honestly published without exaggeration or palliation; if there are merits, let them be similarly treated. To accomplish this our correspondent "L." suggests that some journal should devote itself entirely to the work. He is, perhaps, too severe in his remarks about the prospect presented by newspaper enterprise in this country at present. The trial of the Fukushima suspects, as reported by the *Hochi Shimbun*, leaves little to be desired in point of accuracy. But the public wants to be informed about trials of every sort, not about those of a political nature only, and the vernacular press is not in a position to supply information sufficiently full to be satisfactory. Its hands are to some extent tied by the press-laws even in this respect, and its readers do not appear to appreciate this class of information. Yet we cannot reasonably hope that "L."s suggestion will find favour. We fear that the desire of removing foreign misapprehension will not prove strong enough to move Japanese patriotism to any pecuniary sacrifice. And some pecuniary sacrifice would be necessary, in the beginning at all events. The only practical resource is that the vernacular press should follow the example of newspapers all over the world, and keep its readers regularly posted about everything that goes on in the native Courts. If the public does not interest itself about such things, so much the worse for the public. Next to a defective administration of justice, the least hopeful trait that could be attributed to a people, is indifference to that misfortune. The Japanese press will do a doubly good work when it takes this matter up seriously. It will not only help to establish mutual confidence, but it will also show the world that the Japanese nation really watches the conduct of its jurists and judges, and submits them to that public surveillance which is the surest guarantee against misconduct and corruption.

CHINA AND JAPAN.

IT has been remarked by careful statisticians that everything in nature has its period; moves, as it were, in an orbit, and may be expected to occur at a particular point after a particular interval. There are men who hold that this is true of prosperity as of pestilence, of religious manias as of climatic changes. Even of public opinion, it may be possible hereafter to predict the phases when the scientific grouping of historical facts shall have been carried sufficiently far. One can be tolerably sure that in England, for example, after the Liberals have been in power three or four years, the country's inclinations will begin to drift in the direction of Conservatism. There is no apparent reason for these fluctuations. They would seem to be the result of mere waywardness were it not for their regularity. So, too, of good and evil report. Individuals, communities, peoples, have their seasons of favour and disfavour. They go out of fashion and come into it, like clothes of a certain cut or language of a special construction. Only in such cases, it is generally easy to discover a cause other than pure fickleness. It ought to be so with regard to Japan. We should find no difficulty in determining why she receives as much abuse to-day from one section of the public as she formerly received applause; whether she has brought this entirely upon herself, or whether some of it may be referred to circumstances beyond her control.

One of the favourite lines of criticism recently brought into fashion is a comparison between China and Japan. The contrast between the two countries has always been sufficiently marked to attract attention, but until a very short time ago the advantage was pronounced to be wholly on Japan's side. People were wont to applaud her quick appreciation of the benefits of Western civilization; her readiness to sacrifice all the heir-looms of tradition and prejudice at the shrine of progress; her admirable power of adapting herself to changes which elsewhere had required a century to mature. Against this they used to set China's dogged adherence to the grooves in which the feet of her people had travelled for a hundred generations; her blind refusal to see good in anything outside the Middle Kingdom; her ineffably supercilious assumption of superiority to all the world, and her intolerant exclusiveness. So unanimous was public opinion on these points and so out-spoken was its applause of Japan, that thinking men professed to see peril for the latter in an over-dose of

popularity. They fancied she might lose her head a little, and they were probably right. Had she not been taught to despise her neighbour, the two might be on better terms to-day. But the danger no longer exists. By an easy process of verbal legerdemain the aspect of the comparison is completely changed. Japan's appreciative assimilation of European nourishment has become a mere love of change for change's sake; her liberality is said to be superficial; her versatility, pure fickleness.

For China's moods, on the contrary, gentler epithets are discovered. Her bigoted conservatism is constancy of the highest type; her contempt for everything not Chinese is traditional self-respect; her insolent isolation is dignified contentment. She will not leap before she has looked. Her course will be marked by no rash essays and consequent back-slidings. Like the tortoise in the fable, her slow persistence may ultimately carry off the prize from the fitful celerity of her rival.

This, in effect, is what a writer in *Nature* told us the other day. Why he should have chosen an eminently scientific journal for the ventilation of his views, we are not in a position to explain. Accuracy is a distinguishing feature of science, properly so called. Inaccuracy is a distinguishing feature of the writer in question. Early in his essay the critic says:—"China remains pretty much what she always was. She is now, with some exceptions, what she was twenty, two hundred, perhaps two thousand, years ago." A little farther on he says:—"China dislikes change, and will only adopt it when it is clearly demonstrated that it is absolutely necessary." Advancing yet a little, he adds:—"When China once makes a step forward it is generally after much deliberation and is never retraced." Perhaps the author of these opinions had not room to set forth his data for them. But it is a pity that he was circumscribed. We should have been interested to discover the grounds for his assertion that a country which "remains pretty much what it always was"—a country which "is now what it was twenty, two hundred, perhaps two thousand years ago"—nevertheless "adopts change" when its absolute necessity is clearly demonstrated. If this is a hypothesis, it is a bold one; if it is an inference, it is curiously inconsequential. But let us follow our author again. "Japan," he tells us, "is constantly undertaking new schemes with little care or thought for the morrow, but with the applause of injudicious foreign friends. In a short time she discovers that she has underrated the expenses or ex-

aggerated the results and her projects are straightway abandoned as rapidly and thoughtlessly as they were commenced. SWIFT suggested, as a suitable subject for a philosophical writer, a history of human projects which were never carried out; the historian of modern Japan might find these at every turn. Where, for example, are the results of the great surveys, trigonometrical and others, which were commenced in Yezo and the main island about ten years ago? A large, expensive, but highly competent foreign staff was engaged, and worked for a few years; but suddenly the whole Survey Department was swept away, and the valuable instruments are, or were recently, lying rusting in a warehouse in Tokiyo. The same story may be told of scores of other scientific or educational undertakings in Japan." Here again regret is the dominant sentiment which survives the perusal of these lines; regret that their author did not continue his description, and give us some particulars of the "score of other scientific and educational undertakings" which were so flippantly inaugurated and incontinently abandoned. We cannot conscientiously say that his typical case is a good one. Its fault is that it lacks foundation. It depends chiefly upon a false assumption, that "the whole Survey Department was suddenly swept away." The Survey Department was not swept away. It exists to-day, and is doing very excellent trigonometrical work. The editor of *Nature* may further be interested to learn that a geological survey, under the able management of two German scientists, is also progressing rapidly. He may be surprised to hear, too, that "a large, expensive, but highly competent foreign staff" was never engaged for the purpose he mentions. A very small staff was engaged, its principal, and only highly paid, member being a gentleman who had come out to Japan in the Lighthouse Department and been removed from it at his own request. How much, then, of the typical case remains? One item only—that foreign assistance was dispensed with. And even that is not quite true. So far as the Japanese were concerned, nothing was contemplated but a change of staff; and that project, instigated by a dishonest foreigner was aborted through a foreigner's bad faith. Thus we do not find ourselves arriving at a much clearer perception of the "scores of other scientific and educational undertakings" referred to by the writer in *Nature*. But we do find ourselves beginning to speculate about the writer himself. Japan's harshest critics are those whose advice she has declined to follow. The materials for a thousand mira-

culous achievements have been offered to her by nomadic enthusiasts, and at first she put some faith in their suggestions. But with experience she has acquired caution, and each fresh exhibition of the latter quality procures her another enemy in the man whose hopes it destroys. Her chances of restoring order in her finances disappear at once from the vista of the gentleman whose scheme of currency redemption she is foolish enough to reject; her commercial prospects have not a ray of light for the mentor at whose exhortation she fails to throw open her coast-wise trade to all the world; her political institutions and all things connected with her polity, are depraved and pitiable in the judgment of the charlatan whom she hesitates to appoint her parliamentary adviser; the travelling agent of a menagerie undertakes to prove every Japanese blacker than a Hot-tentot because an acrobatic speculation which was to make a dozen fortunes "wouldn't wash" here, and the foreign employé who leaves the country "in spite of the Government's consuming anxiety to retain his services" pens essays about, it may be, Japanese fickleness and Chinese constancy. Of course we do not propose to assign the writer in *Nature* to any of these categories. But, speaking frankly, he lays himself open to suspicion. He must have been goaded by some chagrin when he set himself to build a fabric of bias on a cloud of inaccuracies, and to base a score of general deductions on a single misconception.

There is, however, another and a more subtle method of drawing comparisons between Japan and China, to the latter's advantage. The commercial morality of the Chinaman is said to be of a much higher order than that of the Japanese. The latest exponent of this theory is a peripatetic lecturer in the United States, whose testimony is especially valuable because it is free from the bias of experience. Had he ever traded in silk in Yokohama, his own misfortunes might have blinded him; had he ever trafficked in tea at Canton, some particularly trustworthy Celestial might have inspired his verdict. But his mind is virgin. He never transacted business in either country, and is consequently fully qualified to pass judgment on the commercial moralities of both. We remember once to have heard the chief partner in the largest commercial house in the East—a man whose twenty years of Oriental experience had been pretty evenly divided between China and Japan—deliver himself of an unqualified opinion that the Japanese merchant is infinitely more worthy

of trust than the Chinese. But that was an old-fashioned variety of trader. The proper person to go to for ideas on such subjects is the clerk who has spent from three to five years in Japan and who has never been to China at all. Next to the peripatetic lecturer, his is the least impeachable evidence. He will tell you that there is not an honest man in Japan, except his own servant, and that is conclusive. To be sure, his friend next door will tell you the same story, and you may be a little perplexed to determine which of the two is maligning the other's domestic, but you cannot venture to ignore the consensus their statements otherwise exhibit. As to the universal knavery of the Japanese race, there need be no question with such evidence before us. Now this, too, is a comparatively modern phase of opinion. Being merely an opinion, however, to discuss it were idle.

Opinion's but a fool that makes us scan
The outward habits by the inward man.

More interest and profit may be derived by considering the phase of opinion that preceded it, and enquiring when and how the change commenced. The old annals of Dutch and Portuguese intercourse with Japan relate that the captain of THUNBERG'S ship was in the habit of going ashore in breeches so large and so tightly packed with articles of contraband that he required the support of two sailors to enable him to walk. Being discovered, he had to reduce the size of his trousers and submit to the indignity of having his legs felt when he landed to visit the factory. Another honest Dutchman was betrayed by an indiscreet parrot talking in his pocket, and another was found with dollars sewn up in his drawers. Commenting on these things, LAURENCE OLIPHANT says:—"Thus has commercial dishonesty and political subserviency worked to the prejudice of the foreigner in the mind of the Japanese, whose confidence in us can only be restored by the adherence of the merchant to a high code of mercantile morality, and by the maintenance, on the part of those who represent our country, of its national dignity." Twenty-five years ago, then, there was question of re-establishing European reputation in Japanese eyes. To-day the text of our sermon is quite different. It is they who have to win our confidence and remove unpleasant impressions of chicanery and unfriendliness. It is proper, however, to observe that even in OLIPHANT'S time opinions were not unanimous on this point. Commodore PERRY, who started on his treaty-making mission, congratulating himself that "fortunately the Japanese and many other islands of the

Pacific were still left untouched by the unconscionable Government of Great Britain," and that there was, consequently, an opportunity for the exemplary Government of the United States to lay hands on something, concluded, by the time he reached Riukiu, that the Japanese were "vindictive, cruel, and unnatural rulers" and that to take the Riukiuan under American protection was "a duty." He therefore set himself to "adopt every possible means of conciliating and bringing into some degree of social intercourse the authorities and people of the islands," and six weeks later he was able to report "considerable progress," though at the same time he concluded that the Riukiuan were "almost identical in appearance, language, religion, customs and last of all, *in consummate deceit*, with the Japanese." It thus appears that Commodore PERRY went to Japan with a mind quite decided as to what he should find. In point of practical prejudice he was superior even to the three years' clerk or the peripatetic lecturer. Being, however, a versatile man, he resolved "to practice upon the Japanese a little of their own diplomacy." "I was well aware," he says, "that the more exclusive I should make myself, and the more exacting I might be, the more respect these people of forms and ceremonies would be disposed to award me." In pursuance of this scheme he "made up his mind to confer personally with no one but a functionary of the highest rank in the empire," and appointed two commanders and a lieutenant to receive everybody else. Bearing this in mind, observe the Commodore's first experience of Japanese "consummate deceit." From Uraga there came to the flag-ship an official announcing himself as the "vice-governor" of the place. He said he was the proper person to visit the ship, and on being "peremptorily refused admission," suggested, as an alternative, "that he might be allowed to confer with an officer of rank corresponding with his own." "To this," writes the Commodore, "I consented, *after some intentional delay*, and my aid, *Lieutenant Contee*, was appointed to receive him. "The Commodore, it will be seen, was progressing satisfactorily. Making intentional delays, and declaring an American naval lieutenant of equal rank with a Japanese vice-governor. He was paying this "consummately deceitful people" in their own coin. The next morning, however, the Governor himself came on board, and now the Commodore's judgment received final confirmation. The appearance of the Governor "gave the

lie to the vice-governor, who had declared himself of the highest authority in the city." What revolting duplicity! A man declaring himself of the highest authority and yet saying he is only *vice-governor*. And this to an American Commodore, who was at the same time declaring himself of the rank of the highest functionary in Japan. It was a game of bluff in which the Japanese played with cards on the table and were naturally worsted.

Some day or other the exquisite humour of Commodore PERRY'S proceedings and conclusions will be appreciated at their real worth. We doubt whether his method of "gaining important points" has ever been surpassed in simple efficiency. We find him sending armed boats to disperse Japanese sight-seers, who on being menaced with muskets and cutlasses, disappear, leaving the Commodore to congratulate himself on having gained "the first important point." Next we find him sending armed boats to survey a Japanese harbour, and on being informed that the Japanese laws do not allow such examinations, he replies that "the American laws command them;" and that Americans "are as much bound to obey American laws as Japanese to obey Japanese." So the survey proceeds, and the Commodore again congratulates himself on having "gained a second and most important point." We have not space, however, to follow him through a series of "points" purposely opposed to "the rules of ordinary diplomacy which could not have the least effect upon these sagacious and deceitful people." There is much to study in the character of an official who at one moment urges his Government to "extend its vivifying influence and protection over Japan's royal dependency, Riukiu," and the next, reports, as "a source of gratification" to that Government, that "the U.S. steamers are the only ones in these seas provided even with a limited supply of coal." It would be a pleasant study to catalogue these vagaries, but our present business is confined to the moral obliquity of the Japanese. One more instance, then, of the Commodore's metaphysical analyses must suffice. Revisiting Japan, and having duly "out-Heroded Herod in assumed personal consequence and ostentation," he learns that the EMPEROR has by special decree appointed Uraga as the place of conference, and that a large council-house has been erected there. But Uraga does not suit the Commodore. He means to have his own way even to choosing in what part of Japan the Japanese shall receive him. The Japanese, unaccustomed, perhaps, to visitors who dictate to their

host the room of his house in which he shall give them audience, held out for ten days against a change of programme. They were instructed by the EMPEROR "to receive the Admiral with the highest honor and treat him hospitably" but the Imperial orders were—Uraga. The Commodore, however, was obdurate. He had determined, he wrote, "to establish for himself a character for *unreasonable obstinacy*" (the italics are ours) "rather than that of a yielding disposition." At last the Japanese gave in. They would make fresh preparations at Treaty Point, if the Commodore pleased. Then the triumphant Commodore became metaphysical. "Now let us look," he cried, "into the *deceitful* conduct of these people. For the last ten days they have interposed all possible objections to the movements of the ships higher up the bay, and endeavoured, by every means, to persuade me to return to Uraga; and when they found that I could not be *deceived* by their *cajolery*, and had actually approached within eight miles of the capital, they suddenly abandoned the position from which they had so often assured me that they could not be moved, and proposed unconditionally to concede what I had with *equal but more successful pertinacity* contended for." The *naïveté* of this is charming. The Japanese, in deference to the Commodore's pertinacity, obtained a modification of their EMPEROR'S orders, and immediately stood convicted of deceitful cajolery because they had not violated those orders at once. In their eyes, the Commodore's objections must have seemed simply capricious. "It is probable," he says himself, "that arrogance may be charged against me for persisting as I did, and against the judgment of all about me, in changing the place of conference, and thus compelling four Princes of the Empire to follow the squadron, and subjecting the Government to the trouble and expense of erecting another building; but I was simply adhering to a course of policy determined on after mature reflection." In other words, he was simply seeking to establish a character for "unreasonable obstinacy," and because the Japanese did not immediately fall in with his scheme, he is filled with indignation against the "deceitful conduct of these people." There are a great many entertaining studies to be made of Western and Japanese behaviour in those early days; but it is pretty evident that if Commodore PERRY'S verdict as to Japanese integrity represents the phase of public opinion which preceded the more exhaustive analysis of Mr. LAURENCE O'LEPHANT, that phase must be pronounced whimsical and illogical in the extreme.

Putting aside Commodore PERRY, however, and others whose judgments are warped by prejudice, disappointment, or a desire to earn the credit of being more sharp-sighted than their neighbours, there still remains a mass of testimony which cannot be gainsaid or disregarded. The experience of foreign merchants in Japan is almost unanimously opposed to any general confidence in Japanese commercial probity. Things may be better or worse in China, but that is a point of little moment. To possess a *comparatively* good record is not a very worthy ambition. Japan's record is bad, and what we are interested in finding out is, not whether worse records exist, but whether hers is to be regarded as an evidence of generally depraved national morality, or to be attributed to exceptional causes which do not affect the bulk of the people. We believe, ourselves, that the latter is the case, and we shall endeavour briefly to explain the grounds of our faith.

Apologists for this want of strict morality generally take one of two lines: they maintain either that foreigners themselves are no better than those they criticize, or that the class of Japanese frequenting the treaty ports is not representative. Now, it would be idle to deny that Western commercial morality is a very anomalous compound. In the management of commissions and the processes of adulteration there is much that will not endure a moment's scrutiny. The "custom of the trade" too often refuses to be reconciled with any acknowledged principle of integrity. For information upon these points and scathing denunciations of English lapses from English codes, it is only necessary to consult the writings of our greatest ethical philosophers. But by a curious, though not incomprehensible, elasticity of conscience, men who do not scruple to sell cotton stuffs weighted with clays or to appropriate discounts to the whole of which they have no just title, will nevertheless be guided by the most rigid rules of probity in all transactions that come entirely within the scope of their personal control. The individual is strictly honest, though the system of which he is an agent sometimes compels him to be a participator in dissimulation. If the history of countries having protective tariffs could be written with perfect accuracy, it would reveal a state of affairs little creditable to the public conscience. The upshot of the matter is that circumstances have not yet adapted themselves to the standards which men individually recognise; and men, being still the creatures of circumstances, are

collectively compelled to live below those standards. But in Japan the personal standard seems to be no loftier than that prescribed by circumstances. The Japanese trader, in his dealings with foreigners, appears to be guided wholly by opportunity. He acknowledges neither the value of practical consequences nor the restraints of abstract morality.

Here, if anywhere, the apology has force that the Japanese trader as we know him, is the very worst of his class: that circumstances, the result partly of foreign intolerance, partly of native prejudice, have allowed the commerce at the treaty ports to be monopolized by men unfitted both socially and morally for such a position.

The time has gone by when this excuse possessed any sterling value. Japan's foreign commerce has assumed dimensions and developed attractions which preclude the possibility of its monopoly by the rank and file of her merchants. The majority is doubtless formed of men who originally possessed none of the higher qualities demanded by the position, but were enabled to occupy it owing to the deterrent effect its environment exercised upon others. But improbity does not of necessity accompany humble birth, and unless we can show that Japanese traders at the open ports are released from some of the moral restraints which are known to be elsewhere chiefly conducive, if not absolutely essential, to honest dealing, we shall gain little by pretexting obscurity of origin or social inequality.

However infinite may be the degrees of moral susceptibility in different peoples, it will readily be admitted that the efficiency of the moral instinct in individuals is mainly determined by the force of public opinion. There are men, let us hope, who would continue to be guided by noble principles though their lot were cast among savages incapable of appreciating any but the most vicious exercises of the human faculties. But to recognise the difficulty of such an achievement we need only ask ourselves how much admiration we should be disposed to accord it. Now a little reflection will show that public opinion is virtually powerless to guide or restrain the commercial conduct of Japanese towards foreigners. The general public does not attempt, and in fact is quite unable, to follow the course of the dealings which take place within the limits of the treaty ports. If a native trader violates his agreements with his foreign clients or otherwise deceives them, he does not lose caste with his own countrymen, for the obvious reason that a vast majority of the

latter know nothing about his goings on; while of those that do know, some few are content to think that he only acted in self-defence, and the rest are ready to credit any explanation which shifts the blame to foreign shoulders. If he be cited before the Saibansho and cast in a suit, the details are left unnoticed by the vernacular press and those that learn them are glad to believe that the man has been more sinned against than sinning. Two creeds are almost universally prevalent among the Japanese. One is that he must need be more than commonly wide awake who engages in commercial transactions with foreigners; the other, that a successful appeal to Western law is not to be contemplated by Orientals. Neither of these fancies is extraordinary. The extensive training of the foreign merchant, the delicate and complicated mechanism of his transactions, his command of resources, his range of information, his very manner of living, all combine to inspire an exaggerated notion of his abilities. To this must be added an uneasy feeling that every advantage is fair in his eyes so long as the letter of the law is satisfied. It cannot be pretended that the mercantile transactions of foreigners in this country defy scrutiny. If an whole they have been honourable and above-board, there have, nevertheless, been cases which from a Japanese standpoint are quite indefensible. The writer has heard a Japanese argue thus:—"You tell me that Westerners are governed by a moral code which refuses to admit the influence of circumstance or occasion, and I am willing to go with you so far as to allow that the individual lapses which my countrymen are fond of instancing against yours do not invalidate your assertion. But I would ask you to consider what happened in the early days of our foreign intercourse. Your people came here and found that we had established between the values of gold and silver a ratio which enabled you to export the former at a large profit to yourselves and a corresponding loss to us, until we discovered and rectified the error. Now that, I say, was nothing more or less than taking advantage of our ignorance and inexperience. You may urge that it was all in the route of ordinary commerce, but by doing so you commit yourself to an admission that European commercial codes sanction everything to which buyer and seller mutually agree, no matter how ill either side fares in reality. That is, perhaps, the only practical definition, but it involves a great deal which you will not, I fancy, be willing to admit." Ideas of this sort prevail among the Japanese

and persuade them that, in dealing with foreigners, it does not do to be over-scrupulous. As for our administration of justice, however honest in intention, it appears to them such a maze of form and quibble, and so dependent upon adventitious issues, that the protection it affords is not worth the hazards it involves. In short, they think that when one of their countrymen enters the arena of foreign trade at an open port, he must fight with every possible weapon, and if he sometimes hits below the belt or otherwise violates the rules of the ring, they are ready, as we, too, in their places would be ready, to believe that the trespass was compelled by the stern laws of self-defence.

The further we carry our examination the more thoroughly will it be demonstrated that public opinion exercises no sort of restraint upon Japanese commercial dealings with foreigners. Did space permit us to go into special practices which indirectly promote this result, we might point to the fact that the names of the Japanese principally concerned in the silk and tea trades are never heard beyond the limits of the open ports, and that their interest in acquiring a reputation for skill or probity is consequently nil. But we have said enough to make it clear that all the conditions of the case are favorable to the practice of a loose morality, and that one of the most puissant tribunals to which men are elsewhere responsible for the fashion of their dealings is absolutely impotent. We cannot of course argue that, because under these circumstances duplicity flourishes, its growth is entirely attributable to their existence, but we may fairly admit some degree of connection between the two. Certainly we shall not be justified in assuming that, because improbity co-exists with exceptional conditions among a section of Japanese tradesmen, the whole nation is naturally deficient in the moral instinct.

If there be any truth in these remarks, it follows that the best hope of improvement lies in extended intercourse. When we shall have ceased to be a community apart, we shall also cease to be the objects of exceptional treatment.

NOTIFICATION NO. 26 OF THE COUNCIL OF STATE.

It is hereby notified that the opening of the Third National Industrial Exhibition originally fixed by Notification No. 83, dated December, of 1877, for 1885 is postponed till 1889.

SANJO SANETOSHI, Prime Minister.

SAIGO YORIMICHI, Minister for Agriculture and Commerce.

July 13th, 16th year of Meiji (1883).

CORRESPONDENCE.

[Our readers must distinctly understand that we are in no sense responsible for the sentiments or opinions of our correspondents, for the accuracy of their assertions, or for the deductions they may choose to draw therefrom.]

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—I think the public would thank you if you could supply information to the following queries. As the Tokio-Takahashi Railway has now been opened the question arises—will it be necessary for foreigners to obtain passports to travel on the line in its entire length or in part? And if so will it be necessary for nationals to apply to their Minister, to obtain a passport from whom occupies three days, or will the Kencho issue such documents? I think the public will avail themselves of the opportunities offered by this new railway if no great obstacles intervene, and I for one should be glad of any information you may be able to give on the subject.—Yours, &c.,

EXCURSION.

Yokohama, July 27th, 1883.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—One of the most reasonable of the several objections which foreigners usually make to the natural desire of Japan to have all residents on her soil under her jurisdiction is that, however good her laws may be, the proceedings of her Courts are not sufficiently public to inspire confidence. It is understood that some, at least, of the Courts are open, but it seems to be a fact that the public rarely, if ever, visit them. Various reasons for this may, no doubt, be suggested, but the fact that the proceedings are practically unwatched and unchecked by the public is all that now concerns us.

In England and America it is also rare to find great audiences in Court, except when some remarkable case is on trial. But publicity, the great security of every people that Justice is properly administered, is there secured by the custom of reporting all cases in the newspapers, and by the comments which the press is free to make on judicial proceedings and decisions. It would be idle to expect the vernacular newspapers here to render the public any similar service. Most of them are too much engaged in the manufacture of *canards*, or in the dissemination of petty gossip, to occupy themselves with any matter so serious as the administration of Justice. Besides, they not only fear to offend and to incur penalties by any comments, but they probably lack the means to obtain or to publish reports of Court proceedings.

In this way a species of news which is really more important to the public than any other news whatsoever, is withheld from general knowledge; the wholesome check of publicity is not applied to the Courts, and neither natives nor foreigners know how Justice is administered in Japan. As long as this state of thing prevails, it is idle to expect that foreigners, while they have any option in the matter, will entertain the idea of submitting themselves to Japanese jurisdiction.

I know of several important trials in recent times, which would have afforded valuable examples of the administration of the law in Japan, and some of which would have exhibited Japanese Justice in a very creditable light. But these cases remain practically unknown beyond the Courts and the parties.

The publication of the trial of the Fukushima conspirators (if they are so) is a new departure,

which suggests the question, why should not all Court proceedings be similarly reported?

It would probably not be a difficult matter for the Government to establish a Reporting Department, which should be wholly independent, and whose duty it would be to publish full and accurate reports of all judicial proceedings. A special journal devoted to the publication of such reports would probably ultimately cover its expenses, and that of the corps of reporters, by its sale.

But whether it did so or not, and however great might be the difficulty of obtaining good and true reports, the undertaking should be attempted for the sake of its results. For it would tend to familiarize the public with judicial proceedings and with the new code of laws, while it would give to the world such light on Japanese habits and character, and on the conceptions of Justice in this country, that the question of exteriority might be solved in one way or the other.

I am, Sir, Your obedient servant,
July 28th, 1883.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—I have read the communication that appeared in the *Daily Mail* of Saturday last, and am surprised that any one could be found despicable enough to pen for publication such a scurrilous assault, and I must express my indignation that ladies and gentlemen of this community can be thus viciously assailed in the columns of a journal supposed to be respectable. The object of your correspondent was doubtless to gain favor with his employers by this excess of zeal, but he assuredly missed his mark, as the Government Officials were extremely courteous on the occasion referred to, and must, I am certain, condemn this wanton attack on the Maharajah of Johore and his guests.

Enclosing my card, I am, your obedient Servant,
M.

[We regret that our correspondent should have thought it expedient to attribute such unworthy motives to a gentleman whom he does not know, and who is quite incapable of the action here attributed to him.—Ed. J.M.]

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—My letter published in the *Mail* of Saturday last seems to have been strangely misconstrued. Because I called attention to the fact that there were persons present whose clothes stood in need of the laundress's services, your correspondent "M." immediately puts the cap (which in this case does not fit) on the heads of the ladies and gentlemen from Yokohama who were at the ceremony. Such an interpretation of my remarks is absurd on the face of it; but still I would ask space to disclaim having made any comments whatever on the ladies' dresses, except that they were not of the colour usually worn at funerals; while as to the unclean garments, the three or four men who made themselves conspicuous by wearing them, were, I now understand, not of the Maharajah's party, though they were at one time difficult to distinguish from it. I should be the last person to wish to wound the feelings of any one; and, since at the melancholy (in all senses) occasion referred to, there was some want of good taste, due I believe to an unfortunate mistake, I would suggest that it is unwise to make a more than "nine day's wonder" of an affair which had much better be consigned to oblivion.

I am, Sir, yours, &c.,
Tôkiyô, August 1st, 1883.

EMPLOYEE.

SPECIAL COURT, TOKIO.

SATURDAY, JULY 18TH, 1883.

Before Mr. Justice TAMANO, and Messrs. HAYASHI, KAWADA, and NAGAOKA, Assessors.

THE PROSECUTION OF THE FUKUSHIMA SUSPECTS.

The continuation of Kono's speech is as follows:—The danger to my life was a murder plotted by the instigation of a certain man, whose name I will not mention here. I was informed of the plot by my friends; but I did not take any notice of it. Later on, the rumor got abroad, and even children talked about it. Naturally, I felt myself in peril and refrained from visiting the houses of my friends. When the covenant was drafted, affairs assumed a very critical condition: our party (Liberals) were on the verge of ruin and had no hope of resuscitation. Accordingly, a few of our friends decided to form a Radical party. I happened to attend their meeting and interrupted their plan, saying that no good would accrue from such a combination. I suggested that it would be to their advantage to draw up a kind of covenant whereby to bind together men having the same political opinions and thus to save the trouble of obtaining the sanction of the police authorities. If we formed a radical party publicly, we must have had very hard times of it. Our leaders would have been arrested and imprisoned one after another, or we should have been assaulted by the Monarchical Party. The loss of able men would produce the same effect upon our association as the loss of its wings would have on a bird. I told my confederates that it would be judicious to avoid the threatened danger and confine ourselves to promoting the good of the whole nation instead of occupying ourselves with trifling matters. They all approved my suggestion and retired from the meeting. (Here the prisoner remarked that he caused the covenant to be drawn up in order to avoid the danger impending over himself; and that his conscience tormented him for persuading his comrades to give up forming a political combination, under the pretence of securing their safety.) The gravest of the causes that led to the hostility between us and the local Government was the trouble between the Prefect and Local Assembly. At one time, I was the president of the Assembly. Whilst staying in Tokyo, I was recalled to the prefecture by a telegram from the Governor. On returning, I found that a great change had taken place in the Assembly. My former colleagues had nearly all resigned, and the rules of the House had undergone considerable change. All these events occurred since the nomination of the present Governor, Mr. Mishima. By the time I returned, the new Assembly Hall was completed, and I was ordered to be present at the opening ceremony. In the evening when I went there, I found the prefect represented by a secretary who said that he (the prefect) was prevented from attending at the ceremony by important business. In course of conversation, some one whispered that Mishima was indulging in drinking and revelry at a certain restaurant. This news caused great indignation among those present. That he did not attend the opening ceremony, where both officially and socially he ought to have been, and was meanwhile carousing, was felt to be a proof that he held the Local Assembly in great contempt. This being the case, of course he did not do anything like inquiring into the condition of the people. On a certain occasion, when he submitted to the Assembly a proposal for repairs of roads at Wakamatsu, the majority voted against it. Popular indignation reached a high pitch and loud clamours were raised. Occupying, as I did, the chair of the Assembly, I did everything in my power to settle the dispute, and asked the members to postpone their decision for a short time. The reason of my so acting was that, as the prefect was visiting the hot springs some three *ri* from Fukushima, I desired to wait for his return and then to endeavour to persuade him to withdraw the proposal. But the members were all against him, and on learning that the Governor was away, were filled with intense indignation and disgust. They unanimously insisted that their responsibility, as members of

the Assembly, was to promote the interest of the people who elected them, and that they could not waste their time in an idle fashion. Thus, I could do nothing to being about a reconciliation. The members decided upon rejecting the proposal. This and other things rendered our relations with the Governor exceedingly bitter. He treated the people as though they were slaves: in fact he was worse than the cruellest functionaries of the Tokugawa Government. The people complained to him; but he did not listen to them. He increased their burdens by repairing and constructing roads at Wakamatsu which work he commenced without the sanction of, and indeed in spite of its rejection by, the Assembly—arbitrary conduct which kindled the indignation of all true men. He did not hesitate to dismiss any officers for the least plausible pretext, for instance, if they read the *Choya Shimbun* and *Kinji Hyoron*; and once because the person concerned presented a petition to the Government for the establishment of a National Assembly. It may be mentioned also that one day a man suddenly came to the district office at Nihomatsu and said to the clerk that he was appointed chief district officer of Nihomatsu and introduced himself to the other officers. The clerk thought that the man was crazy and ordered him to quit the office as soon as possible. He instantly produced the certificate of his appointment as chief district officer, and rebuking the clerk for his impertinence, called his attention to the contents of the document. The clerk found that it was genuine and begged his pardon. This is how Mishima acted for the advancement of his own selfish purpose. Imagine appointing a new officer while the original occupant was still holding the place! I cannot but express surprise. So many times did the Governor travel beyond his power, and transgress the rules in utter disregard of the Assembly and in defiance of the members, that I cannot enumerate them all. In the ordinary sessions, he submitted many intolerable proposals, and sent officers of the 15th or 16th class to preside at the meetings. They could not give any satisfactory answers to the questions we put, and excused themselves by saying that they had lately come from Satsuma, and therefore were ignorant of local affairs. If Mishima had been possessed of any sense of his duty, he would have personally attended the meeting and studied the wishes of the people. How could the administration run smoothly under such conditions? Indeed, the Local Assembly had to encounter many hardships. At one time, the prefect sold the site of the old Assembly without the sanction of that body. At another, he disposed of 1st class Government forest-land at ridiculously low prices, and advanced Government money to his friends or started a bank under the auspices of the local authorities. Again, he deprived a printing office of the work which the local Government had entrusted to it for many years past and transferred it to another. The former establishment was of course ruined. These things were all done to gratify some selfish object. Nothing can be truer than the maxim that says, "what the superior likes the inferior adores." The police insulted the people in every imaginable manner. They suppressed freedom of speech and arrested the lecturers without cause. The whole province was in a state of wild excitement; the discord between the governing and governed classes was grievous. During the suspension of the Assembly, the officers exerted themselves to form the monarchical party and extirpating the Liberals. In these circumstances, the business of the Assembly was greatly obstructed; and while the struggle was going on, the season for silkworm breeding arrived to the great embarrassment of the members of the Assembly. As the whole province depends upon its silk industry, the Assemblymen were bound to attend to it. Finally, we appealed to the *Sanji-in* for its decision. I incurred the hatred of the prefect and was threatened with assassination. I was informed of the plot by a district officer with whom I am intimately acquainted. I was on the alert, because, though to die for the sake of our principles was nothing to me; yet to fall by the hand of cowardly assassins was not desirable. All these circumstances caused me to draw up the covenant. In fact, it was partly designed for promoting the good of the nation, partly to put an end to the exercise of arbitrary power by the prefect, and partly to

protect my own body against danger. (The prisoner remarked that the preparation of the covenant for the protection of his own person was cowardly and he was ashamed of it. He said that he had left a mother aged above seventy, and two sons aged respectively nine and six, at home. They had no one to look after them but himself. He had lost much of his energy since he was imprisoned. He amused himself by reading the New Testament in his cell. The Judge listened to this speech with evident interest, and from time to time encouraged the prisoner to go on with his statement). In attempting to reach a golden age, we are destined to encounter many difficulties and dangers. The peoples of Asia are wrapped in ignorance, and have not seen the light of freedom. It is by no means an easy task to implant occidental civilization in this dormant continent. To transplant it bodily, we must copy all its institutions. But we do not care for improvement merely in one province or district; for the improvement of a small place is best derived from a larger sphere.

The first article of the Covenant was based upon this conviction. Some years ago, I delivered a lengthy lecture on the subject in a certain place. I have a report of it printed in book form. In this book, profuse use is made of the words "overthrow the government." This is offensive language, but in case of necessity we must carry out the meaning of the words convey. Our aim is to effect improvement in the community; therefore, we must endeavor to remove all the obstacles. Orientals talk about right, but do not carry it out practically. Our learned men are not free from blame. We embodied our principle in the first article of our covenant and pledged ourselves to carry it out practically. We hoped to hold communication with the political parties of Europe and America and participate with them in attacking the policy of the Russian Government towards its people and that of England in India. We are bound to awaken the drowsiness prevailing in Japan, Korea, and China, and establish a solid foundation for liberalism that men may enjoy their own rights to the fullest extent. This is our main object, and whether we overthrow the government or no does not concern us in the least. We must overthrow it in case of great necessity, but we do not mean to do so to-day. As regards the second article, we were obliged to suppress the words "we will sacrifice our lives and property." The third article requires no explanation. The fourth article, saying that we will not dissolve our confederation, etc., is a matter of course. Men who are not idiots, are not going to say that they will dissolve their combinations before their object is accomplished. The fifth article maintains that, in case we reveal the secret of our league we will commit self-despatch. Originally, we wrote that those who reveal the secrets of our party should be cut down; but as this expression was against the very principle of Liberalism, we changed it. This same article leaves a doubt in the mind of the public. In struggling with our opponents, we are required to observe privacy. If any one of our party should give information to our enemies about our scheme, our efforts would be frustrated. To prevent this mishap and punish traitors, we inserted that clause. It is not against the law. As I have already stated, there was an element of cowardice in the covenant that troubled my conscience. Consequently, I decided upon cancelling it, and mentioned my wish to my confederates when I visited Tamano. I think I have said enough to show that I had no nefarious design. If we had really intended to overthrow the Government, we should not foolishly have written the covenant, thus furnishing evidence of our criminality, but should have contrived our plot with great caution. Even though we had written it after maturing our plan, we should not have found any difficulty in tearing it to pieces at the time of our arrest; nor should we have delayed cancelling it when the idea first occurred to our mind. But the reason why we delayed annulling it, and busied ourselves about the construction of roads, etc., was that the convention was not criminal at all. When all these facts are taken into consideration, you can judge my intention. Since the Restoration up to the present, I have zealously participated in national affairs; and consequently wasted my resources, and subjected my family to privation. Notwithstanding, I have not regarded hardship but have worked diligently. I

was threatened with assassination, and imprisoned by the police. Trouble is of no avail to change my mind. Heaven and earth are witnesses of my motives! Although I must not claim any public sympathy, yet my memory will survive in history and be illumined in future ages.

MONDAY, JULY 23RD, 1883.

The examination of prisoner No. 4 (Kono), was then resumed:—

Judge Tomano—You gave, the day before yesterday, as causes of the covenant being made, the trouble between the Local Assembly and the Prefect, and danger to your life. But I cannot understand what effect these had upon the real issue of the affair. Tell me plainly.

Prisoner—I believe that I explained sufficiently the day before yesterday. But I will explain again. The whole province of Fukushima was in a state of ferment, and popular feeling was turned upside down. Poor defaulters were compelled to sell their property to allow of with the construction of roads. Our opponents assaulted us bodily; and owing to several other difficulties, matters grew into that condition.

Q.—What do you mean by "that condition." A.—I mean the difficulties I mentioned just now.

Q.—What you state now is different from your statement of the day before yesterday. I understood you to say that such is the cause of such an affair; and such the effect, and so forth. But you now mix cause with effect. I am at a loss to comprehend the facts. Speak plainly. A.—This affair was originally due to the difficulty that occurred between the Prefect and the Local Assembly.

Q.—Your statement is altogether confused. Your speech of the day before yesterday was long, and there were many points which I could not digest. As there is danger of injury being done to your side through your want of clearness, you had better fully consider and tell me exactly what you mean. A.—I believe there is nothing contradictory in my speech.

Q.—Well, then, let me know what your statement means that you are not criminal in law but you are morally criminal. A.—Because, I persuaded my friends to give up forming a Radical party and to subscribe to the covenant instead. I did not intend to carry it out practically at the time it was drawn up. I resorted to subterfuge to persuade my friends to give up their intention. For this reason, I considered myself morally criminal.

Q.—You are not morally criminal at all, because you have prevented others from forming a bad party. Your action is rather in accordance with moral principles. A.—Because I caused the covenant to be drawn up to avoid the danger impending over my own life.

Q.—Then do you mean that, when it was drawn up, you had no conception of the dormant condition of Asia and felt no regret for it? A.—Just so, when viewed from an extreme point of view.

Q.—I presume you mean to say that you have deceived Hanaka and others. But your explanation appears to me a little inconsistent with the facts. Hanaka and others are men of energy. Their manner and language show that they are very able men; and they do not appear likely to have been entrapped by you. What I mean is that your statement is characterized by inconsistency. I cannot regard your statement as a sufficient explanation of the facts. A.—I do not concern myself about it. What I mean is that, because I stopped the formation of a Radical party by resorting to subterfuge, I am morally criminal.

Q.—If so, why did you cause the covenant to be cancelled? If it is cancelled, a radical party will be formed again and do mischief. What can be the reason of this? A.—I cancelled it because I repented having resorted to subterfuge.

The report of this accused's third preliminary examination at the Special Court was then read.

It was as follows:—"I (Kono) think that there is not much inaccuracy in the statement I made at the Police Station and the Court of First Instance at Wakamatsu. In case there is any contradiction between the statement I made at this Court, and that which I made in the Provincial Court, please cancel the latter. The words overthrow the government, etc., mean all the governments of the world, including that of Japan. It is not in accordance

with our aspiration to overthrow the Government of Japan alone." (The prisoner remarked that he confirmed the above statement).

The following report of his hearing was then read:—Question—You met, on the 1st of August, with four men. When did the other men sign the covenant? Answer—Two or three days after that date. Hiroshima signed one or two days later than Aizawa.

Q.—In whose presence did Aizawa sign the covenant with his blood? A.—In my presence.

Q.—In whose presence, did Hiroshima sign? A.—In my presence.

The prisoner confirmed the above report and his examination was brought to a conclusion.

The examination of prisoner No. 5, Aizawa, was next proceeded with.

The following report of his preliminary examination at the Wakamatsu Court was read:—

Question—Have you entered into the league with Kono, Hanaka, and others for the purpose of overthrowing the bureaucratic Government of Japan and spreading Liberalism, and signed a certain document with your blood, pledging yourself to the penalty of death? Answer—I never signed any such document.

Q.—What document then did you sign? A.—I signed a document advocating the propagation of Liberalism, but not the overthrow of the bureaucratic government.

Q.—What was the motive that induced you to sign the document? Tell me its contents. A.—I do not remember them exactly. I am willing to tell you all about it from the copy you have.

Q.—I cannot show you the copy. You had better write down what you remember. (Accused then wrote what he remembered and handed his manuscript to the judge. He demanded that the statements of his friends be read. His request was acceded to).

Q.—Which one of these statements most resembles your own? A.—Kono's declaration is most similar to mine. But I observe some discrepancies, so I will write from memory what I think is different. (Here he handed in his corrections to the Judge).

Q.—I observe but little difference—or rather I see a close resemblance—between his and your statements. A.—That is all I remember, but I am not sure of my accuracy.

Q.—In what place and on what date did you sign the covenant? A.—I signed it at Mumei Kan, in the beginning of August, 1882. Kono showed it to me, so I signed it. I found there the bloody signatures of Kono, Hanaka, Tamano, and Sawata.

In proof of the accuracy of the above, we hereto affix our signatures.

AIZAWA KENKEI, Accused.

YUKISHITA TSUNEJIRO, Clerk.

HASEGAWA YASUTOSHI, Judge.

The prisoner gave similar evidence to that of his fellow prisoners, insisting that their only object was to spread Liberalism in Asia and that the words "overthrow the government" were cancelled. He retracted his former declarations on the ground that the lower Court had extorted them from him. He said that his political antagonists, named the Mishima party (so called after the name of the Governor of the prefecture), plotted to assassinate the Liberals. In proof of his assertion, he said that on one occasion Tamano was wounded by their foes. These dangers induced his friends to draw up the covenant, which was afterwards cancelled according to the suggestion of Kono, who had caused the covenant to be drawn up in order to test the fidelity of his friends but ultimately felt ashamed of having resorted to subterfuge.

Judge Tamano—Do you mean that, though the covenant is cancelled, yet you still maintain your resolution, or that both have been annulled?

Prisoner—Nothing of the sort. We cancelled it because it is drawn up according to the false ideas of Kono.

Q.—I was not aware of the fact that you were deceived by Kono. Did the covenant in question coincide with your own idea? A.—At first, I was unaware that I was entrapped by Kono. When he confessed it to me, I still doubted. But as he himself confessed the fact, I agreed to his suggestion to cancel the covenant. And, of course, my idea coincided with his.

Q.—Have you anything more to say? A.—No.

TUESDAY, 24TH JULY, 1883.

The Court opened at 8.30 a.m., when prisoner, No. 1, Hanaka, begged His Honor to be allowed to speak again. Judge Tamano told him to wait until after the examination of the last prisoner, No. 6, Sawata.

Sawata was arrested this year and was not subjected to any examination at the court at Fukushima. The report of his preliminary examination by the Special Court was read. It was as follows:—

Question.—Did you sign a covenant with Kono and others with your blood at Mumei Kan in July or August of 1882? Answer.—Yes, I signed it on the 30th of August.

Q.—What did it contain? A.—In our conversation, we used to speak about our doctrines and that man's mind is apt to change. On the 30th of August, when we were conversing together as usual, the conversation turned upon political topics and we then remarked that man's mind is subject to caprice through avarice or personal volition, and that, therefore, it was necessary for us to pledge ourselves to uphold the principle to which we had vowed allegiance—namely Liberalism. Thus, I pledged myself to the covenant. The first article said that we should improve the bureaucratic government which is the enemy of Liberalism and establish a liberal constitution; the second that we would sacrifice our lives and property to attain our end if necessary, abandon the ties of gratitude and love, and not suffer ourselves to be deterred by any reflection from the execution of our project; the third article was that we should not dissolve our combination till our object was accomplished, whatever dire difficulties we met with and however many years elapsed; the fourth article that we should act in union irrespective of the opinion of others; and the fifth that we will should put to death those who revealed the secret of our party. I think this took place on the 30th of August. I know nothing more.

Q.—Where did this take place? A.—Where the office of the *Fukushima Jiyu Shimbun* stands.

Q.—Is that the place called Mumei Kan? A.—Yes.

Q.—Did you sign the covenant with your blood? A.—Yes, I signed with my blood that I would not repudiate my allegiance, however dire the difficulties I might encounter.

Q.—Was it in the evening or the day time that you signed? A.—It was about 7 p.m.

Q.—Who were present on that occasion? A.—It was an exceedingly busy day with me, so I do not exactly remember all who were present; but I am sure that Tamano, Hanaka, and Kono were there.

We have conducted the above inquiry in accordance with Article 378 of the Code of Criminal Procedure at the Special Court.

S. TAMANO, Judge.
M. TAKEBATA, Clerk.
R. ARARI, CLERK.

The prisoner, after replying that there was no inaccuracy in the record of his statement, proceeded to say that, since the illustrious Sovereign promised that a National Assembly should be founded in 1890, it was but the duty of every unit among his subjects to make due preparation for it and that the covenant was drawn up in order to spread Liberalism over all the continent of Asia. He alluded to the trouble between the Governor Mishima and the local assembly and the hostility between his party (Liberal) and their opponents (Monarchical or Mishima Party) who assaulted bodily the Liberals. The following report of his preliminary examination was again read:—

Question.—Who penned the letters of the covenant? Answer.—I penned the characters but did not make the draft.

Q.—It appears to me that the covenant is different from an ordinary one, since it is signed in blood. A.—As regards that, I have nothing to say except what I know of it and under what impression I was when I wrote it.

Q.—So long as there is any inconsistency in your declaration, I am bound to investigate further. Your statement is different from the others. I suppose, if you saw the original, you can speak exactly to the point. A.—Certainly, I saw it at Mumei Kan.

Q.—Kono deposed that he took the covenant from the drawer of the safe on two occasions only—

when Aizawa and Hiroshima signed it. Kono kept the key. How could you then see it? A.—I saw it when the door of the safe was left open.

Q.—Was there any other document with the covenant when you saw it? A.—Yes, there was.

Q.—Kono said that he left a document stating that he had changed the words "overthrow the government" to "improve the government?" A.—Yes, that was the document I saw.

Q.—When did that happen? A.—The 1st of September, just after the office of Mumei Kan was removed.

Q.—You are sure that you saw two documents. A.—Yes, I am sure.

Q.—Did you then observe the words "overthrow the government" changed to "improve the government?" A.—No.

Q.—But Kono said that he changed the words in question, so that he had two documents. If you have seen them, you must have seen the words "overthrow the government." A.—The first document Kono wrote was wrapped in paper. The document I saw when the safe was left open was that which Kono wrote afterwards.

Q.—What did the second document contain? A.—I do not know.

Q.—Do you mean that you only saw a piece of paper? A.—I mean that I have forgotten its contents.

Q.—What do you mean by saying that you forgot the contents, while I asked you if you had only seen a piece of paper? A.—The document which I signed might have contained the words, "overthrow the government." But after I had signed it, Kono changed it, and left it together with the corrected document.

Judge Tamano.—Is there no inaccuracy in the report just read?

Prisoner.—I will prove that the first article of the covenant did not contain the words "overthrow the Government." People may think it strange that, whilst five men testify to having seen the said words in the covenant I alone declare that they were not there. Our original intention was to improve an oppressive administration, so it was natural that we should "improve the Government." I am sorry that the original is not produced in the Court; otherwise I should have been able to prove which side is right. At the preliminary hearing I said that I saw a document accompanying the covenant. But now I am convinced that it was the memorandum written by Kono. When I saw it I was exceedingly busy, and only glanced over it but did not read it. Therefore I cannot tell exactly what it was.

Q.—If what Kono said is correct, then you must have made a mistake in writing the covenant? A.—I believe that the original did not contain the words "overthrow the government."

Judge Tamano then caused the report of the third preliminary trial to be read, which was to the effect that the covenant he originally wrote contained the words "improve" instead of "overthrow."

This prisoner's trial was here concluded.

THURSDAY, 26TH JULY, 1883.

Prisoner No. 1, Hanaka, in his defence, spoke at great length as to the hostility existing between Governor Mishima and the people of Fukushima. Hanaka's party came into collision with the Monarchical Party, the latter being organized by official inspiration. The police intrigued with the latter to exterminate the Liberals who were subjected to every sort of injustice and harsh treatment. The prisoner severely censured the selfish and arrogant conduct of Governor Mishima in terms calculated to kindle indignation in the heart of all true men. He attributed the cause of the covenant to the encroachments of the Mishima (or Monarchical) party.

The Public Prosecutor twice demanded that the audience should be dispersed, on the ground that the prisoner's speech was subversive of national tranquility, but each time his objection was overruled.

Prisoner No. 2, Hiroshima, referred at great length to the arbitrary conduct of Governor Mishima, and declared that he had entered into the league with a view to defend his own person against assassination plotted by the Monarchical Party.

Here again the Public Prosecutor interposed,

and demanded the dispersion of the audience on the same ground as before; but Judge and Assessors opposed the objection, and allowed the prisoner to proceed with his statement.

Prisoner No. 3, Tamano, corroborated the evidence given by the two former prisoners.

The Counsel for the defence then attacked the prosecution, pointing out that, as the case had an important bearing upon the abolition of exterritoriality, the Court would do well to conduct the case with the utmost candor and openness.

TUESDAY, 31ST JULY.

The Court opened at 8.30 a.m. and, in accordance with the request of Mr. Hoshi, Counsel for Hanaka, two witnesses, Sasaki and Kamada, who are at present imprisoned in the Kojibashi Jail were called. Judge Tamano commenced their examination by making the usual inquiry as to their age, profession, etc.

Mr. Horida, one of the public prosecutors, suggested to Judge Tamano that the reading of the statements given by each prisoner should be dispensed with as the Counsel had only to prove a few facts and as the prisoners should be excluded from the Court during the examination of the witnesses. Accordingly, the prisoners were ordered to retire from the Court in conformity with Article 345 of the Code of Criminal Procedure. During the trial of Kamada, the witness Sasaki was ordered out of Court.

Judge Tamano.—Tell me all the particulars about your having found the covenant and given it to Sasaki.

Prisoner.—On the 2nd of December last year, I returned from Wakamatsu to Fukushima, and on visiting the Mumei Kan, found the walls broken in many places presenting a most desolate aspect. I thought this very strange, and on entering the building, I was accosted by the wife of Sato Kiyo, who informed me that the night before a number of armed policemen had broken into the place and carried away Kono. I was surprised, and did not know what to do. Next morning, I proceeded to the residence of Sasaki Usaburo and borrowed a sum of money from him, which I gave to the woman to enable her to quit the place. After this I started for Wakamatsu, and when I reached, Kohama-mura, I met with an acquaintance of mine named Miwa. He told me that Hiroshima was staying at Nihonmatsu, whither I went at once to see him. He told me that there were a number of important documents in the Mumei Kan, but which, he said, were not in violation of the law. I found the documents in a safe. I took them out, and, leaving them on a table, went to the house of the owner of the building used by the Mumei Kan to get a refund of the rent which Kono paid in advance. The landlord refused to restore the money until the receipt he had given to Kono was restored to him. Returning home disappointed, to my great surprise, I found the documents scattered over the table and a piece of paper marked with the word "covenant." I concluded that this was the important document referred to by Kono, so I hid it under the mat. Early next morning, I took it out and sent it to Sasaki by a man called Higuchi. Sasaki put the paper in a bottle. This is all I know about the affair.

Q.—What words did the paper contain? A.—When I was examined at the police station, I pretended to be ignorant of the existence of the covenant. One day in January when the snow fell heavily, I was ordered to stand amid the snow and was beaten by the police with a heavy club. I remonstrated with them for this inhuman treatment. They told me to sign an oath with my thumb, and then I should not be beaten. I refused to sign. Then they beat me again, and I signed. They said that Tamura Kiyoun, a servant of the Mumei Kan, testified to having seen a covenant containing the words "overthrow the Government." I replied that I had lost it while going from place to place on business. Then they questioned me as to whether Kono had procured a supply of provisions and firearms and whether he had three hundred confederates ready to rise in arms against the Government. I said the idea was entirely without foundation. Again, I was put to harsh treatment—beating and no supply of food. Unable as I was to endure the pain, I confessed that the covenant was in possession of Sasaki. The

police immediately went to the residence of Sasaki and searched for it. But they could not find it. Accordingly, I was ordered to accompany them and assist them in searching it. This time, they engaged seven coolies and dug up every part of the garden of Sasaki's house. But they could not find the covenant.

Q.—Why did you not tell that you were subjected to harsh treatment on the occasion of the preliminary hearing? A.—Because there was no necessity for telling it.

Q.—How many copies of the covenant were there? A.—About twenty, and there was a document accompanying them.

This concluded the examination of Kamada.

Sasaki was next brought up.

Judge Tamano.—Have you received a copy of the covenant from Kamada? A.—I received it from Kamada and put it in a bottle which I buried under a willow tree. Later on, when certain rumors got abroad, I dug it up and, after cutting it into pieces, threw it into the river.

Q.—Do you remember to contents? A.—I do not remember them.

Q.—On what kind of paper was it written? A.—It was written on a paper commonly known as *iwaki*.

Q.—Was it only one or many sheets? A.—About twenty, and there was a document inserted between them.

Q.—What did the document in question contain? A.—I did not read it, so I have no idea of what it contained. But it was something like the correction of an original.

This concluded the examination of Sasaki.

The Counsel for the defence observed that, as the facts of the case had now been thoroughly gone into, they would, at the next sitting, enter upon the legal argument.

The Court rose at 11.30 a.m.

"FAREWELL TO SIR HARRY S. PARKES."

Under the above heading a public meeting has been convened. At first it was proposed to hold it in the Chamber of Commerce Rooms; later, in deference to the public convenience, the *venue* was changed to the Y. U. Club. Accordingly, on Monday afternoon the leading representatives of the commercial and social community met at four o'clock in the Club Dining-room to discuss what measures should be taken to offer a suitable valediction to the British Minister, who for more than eighteen years has represented his country at the Court of the Mikado, and now, on well deserved promotion, is about to leave Japan, to the great regret of all those who have known him. About fifty gentlemen in all were present.

On the proposal of Mr. WHITTALL, seconded by Mr. KIRKWOOD, Mr. A. J. Wilkin was unanimously voted to the Chair. At the request of Mr. Wilkin, Mr. Kirkwood consented to act as Secretary.

Before proceeding to the business of the meeting, the CHAIRMAN asked whether it was the wish of those present that the matter discussed should be reported in the public press.

Mr. J. H. BROOKE stated briefly that this was a "public meeting," convened by advertisement: that it would be peculiar in the circumstances to exclude reporters: that there could be no doubt that the public not present would expect to learn the results of whatever discussion might take place; and, finally, that the representatives of the press would, doubtless, furnish fair reports.—(Applause.)

Mr. WILKIN explained that the question had been mooted to him, and then proceeded to state the object of the meeting. He alluded in appropriate terms to the excellent qualities of Sir H. Parkes, to his eighteen years of service in this country, his intelligence and untiring zeal. Even when otherwise unrepresented, members of other nationalities found their interests safe in his hands; and those seated on the opposite side of the diplomatic Board to himself have had occasion to acknowledge his integrity and anxiety for their welfare. As for members of the commercial community, they had ever found in him readiness to listen to complaints, to endeavor to redress grievances, and to represent their interests. They were grieved that he was leaving before the adjustment

of the question of treaty revision. Concerning the object of the present gathering, it was a question how to arrange the manner, most congenially to Sir Harry Parkes himself, of bidding him farewell. He was leaving on promotion, but the sorrow of the community at his loss and that of his family circle would be none the less felt. The speaker recommended the appointment of a Committee, large enough to include all classes of the community and all nationalities, to decide and provide what form the public farewell should take, consulting the inclinations of the Minister, who is now in Hakodate, but is expected to return to Yokohama about the 12th of August, and to leave for his new post on the 22nd of the same month.

Mr. BROOKE asked whether there was any list of the gentlemen present at the preliminary meeting, and the Committee of management then appointed. It would save trouble if what had already been arrived at were now announced.

Mr. WILKIN remarked that he might, briefly, state that about thirty persons had been present at the preliminary meeting, and that the general sentiment was in favour of a garden party. Sir H. Parkes had deprecated any expensive entertainment being provided in his honor. He particularly desired that it should not take the form of a banquet, which had been proposed by some. The question of subscriptions was discussed; and some were in favor of the presentation of a testimonial as well as giving an entertainment.

Mr. BROOKE asked for the names of the gentlemen who had been acting as a Committee until this time, and was informed that they were seven in number, namely, the Chairman himself (Mr. Wilkin), and Messrs. Gay, Evers, Fraser, Mollison, Walter, and Kirkwood.

Mr. BROOKE remarked that the executive machinery of a Committee for the present purpose demanded to be represented by all interests and nationalities. A Committee of fifteen would, he thought, meet the case. More would be unwieldy: fewer unrepresentative. He would propose, "That the present provisional Committee be asked to act, with power to add to their number so as to make the full Committee consist of fifteen members."

Mr. MACDONALD proposed, as an amendment, "that the present business of the meeting be proceeded with."

This was seconded by Mr. MITCHELL.

Mr. BROOKE explained that the business of the meeting was the "election of a Committee and deciding upon the necessary arrangements." However, it did not matter whether the nomination of the Committee came now or after.

It seemed to be understood that the general business of the form that the proposed entertainment should take should be proceeded with, and Mr. Brooke's proposition was held in abeyance.

Mr. THOMAS suggested that the minutes of the previous meeting should be read; some conversational discussion ensued.

The CHAIRMAN appeared unwilling to read the minutes of a meeting which was "informal." He stated, however, that a proposal, made by Mr. Dodd, and seconded by Mr. Thomas, had been generally approved. It was to the effect that the farewell should take the form of an entertainment in the Bluff Gardens and the presentation of a testimonial. It had also been decided to wait on Sir Harry Parkes and discover his wishes in the matter (which had been done). The provisional Committee, as above mentioned, had been elected; and the limit of individual subscription had been fixed at \$5.

The Rev. E. C. IRWIS, coming to the question before the meeting, proposed, and was seconded by Mr. BARLOW, "That the farewell take the form of an evening entertainment and a testimonial."

After a long and desultory conversation as to evening and afternoon, an amendment, proposed by Mr. KIRKWOOD and seconded by Mr. ABBOTT, was approved to the effect, "That an entertainment be given in the Bluff Gardens, the time to be left to the Committee, who will decide upon the hour after consultation with Sir H. Parkes."

The question of the testimonial was next discussed; and it was finally settled that this matter should be kept apart from the entertainment: that the subscription should be unlimited, and open for six months to friends in Great Britain on the Continent of Europe and in America.

Then what was the real business of the meet-

ing" was gone into and satisfactorily adjusted. In fine a farewell entertainment is to be offered to H. E. Sir Harry Parkes in the Bluff Gardens previous to his departure, when an address will be presented to him. Subscription to the party is \$2; and the arrangements, as well as the privilege of inviting guests, is to be left to the Committee, who certainly may be trusted to do their work efficiently even in the normal condition of the seven gentlemen informally appointed. Mr. Brooke's original proposition, that the provisional Committee should continue to act, with power to add to their number, was put to the meeting and carried, with the alteration (made by Mr. Brooke himself) that the full Committee shall be twenty-one. Thus, there are fourteen members to be selected; and there can be no question that, weather permitting, the arrangements will be alike agreeable to the foreign community of Yokohama and the distinguished and honored diplomatist to whom they will then bid farewell.

THE DETAILED FINANCIAL ESTIMATES FOR 1882-83.

Our readers are requested to make the following corrections and additions in the translation of the Financial Estimates published in our issue of July 7th:—

P. 229.—Under the heading, "Manufactures under the Agricultural and Commercial Department," for *Mongame* read *Mombessa*.

P. 230.—Under the heading, "Mining under the Public Works Department," for *Kasaka* read *Kosaka*.

Under the heading "Mining under Finance Department," for *and carbolic acid* read, *Soda and Carbonic acid*.

Under the heading "Expenditure for Fu and Ken" expunge the words as enacted by *Notifications Nos. 48 and 50*.

In the heading "Kuchi Penitentiary," for *Kuchi* read *Sorachi*.

Under the first heading "Miscellaneous Expenses," read:—*The increase under this item is due to the fact that an increase has taken place in the expenses connected with decorations, medals, and other grants, in accordance with Notification No. 1 of this year.*

Before the second heading "Miscellaneous Expenses," insert the following:—

Expenses of Public Works under Public Works Department.—In consequence of discontinuing various works.

Expense of constructing gash in Hskaido. In consequence of the completion of the work.

Expenses for providical erection of Shrines in Ise.—In consequence of the diminution of the works.

Cost of Issue of New Paper Money.—In consequence of the diminution of the quantity issued.

After the above heading, "Miscellaneous Expenses" insert the following:—

Capital for Maintaining Industries and for Temporary Advances.—In consequence of an increase in the item "Redemption of Paper Money," and of the non-requirement of the fund for ship-building materials under the Navy Department.

Adding the two remaining items to the twenty above enumerated, and deducting the total thus obtained from the total increase, the net estimated increase of expenditure for the present fiscal year is found to be yen 8,791,937.

ORDINARY REVENUE.

| | Yen |
|------------------------------------------------------|------------|
| Customs' duties... | 2,600,330 |
| Export duties... | 1,073,387 |
| Import duties... | 1,477,298 |
| Income from various sources | 49,645 |
| Land tax | 43,029,745 |
| Tax on Wet Fields | 30,768,891 |
| Tax on Dry Fields | 7,031,224 |
| Tax on Dwelling Houses and ground in rural districts | 2,605,833 |
| Tax on Forests, Woods, Fields, pastures, etc. | 662,751 |

| | |
|-------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------|
| Tax on dwelling houses urban districts | 787,195 |
| Tax on Salt farms | 50,893 |
| Tax on Springs, cold and thermal | 1,322 |
| Tax on Swamps | 1,453 |
| Tax on Title deeds for Land | 267,972 |
| Arrears of taxes | 853,212 |
| Mining tax | 15,878 |
| Tax on products of Hokkaido | 864,193 |
| Tax on Sake | 16,711,035 |
| Licence fees | 806,270 |
| Tax on Sake for consumption of brewers | 300,000 |
| Tax on Sake for general consumption | 15,605,365 |
| Tax on Koji | 56,500 |
| Tax on Tobacco | 974,199 |
| Licence fees | 474,199 |
| Stamps | 500,000 |
| Ruled paper for legal documents | 886,336 |
| Ruled paper | 57,729 |
| Stamps for the same | 819,218 |
| Paper with stamps affixed | 9,389 |
| Postal duties | 2,250,000 |
| Stamps | 21,150,680 |
| Box-rents | 5,300 |
| Fees charged for remittances | 93,820 |
| Ruled papers for Judicial Proceedings | 121,642 |
| Papers for Complaints | 84,000 |
| Papers for Petitions | 18,578 |
| Papers for Correspondence | 19,064 |
| Lawyer's licences | 11,500 |
| Tax on Shipping | 136,131 |
| Steamers | 5,948 |
| Sailing vessels of foreign form of construction | 6,674 |
| Junks | 31,756 |
| Fishing, Ferry, and River boats | 91,753 |
| Tax on Vehicles | 441,549 |
| Jinrikis | 224,509 |
| Bullock Carts | 3,526 |
| Carriages | 5,405 |
| Waggons | 208,049 |
| Tax on Companies | 1,279,544 |
| National Banks | 239,490 |
| Rice Exchanges | 69,026 |
| Dues payable by members of the same | 166,545 |
| Stock Exchange | 38,072 |
| Dues payable by members of the same | 766,411 |
| Shooting Licences | 90,618 |
| Shooting for pleasure | 6,550 |
| Shooting as a calling | 84,068 |
| Cattle dealers' licence | 88,939 |
| Tax on patent medicines | 686,495 |
| Licences | 86,495 |
| Stamps | 600,000 |
| Tax on Weights and Measures | 3,309 |
| Measures | 665 |
| Mass | 740 |
| Balances | 1,904 |
| Copy-right fees | 3,691 |
| Fees for passports to foreign countries and similar permits | 4,486 |
| Total taxes | 70,256,720 |
| Industrial profits:— | |
| Mint under Finance Department | 397,811 |
| Shipbuilding under Naval Department | 35,000 |
| Coal mines under Naval Department | 4,651 |
| Industries under Agricultural and Commercial Department | 26,584 |
| Senju Woollen Factory | 2,500 |
| Aichi Spinning Establishment | 6,084 |
| Mines under Public Works Department | 222,319 |
| Sado Mine | 51,016 |
| Ikuno Mine | 34,607 |
| Ami Mine | 6,523 |
| Innai Mine | 39,673 |
| Miike Mine | 35,200 |
| Ko-aka Mine | 40,300 |
| Aburato Mine | 15,000 |

| | |
|-------------------------------------------------|-------------------|
| Railways under Public Works Department | 1,160,033 |
| Tokyo-Yokohama line | 352,173 |
| Kobe-Osaka line | 784,100 |
| Nagahama-Tsuruga line | 23,760 |
| Telegraphs under Public Works Department | 39,144 |
| Iron Works under Public Works Department | 8,251 |
| Nagasaki | 7,100 |
| Hirogo | 1,151 |
| Mines in the prefecture of Hiroshima | 18,622 |
| Total of Industrial profits | 1,912,415 |
| Appropriation for reduction of debt | 1,391,687 |
| Miscellaneous Incomes:— | |
| Income from forests | 232,767 |
| Sale of forests | 228,492 |
| Rent of forests | 4,275 |
| Rent of Government properties | 70,301 |
| Rent of ground | 43,909 |
| Rent of houses | 22,514 |
| Rent of articles | 3,878 |
| Rent of Government ground in the Treaty ports | 79,368 |
| Total of miscellaneous Incomes | 382,436 |
| Total of Ordinary Revenue | 73,943,258 |

EXTRAORDINARY REVENUE.

| | |
|------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------|
| Repayment of various loans:— | |
| Repayment of various advances | 383,076 |
| Advance for relief of Agriculturists | 164,027 |
| Advance for industrial purposes | 157,243 |
| Sundry advances | 48,658 |
| Advances made in connection with Foreign Debt | 3,139 |
| Repayment of loans made to Imperial Princes and former Han | 82,371 |
| Loans to Imperial Princes | 139 |
| Loans to former Han | 82,232 |
| Repayment of loans in proportion to rice production | 31,862 |
| Total of various repayments | 499,300 |
| Sundry Incomes:— | |
| Sales of Government property | 696,869 |
| Sale of ground | 113,109 |
| Sale of houses | 4,506 |
| Sale of articles | 579,254 |
| Miscellaneous Incomes | 468,632 |
| Fines and attachments | 273,523 |
| Exemption from conscription | 113,670 |
| Various Incomes | 81,439 |
| Total of Sundry Incomes | 1,165,501 |
| Total of Extraordinary Revenue | 1,662,801 |
| Grand total of Revenue | 75,606,059 |

ORDINARY EXPENDITURE.

| | |
|-----------------------------------------------|------------------|
| Domestic Debt | 5,021,989 |
| Old Debt | 219,364 |
| New Debt | 100,000 |
| Bonds for Exchange with Kinsatsu | 99,750 |
| Voluntary capitalized Pension Bonds | 3,266,075 |
| Capitalized Pension Bonds | 1,000,000 |
| Pensions to ex-priests of Shrines and Temples | 20,000 |
| Bonds for Public works | 310,800 |
| Foreign Debt | 430,416 |
| Withdrawal of Paper money | 3,340,000 |
| Total Redemption, National Debt | 8,792,405 |
| Interest on Domestic debt | 13,961,365 |
| Interest on New debt | 432,803 |
| Interest on Bonds for exchange with Kinsatsu | 345,639 |
| Interest on voluntarily Capitalized Pension | |

| | |
|------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------|
| Bonds | 239,659 |
| Interest on Capitalized Pension Bonds | 11,493,707 |
| Interest on Pensions to ex-priests of Shrines and Temples | 14,078 |
| Interest on Bonds for industrial purposes | 685,479 |
| Interest on Loans for suppression of the South Western rebellion | 750,000 |
| Sundry Expenses in connection with the Domestic Debt | 8,801 |
| Interest on Foreign Debt | 623,455 |
| Sundry Expenses on Foreign Debt | 5,661 |
| Total of interest and sundry expenses on National Debt | 14,599,282 |
| Civil list and Appanages of the Imperial family | 1,748,785 |
| Gratuities attached to the Order of Merit | 148,337 |
| Annuities to Civil officers | 2,413 |
| Annuities to Military officers | 139,235 |
| Annuities to Police | 6,689 |
| Military Pensions | 137,591 |
| Army Appropriation | 58,139 |
| Naval Pensions | 1,100 |
| Police Pensions | 11,123 |
| Relief for support of Soldiers' Widows and Orphans | 67,229 |
| Pensions to Shrines and Temples | 13,184 |
| Hereditary Pensions to the <i>shishun</i> of Okinawa | 113,628 |
| Total of Pensions, Gratuities and Annuities | 412,740 |

EXPENDITURE OF THE COUNCIL OF STATE, MINISTERS, SENATE AND SPECIAL BUREAUX:—

| | |
|------------------------------------------------------|----------------|
| Council of State | 294,532 |
| Salaries | 309,732 |
| Allowances | 49,800 |
| Office Expenses | 29,000 |
| Repairs | 6,000 |
| Sanji-in | 172,400 |
| Salaries | 153,614 |
| Allowances | 11,476 |
| Office Expenses | 7,310 |
| Board of Financial Auditors | 97,600 |
| Salaries | 68,900 |
| Allowances | 20,000 |
| Office Expenses | 8,700 |
| Statistical Board | 34,200 |
| Salaries | 26,920 |
| Allowances | 3,500 |
| Office Expenses | 3,780 |
| Board for the Compilation of History | 33,500 |
| Salaries | 30,660 |
| Allowances | 1,840 |
| Office Expenses | 1,000 |
| Total of Expenditure for the Council of State | 632,232 |
| FOREIGN DEPARTMENT | 195,210 |
| Salaries | 112,118 |
| Allowances | 27,144 |
| Office Expenses | 46,518 |
| Repairs | 6,500 |
| Officers Abroad | 2,200 |
| Students | 700 |
| HOME DEPARTMENT:— | |
| Private Secretariat, Salaries | 23,500 |
| Police Bureau Salaries | 20,000 |
| Geographical Bureau | 75,347 |
| Salaries | 24,162 |
| Allowances | 1,200 |
| Surveying Expenses | 33,000 |
| Astronomical Surveying Expenses | 16,985 |
| Census Bureau Salaries | 10,004 |
| Bureau for Temples and Shrines | 14,028 |
| Salaries | 43,406 |
| Civil Engineering Bureau | 33,421 |
| Salaries | 9,985 |
| Sanitary Bureau | 188,566 |

| | | | | | |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------|------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------|--------------------------------------|-----------|
| Salaries | 44,640 | Office Expenses | 3,661 | Horses | 58,573 |
| Allowances | 10,700 | Uniforms | 598 | Toyama Military School | 63,676 |
| Office Expenses | 4,900 | Garrison Inspection | 26,422 | Salaries | 29,352 |
| Repairs | 9,660 | Bureau of the Imperial Guard | 90,173 | Allowances | 23,375 |
| Encouragement of | 6,000 | Salaries | 16,912 | Office Expenses | 4,195 |
| Sanitary Measures | 2,566 | Sundries | 25,053 | Students | 1,071 |
| Sanitary Bureau | 15,000 | Office Expenses | 12,171 | Provisions | 791 |
| Tokyo Laboratory | 14,300 | Accoutrements | 183 | Camp Equipage | 215 |
| Osaka | 18,000 | Uniforms | 17,282 | Uniforms | 1,177 |
| Yokohama | 3,800 | Reviews | 10,000 | Review | 3,500 |
| Vaccination | 5,000 | Magazines | 3,212 | Kiododan | 108,770 |
| Herbal Garden | 15,440 | Imperial Escort | 1,580 | Salaries | 23,844 |
| Press Bureau Salaries | 177,954 | Miscellaneous | 3,780 | Allowances | 33,928 |
| Accountants' Bureau | 27,813 | Infantry of the Imperial Guard | 307,032 | Office Expenses | 26,911 |
| Salaries | 56,875 | Salaries | 134,966 | Camp Equipage | 280 |
| Office Expenses | 87,966 | Allowances | 9,631 | Uniforms | 14,836 |
| Repairs | 5,300 | Provisions | 149,122 | Review | 3,984 |
| Bureau for the transaction of Miscel- laneous Business Salaries | 15,340 | Camp Equipage | 22,313 | Magazines | 3,420 |
| Examination Bureau Salaries | 22,100 | Cavalry of the Imperial Guard | 35,955 | Sundries | 1,567 |
| Prisons' Bureau Salaries | 17,700 | Salaries | 8,213 | Kiododan Infantry | 61,195 |
| Central Sanitary Board | 5,840 | Allowances | 1,952 | Salaries | 30,162 |
| Salaries | 3,840 | Provisions | 8,172 | Allowances | 2,149 |
| Sundries | 2,000 | Camp Equipage | 2,203 | Provisions | 20,370 |
| Shrines and Temples | 10,000 | Horses | 15,415 | Camp Equipage | 8,514 |
| Total expenditure of Home Depart- ment | 639,225 | Artillery of the Imperial Guard | 59,669 | Kiododan Cavalry | 21,435 |
| Finance Department | 207,673 | Salaries | 18,703 | Salaries | 4,512 |
| Salaries | 109,088 | Allowances | 4,085 | Allowances | 1,547 |
| Allowances | 36,421 | Provisions | 14,535 | Provisions | 1,338 |
| Office Expenses | 45,408 | Camp Equipage | 3,683 | Camp Equipage | 1,612 |
| Repairs | 14,756 | Horses | 18,663 | Horses | 12,426 |
| Travel abroad | 2,000 | Sappers of the Imperial Guard | 21,497 | Kiododan Artillery | 30,670 |
| National Debt Bureau | 86,177 | Salaries | 9,100 | Salaries | 7,375 |
| Salaries | 70,239 | Allowances | 824 | Allowances | 2,041 |
| Allowances | 6,175 | Provisions | 8,564 | Provisions | 3,550 |
| Office Expenses | 3,203 | Camp Equipage | 1,799 | Camp Equipage | 2,386 |
| Printing Public Loan bonds | 400 | Horses | 1,210 | Horses | 15,318 |
| Osaka Branch | 6,160 | Commissariat of the Imperial Guard | 151,130 | Kiododan Sappers | 10,972 |
| Accountant General's Bureau | 21,062 | Salaries | 53,964 | Salaries | 5,100 |
| Salaries | 46,018 | Sundries | 2,838 | Allowances | 575 |
| Allowances | 8,262 | Camp Equipage | 337 | Provisions | 1,886 |
| Office Expenses | 5,826 | Horses | 952 | Camp Equipage | 1,629 |
| Conveyance of coin | 164,792 | Military College | 151,130 | Horses | 1,782 |
| Osaka Branch | 21,062 | Salaries | 53,964 | Band of Kiododan | 16,033 |
| Salaries | 8,267 | Allowances | 26,344 | Salaries | 6,236 |
| Expenses | 997 | Class-rooms | 27,683 | Allowances | 1,884 |
| Office Expenses | 1,920 | Students Abroad | 24,464 | Provisions | 6,851 |
| Repairs | 300 | Provisions | 701 | Camp Equipage | 1,062 |
| Conveyance of coins | 9,578 | Camp Equipage | 600 | Medical Staff's Head Quarters | 35,648 |
| Record Bureau | 38,040 | Uniforms | 7,374 | Salaries | 21,461 |
| Salaries | 32,700 | Review | 10,000 | Allowances | 5,738 |
| Allowances | 4,728 | Office for the control of the military divisions in Garrison | 1,393,824 | Office Expenses | 4,461 |
| Office Expenses | 612 | Salaries | 273,298 | Students | 1,200 |
| Auditor-General's Bureau | 54,437 | Allowances | 257,274 | Invalids | 2,496 |
| Salaries | 50,199 | Office Expenses | 105,394 | Uniforms | 292 |
| Allowances | 3,184 | Provisions | 3,647 | Tokyo Military Hospital | 78,290 |
| Office Expenses | 1,054 | Camp Equipage | 11,695 | Salaries | 25,548 |
| Banking Bureau | 37,535 | Uniforms | 394,911 | Allowances | 21,624 |
| Salaries | 26,225 | Review of reserves | 153,105 | Office Expenses | 5,422 |
| Allowances | 8,020 | Marches out | 72,200 | Invalids | 19,404 |
| Office Expenses | 3,220 | Camp Equipage | 11,964 | Provisions | 1,559 |
| Total of Expenditure of Finance De- partment | 669,829 | Prisons | 22,811 | Camp Equipage | 1,058 |
| War Department | 2,117,343 | Magazines | 26,640 | Uniforms | 3,675 |
| Salaries | 203,680 | Hospitals | 44,080 | Artillery Head Quarters | 86,133 |
| Allowances | 129,406 | Sundries | 17,805 | Salaries | 19,277 |
| Office Expenses | 28,516 | Infantry | 2,705,018 | Allowances | 18,042 |
| Students Abroad | 17,992 | Salaries | 1,127,608 | Office Expenses | 5,771 |
| Students at Home | 1,735 | Allowances | 103,292 | Repairs | 12,227 |
| Provisions | 52,179 | Provisions | 1,251,986 | Ammunition | 17,927 |
| Ammunition | 516,850 | Camp Equipage | 222,132 | Gunpowder | 12,046 |
| Gunpowder | 211,774 | Cavalry of the 1st division | 61,139 | Uniforms | 843 |
| Various | 54,633 | Salaries | 13,939 | Sappers' Head Quarters | 1,009,169 |
| Uniform | 890,067 | Allowances | 3,798 | Salaries | 68,002 |
| Prisons | 10,511 | Provisions | 13,132 | Allowances | 34,326 |
| General Staff Office | 382,588 | Camp Equipage | 3,643 | Office Expenses | 25,442 |
| Salaries | 119,869 | Horses | 26,627 | Repairs | 859,218 |
| Allowances | 35,590 | Artillery | 362,273 | Ammunition | 20,700 |
| Office Expenses | 29,198 | Salaries | 128,733 | Uniforms | 1,481 |
| Foreign Travel | 42,640 | Allowances | 29,704 | Remount Bureau | 136,003 |
| Students Abroad | 9,507 | Provisions | 101,608 | Salaries | 16,757 |
| Uniforms | 1,233 | Camp Equipage | 27,330 | Allowances | 11,846 |
| Surveying | 65,000 | Horses | 74,898 | Office Expenses | 2,857 |
| Military College | 50,280 | Sappers | 137,693 | Students | 1,433 |
| Telegraph Operators | 29,301 | Salaries | 61,384 | Provisions | 307 |
| Inspector General's Office | 78,641 | Allowances | 7,524 | Camp Equipage | 90 |
| Salaries | 31,557 | Provisions | 49,208 | Uniforme | 1,816 |
| Allowances | 16,403 | Camp Equipage | 10,372 | Horses | 100,897 |
| | | Horses | 9,205 | Veterinary Stable | 20,710 |
| | | Commissariat | 160,334 | Salaries | 6,073 |
| | | Salaries | 42,572 | Allowances | 4,904 |
| | | Allowances | 13,194 | Office Expenses | 1,687 |
| | | Provisions | 34,335 | Uniforms | 512 |
| | | Camp Equipage | 11,611 | Horses | 7,534 |
| | | | | Gendarmerie | 279,194 |

| | |
|-----------------------------------------------------|-------------------|
| Salaries | 90,035 |
| Allowances | 123,631 |
| Office Expenses | 37,999 |
| Uniforms | 23,353 |
| Detectives | 3,500 |
| Prison | 300 |
| Relief | 60 |
| Sundries | 406 |
| Colonial Troops | 77,834 |
| Repairs | 7,190 |
| Ammunition | 1,016 |
| Gunpowder | 1,780 |
| Uniforms | 8,963 |
| Land Reclamation | 2,287 |
| Prison | 300 |
| Total Expenditure War Department. | 10,105,872 |
| Agricultural and Commercial Department | 220,073 |
| Salaries | 96,954 |
| Allowances | 50,383 |
| Office Expenses | 53,586 |
| Repairs | 18,950 |
| Annuities | 200 |
| Bureau for Agriculture | 102,661 |
| Salaries | 25,118 |
| Allowances | 11,990 |
| Office Expenses | 19,190 |
| Repairs | 2,036 |
| Agricultural Experiments | 13,822 |
| Breeding | 5,738 |
| Bureau for Commerce | 23,301 |
| Salaries | 20,769 |
| Allowances | 1,503 |
| Office Expenses | 3,879 |
| Audit | 150 |
| Bureau for Manufacture | 25,049 |
| Salaries | 16,877 |
| Allowances | 6,554 |
| Office Expenses | 1,618 |
| Forestry Bureau | 180,160 |
| Salaries | 63,526 |
| Allowances | 56,871 |
| Office Expenses | 15,795 |
| Repairs | 1,280 |
| Preservation | 14,307 |
| Plantation | 28,381 |
| Shipping Bureau | 35,574 |
| Salaries | 28,701 |
| Allowances | 4,881 |
| Office Expenses | 1,492 |
| Repairs | 500 |
| Museums | 33,276 |
| Salaries | 14,770 |
| Allowances | 8,753 |
| Office Expenses | 7,696 |
| Repairs | 2,057 |
| Geological Survey | 55,761 |
| Salaries | 31,660 |
| Allowances | 9,080 |
| Office Expenses | 1,720 |
| Repairs | 600 |
| Survey and Analyses | 10,201 |
| Experiments | 2,500 |
| Komaba Agricultural School | 60,304 |
| Salaries | 24,516 |
| Allowances | 10,845 |
| Class-rooms | 14,379 |
| Repairs | 3,200 |
| Students | 7,364 |
| Tokyo Mercantile Marine School | 15,000 |
| Salaries | 4,950 |
| Allowances | 730 |
| Class-rooms | 1,912 |
| Repairs | 400 |
| Students | 7,008 |
| Tokyo Dendrological School | 6,000 |
| Allowances | 1,860 |
| Repairs | 500 |
| Class-rooms | 3,301 |
| Students | 330 |
| Emigration to Hokkaido | 30,000 |
| Protection of Forests | 41,894 |
| Salaries | 10,092 |
| Allowances | 24,650 |
| Office Expenses | 4,119 |
| Plantation | 3,024 |
| Cattle-farm at Shimosa | 74,244 |
| Salaries | 9,231 |
| Allowances | 3,069 |
| Office Expenses | 1,135 |

| | |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------|
| Repairs | 4,000 |
| Cattle-breeding | 46,365 |
| Supplementary | 10,444 |
| Total Expenditure of Agricultural and Commercial Department | 903,297 |
| Public Works Department | 182,737 |
| Salaries | 125,263 |
| Allowances | 33,111 |
| Office Expenses | 17,035 |
| Repairs | 3,648 |
| Invalid Home | 3,680 |
| Imperial Engineering College | 94,717 |
| Salaries | 46,860 |
| Allowances | 9,367 |
| Class-rooms | 14,558 |
| Repairs | 6,700 |
| Students | 17,232 |
| Railway Bureau | 7,840 |
| Salaries | 4,980 |
| Allowances | 1,437 |
| Office Expenses | 1,023 |
| Repairs | 400 |
| Lighthouse Department | 183,000 |
| Salaries | 47,200 |
| Allowances | 11,400 |
| Office Expenses | 5,830 |
| Repairs | 3,300 |
| Construction of Lights | 41,960 |
| Maintenance of Lights and buoys | 27,310 |
| <i>Meiji Maru</i> | 46,000 |

TRANSLATIONS FROM NATIVE JOURNALS.

ON THE DIRECT EXPORT OF JAPANESE TEAS.

(Translated from the *Bukka Shimpo*.)

Some time since we expounded our views on the necessity of improving tea, which occupies the most prominent position among our exports, and, calling the attention of manufacturers to this point, urged that prompt amendment can only be attended with profitable results. Our readers may be aware that our foreign trade in tea continues to decline, and that we are likely to lose the advantages of amelioration unless we institute immediate reform. Some of our manufacturers may have desired to adopt remedial measures for the express purpose of restoring the reputation of the staple as well as reviving trade, but none of them have given effect to their intentions. Mr. Matsuyama, of the port of Kakedsuka, in the province of Toio, regretting the indifference of the tea producers, has suggested the direct export of the staple and determined to put his scheme into practical operation. He writes to us to elicit an expression of public opinion. His letter runs as follows:—"The downward tendency of the price of teas for some time past appears to have induced the provincial, as well as the Yokohama, wholesale merchants to dispose of their goods at any price, apprehension being entertained of further depreciation. It seems that they are unwilling to exert themselves in the work of amelioration. This is regrettable. Moreover, they are utterly ignorant of the actual cause of the depreciation in the value of tea this year, and merely raise vague complaints. We hear provincial merchants say to each other: 'Our teas this year find no customers and we suppose that the trade ought to be abandoned.' It is plain that producers have fallen into a deplorable apathy. What do our tea dealers think of the present time? Is it not true that some years have elapsed since the opening of the path of foreign commerce, and that now is the time to adopt measures for the increase of our export business? It is for this reason that some of our wealthy mer-

chants have opened shops in foreign countries, or embarked in other mercantile operations, thus working toward the extension of our trade; while the Commercial and Agricultural Department affords, both directly and indirectly, ample encouragement to trade and husbandry. All these methods have had their origin in a desire to increase our national productions and foreign commerce. Many of our compatriots have devoted their energies to devising schemes for the growth of our national wealth and power. But, unless our productions increase and our commerce prospers, how can we succeed in enriching the Empire and augmenting its prestige? The best course for our merchants to pursue is to export their teas directly, so as to gain themselves their legitimate profits. The shortest way to this end lies in merchants taking frequent excursions abroad. We have always wished that we could make such a tour; but regret that we have not been able to be so. However, we cannot bear to think of the decline of our tea trade. Teas are regarded as merely secondary among our exports, but they realize considerable returns. Hence recent the extraordinary fall in their value must be looked upon as a source of great misfortune to the Empire. When we look at the condition of the market in America, and the settlements of tea made there, we find that the depreciation is due to the promulgation by the American Government of an enactment forbidding the import of adulterated material from China and Japan. This could not fail to produce a pernicious effect upon our commerce. The mercantile community of America appears to have no definite idea as to what sorts and qualities of teas are prohibited. It hesitates to buy beyond what is necessary for immediate use. It first supposed that there was a deficiency in the amount of teas imported this year from Japan and China, but has since become convinced that, in view of actual sales, there may still remain a surplus. These circumstances have tended to depreciate the value of the leaf. A glance at the condition of local foreign establishments shows that the heavy losses they have sustained since last year and the enforcement of the new regulations in America, have deterred them from making large purchases, and induced them to buy only fine qualities at the lowest possible rates. On the other hand, our own provincial dealers, recollecting the losses incurred during the past two or three years, have endeavored to sell their goods as fast as possible. All this has contributed in a great measure to the depreciation in the value of teas. Those who are at present engaged in the trade are mostly regarded as fools or idiots. Is not such an anomaly cause for lamentation? For our part we have resolved to buy only medium qualities of tea and export them direct to America. We commenced purchasing on the 25th ultimo. What do our fellow dealers think of this year's crop? We suppose that the average yield throughout the empire will exceed sixty or seventy per cent., while there will be a considerable decrease in the out-turn of the second crop. There is no reason why we should regard the whole production as exceeding the proper amount for supply. Indeed, we need entertain no apprehension in this respect; and our statement is justified by the fact that our teas are adapted to the taste of Americans, our chief customers. Of late, however, the exportation of coloured teas has interfered with the demand; but should measures be adopted to prevent fraud, and maintain the normal

excellence of our staple, it will not be very difficult to restore its old reputation. In fact, we might augment our trade to an extent which would put both China and India out of competition. How pleased we should feel then! Our provincial merchants, when bringing their goods to Yokohama, are astonished at hearing about the decline of the American market and finding difficulty in disposing of their consignments. They cannot escape the imputation of thoughtlessness, and are actually lacking in true mercantile qualities. Therefore we propose to export, in combination with associates, half the stock of teas now in Yokohama, direct to the United States. We suppose that the present stock is somewhere about 1,500,000 catties, the half is 750,000 catties, worth about *yen* 200,000. It is our earnest desire to export these 750,000 catties at once, but being unable to do so with our limited resources, we request other merchants to assist us. Failing them we will petition the Government to purchase half the stocks in Yokohama or to advance money on their hypothecation. We believe that the Government will not demur to assist such a scheme of direct export, inasmuch as trade in exports like tea cannot be profitable unless it is conducted by people who are possessed of considerable experience and are familiar with the sentiments and customs of the countries which they supply. In order to acquire a knowledge of these specialities, which alone can ensure ability in a merchant, it is necessary that the trader on his part should be willing to encounter hardship. Those who entertain undue apprehension as to the difficulty of the sale of their goods, or brood over previous losses, or ignore the necessity of direct export, must be regarded as stupid sluggards. We are merely uninfluential men, yet we have resolved to purchase largely Japanese medium teas, hoping thereby to accomplish some good. We trust that our fellow dealers in the Empire, sympathizing with our motives, will not hesitate to follow our example. Business requires promptitude; and specially is this the case in the present instance. Accordingly, we shall arrange to proceed to America with any associates as early as possible. If we find that the tea we take with us finds no customers, we shall endeavour to investigate the causes, and take swift steps to export what will best suit the American taste. Care in the improvement of the staple will scarcely fail to restore its former reputation. Indifference to remedial measures may be looked upon as neglect of the gifts of Heaven."

We do not altogether agree with the above statement. It is worthy of notice, however, that Mr. Matsuyama, the author, appears to hold far higher views than other tea-merchants, who are notorious for procrastination and selfishness. For ourselves we are convinced that the plan of direct export will encounter many difficulties, and cannot be accomplished as easily as he thinks. Great perseverance is absolutely essential to the attainment of the end in view. Obstacles have to be removed, and the work must not be abandoned half way. We believe that Mr. Matsuyama's design has not originated in any desire to acquire large profits from a speculative enterprise. If we are mistaken, we should advise him to abandon his resolution. But, as we think of him, he deserves approbation; yet his aim can only be achieved by perseverance. Temporary success or failure must alike be disregarded.

THE KOREAN INDEMNITY.

(Translated from the *Mainichi Shinbun*.)

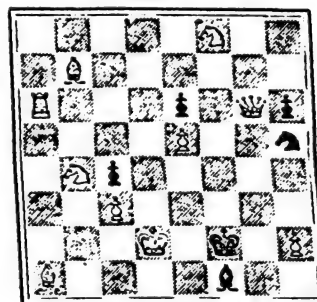
The public may be familiar with the fact that after the disturbances which occurred in Söul last year, Japan addressed vehement remonstrances to the Korean Government and compelled it to open its ports, extend treaty limits, and consent to pay an indemnity of five hundred thousand *yen*. We have not obtained accurate information as regards the period at which payment will be made, but it is quite certain that the disbursement will not be in one sum. It is supposed that the indemnity will be defrayed in five yearly instalments in conformity with terms agreed upon in Söul last year, and by others that an arrangement has been made to liquidate the debt in ten yearly instalments. In the former case, Korea has to pay a hundred thousand *yen* a year, and in the latter, fifty thousand. An account of the estimates of revenue and expenditure for this year, which we have lately perused, contains at the end an item of a "special fund of eight hundred thousand *yen*," with a note to the effect that the amount has been reimbursed by America. Through the same estimates we are enabled to understand the arrangements actually made in regard to the Shimonoeki indemnity. We are, however, utterly ignorant of all matters concerning the Korean indemnity, which is somewhat similar in its nature. Whether the instalments were fixed at fifty thousand *yen* or at a hundred thousand, we expected that the amount would be mentioned in the estimates if it was to be paid by Korea. But according to intelligence received on the 26th instant from our correspondent in Korea, the mistrust that we have felt toward our authorities was simply the outcome of our ignorance of the actual relations of the Japanese and Korean Governments. It must be remembered, however, that the reason why we were suspicious of the proceedings of the Government is because we have heard that the Korean Envoy Pak Yong-ik who arrived in Japan last year, concluded his negotiations with a promise to pay a sum of three hundred thousand *yen* in five or ten yearly instalments, and because, if such be the case, the recent estimates should contain an item of the receipt of at least fifty thousand or a hundred thousand *yen*. It seems probable that an agreement has been made for the payment of the indemnity in annual instalments. Should this be true, our doubts are not unreasonable. Information received from the peninsula on the 27th instant states that Ko Yöng-hwi started from Pusan on the 11th instant for Söul in the steamer *Moshun Kan* to explain Korea's inability to provide the indemnity to be paid to Japan, and to ask for a reasonable delay. From this simple statement it is impossible to discern the exact state of affairs, but when we consider it in reference to the fact that there is no item in the estimates regarding the Korean indemnity, we can plainly comprehend that the Government did not purposely arrange to leave out the item in question, but was obliged to do so, as it has not received the money. It may be regarded as a strange course of things that intelligence received from Korea across the ocean has served to dispel doubts concerning our financial estimates. We stated last year that negotiations between Japan and Korea should be carried on in such a manner as to secure the future prosperity of commerce, and consolidate mutual friendship, and that any question of indemnity should be regarded as injudicious. A sum of five hundred thousand *yen* cannot enrich our Empire, any more than the loss of the same amount would impoverish it; while to the Korean Government five hundred thousand *yen* is an enormous amount. If Korea has to resort to extreme measures to provide for the payment of the annual instalments of her indemnity, not only this year, but next, and next in succession, it must inevitably happen that she will feel more or

less enmity towards the Japanese Government. She will, at least, regard Japan as an unfriendly neighbour and one who has compelled her to pay an indemnity of five hundred thousand *yen* out of a depleted Treasury. In ordinary cases of loan the debtor is easily exasperated by the pressure of his creditor. Much greater must be the indignation of the debtor who, having humbly apologized for his default, is still compelled to pay. According to the statements of our correspondent, it seems that the districts of Kyöng-kwi-do and Kyöng-sang-do are suffering from drought. Chölla-do appears to suffer also from the same calamity; and the district of Chhung-chöng must have shared the same fate. If there is no rain in three or four days, this year will witness a terrible drought, and both Government and people will be distressed by famine. The districts of Kyöng-sang-do and Chölla-do may be regarded as the granary of Korea. Korean prosperity hinges upon the success of the rice and corn crops. What will happen if drought forbids the filling of the granaries? It is obvious that the Korean Treasury is more and more ill supplied year by year. For this reason we cannot sympathize with the negotiations at Söul, concerning the exaction of an indemnity. But they are already concluded; and it is useless to say anything more about them. What we ought to do for the Koreans in future is to adopt such measures as may enable them to fulfil their contract without great difficulty. And such measures will be best completed by establishing a Custom House in each of the Korean open ports with a tariff consistent with our own. We have heard that America, as well as other powers, which have concluded commercial treaties with Korea, have agreed to the imposition of reasonable duties upon the exports and imports of any port opened to foreign trade. While foreign powers have already permitted Korea to levy Customs duties upon their goods, is it not dissonant with any legitimate method of consolidating friendly relations between her and Japan that the latter alone should be allowed to do business without paying any such duties? We must remember that now is the time for Japan to demand the revision of her existing treaties with various foreign powers. Hence we should the more readily allow the Government of the peninsula to enforce its own tariff as soon as possible. Such a proceeding cannot fail to be the most potent aid to our diplomacy. Does our Government intend to exact any indemnity from Korea? If it does not, it had better refrain from negotiation. Should it be determined to receive the indemnity, it must teach Korea the best way to pay. Recourse to any pressure for the exaction of the money must weaken the friendly relations between Japan and Korea.

CHESS.

By J. H. FINLINSON.
From *Brentano's Chess Monthly*.

BLACK.



WHITE.

White to play and mate in 3 moves.

Solution to Chess Problem of 28th July,
by HERR CAPRAZ.

White.

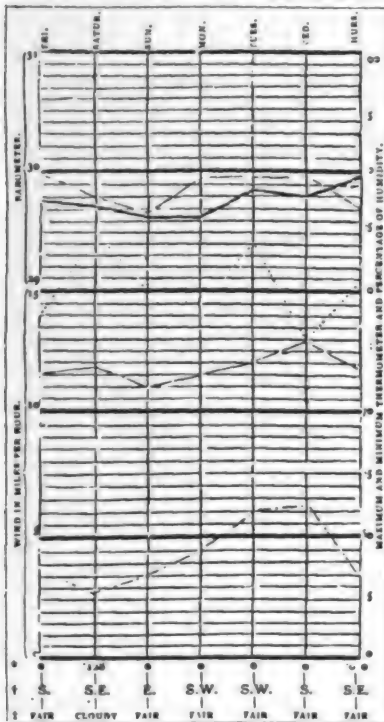
Black.

- 1.—Kt. takes P. dis. ch. 1.—K. to K. B. 3.
- 2.—Q. to K. B. 6 ch. 2.—P. takes Q.
- 3.—Kt. dis., mate.

METEOROLOGICAL REPORT.

For Week Beginning Friday, July 27th, 1883.

Observatory of Daigaku, Moto-Fuji-cho, Hong, Tokyo, Japan.



REMARKS.

Heavy line represents barometer.
 Light continuous line—maximum and minimum thermometers.
 ————— represents velocity of wind.
 ————— percentage of humidity.

The barometer is reduced to the freezing point and to the level of the sea.
 * Rain in inches. † Direction of Wind. ‡ Weather.

Maximum velocity of wind 13.1 miles per hour on Thursday at 3 p.m.

The highest reading of the barometer for the week was 29.96 inches on Thursday at 11 a.m., and the lowest was 29.56 inches on Monday at 6 p.m.

The highest temperature for the week was 89.8 on Friday, and the lowest was 72.0 on Sunday. The maximum and minimum for the corresponding week of last year were 94.2 and 71.2 respectively.

The total amount of rain for the week was .138 inch, against .021 inch for the corresponding week of last year.

LATEST SHIPPING.

FREIGHTS.

The Freight Market remains much as last reported, several vessels have accepted a reduction in rates, and are coming here from Nagasaki with coal at rates that have never before been touched. To induce business a still further reduction would have to be submitted to, and \$1.25 is quoted as the rate at which charters would be effected. On the China coast rates are even proportionately lower; off coast nothing offers, nor can a change reasonably be expected till later in the year, when perhaps Newchwang may offer a slight advance on present quotations for the last voyages of the season before winter sets in.

ARRIVALS.

Wakanoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,342, A. F. Christensen, 29th July,—Kobe, 27th July; General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Toyoshima Maru, Japanese steamer, 956, Thomas, 30th July,—Kobe, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Oceanic, British steamer, 3,700, Davison, 30th July,—San Francisco 10th July, Mails and General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.

Stillwater, British barque, 1,090, Goudy, 30th July,—New York 12th March, Kerosene Oil.—Smith, Baker & Co.

Zambesi, British steamer, 1,540, L. H. Moule, 30th July,—Hongkong, 21st July via Nagasaki and Kobe, General.—P. & O. S. N. Co.

Gembu Maru, Japanese steamer, 670, F. J. Brown, 31st July,—Hakodate, General.—Kiyodo Unyu Kwaisha.

Nagoya Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,015, Wilson Walker, 1st August,—Shanghai and ports, Mails and General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

City of Peking, American steamer, 3,129, Friele, 1st August,—Hongkong 26th July, Mails and P. M. S.S. Co.

Tsuruga Maru, Japanese steamer, 580, Dithlefsen, 1st August,—Kobe 30th July, General and Specie \$270,000.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Furness Abbey, American barque, 1,048, G. T. Marcy, 2nd August,—New York 11th March, General.—R. Isaacs.

Tanais, French steamer, 1,750, Vaquier, 3rd August,—Hongkong 28th July, Mails and General.—Messageries Maritimes Co.

Taganoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 448, Matsumoto, 4th August,—Yokkaichi, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

DEPARTURES.

Ferdinand, German barque, 416, Westergard, 27th July,—Seeking.—Captain.

Hiogo Maru, Japanese steamer, 866, R. N. Walker, 27th July,—Hakodate via Oginohama, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Annie H. Smith, American ship, 1,502, R. B. Brown, 28th July,—San Francisco, Ballast.—China and Japan Trading Co.

Cyprus, British ship, 1,390, Johnson, 28th July,—Kobe, General.—Simon, Evers & Co.

Mensaleh, French steamer, 1,276, B. Blanc, 29th July,—Hongkong, Mails and General.—Messageries Maritimes Co.

R. R. Thomas, American ship, 1,332, P. Nichols, 29th July,—San Francisco, Ballast.—China and Japan Trading Co.

Sooloo, British barque, 473, Baikie, 30th July,—Nagasaki, Ballast.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Evangeline, British 3-masted schooner, 345, Bell, 30th July,—Nagasaki, Ballast.—Captain.

Kanagawa Maru, Japanese barque, 1,184, Eckstrand, 30th July,—Nagasaki, Ballast.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Wakanoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,342, A. F. Christensen, 31st July,—Kobe, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Gembu Maru, Japanese steamer, 670, F. J. Brown, 1st August,—Yokkaichi, General.—Kiyodo Unyu Kwaisha.

Tokio Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,146, R. Swain, 1st August,—Shanghai and ports, Mails and General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Oceanic, British steamer, 3,700, Davison, 2nd August,—Hongkong, Mails and General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.

Niigata Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,096, Hubbard, 2nd August,—Hakodate via Oginohama, Mails and General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Tsuruga Maru, Japanese steamer, 517, P. Dithlefsen, 2nd August,—Kobe, Mails and General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Zephyr, British gunboat, 438, Lieutenant-Commander G. N. A. Pollard, 2nd August,—Hakodate.

Euphrates, British steamer, 1,300, Mitchell, 3rd August,—Kobe, General.—Smith, Baker & Co.

City of Peking, American steamer, 3,129, Friele, 4th August,—San Francisco, Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per Japanese steamer *Wakanoura Maru*, from Kobe:—Messrs. W. Rae, J. S. Coulson, and 6 Japanese in cabin; and 125 Japanese in steerage.

Per British steamer *Oceanic*, from San Francisco:—Mr. and Mrs. A. G. Dodge, Messrs. M. H. Robertson, and Nagamasa Tei in cabin; and 1 European and 1 Chinese in steerage. For Hongkong: Miss Jennie Osborne, and Mr. Wm. Bell in cabin; and 195 Chinese in steerage.

Per British steamer *Zambesi*, from Hongkong via Nagasaki and Kobe:—Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Smith, Mr. and Mrs. Loo Jooting, Lieutenant Little, Lieutenant Hitchcock, Dr. Cottell, Major Halahan, Messrs. Lor Pooting, Lo Chon Suen, Sung Hing, Chen Cheng, Suen Yong Chy, King Jong, and Achong in cabin; and 14 Japanese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Nagoya Maru*, from Shanghai and ports:—His Excellency Ming Yong Ik, Korean Ambassador to America, and suite, Mr. Hong Yung Sik, Mr. and Mrs. Mait and Mr. and Mrs. I. H. Wong, Mr. and Mrs. Sonoda and children, Colonel Mihara, Captain G. G. Clark, Messrs. J. Potter, H. Jousberry, Salomon, Van de Putte, Lambe, Victor Fayn, J. R. W. Johnstone, R.N., D. Robertson, Harcourt, P. Hansen, Hino, Katagawa, and Shio Matsunosuke in cabin; and 5 Europeans and 210 Japanese in steerage. For San Francisco: Dr. J. E. Stubbart, Messrs. J. F. Rodewall, F. Hutching, K. Agio, J. H. E. Waters, and Herm. Becker in cabin.

Per American steamer *City of Peking* from Hongkong:—Mrs. Chas. Seymour, Miss Seymour, Captain A. G. Cary, Messrs. J. Green and Jno. McBryde in cabin; and 160 Chinese in steerage.

Per French steamer *Tanais*, from Hongkong:—H. E. Ito and suite, Rev. and Mrs. J. B. Ost and infant.

DEPARTED.

Per French steamer *Mensaleh*, for Hongkong:—Messrs. Ooul, Max. Renard, Rouyer Albert, Peyre Jules, and Harris in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Tokio Maru*, for Shanghai and ports:—H.H. the Maharajah of Johore and suite, Right Rev. Bishop F. Blanc, Bishop and Mrs. S. W. Merville, Bishop Oiani, Mrs. Fairbanks, Mrs. Urano, Rev. F. Costi, Professor Poleakoff, Dr. Seelye, Messrs. F. Krebs, J. T. Hatfield, C. D. West, W. D. Townsend, R. Jones, A. P. Matheson, C. Vercoe, S. Strauss, Saigo Kikujiro, Y. Nagami, D. Nagami, Date, Hoyumi, S. Kikuchi, S. Kichiku, S. Kawanabe, E. Chowo, G. Ishiwaru, R. Fujii, Oka, Otami, Kumura, Takayama, Shimakawa, and Janokoji in cabin.

Per American steamer *City of Peking*, for San Francisco:—Mr. and Mrs. Takahashi, Mrs. Chas. Seymour, Miss Seymour, and Captain A. G. Cary in cabin; and 3 Japanese and 167 Chinese in steerage. For New York: Captain and Mrs. Bassett and 2 children, Mr. Z. Matsuo and servant, Dr. J. E. Stubbet, Rev. J. Soper, Messrs. K. Agthe, H. Becker, J. H. E. Waters, C. Lucas, F. S. Larken, Asst.-Eng., W. W. Little, U.S.N., E. H. Jousberry, R. Naito, O. Go, H. Kirino, and O. Kai in cabin. For Liverpool: Messrs. L. Wertheimer and John McBryde in cabin. For London: Messrs. John Gern, Wm. Warry, J. H. Fransen, and Van de Putte in cabin. For Bremen: Messrs. J. F. Rodewall and F. Hutching in cabin. For Hamburg: Mr. E. Kress in cabin.

CARGOES.

Per American steamer *City of Peking*, for San Francisco:—

| | TEA. | | | |
|----------|----------------|-----------|---------------|--------|
| | SAN FRANCISCO. | NEW YORK. | OTHER CITIES. | TOTAL. |
| Hongkong | 664 | 287 | 1,817 | 2,768 |
| Shanghai | 175 | 1,686 | 2,356 | 5,217 |
| Hiogo | — | 19 6 | 4,931 | 6,857 |
| Yokohama | 4,506 | 2,149 | 1,817 | 8,472 |
| Total | 5,345 | 6,047 | 11,885 | 23,277 |

| | SILK. | | | |
|----------|----------------|-----------|---------------|--------|
| | SAN FRANCISCO. | NEW YORK. | OTHER CITIES. | TOTAL. |
| Hongkong | — | 240 | — | 240 |
| Shanghai | — | 40 | — | 40 |
| Yokohama | — | 281 | — | 281 |
| Total | — | 561 | — | 561 |

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

There has been rather more doing in Yarns during the last week, and the sales amount to some 925 bales. In Shirtings, too, there has been rather more enquiry for special chops, but sales effected are but small. In other Goods there has been more doing in silk-faced Satins and Mousselines. Woollens generally are quite neglected, and there is but little doing in Metals.

COTTON YARNS.

| | PER PICUL. |
|-----------------------------------|------------------|
| Nos. 16 to 24, Common to Medium - | \$25.00 to 28.50 |
| Nos. 16 to 24, Good to Best - | 29.25 to 30.50 |
| Bombay, No. 20, Good to Best - | 25.50 to 28.25 |
| Nos. 28 to 32, Common to Medium - | 31.25 to 32.25 |
| Nos. 28 to 32, Good to Best - | 33.00 to 35.25 |
| Nos. 38 to 42 - | 35.25 to 37.25 |

COTTON PIECE GOODS.

| | PER PIECE. |
|-----------------------------------------------|----------------|
| Grey Shirtings—8½, 38½ to 39 inches - | \$1.70 to 2.15 |
| Grey Shirtings—9½, 38½ to 45 inches - | 1.87½ to 2.40 |
| T. Cloth—7½, 24 yards, 32 inches - | 1.45 to 1.55 |
| Indigo Shirting—12 yards, 44 inches - | 1.55 to 1.67½ |
| Prints—Assorted, 24 yards, 30 inches - | 1.10 to 2.40 |
| Cotton—Italians and Satens Black, 32 inches - | 0.07 to 0.09 |
| Turkey Reds—2 to 2½, 24 yards, 30 inches - | 1.15 to 1.35 |
| Turkey Reds—2½ to 2½, 24 yards, 30 inches - | 1.35 to 1.65 |
| Turkey Reds—3½, 24 yards, 30 inches - | 1.70 to 1.82½ |
| Velvets—Black, 35 yards, 22 inches - | 5.90 to 6.70 |
| Victoria Lawns, 12 yards, 42½ inches - | 0.70 to 0.75 |
| Taffetas, 12 yards, 43 inches - | 1.75 to 2.07½ |

WOOLLENS.

| | |
|---------------------------------------------------|----------------|
| Plain Orleans, 40-42 yards, 32 inches - | \$1.50 to 5.25 |
| Figured Orleans, 29-31 yards, 31 inches - | 3.25 to 4.00 |
| Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches - | 0.18 to 0.23 |
| Mousseline de Laine—Crape, 24 yards, 31 inches - | 0.15 to 0.15½ |
| Mousseline de Laine—Hajime, 24 yards, 31 inches - | 0.18½ to 0.26 |
| Mousseline de Laine—Yuzen, 24 yards, 31 inches - | 0.30 to 0.37½ |
| Cloths—Pilots, 54 @ 56 inches - | 0.30 to 0.40 |
| Cloths—Presidents, 54 @ 56 inches - | 0.40 to 0.50 |
| Cloths—Union, 54 @ 56 inches - | 0.30 to 0.35 |
| Blankets—Scarlet and Green, 6 to 5½, per lb - | 0.35 to 0.40 |

IRON.

| | PER PICUL. |
|---------------------------------|----------------|
| Flat Bars, ½ inch - | \$2.50 to 2.90 |
| Flat Bars, 1 inch - | 2.50 to 3.00 |
| Round and square up to 1 inch - | 2.50 to 3.00 |
| Nailrod, assorted - | 2.25 to 2.50 |
| Nailrod, small size - | 2.85 to 3.10 |

KEROSENE.

No sales of Oil have been effected during the past week, and the Market is somewhat weaker in Tokijo. Deliveries have amounted to 22,000 cases. The *Still Water* and *Furness Abbey* have arrived with 78,500 cases, making our present Stocks some 613,000 cases of sold and unsold Oil. Quotations are quite nominal at:—

| | PER CASE. |
|----------|-----------|
| Devoe - | \$1.70 |
| Comet - | 1.65 |
| Stella - | 1.56 |

SUGAR.

Small sales at low rates have been the principal features during the past week in the Sugar Market, and most of the lots moved off have been Brown Formosa sorts. Stocks of White, already large, are accumulating, but prices are unaltered notwithstanding the exceedingly small transactions.

| | PER PICUL. |
|-----------------|----------------|
| White, No. 1 - | \$8.50 to 9.00 |
| White, No. 2 - | 8.00 to 8.50 |
| White, No. 3 - | 7.25 to 8.00 |
| White, No. 4 - | 6.25 to 6.75 |
| White, No. 5 - | 5.25 to 5.50 |
| Brown Formosa - | 5.00 to 5.25 |

EXPORTS.

SILK.

Business has now commenced in earnest, and recorded settlements for the week under review are nearly 600 piculs. In spite of the business doing, prices generally do not advance, especially

for Hank sorts. All kinds are now beginning to come in, and we only require O hia and Hamatsuki kinds to make a full list. Arrivals have exceeded settlements, and we have a Stock of about 1,000 piculs. Export to date is 1,710 bales against 1,669 bales last year, and the *Zambes* leaving this afternoon should take a few.

Hanks.—During the last few days a large business has been done in these at quotations. Arrivals begin to come in freely, and sellers are disposed to be current.

Filatures.—Good sorts are in request at full rates. Medium kinds are neglected, and comparatively dear at quotations, the size being unreliable.

Re-reels.—These have made an appearance: a little business has been done on the basis of \$615 for "Tortoise" chop and \$610 for "Five Girl."

Kakedas are commencing and some extras have been taken at \$635. Full supplies expected shortly.

QUOTATIONS.

| | |
|-----------------------------------|--------------|
| Hanks—No. 2 - | \$500 to 510 |
| Hanks—No. 2½ - | 450 to 460 |
| Hanks—No. 3 - | 460 to 470 |
| Hanks—No. 3½ - | 440 to 450 |
| Filatures—Extra - | 650 to 665 |
| Filatures—No. 1, 10/13 deniers - | 640 to 650 |
| Filatures—No. 1, 14/16 deniers - | 630 to 640 |
| Filatures—No. 1½, 14/17 deniers - | 610 to 630 |
| Filatures—No. 2, 10/15 deniers - | 600 to 620 |
| Filatures—No. 2, 14/18 deniers - | 600 to 610 |
| Re-reels—No. 1, 14/16 deniers - | 610 to 620 |
| Re-reels—No. 1½, 14/17 deniers - | 600 to 610 |
| Re-reels—No. 2, 14/18 deniers - | 550 to 560 |
| Kakedas—Extra - | 625 to 635 |
| Kakedas—No. 1 - | 600 to 610 |
| Kakedas—No. 2 - | 550 to 570 |

TEA.

During the early part of the week now under review, Settlements continued on a liberal scale, and prices somewhat hardened; but within last two days buyers generally have been holding off, and the Market closes quiet, although as yet no decline can be quoted. Settlements aggregate 4,370 piculs, consisting of the following grades:—Common 280, Good Common 1,035, Medium 1,170, Good Medium 1,050, Fine 445, Finest 125, Choice 150, and Choicest 15 piculs. Settlements here and at Kobe show a falling off of 13,667 piculs compared with this date last year. Total arrivals at Yokohama are 118,431 piculs against 125,879 piculs at the corresponding date in 1882. The *O. & O. steamship Arabic* is advertised to leave here for San Francisco on the 18th of August taking Tea at 2½ cents per lb. gross to Eastern States and Canada and at \$12.00 per ton of 40 cubic feet for San Francisco.

QUOTATIONS.

| | |
|---------------|--------------|
| Common - | \$12 & under |
| Good Common - | 13 to 14 |
| Medium - | 15 to 17 |
| Good Medium - | 18 to 20 |
| Fine - | 22 to 24 |
| Finest - | 25 to 27 |
| Choice - | 28 to 31 |
| Choicest - | 33 & up'ds |

EXCHANGE.

Only small transactions have to be recorded for the week, and rates close steady.

| | |
|-------------------------------------------|----------------|
| Sterling—Bank Bills on demand - | 3/7½ |
| Sterling—Bank 4 months' sight - | 3/8 |
| Sterling—Private 4 months' sight - | 3/8½ |
| Sterling—Private 6 months' sight - | 3/8 |
| On Paris—Bank sight - | 4/60 |
| On Paris—Private 6 months' sight - | 4/71 |
| On Hongkong—Bank sight - | 2 1/2 o/o dis. |
| On Hongkong—Private 10 days' sight - | 2 1/2 o/o |
| On Shanghai—Bank sight - | 73½ o/o |
| On Shanghai—Private 10 days' sight - | 73½ o/o |
| On New York—Bank Bills on demand - | 88½ |
| On New York—Private 30 days' sight - | 89½ |
| On San Francisco—Bank Bills on demand - | 88½ |
| On San Francisco—Private 30 days' sight - | 89½ |

KINSATSU QUOTATIONS.

The following table shows the rate of the day, and the fluctuation during the past week:—

| | |
|-------------------------|------|
| Monday, July 30th - | 124½ |
| Tuesday, July 31st - | 125 |
| Wednesday, August 1st - | 124½ |
| Thursday, August 2nd - | 124½ |
| Friday, August 3rd - | 123½ |
| Saturday, August 4th - | 123½ |

IMPORTANT NOTICE.

SMALL CAPITALISTS, wishing to establish a business, should see if there is an opening for a Mineral Water Manufactory in their District. All information and recipes for the purpose of making Lemonade, Soda Water, &c., is given, previous knowledge is not necessary. The demand for these drinks is so much on the increase in all parts of the world, that the outlay for the machinery in all cases leads to a profitable and safe business. Catalogue forwarded free, on application to

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23c, Forston Street, London, N.

May 1st, 1883.

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HOLLOWAY'S PILLS.

PERSONS suffering from weak or debilitated constitutions will discover that by the use of this wonderful medicine there is "Health for all." The blood is the fountain of life, and its purity can be maintained by the use of these Pills.

SIR SAMUEL BAKER,

in his work entitled "The Nile Tributaries in Abyssinia," says—"I ordered the druggist Mahomet to inform the Fakar that I was a Doctor, and I had the best medicines at the service of the sick, with advice gratis. In a short time I had many applicants, to whom I served out a quantity of Holloway's Pills. These are most useful to an explorer, as possessing unmistakable purgative properties they create an undeniable effect upon the patient, which satisfies them of their value."

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HOLLOWAY'S OINTMENT

Is a certain remedy for bad legs, bad breasts, and ulcerations of all kinds. It acts miraculously in healing ulcerations, curing skin diseases, and in arresting and subduing all inflammations.

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May 1st, 1883.

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May 1st, 1883.

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TUBULOUS STEAM BOILER,**

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The Patent Steam Boiler Company,

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May 1st, 1883.

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Yokohama, 1st May, 1883.

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| | | | |
|------------|-------------|--------------|-----------------|
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JOSEPH GILLOTT'S STEEL PENS. Medal,
JOSEPH GILLOTT'S STEEL PENS. Paris,
JOSEPH GILLOTT'S STEEL PENS. 1878.
May 1st, 1883.

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celebrated for nearly a century past, is of the very best English manufacture. For its purity and great excellence it has obtained Nine Prize Medals, including London, Vienna, Philadelphia,

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ATKINSON'S GOLD MEDAL EAU DE COLOGNE

is strongly recommended, being more lasting and fragrant than the German kinds.

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celebrated for so many years, continues to be made as heretofore. It is strongly Perfumed, and will be found very durable in use.

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a new and indispensable Toilet accompaniment, and most refreshing Perfume for the Handkerchief.

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ESTABLISHED 1799.

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JAPANESE COMMERCE, POLITICS, LITERATURE, AND ART.

No. 15, VOL. I.]

YOKOHAMA, AUGUST 11TH, 1883.

[\$24 PER ANNUM.]

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The Japan Weekly Mail.

"FAIS CE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL," must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith. It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, AUGUST 11TH, 1883.

BIRTH.

On the 9th instant, the wife of Rev. E. CHAMPNEYS IRVING, of a Daughter.

DEATH.

August 10th, at No. 31, Bluff, Cary, infant son of Mr. and Mrs. J. POTTER, aged seven weeks and five days. Funeral private.

WEEKLY NOTES.

LATEST advices from Shanghai bear out our recent estimate of the state of the Tonquin affair. The recall of the Viceroy Li and his re-appointment to his former post have been followed by a report that Tso Tsung-t'ang has been summoned to Peking. The fair inference is that the War Party's ascendancy is for the moment established. It could not well be otherwise, indeed, unless China was prepared to admit publicly that her opposition to French aggression had been, from the first, an empty farce. This or to fight were the only alternatives M. Tricou's diplomacy appears to have offered. The *North China Herald* thinks that, as things stand at present, the claims of China are simply set aside. She is to be left to her own devices, warned only that "any interference in the impending struggle will be interpreted by

France as an act of war." This estimate, however, is scarcely credible, unless it be understood as referring to a position which has arisen out of the perplexity, rather than the deliberate resolve, of France. We cannot believe that even M. Challemel Lacour would wittingly offer China her choice between a possibly disastrous war and peace at the certain price of finally sacrificing her prestige. But it is quite intelligible that pending the receipt of explicit instructions from home, M. Tricou, unable to suggest any reasonable exit from the dead-lock, may have been in a manner compelled to dismiss the question temporarily by a general warning of *noli me tangere*. Meanwhile, the instructions given to General Bouet point to the assumption of offensive movements in Tonquin on October 1st. The forces at the General's disposal only amount to 3,000 infantry, three batteries of artillery, and 500 Annamite sharpshooters, and of these not more than 2,000 will be available for service in the field. Such an army can scarcely hope to accomplish much. The lowest estimate hitherto published places the force necessary to establish French ascendancy in Tonquin at ten thousand men, and nothing has since happened to show that this calculation is exaggerated. The nature of the country is opposed to military operations, and as the French penetrate into the interior, the difficulty of preserving communications with their base will constantly increase, while the enemy will probably confine themselves to guerilla tactics. It is plain, too, that the Annamites have no intention of yielding quietly. That they occupy the delta of the Red River in very considerable numbers is shown by the latest report from Nam-dinh, where one of their out-posts, variously estimated at from five to ten thousand men, was dislodged with heavy loss on the 18th of July. The operation seems to have been conducted with no little skill by Colonel Badens, who is in command of the Nam-dinh garrison. On the night preceding his intended attack, he embarked 200 of his men in twelve junks with orders to place themselves in rear of the Annamite position. This they succeeded in doing, and when the French troops marched out of the citadel on the following morning to attack the enemy's camp, the latter found themselves between two fires. The result was that they fled pell-mell with a loss of from 200 to 1,000—both estimates are given with equal assurance—and leaving behind them seven cannon as well as a thousand stand of small-arms. Colonel Badens is to be congratulated on

this dextrous and successful manoeuvre, but while we have pleasure in recording his reported victory, we cannot lose sight of the fact that the Tu-duc's troops are evidently in great force, and that a couple of regiments of Frenchmen, however brave and however skilfully handled, may not hope to effect the conquest of a country in the face of such obstacles. It is very much to be desired that if the military occupation of Tonquin is undertaken at all, it should be undertaken after a fashion that will not encourage Chinese opposition or unnecessarily prolong the sufferings to which Tonquin must inevitably be subjected during the campaign.

THE hot weather seldom comes and goes in Japan without throwing Yokohama into a ferment of some sort. Last year it was a fit of virtuous indignation. Somebody discovered that the wine shops on the road leading to the Bluff carried on a business more profitable though less reputable than that of vintner, and somebody else, under the influence, perhaps, of that ecstasy so notably fatal to reason, the ecstasy of recent repentance, opened a newspaper crusade against these disgraceful exhibitions of immorality. The excitement subsided with the thermometer, leaving no consequences except a languid curiosity on the part of the Bluff residents, who had not previously been conscious of the scandal which rendered them objects of public commiseration. We do not remember at the present moment whether exterritoriality was tacked on to this grievance. Probably it was. Exterritoriality is ubiquitous in Yokohama. Everything serves to illustrate its benefits. If a heap of stones is badly located, we are reminded that were we not exempted from Japanese jurisdiction, every road round the Settlement would be thickly strewn with jagged boulders. If a jinrikisha coolie is insolent, we are told that could he get the treaties revised, he would make our lives a burden to us. If a scavenger is unpunctual, we are warned that to satisfy his political aspirations would impel him to devote his days to carrying buckets of night-soil to and fro before our houses. If the philanthropy of youthful gallants attracts some soiled doves to our neighbourhood, we are informed that all the Phrynes in Japan would be shot at our heads were we not shielded by Orders in Council. Exterritoriality, in short, is propped and buttressed by such a multitude of pleas, that men are constrained to pity its tottering decrepitude. It is a good old fossil which has survived the disappearance of the stratum it belonged to, and will

soon be buried under the ridicule its advocates hysteria excites. But in the meanwhile the hot weather has given it the usual fillip. On this occasion, however, the movement of support comes from a direction diametrically opposite to that of last year. Then the police were charged with incompetence because they permitted what police in other countries have never succeeded in preventing. Now they are held equally culpable for attempting to prevent it. At Homoko there is a house where gentlemen go to bathe, and where they are waited upon by four children, from sixteen to twenty years of age. One of the bathers, under the influence of an access of paternal tenderness, took a child on his knee. He was espied by the police, and that evening the poor children were marched off to the police-station and confined in a lock-up, which, unlike the lock-ups of police-stations in civilized countries, was not provided with cushions and mosquito nets. Coarse questions were also propounded to the innocent children; their faces, *they say*, were slapped and their arms twisted behind them. Naturally public indignation boiled over. Half a dozen letters were addressed to the local press denouncing the cruel tyranny of these official "brutes," and one gentleman who ventured to enquire in what respect the houses at Homoko differed from those on the Camp Hill, and why the latter should be suppressed and the former winked at, received a reply which will make him careful of venturing into print again. Whether the police were right or wrong is, however, a secondary consideration. The grand result is that another prop has been applied to exterritoriality. It has been shown that Japanese policemen are capable of running a woman in because she sits on a gentleman's lap. The inference is that, were it in their power, they would run the gentleman in because he took her on his lap. It is quite proper that such contingencies should be guarded against. Life would not be worth living if it were shorn of these soft attractions by tyrannical myrmidons of the law.

ALLUSION is made by the home journals to a possible alliance between Japan and France in the event of war between the latter and China. We are not surprised that this rumour has found its way across the sea. Such rumours generally travel pretty fast, and it is not impossible that special assistance was given to accelerate the speed of this particular *canard*. It is the echo of what must be described as a questionable piece of diplomacy. There seems to be little doubt that throughout the course of the embroglio between France and China, Japan has been used as a cat's-paw, and her willingness to take part in a quarrel against her neighbour represented to the latter in terms more diplomatic than truthful. It might, perhaps, have been too much to expect that no advantage would be taken of the temporary estrangement between the two empires. This species of moral suasion has constantly been employed in international conferences, nor need it be denied that to represent the perilous contin-

gencies of an opponent's position in the strongest light consistent with truth comes fairly within the province of diplomatic craft. But unless common report is much mistaken, something more than this was essayed in the instance under consideration. Between Japan and China there still unfortunately exist some unsettled questions which have engendered mutual soreness. They are not serious questions, nor need they, except under extraordinary circumstances, necessitate any appeal to force. Certainly their submission to the arbitrament of the sword will not be of Japan's election. To place her relations with her neighbour on a sincerely friendly footing is the constant wish of those to whose care her destinies are at present entrusted. Behind all China's momentary sensation of pique and resentment, there must exist a consciousness of this fact. She knows, too, perfectly well that Japan has no shadow of reason to quarrel with her. The somewhat romantic claims of the Middle Kingdom to the Riukiu Islands still remain outstanding, but so far as Japan is concerned, they are, to all intents and purposes, settled. The islands form an integral portion of her empire. She would probably surrender them to-morrow could she be well assured that their cession would permanently restore Chinese good-humour, but in the meanwhile her title to them rests on the practical basis of possession and stands in no need whatever of armed assertion. For the rest, she cannot reasonably be credited with any covetousness of Chinese territory. The days are past when her troubles at home were sharp enough to render foreign conquest a possibly desirable counter-irritant. Territory acquired beyond her borders, above all Chinese territory, would now be not only an encumbrance, but also a serious impediment to the reforms which she has in progress and whose consummation is essential to her internal peace. All these things are very well known to China, and some exceptionally cogent argument would be needed to persuade her that opposition to France's designs in Tonquin might signify opposition to a Franco-Japanese combination. It seems apparent that an attempt to provide such an argument was made by endeavouring to rouse in Japan the aggressive spirit which her good sense at present holds in check. Efforts were made to persuade her that her honour was concerned in bringing to a speedy and final issue the so-called complications existing between herself and her neighbour, and there is reason to think that the Annamese embroglio was represented as an exceptionally favorable opportunity to strike a decisive blow. It is satisfactory to know that this unworthy device met with the fate it deserved. It is not impossible, indeed, that some minds in Japan may have been considerably unsettled by the prospects thus presented to them, and that a partially renewed vigour may have been imparted to the difficulty bequeathed to her by centuries of military existence—the difficulty of holding in check her own martial spirit. But beyond this the mutual dispositions of the two empires have not been altered, and the only

outcome of the affair is an assurance, if any were needed, that intrigue and bluster have ceased to be the most efficient factors of Western diplomacy in the East.

THE return of Sir Harry Parkes from the north is expected about the 18th instant, after which the date of the farewell party given in his honour by the communities of Yokohama and Tokiyo will be fixed. Sir Harry leaves for China, according to present intentions, on the 22nd instant. No definite news of his successor's movements has yet been received. Private intelligence, however, fixes the end of the year as the probable time of Mr. Plunkett's arrival, but an idea is gaining ground that possibly he may not come to Japan at all. The First Secretary of Embassy at Paris is generally credited with a title to an appointment in Europe, and it is known that at the end of the present fiscal year one or two vacancies, more eligible than Japan, will occur. The uncertainty as to Mr. Plunkett's movements suggests a corresponding uncertainty of intention, and we shall not be much surprised to find that the Legation at Tokiyo ultimately falls to somebody else.

THE Minister for Foreign Affairs has notified the corps diplomatique that the port of Swatow is to be considered as a port infected with cholera, and that all vessels arriving thence will be subject to the Regulations for medical inspection promulgated by Imperial Decree, No. 31, of 1882. It is curious to note the different methods employed by different Foreign Representatives in conveying this information to their nationals. The U.S. Consul-General inserts an advertisement in the local journals, briefly announcing that official information has reached him to the above effect. He says nothing about the means that will be employed to carry out the medical inspection, or the penalties that will be imposed in the event of any attempt to evade it. A space of four inches in the advertising columns of a newspaper suffices to convey all the necessary information to his countrymen, as well as to let them know, by implication, that Japan's foreign treaties have not deprived her of the power to enact and make binding upon all those residing within her territories whatever regulations she may deem essential to the health and well-being of her people. Her Majesty's Minister, on the other hand, requires more than a column of space to convey a portion of this information. He begins by publishing a long Notification citing his various powers, and then proceeds to enact a Regulation of Urgency calling upon all British subjects to observe the rules for medical inspection as issued by the Japanese Government, and warning them that any wilful contravention or infringement of those rules will be deemed an offence—against what? Against the Medical Inspection Regulations, one is naturally inclined to reply. Not so. Against the Regulation enacted by Her Majesty's Minister. Not only is this distinctly stated, but the penalty to be imposed for such infraction or contravention is given in detail. There is here

a difference of system which time does not help to reconcile. So far as phraseology is concerned there is almost absolute similarity between Japan's treaties with England and the United States. The difference, then, is in their interpretation. Which reading is correct? One or other must be wrong.

NOTES.

It is interesting to note that the French claims in Madagascar are of the same family—though somewhat distant relations—as her claims in Tonquin. The grand *point d'appui* of her title is the treaty of 1841, by which certain territories in the north of the main island were ceded to her. This treaty is now interpreted as conferring on France a protectorate over the portions ceded; a protectorate over all the northern part of the island; a protectorate over all the western side of the island, and finally, general rights over the whole of Madagascar. Nothing special seems to be gained by this progressive fashion of statement, unless it be that the mind is not shocked by an abrupt declaration, but is gradually led up to the claim over the *whole* island by a process of cumulative acquisition. The point of the matter is, however, that no rendering of the text of this treaty can dispose of the ugly fact that its Malagasy signatories were the representatives of two Sakalava tribes in the north-west of the island, who were then in open revolt against the authority of the Hovas, and who seem to have been persuaded by the captain of a French war-vessel which happened to be cruising off the coast, that in return for these concessions they might count on French protection against their rightful sovereign." That that Sovereign was Queen Ranavola I. does not admit of any question. The territory claimed had been fairly conquered in 1824 by King Radama I., who established his authority over the whole of Madagascar, a portion of the south-west coast alone excepted, and if two of the conquered tribes, after quietly submitting to that authority during 17 years, elected to revolt from it in 1841, though their power to dispose of the territory they occupied may have been momentarily established, the notion that they had any right to be similarly liberal with regard to the territory of the Sovereign from whom they had revolted, is a new interpretation of international law. No such notion was entertained by France in 1862 and 1868, when she made two treaties acknowledging the then Queen and her predecessors as sovereigns of Madagascar without any reserve whatsoever. In addition to these reasons, sufficiently conclusive in themselves, eight others are advanced on the Malagasy side. They are as follows (we quote from an interesting article by the Rev. J. Sibree in the January number of the *Contemporary Review*):—

1.—Military posts have been established there, and customs duties collected by Hova officials ever since the country was conquered by them, and these have been paid without any demur or reservation by French as well as by all other foreign vessels. Some years ago complaints were made by certain French traders of overcharges; these were investigated, and money was refunded.

2.—All the Sakalava chiefs in that part of the island have at various times rendered fealty to the Sovereign at Antananarivo.

3.—These same Sakalava, both princes and people, have paid a yearly poll-tax to the Central Government.

4.—The French flag has never been hoisted on the mainland of Madagascar, nor, for forty years, has any claim to this territory been made by France, nothing whatever being said about any rights or protectorate on their part in the treaties concluded during that period.

5.—The Hova governors have occasionally (after the fashion set now and then by governors of more civilized peoples) oppressed the conquered races. But the Sakalava have always looked to the Queen at Antananarivo for redress (and have obtained it), and never has any reference been made to France, nor has any jurisdiction been claimed by France or by the colonial French authorities in the matter.

6.—British war-vessels have for many years past had the right (conceded by our treaty of 1865) to cruise in these north-western bays, creeks, and rivers, for the prevention of the slave trade. The British Consul has landed on this territory, and in conducting inquiries has dealt directly with the Hova authorities without the slightest reference to France, or any claim from the latter that he should do so.

7.—The French representatives in Madagascar have repeatedly blamed the Central Government for not asserting its authority more fully over the north-west coast; and several years ago, in the reign of Ranavalona I., a French subject, with the help of a few natives, landed on this coast with the intention of working some of the mineral productions, and built a fortified post. Refusing to desist, he was attacked by the Queen's troops, and eventually killed. No complaint was ever made by the French authorities on account of this occurrence, as it was admitted to be the just punishment for an unlawful act. Yet it was done on what the French now claim as their territory.

8.—And, lastly, France has quite recently (in May of this year) extorted a heavy money fine from the Malagasy Government for a so-called "outrage" committed by the Sakalava upon some Arabs from Mayotta, sailing under French colours. These latter were illegally attempting to land arms and ammunition, and were killed in the fight which ensued. The demand was grossly unjust, but the fact of its having been made would seem to all impartial persons to vitiate utterly all French claims to this territory, as an unmistakable acknowledgment of the Hova supremacy there.

The plain truth is that France's last treaty with Madagascar—that of 1868—"makes no admission or allusion to any of the rights now alleged by the former, much less to any protectorate; and is simply a treaty of friendship and commerce between two nations, standing, so far as power to make treaties is concerned, on an equal footing." Having regard to these facts it is somewhat difficult to justify France's very high-handed proceeding as reported by our latest telegrams. She does not appear to possess in Madagascar any rights distinct from those of other European nations, except such rights as are conferred by the superior dimensions of her commerce with the Malagasies. Whether those rights extend to the arrest of a British Consul's secretary, the expulsion of the Consul from his residence, and the forcible detention of British naval officers who had gone on shore to attend the Consul's funeral, are questions which Her Majesty's Government are evidently resolved to examine carefully.

A REPORT in the *Yiyu Shimbun* is to the effect that many of the *Kwasoku*, who desire to take a position among their countrymen similar to that enjoyed by the nobility in England, and to have a defined place in the National Assembly of 1890, have arranged to hold weekly meetings each Saturday in the Nobles' School. They are credited also with a desire to augment the extent of the Sovereign's prerogative at the same time as complying with the aspirations of the people. The *Yiyu* has the air of sneering at the programme, no part of which, however, need be inconsistent with another.

SEVERAL Japanese newspapers publish a statement to the effect that a number of Americans residing in Kobe propose to erect a monument

in memory of the Regent Ii Kamon-no-Kami, who was assassinated at Sakurada Gate, Tokiyo, in the early part of 1860. The report has probably no foundation, for it is impossible to conceive what interest any association of Americans can have in perpetuating the recollection of that once powerful but now nearly forgotten Daimyo. There is, however, a slight incidental connection between his name and the early Japanese relations with the United States. As an anecdote, it will bear recital. The first Embassy, or Commission, sent in modern times from this country to any Western nation, was travelling in America in 1860, and sojourning in Philadelphia, when the news of Ii's death reached that locality. The Oriental visitors,—some twenty *Samurai*, with a following of forty odd servants,—had been placed in charge, at Washington, of three navy officers,—Captain Dupont, who died a score of years ago; Lieut. Porter, now Admiral of the United States; and Lieutenant Lee, who subsequently disappeared beneath the surface of the Southern rebellion. It was a pleasant ornamental service for at least the two first-named of these gentlemen, and they were not at all disposed to lose any of the distinction attached to it, either by sinking their own identity, or by allowing that of the Asiatic guests to become too prominent. Among their quaint theories as to the treatment of the Envoys, they held that no disturbing or exciting intelligence, of any description, should be permitted to reach them from their native land. Upon the appearance of the report concerning Ii, they issued orders that no newspaper should penetrate the Japanese section of the Continental Hotel, without being first submitted to them for inspection, and, if necessary, excision. It was a ridiculous decree,—ill-advised and unwarranted in every respect; but the profoundest diplomatic sagacity is not always to be expected from the gallant sons of Neptune. Rumours of the intelligence were inevitably caught up by the attachés of the embassy, who flew with them in hot haste to their masters; but these latter could learn nothing authentic on application to their guardians, who defended their reticence with the plea that upon the first hint of what had occurred, the commissioners would insist upon a precipitate departure from America, without carrying the splendid programme of travel prepared for them, to its triumphant climax in New York. It happened, however, that a clever young interpreter, sent privately forth by the principal envoys to learn the truth, succeeded in getting and imparting to his superiors an exact statement of the facts. Thus far, we have narrated what was known to everybody, at the time. The sequel rests upon a narrower authority, for which we cannot vouch. *Si non e vero*, etc. The story ran that the two over-discreet naval gentlemen were requested to favour the Japanese leaders with their presence, and were asked in direct terms whether they had, or had not, any knowledge of the alleged tragedy. They replied that they had nothing to communicate; whereupon the senior envoy expressed astonishment that

He should be able to supply information upon a subject which had evidently escaped the watchfulness of the American officers. Through the interpreter, the complete details were then revealed, with much precision and circumspection, the countenances of the listeners betraying their utter discomfiture, while those of the messengers from the East preserved more, if possible, than their accustomed imperturbability. This was not all. The gallant chaperons were furthermore informed that, if the ambassadors had been fortunate enough to learn this interesting news from them, it would naturally follow that the advice of Captain Dupont and his colleague should be sought and deferred to in this unexpected crisis; but as they, their appointed guides, philosophers, and friends, were obviously in the dark, it would be useless to burden them with such an addition to their labours. The ambassadors would only ask if it were not desirable for them to send a message to the State Department at Washington requesting that some person acquainted with the subject be appointed to come at once and consult with them. Beyond this point the tale has never been unfolded; but it is a matter of notoriety that, from that time forth, no attempts were made to restrict the range of interrogation of the strangers or otherwise to hold them in leading-strings, by the committee of Uncle Sam's mariners.

By the last mail from the United States, intelligence was received of the approval, by President Arthur, of the sentence condemning Commander Muljan to dismissal from the American naval service. The case has excited considerable attention, owing to the well known antecedents of the deposed officer, and the peculiar circumstances under which he was entrusted with the command of the *Ashuelot*. According to the regulations of the Navy Department, officers below the grade of commodore are ineligible to promotion unless, at the period when promotion falls due, their "mental, moral, and professional fitness to perform all duties at sea" shall be "established to the satisfaction of a board of examining officers appointed by the President." This stipulation is intended to meet extreme and exceptional instances of incompetency, and is enforced only under conditions of grave necessity. Candidates for promotion are generally passed by the Board without severe scrutiny, and are never rejected, excepting when some serious imputation is fastened upon their character. The officer in question was, in 1876, the senior lieutenant-commander of the service, but on presenting himself for advancement in rank, he was pronounced disqualified, and summarily dropped from the register. It is needless here to repeat the charges brought and sustained against him. Nothing further is requisite than to show that he was removed from his post, after due consideration, by a body naturally inclined to leniency, and slow to exercise the punitive powers pertaining to it. There might be reasonable ground for supposing that, with these proceedings, the public career of any citizen would terminate; but it appears

that opportunities may be found, in the mysterious workings of Congress, for the rehabilitation of such individuals as are fortunate enough to possess or procure political influence. During two years, the dismissed lieutenant-commander remained in obscurity; but in July, 1878, an act was passed by the federal legislature, and signed by President Hayes, restoring him to his original position. Six months after, he was raised to the grade of commander, and the fatal consequences of that step are known to the world. Comment is entirely unnecessary on our part; but we are not surprised to find it, in the severest form possible to language, in the principal American journals, some of which do not scruple to attribute to Congress, the ex-President and his Naval Secretary, rather than to the improperly restored officer, the responsibility for the wreck of the *Ashuelot* and the death of a number of her crew.

A REMARKABLE paragraph is floating about the American newspapers, to the effect that a young Japanese gentleman, whose name is given as a graduate of Cornell University last year, and who is said to have married a young lady of Indianapolis, has since taken a position in the Agricultural Department of this Government, with an annual salary of thirteen thousand dollars. This is a climax of good fortune to which few Japanese students, however deserving, can hope to attain. To graduate from Cornell is a happy and honourable distinction; to secure the hand, heart, and companionship for life of "a young lady of Indianapolis" is a still more gratifying achievement; but to secure, in addition, an office in a government department, the stipend of which is more than twice the amount received by the highest functionaries of State, is a piece of luck so far beyond precedent as to bring the fortunate holder within the circle of those for whom supernatural favours are reserved. This being the case, we fear that congratulations might not be altogether appropriate.

A TOKYO newspaper announces that the new palace will be built in that part of the castle grounds formerly occupied by the Shogun's mansion, and not in the more retired division where the Mikado lived during the first years of his residence in Tokiyo. It cannot be doubted that the *Hon-maru*, as the locality now said to be selected is designated, affords many advantages which the adjoining section, called the *Nishi-maru*, does not possess. It contains one of the most elevated plateaus in the city, commanding a singularly beautiful view of the bay and its borders, and immediately overlooking on one side a succession of garden terraces the picturequeness and varied charm of which have not been obliterated by years of neglect and decay; and on the other the broad moat which separates the two enclosures, and the more delicately cultivated and graceful landscapes of the Fukiage Park. There is not another site so majestic in the whole capital, and its healthfulness should be unrivalled. The cost of restoring it to order, however, will be necessarily large. The lower slopes and levels have grown into a

little wilderness, through long disuse, and the numerous walls, some of which were of stately dimensions and admirable construction, have been in many cases torn in pieces, in order that the huge stones of which they were composed might be put to more practical uses. The fine gateways, of which there could not have been less than fifty, have generally fallen to ruin, besides being ruthlessly mutilated for the sake of the copper with which they were heavily covered. Finally, the place has been for a long time given over to instructors in engineering, as a field for experimental fortification, in the course of which operations its superficial aspect has undergone many changes. Nevertheless, in spite of these and other partial deteriorations, it has not its equal in Tokiyo, and the lofty square chosen nearly three centuries ago for the citadel of the Tokugawas remains to this day the spot above all others suited for an imperial dwelling. The familiar resorts of the *Nishi-maru*,—the cascade, the lake, the embowered hill, the legendary fountain,—are easy of access by private passages, so that the attractions of the more secluded region are available, in addition to the excellent qualities of the superior station. If it be true that the *Hon-maru* has been decided upon, pains should be taken to secure the nearest attainable approach to architectural perfection. The position is too splendid to be sacrificed, and defects which might escape notice in other localities would there become glaringly conspicuous. Let us pray that the artist, on this occasion, will be inspired by his magnificent opportunity.

A NOTE in the *Official Gazette*, translated elsewhere, speaks of the development of the pastoral industry in the Mito district, province of Rikuo. At the same time a complaint is formulated, on the part of the farmers, that the improvement in their stock is not properly recognized by the butchers in Tokiyo, who decline to give the new breeders good prices on account of a prejudice in favor of "Kobe beef." This is a matter which time will regulate. Only by staunch endeavor and resolute conscientiousness in the production of a good article, despite temporary dislike and opposition on behalf of vested interests and established trade, can a new enterprise hope for ultimate success. That with patience the Mito farmers must succeed is evident, in view of the fact that the supply of "Kobe beef," to whose generally excellent quality and succulence most foreign residents in Tokiyo and Yokohama must testify, is alarmingly likely to fall short of future demands. This alone ought to encourage the Mito farmers to persevere in their undertaking. Scarcity of capital will injure them far less than lack of industry and courage.

A MEETING of the Provisional Committee of seven originally appointed to arrange for the farewell to H.E. Sir Harry S. Parkes was held on Saturday last, when those gentlemen, Messrs. Wilkin, Gay, Evers, Fraser, Mollison, W. B. Walter, and Kirkwood, nominated other gentle-

men, the following fourteen of whom have, we understand, kindly consented to act with them as provided at the public meeting of the 20th of July. The representative Committee is thus full and consists, in addition to the gentlemen above named, of Messrs. Beretta, Blakeway, Boyes, MacDonald, Mitchell, Pereira, Rickett, Townley, von Hemert, J. Walter, Whittall, Wolff, and Drs. Hepburn and Wheeler. The Committee suggest Monday, the 21st instant, as the date of the party. Sir Harry is expected to return from Hakodate about the 14th, and proposes to leave Yokohama for his new post at the Court of Peking by the mail of the 22nd instant.

THE Paris correspondent of *The Times*, writing under date, June 21, is at some pains to show that China had up to that time been perpetually protesting, not against French enterprise in Indo-China, but against French attempts to set aside Chinese rights of sovereignty. In fact the three last despatches addressed by the Representative of the Middle Kingdom to M. Challeme-Lacour remained unanswered at the above date. Thus the suspension of negotiations between the two Powers did not rest with China but with France. However true this may have been six weeks ago, a different description seems applicable to the present state of affairs. The interruption of negotiations has come, this time, from China's side. There can be little doubt that the conduct of the conference was entrusted completely to Viceroy Li at the time of his nomination to the command-in-chief of the Southern forces. He was empowered to settle the complication, and his fashion of settlement would probably have received the endorsement of his sovereign. His recall, therefore, while the negotiations were still in progress, must be interpreted as an expression of dissent from his views. During his absence from Peking different counsels seem to have gained the ascendancy. Apparently the greatest difficulty with which a Chinese statesman has to contend at present is the mutability of his source of authority. Since the death of the Empress Regent last year there is no stability of purpose at Peking. At one time the voice of one party, at another that of another, is dominant. Li Hung-chang is emphatically in favour of a peace policy, but, like all prudent statesman, obeying the maxim, *si vis pacem, para bellum*, he does not hesitate to devote large sums to the purchase of warlike material and the strengthening of coast defences. It may be doubted, however, whether his countrymen comprehend the spirit of such proceedings. They think that these acquisitions represent an idle outlay unless they are used when the occasion offers. This inference is not unnatural, and probably becomes a very strong argument in the mouths of the Viceroy's political opponents. "To what purpose," they may ask, "does this immense expenditure on account of warlike preparations serve, if China is always to offer her cheek to the smiter? Surely now, if ever, is the time to give a practical demonstration of the country's ability and resolution to defend its rights?"

The posers of these queries might not have become inconveniently clamorous at Peking during Li's absence had he found in the French Envoy a reasonable *vis-à-vis*. But M. Tricou does not seem to have appreciated either China's position or the true interests of his own country. His so-called "inflexibility" and thrasonic phrases might have proved very serviceable in an encounter with General Tso, or some other chief of the war faction, but they were altogether out of place in the treatment of a statesman whose earnest desire was to discover for his country some honourable exit in the direction of peace. While, then, M. Tricou raised difficulties and delivered humiliating *ultimata*, Li's political opponents were doubtless becoming more and more noisy at Peking. If, however, the Viceroy's apparent failure strengthened their remonstrances sufficiently to procure his recall, it seems probable that the task of substituting an emphatically belligerent policy was still beyond the compass of their ability. The Cabinet at Peking is irresolute, and we are disposed to think that the same may be said of the Cabinet at Paris. M. Tricou's reported attempt to demonstrate that his visit to China was purely a work of supererogation, does not demand serious consideration. He went there to negotiate, and the T'sung-li Yamen was his natural *vis-à-vis*. But instead of proceeding to Peking and placing himself in communication with the T'sung-li Yamen, he appears to have settled down quietly at Shanghai—a proceeding which is obviously irreconcilable with the hypothesis that he possesses definite instructions from his Government. There has not been any superfluous ambiguity about M. Challeme-Lacour's utterances in the Senate, but we know that President Grévy is opposed to an aggressive policy, and that there is a very strong party in France of the same way of thinking as the President. It may very well be, therefore, that both Peking and Paris are puzzled, and that a mediator's task would be comparatively easy. In the meanwhile, the best thing that can happen is that responsible Chinese statesmen should keep away from Shanghai.

FOR a comprehensive illustration of injured dignity, misplaced confidence, dire foreboding, unavailing remonstrance and agonized perturbation,—with possibly a few other distracting emotions,—no figure in animated nature is so appropriate as the unfortunate hen which, having hatched a nest of ducks' eggs, sees her brood take to the water in joyous defiance of every warning, threat, or entreaty derivable from her instinct and experience. Often as the idea has been used in caricature and satire, it comes irresistibly forward again, in connection with the latest results of Chinese policy as applied to the development of Korea. That ancient conservative fowl of the Asiatic continent, whose capacity for stretching her wings over all the neighboring barn yards has only recently been interfered with, took in hand, not long ago, the process of incubating her last remaining egg, and, with due ceremony of cackle and cluck, helped the

little stranger out of its shell, and instructed it in the delicate art of appearing to stand alone, while actually relying for support upon the maternal care and judgment. All went well until the venturesome creature caught sight of the water, and then the period of tutelage came to an abrupt end. The consternation with which China must have witnessed her wayward pupil—as represented by a plenipotentiary commission—taking literally to the treacherous element—as represented by the Pacific Ocean,—and swimming away upon a perfectly independent course of observation, inquiry, and foreign association, may be easily imagined by all who know the intensity of her desire to keep every off-shoot of the great celestial family folded securely within her impenetrable pinions. Of all conceivable slings and arrows of outrageous fortune, none could have been sharper or more unexpected than this sudden development of enterprise on the part of the most immature of tributary fledgelings. The subject ought to send an inspiration through the ranks of humorous draughtsmen, all over the world. Never since eggs were eggs,—liable to pre-natal accidents of exchange and to burst into vitality with utterly unsuspected propensities, striking consequent chill and terror to the breast of aged responsibility,—has the opportunity been given of a more perfect application of the familiar legend to facts of current history.

THE complaint of a *soi-disant* Japanese student who writes an indignant letter to the *New York Herald* is not, supposing the communication to be genuine, by any means unreasonable. The writer objects generally to the rudeness of remarks frequently called forth by his appearance in the public thoroughfares, and particularly to the habit of confounding him with "John Chinaman,"—an epithet which he says is incessantly repeated by those whom he encounters. This confusion of the races is an old grievance with the Japanese, and it does indeed seem strange that Americans should not have learned, by this time, to distinguish at least the outward characteristics of two such different types. A single test should be sufficient;—every Japanese wears the costume of the country in which he happens to dwell, whereas no Chinaman ever puts aside the dress of his native land or dispenses with the long braided tail of Tartar origin. By looking a little beneath the surface, other and more important discrepancies could doubtless be discovered; and it is the consciousness of these, we presume, which makes the native of Japan resentful of the indiscriminate grouping of all Orientals. But, although the feeling of dissatisfaction exists, and the occasions for remonstrances similar to that published in the *Herald* are abundant, the authenticity of this especial protest, which has been pretty widely copied, appears open to suspicion. In the first place, it is signed "A. Nipponyin,"—which, even assuming it to be a misprint of "A Nippo Jin," is not a form of subscription likely to be adopted by an English speaking Japanese. It is much more likely to

have been written by some American acquainted with a few words of the language of this country, and its conversion into a proper name is probably an unconscious typographical joke. In the next place, the people of Japan are spoken of by the correspondent as Mongolians,—a circumstance to prove, at any rate, that he ought not to be a Japanese, whatever he really is. However, the epistle is a good one, and, if not precisely what it professes, may take an humble place among well intended imitations of the style invented for his own amusement by Mr. Laurence Oliphant, who puzzled a great many readers of the *North American-Review*, six or seven years ago, by a couple of essays entitled "Political and Moral Reflexions," and signed "Sionara;" in which, adopting a method of expression fairly appropriate to a Japanese student abroad, he indulged in sundry sharp criticisms on public life and private society in America. Those productions were not quite worthy of Mr. Oliphant's brilliant powers, but they served a certain purpose, and perhaps set the fashion of a species of fictitious literature which, if not in the highest degree amusing, is entirely harmless, both to author and readers.

A disturbance is reported, by the *Choya Shim-bun*, to have occurred in Kiyoto on the 27th ultimo, a French missionary named Villion having been assailed and beaten by a band of students, said to have been 120 in number, from the seminary attached to the Eastern Hongwanji monastery. The lads are said to have visited the Catholic Church and demanded to be instructed in the essence of the religion there taught. Abbé Villion was promptly sent for, and arrived as soon as he could in jinrikisha, accompanied by a Japanese Christian. The mob of boys immediately began to pelt and hustle them, an amusement from which they were only restrained by the arrival of the Police who rescued the missionary—what became of his native attendant is not mentioned—and arrested the principal rowdies who had maltreated him.

A French journal declares in so many words, that the unique object of English legislators in pushing forward the bill legalizing marriage with a deceased wife's sister, is to enable the Queen's youngest daughter, the Princess Beatrice, to marry her brother-in-law, the Prince of Hesse-Darmstadt. Writing immediately after the passage of the law, a correspondent of the journal in question, says that nothing is talked of in London except this marriage and that it will take place in six months. The Prince of Hesse-Darmstadt became a widower in 1878 by the death of the Princess Alice, and it is said that the Princess Beatrice has been willing to accept his hand for the last two years. To most Englishmen this story will sound like a good joke, but it seems not at all improbable that some special case of more than ordinary importance has sufficed to turn the wavering balance of opinion in favour of the measure. The *Saturday Review*, with its colours still nailed to the mast, after declaring that the effect of the Bill will be

to relax "the frail but important ties of convention which keep back society from promiscuous concubinage," goes on to describe it as a concession to the supposed desire of a minority of the nation, and denounces the logic of its advocates by saying that "the spirit merchants of the United Kingdom might with almost as good a face urge the abolition of the spirit duties on the plea that they have been smuggling." We wonder whether the possibility of marrying a deceased wife's sister has proved such a terrible perverter of public morality in those communities where it has long been legal.

ONCE again we counsel our Japanese friends who are interested in the tea trade to give no heed to reiterated statements that the recently enacted United States law, forbidding the importation of spurious teas, was directed expressly against the produce of this country. The assertion is frequently repeated, and appears in so many different forms, that it may not unnaturally deceive the unwary. But it is entirely without foundation. There is no evidence to show that the teas of Japan were ever thought of, by those who framed the restrictive statute. It was to ward off danger from another quarter; that their proceedings were instituted. Apprehensions were entertained that a large quantity of the adulterated article, which had long been accumulating in England, where it could not be sold, would be forced upon the New York market during the present year; and this was the principal, if not, as we believe, the sole, ground of legislative action. The Japan trade has troubles enough of its own to encounter, without having burdens fastened upon it for which it is in no degree responsible.

THE line taken by the *Jiji Shimpō* with regard to the Korean indemnity savours somewhat of romantic reasoning, but is not without a dash of sound common sense. The indemnity is a mere bagatelle. It does not represent the cost of a second-rate ironclad; and, to make it still more insignificant, Korea has obtained her creditor's consent to divide it into dribblets of fifty thousand dollars per annum, thus spreading the payment over a space of ten years. It would seem, however, that even these concessions have not brought the feat of discharging her debt within the compass of her ability. The effort to pay the very first instalment is too much for her strength. Yet if rumour be credited, she has already borrowed from this country more than half of the whole sum. Among gentlemen of fashion and morality, to put off an importunate tradesman by ordering some more of his wares, is not an uncommon device, but the notion of borrowing from a man to-day six times the amount you have promised to pay him to-morrow, and then telling him, when the morrow comes, that you can pay nothing, is a scheme which commands admiration by its noble disregard of precedent. We do not know whether it be a fact that Korea has asked for another respite, but if it be so,—and the *Jiji Shimpō* says it is—the Hermit Kingdom has

nothing to learn from any nation in point of financial ingenuity. Meanwhile, what is Japan to do under the circumstances? What sort of pressure can she bring to bear upon such a pauper without compromising her own dignity and imperilling her friendly relations with Korea? The *Jiji Shimpō* tells us, in effect, that the second of these questions is unanswerable, and that the only wise response to the first is—waive the claim altogether. Half a million dollars is a trifle to this country, but apparently a very serious sum to Korea. Her impatience at having to pay the money will be in proportion to her difficulty in finding it, and she cannot feel any sincere affection for a Power which compels her to make such sacrifices. There is, we repeat, much good sense in these arguments. The habit of expressing international troubles in dollars and cents, though almost unexceptionally sanctioned, is open to frequent objections. Most of all this true in the case of fines imposed upon a government for failing to reconcile its subjects to the sudden subversion of a policy which has received the sanction of fifty generations. A large portion of the indemnities levied by the Treaty Powers in Japan, came out of the pockets of their friends, and thus indirectly strengthened the hands of their enemies. The present rulers of Korea are sincerely friendly to progress. They suffered at least as much as Japan by the revolt of the Tai-on-kun, and their ability to prevent similar mishaps can only be crippled by having to pay an indemnity to a foreign power. It would be a grateful and politic act to forego these ten yearly payments of ten thousand pounds sterling each, and let Korea make her *entrée* into the society of nations with a tolerably clean balance-sheet.

If the arguments in favour of remitting the indemnity partake, to a certain extent, of sentiment, nothing similar can be said of the tariff question. That stands on a basis of plain morality. Japan knows what it is to be deprived of a right which every other independent State enjoys, and she is therefore thoroughly competent to appreciate Korea's desire to avoid like coercion. It is not very probable that the desire will be fulfilled. Korea is too small to have any rights—especially pecuniary rights—*vis-à-vis* the Great Powers of the West. But whatever trifling chance she has of obtaining a voice in the management of her own commercial affairs will be finally destroyed if she attempts to discriminate in favour of Japan or China. In virtue of the treaty of 1876, the subjects of the former carry on with the peninsula a trade which, for all practical purposes, is free. If this is to continue, it will be impossible to avoid extending the privilege to all Korea's new treaty friends. Japan had better not incur the responsibility of assisting to bring about such a result. She has complained so much and so justly of the hardship suffered by herself, that it would ill become her to join in contriving the same position for another Oriental State. It seems absurd to speak of any gain accruing to a nation from a policy of isolation; yet Korea, by the lateness of her consent to foreign inter-

course, can reap the benefit of her neighbours' experience, and thus avoid divesting herself of power which, if once temporarily signed away, cannot be recovered without infinite pain, if at all. We have confidence that these considerations have already presented themselves to Japanese statesmen, and that they will gladly help Korea to obtain whatever terms seem most conducive to her prosperity. But while entirely agreeing with the *Fiji Shimpō* that the exceptional privileges enjoyed by this country under the Trade Regulations of 1876 have the effect of heavily handicapping Korea in her negotiations with foreign Powers, and ought to be surrendered without any unnecessary delay, we cannot forget that Japan is not alone in this matter. However well and justly disposed she may be, she must be careful to do nothing which will leave China a monopoly of Korean trade. That would be the inevitable result if she agreed to remodel her tariff upon the lines laid down in the Shufeldt Treaty without first taking care that China should be similarly liberal. It is with the latter country that the difficulty really rests. So long as her viceroys are empowered to issue trade regulations determining the conditions of their countrymen's commerce with Korea, it would not only be quixotic but useless that Japan should surrender the advantages she possesses.

Nothing—we are told by educational experts—is more fatal to real progress than self-gratulation. Faith in this precept induced the teacher in the story to obliterate the picture over which its youthful painter was bending in satisfied admiration. The Japanese, therefore, have reason to be thankful that they are not abandoned to vain-glorious introspection. They must continue the motion of reform in humble obedience to their generous preceptors. They have had a memorable lesson in the matter of finance. For three or four years they constantly enjoyed the advantage of most emphatic counsels. They were warned in Spartan terms that ruin and riot dogged the nation's footsteps, and that to escape these horrors it was absolutely necessary to grapple resolutely with the inflated currency; to reduce its unhealthy obesity and to prepare for replacing it by good sound silver. Then, when they stoutly set about these processes of reduction and preparation, they were soon exposed to a new peril. The specie value of *Kinsatsu* grew rapidly higher and firmer, until, in the course of two years, the whole volume of money in the country, as well as the national revenue, appreciated more than twenty per cent. This they had been taught to regard as a most triumphant result, and seeing it so far attained, they might have become self-opinated. But their humane preceptors were on the watch. The crisis demanded a caustic remedy, and the Japanese were, therefore, peremptorily informed that they had no business to touch the currency. Their duty was to leave it to itself, and devote their energies to developing commerce. Thus they were kept healthily moving on, a little bewildered, perhaps, but guaranteed

against the immorality of fancying they could ever be right. Another instance is still more recent. Ladies of easy virtue in Japan have drifted into a most erroneous idea that they possess some title to a share in the proceeds of foreign commerce. Under the influence of this hallucination they repair in large numbers to Yokohama and take lodgings in the environs of the Settlement. It does not appear that they have yet conceived the fancy of imitating or emulating the courageous hardihood of their European representatives, but they certainly do venture to occupy houses in the neighbourhood of the Settlement—notably round the New Road—where there are visited by a great many philanthropic and unprejudiced foreigners. The thing is scandalous and doubtless well deserves scathing denunciations such as those levelled against it a year ago. Careful critics demonstrated, in the summer of 1882, that the morals of Yokohama had been so seriously injured by the influence of these misguided females, that nine persons out of ten were actually unconscious of the disgraceful condition of Yatai-zaka—unconscious that these waylayers of virtue had their haunts even on the side of the road leading from the Settlement to the Bluff. Naturally and properly the police were loudly censured. Some idle excuses were offered on their behalf. It was urged, for example, that without paying perpetual domiciliary visits to the inmates of private houses, or keeping a constant watch over them, so that, whenever a foreigner entered or came out, the object of his visit might be immediately investigated, no practical result could be obtained. It was also stated that in many cases the ladies were possessed of documents declaring them to be foreigners' servants with whom the police could not interfere, and it was further pointed out that in no part of the world do the police succeed in effectually checking this social evil. Nobody was weak enough to be moved by these paltry evasions. It was not for the censors to say how the thing should be done. That was the business of the police. And the police made it their business. Nothing more was heard of the Phrynes of Yatai-zaka. The guardians of the peace were not equally successful in the case of the New Road, however. But they made the mistake of imagining that duty pointed in that direction also. They set themselves to "lurk like cur-dogs" in the vicinity of suspected domiciles; to perform the "thoroughly despicable" rôle of spies. Had they been competent policemen, they would have known how to discriminate, and would have retired quietly from the vicinity of houses where respectable foreigners play with girls upon their knees. But no Japanese policeman is competent. These poor innocent girls were "dragged to the police-station," "exposed for several hours to the mercy of the mosquitoes" and then compelled to answer "questions of too disgusting a nature to appear in print." Unfortunate doves! Their sufferings must have been appalling. Crushed and weary, they returned to their tea-house, and with all the beautiful abandon of innocence retailed verbatim to their foreign

gentlemen friends the revoltingly indecent terms which had been addressed to them. The "brutes" of policemen had slapped their soft cheeks, twisted their tender arms behind their backs, and spoken to them in "language of so low and vulgar a nature as to be a disgrace to the whole police force." Would the kind foreigners allow these things to be done without protest? Did they not see that the police cared nothing for the public morals but only desired to subject foreigners to a little adventitious bullying? If any proof of this were needed, the Homoko doves could furnish it, since they themselves had heard the police speak of the "red-headed foreigner," and make remarks "highly derogatory" to him, remarks "showing enmity and malice and evidently intended to lower Europeans in the estimation of those present." Could the manly Tojins suffer their gentle friends to be tortured and themselves to be disparaged by "brutes" whose object was to replenish the coffers of the local magistracy out of the doves' earnings? No! indeed they could not. The spies! The Black-Mailers! The cur dogs! What was the use of having newspapers, if outrages of this sort were not to be ventilated? Did the police imagine that because they had been abused for not clipping the wings of the Yatai-zaka doves, they were to extend the range of their spying operations to Homoko and the New Road also? That was always the way with these Japanese police. They had no discrimination: couldn't let a gentleman take his ease in his inn or his lassie on his lap! Write to the papers at once. It would be an admirable opportunity of demonstrating the independence of the foreign press, seeing that these very journals, a few months before, had been calling on the police to clear out the dove-cots everywhere. Exterritoriality, too! Talk of abolishing extrterritoriality! Why, if it were not for that glorious institution of civilized liberty, the Black Mailers might extend their brutalities from the young ladies who sit on gentlemen's knees even to the knees they sit on. No doubt it would give them infinite satisfaction to slap red-bearded cheeks and twist Tojins' arms. They'd better try it! If they do they'll soon understand what foreigners mean by the "utter demolition of a police station and a severe belabouring of the constables." Hurrah for extrterritoriality! Yet, as we said at the outset, the Japanese ought to be very grateful for all this. There is no danger of their getting into a groove or imagining that they are giving satisfaction.

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Apart, however, from the merriment this quaint outcry inspires, it is worth while to ask seriously whether the anti-foreign motives attributed to the police are not a little far-fetched. Suppose correspondents and editors of the vernacular journals were to declare that the proceedings of the Consular Constables in Yokohama are dictated wholly by "enmity and malice" to Japanese, and that their object is not to uphold the law but simply to subject the people of the country to petty annoyance—what would be our

immediate rejoinder? Would it not be that they judge us by themselves? That people who are so ready to attribute hostility and ill-feeling to others, cannot be either very friendly or very well disposed themselves? A similar deduction would doubtless be quite unjustifiable on the side of the Japanese, and being fair-minded and far-discerning people they are not likely to make it! Nevertheless we do not quite credit the sentiments ascribed to the police in this instance, because it so happens that they are equally strict in Tokiyo. The most strenuous efforts are made there to confine the social evil to quarters of the city where the law permits it to flourish. Elsewhere its public existence is checked by methods which often seem to trench upon the liberty of the subject. Opinions will differ as to the utility of all this. We believe we are right in saying that in the United Kingdom the law has ceased to extend its functions in this direction. It takes no cognizance of anything less than a public nuisance. In the English colony of Hongkong, on the other hand, a system exists which is efficient, but which has more than once owed its efficiency to devices that amount to espionage of the pettiest description. In fact no question has excited greater controversy, and the world is still very far from an unanimous reply. One thing, however, is certain, that whether attempts to deal with the evil be wise or unwise, the conduct attributed to the Japanese police in this particular instance admits of no defence. But it does admit of denial. We do not implicitly believe that the young ladies' faces were slapped and their arms twisted simply because they themselves affirm that they were thus treated. Upon these points we prefer to reserve judgment. Of this only we are persuaded, that any attempts made by the Japanese police to put a check on the abuses which flourish in the environs of this Settlement, and which flourish because of the support they receive from foreigners themselves, cannot possibly be successful unless recourse is had to measures of a harsh and questionable character. It might be supposed, for example, that instead of arresting the girls themselves the proper course would be to impound their masters or mistresses. But on what grounds? Evidence of wrong-doing must be furnished. How is it to be procured? Any person who sets himself to answer these questions seriously will be compelled to conclude that the Yokohama police are trying to grapple with an evil which scarcely comes within the proper scope of the law. The English rule seems the best in the long run. Let the thing alone unless it becomes publicly offensive. Homoko would then enjoy immunity. It is a comparatively retired place, and the bathing houses there are frequented by foreigners of a class not requiring police surveillance. In other parts of the world young girls are not employed to attend on gentlemen bathing. The Japanese might very well put a stop to that part of the affair. But the worst mistake they can make is to be pragmatical. There still survives in this country a tendency, handed down from the feudal times, to combine the duties of

constable and magistrate in one person. It is a bad tendency, and ought to be eradicated as speedily as possible. Nevertheless, the people have only good words for the police, whose value they have learned to appreciate, and it seems truly regrettable that foreigners should permit themselves, on the strength of *ex-parte* evidence, to speak of them in terms which cannot fail to bring them into discredit and certainly will not increase their good-will.

JAMES CAREY, the Dublin informer, has been shot dead at Port Elizabeth. The last news we had of him was dated June 28th. It said that much excitement had been caused at Queens-town by a report that he was among the passengers who had embarked at that port for America, but that his whereabouts could not be traced. Five days previously the telegraph told us that he was believed to have gone to the north of Ireland and that the Government would eventually send him to Canada. Another rumour, however, said that he had been carried over to Liverpool and thence taken across country to Hull. In fine, nobody seemed to know what had really become of him, and it may be presumed that the police took every possible means of perpetuating this ignorance. Africa, at all events, was not suggested by anyone as his probable destination, yet to Africa he apparently went—for we presume that the Port Elizabeth mentioned in the telegram is the place recently brought into notice during the troubles at the Cape. The Fenians, however, do not appear to have been thrown off the scent. They must have telegraphed information of Carey's movements, as he had scarcely stepped on shore when the assassin's bullet reached him. Thus once more the law has been signally worsted. Public opinion, perhaps, will not greatly blame Carey's murderers. No man could possibly have played a rôle more repugnant to all the better instincts of humanity, and few men would have played it in a more repugnant manner. But we cannot help feeling that this sudden, signal vengeance argues the existence of an organization which the Government's efforts have done little to suppress. The Irish informer will henceforth know that the first purpose of his treachery may not be attained, and that the fate he betrays his comrades to avoid is not averted but only altered.

It is a common occurrence in Japan to have to place on record slight shocks of earthquake, but we trust we may never have to chronicle such a disaster in this country as has just reached us by wire, a small town in the south of Italy, Casamicciola, having been, apparently, swallowed up by an earthquake, as no less than five thousand persons are reported killed. No such calamity has occurred in that quarter of the globe since Castale Nuovo suffered a somewhat similar fate, when 4,000 persons were engulfed.

REFERRING to the trial of the Fukushima suspects, the *Choya Shimbun* says, that in consequence of this investigation Liberalism in

the province where the agitation culminated has been entranced in terror, while the (so-called) monarchical party has increased in vigor and influence. The recent visit of an ardent reformer from Sendai, who has been giving a series of lectures in Fukushima, has in a measure revived the spirit of those who look for a complete emancipation from the thralldom of effete tradition.

ONE who peers into the old church registers of England meets with many curious things. This, in the Record Office of Winchester Cathedral, dated A.D. 1182, is certainly unique. It is a paid workman's bill, and this is a literal copy:—

| FOR WORK DONE. | | s. | d. |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------|----|----|
| In Soldering and repairing St. Joseph. | | 0 | 8 |
| Cleaning and ornamenting the Holy Ghost. | | 0 | 6 |
| Repairing the Virgin Mary and cleaning the Child. | | 4 | 8 |
| Screwing a nose on the Devil, putting in the hair in his head, and placing a new joint in his tail. | | 5 | 6 |

IN the list of honors conferred by the Emperor of All the Russias upon the representatives of foreign powers who were present at his coronation, we observe the name of H.E. Ito, Special Envoy from Japan, who has received the insignia of the First Class of the White Eagle.

THE sporting public of Yokohama, as well as that of Tokiyo, will regret to hear of the death of the well-known and courageous Japanese pony Kamakura. It succumbed on the 3rd instant after a brief attack of cholera. His winnings during his short career are stated by the *Mainichi Shimbun* at yen 30,000.

THE Japanese steamer *Ise Maru*, a new vessel of 738 tons register, purchased in England by the Kiyodo Unyu Kwaisha, left Cardiff on the 22nd of June with a cargo of coal for this port.

THE Japanese Minister at Seoul reports that the Korean Government has already founded an arsenal: that a big steam-engine to be used therein has been ordered from Shanghai; and that skilled Chinese artisans are to be employed to superintend the work in twelve different departments.

A NOTIFICATION has been issued from the Home Department announcing that in consequence of cholera cases having been reported at Canton and Swatow, vessels from those ports arriving at Yokohama, Kobe, and Nagasaki will be subject to quarantine regulations.

PASSENGER traffic on the Tokiyo-Kumagai railway is steadily on the increase. Excursionists to Oji are so numerous that a special train is now running daily to and fro for their benefit.

It is said that in view of the auguration of a postal service in Korea, the Government of that country has applied for competent staff of assistants.

THE *London Gazette* announces the appointment of Mr. J. J. Quin, late of Hakodate, and recently gone home on leave, to be Vice-Consul at Tokio.

JAPANESE AND FOREIGNERS.

A SUGGESTION made some time ago by the *Trade Journal* (*Bukka Shimpo*) deserves more consideration than it seems likely to receive. The Tokiyo editor commented forcibly upon the estrangement which exists between the foreign and Japanese merchants of this Settlement. He is thoroughly frank about his own countrymen. After twenty years' acquaintance, he says, they do not entertain any very warm feelings of friendship for their foreign *confrères*. On the contrary, they have begun of late to regard Westerns with absolute hostility. They believe that an exorbitant profit is made out of them by the quick-witted foreigner, and he, on his side, thinks that he comes off second-best in his dealings with the Japanese. Thus both parties look at each other askance, and make no effort whatsoever to place their intercourse upon a frank and cordial footing. The *Trade Journal* thinks that the Ito-gwaisha complication afforded a significant illustration of this animosity. Rightly or wrongly, the Japanese believed that he had become the victim of an unjust and arbitrary system; and, rightly or wrongly, the foreigner fancied that his privileges and prospects were threatened. So complete and immediate a deadlock could never have taken place had there been any common inclination to smooth away difficulties and arrive at an understanding. But from the first each was ready to believe the worst of the other, and there was nothing for it but a fight—a fight which did not even bring with it the one benefit commonly ascribed to open combats, namely, a clearing of the atmosphere. The peace ultimately patched up was a hollow one. The old feelings of hostility still survive. The Japanese trader still looks upon the foreigner with an invidious eye, and the foreigner still "regards the Japanese much as he would regard dirt or a savage."

We cannot, of course, dispute the verdict of the writer in the *Bukka Shimpo* with respect to the sentiments of his own countrymen, but his ideas about foreigners require to be modified. It is not correct to say that they regard Japanese as "dirt or savages." That may be a true description as applied to a fraction of this community, but if used of the whole, it is an unfortunate hyperbole. The editor of the *Bukka Shimpo* is doubtless aware that in all countries the strength of the national prejudice is inversely proportional to the degree of education and experience. It exercises a greater force among insular, than among continental,

peoples, because the former's intercourse with their neighbours is more restricted; but in either case it will be found to grow more and more powerful as the social scale is farther descended. To the English rustic who has never travelled beyond the limits of his own parish, every Frenchman is a frog and every Russian a bear. Were you to tell him that the only difference between Frenchmen, Russians, and Britons is that they do not speak the same language or live in the same place, he would simply set you down as an ignoramus or as a "frog" yourself, for he believes in his heart of hearts that the veriest boor in the "tight little island" is incomparably superior to any foreigner that breathes. A similar prejudice exists among the lower orders of France and Russia against Englishmen and other strangers. Happily it is gradually yielding to the force of education, but the world is still separated from its total disappearance by a very long interval. In Yokohama its influence is marked, but essentially partial. The anti-Japanese section of this community—the section which regards all Orientals as savages, or, to use the common epithet, "niggers"—is not in any sense representative of educated opinion. There are roughs everywhere, and their ability to make themselves conspicuous is unfortunately great in a place so peculiarly circumstanced as this. But the editor of the *Bukka Shimpo* falls into a serious error when he interprets the mood of the whole community by the vulgar intolerance of its rowdy element. It is recognised here, just as distinctly as anywhere, that generosity stands high among the distinguishing traits of a gentleman, and those who, totally deficient in this quality, thrust themselves into notoriety by vilifying Japan and the Japanese, have long ago become objects of contempt and dislike to the respectable part of the community. It is not surprising that the Japanese should be misled. They can only judge by what they see or hear, and unfortunately the rowdy element among us is also the noisiest. But they are surely over sensitive when they discover cause for offence in such a paltry matter as the employment of the term "native town." The *Bukka Shimpo* describes this as an epithet "suggestive of thorough contempt," whereas in truth it is simply antithetical. So long as that portion of the settlement inhabited by Westerns is known as the "foreign quarter," so long will the portion inhabited by Japanese be termed the "native quarter." By what process the result has been attained it were perhaps wiser not to discuss, but the word

"native" has unquestionably acquired in the Orient a signification more or less opprobrious. As used here, however, no such meaning is intentionally attached to it. To that rudeness, at all events, we do not plead guilty.

If the belief described by the *Bukka Shimpo* really prevails among the Japanese, little good can be done by mere disavowals on this side. It must have been long foreseen that the abusive and acrimonious nature of the criticisms constantly published in Yokohama would ultimately produce the effect which our Tokiyo contemporary records. Whether, and how much, business suffers in consequence, we do not pretend to determine. The course of trade may be quite independent of friendly feelings. The *Bukka Shimpo* is of opinion that both sides are seriously injured by their want of mutual cordiality, and even goes so far as to compare them to cormorants, whose squabbles, blinding them to other perils, furnish an opportunity for their capture by the fishermen. In other words, the Chinese alone benefit by existing conditions. They know perfectly how to take advantage of an opportunity, and as they are content to play the rôle of go-betweens, it is rather to their advantage than otherwise that their principals should be on bad terms. This is a somewhat humiliating analysis, but we do not care to discuss it. Our concern is rather with the remedy proposed by our contemporary, namely the establishment of a Club at which both Foreigners and Japanese may meet, and learn to regard each other as human beings with similar feelings and aspirations. At present, he says, the virtues of hospitality are entirely neglected; the congenial influences of tea and wine disregarded. And in this diagnosis he is unquestionably right, whatever be the worth of his prescription. It would be difficult to conceive two communities more complete strangers to each other, so far as social intercourse is concerned, than are the Foreigners and Japanese living side by side in Yokohama. They have been within arms length of one another for a quarter of a century and yet they have never shaken hands. That they would do so now, however, if a Club were provided for the purpose, seems most unlikely. The source of the trouble lies too deep to be reached by such superficial expedients. If the disunion of the two communities becomes daily more marked, it is because the time when the distinction between them ought to have disappeared altogether becomes daily more distant. There is neither sense nor reason in the idea that Foreigners are

to remain in perpetual banishment from the Japanese nation; that they are to live at the point of a promontory virtually ostracized from Japan and the Japanese. This is the real *origo mali*, and so long as it exists the prospect is hopeless. If we are ever to live on frank and cordial terms with the people of the country, we must have something in common with them other than the mere operations of buying and selling. Little if any good is done by inviting each other to dinners and balls, which serve rather to emphasize our disjunction than to remove its causes. The day is not far distant when these conditions, if suffered to continue, will render the life of the Foreign merchant in Japan intolerable. Already his energies are so cramped, his opportunities so restricted, that men of ambition or ability must often be visited by a feeling akin to despair. From year's end to year's end nothing comes to relieve the monotony of littleness. The same weary routine of ever narrowing transactions, the same slender margin of paltry profits, the same perpetuity of enforced inertness, until the Golden Age seems to have been left irrevocably behind, and "the mighty hopes that make us men" forget altogether to visit us. Anything like moral vitality is incompatible with such a state of affairs. The notion that matters might be mended by a partial expedient like the establishment of a Club is scarcely serious. What is wanted is unrestricted intercourse and free access to the opportunities which the country offers. For there are opportunities, whatever may be said to the contrary. So long as banks, rice and stock exchanges, railway and tramway companies and so forth can declare the dividends we constantly read of in the vernacular journals, there is business to be done which Western experience and Western capital might develop profitably to both Japanese and Foreigners. But we seem to be no nearer this happy result than we were fifteen years ago. When a Japanese newspaper undertakes to discuss "our mutual estrangement" and to propose such finikin remedies as a Club where we might meet if we pleased—which we certainly should not—there may be some reason to appreciate the spirit of the suggestion, but the chief impression conveyed is one of regret that the Japanese should have so little real conception of the situation. Truly, it is but a poor evidence of our own ability to balance advantages that we should prefer certain and universal inconvenience, discomfort and ill-success to the very hypothetical danger that, once in the course of three or

four years, one in a thousand among us may be sentenced to two months' imprisonment where six weeks would suffice, or be fined a sovereign where fifteen shillings would atone for our trespass. This nervousness would be intelligible were we living in China, where arbitrary violence seems frequently to take the place of law, and property as well as life are held subject to official caprice. But in Japan, where nothing of this exists, where the rights of the individual receive quite as much respect as in many countries which we call civilized; where, with insignificant exceptions, whatever ills the people suffer make themselves equally felt among ourselves, and where the country desires nothing better than to adopt and follow all the systems we respect, it is strange, incomprehensible, that we should persist in living apart, and pride ourselves upon maintaining an isolation which is fatal to our interests and not less unbecoming to our professed liberality than was the most bigoted phase of Japanese seclusion in former years.

NECESSARY REFORMS.

'Tis worth a wise man's best of life,
'Tis worth a thousand years of strife,
If thou canst lessen, but by one,
The countless ills beneath the sun.

IT was written by an intellectual giant of the eighteenth century, whose lightest fancies often carried a deeper meaning than the weightiest arguments of his contemporaries, that the producer of two blades of grass where one had grown before was a benefactor to the world;—The import being, it is almost needless to say, that those whose efforts at progress are confined to an humble range may claim an equal recognition, and may, perhaps, as effectively promote the general welfare, as those who aim at mightier achievements. The great movements of history have been led by men of preternatural force and energy, and their work has seldom been performed without social upheavals as startling as the physical cataclysms which change the face of Nature. Vast alterations in the government, forms of authority, and established political usages of a nation are rarely accomplished by purely peaceful means, although the recent annals of Japan supply at least one example of such phenomena. But there are hundreds of reforms possible in every community,—attainable by quiet resolution, courage, and industry,—which though not so daring and comprehensive in scope as these that go hand in hand with revolution, may, nevertheless, lead the way to lofty and noble results. Not one of these should be

thrown out of consideration because of its supposed unimportance, or set aside as unworthy the attention of those who have at heart the amelioration of their fellow beings. Nothing is trivial which tends, in however slight a degree, to the benefit of humanity. From the smallest apparent causes, effects have sprung which civilization reckons among her brightest triumphs.

In no country are opportunities more abundant than in Japan for labors of this description. The need of amendment in certain social practices, conventionally and often unreflectingly adhered to by the majority, is too obvious to have escaped the notice of any who concern themselves with the growing reputation of this land and people. That the knowledge of what is required is not acted upon, may be easily attributable to a general indisposition to disturb settled habits, and more particularly to the circumstance that those who are most keenly alive to the evils are among the youth of the nation, whom the traditions of unquestioning respect for their seniors would deter from offering criticism or admonition. But it happens that there is in Japan a class precisely fitted for these tasks,—a class which holds a position entitling its members to speak with something approaching authority, and warranting them in exerting the influence which, on subjects relating to social refinements and proprieties, they are acknowledged to possess. This class is qualified by experience and by intelligence to detect the errors which too largely disfigure the everyday life of Japan; to point out the irreconcilability of persistence therein with a true civilization; and to suggest, if not to apply, a practical remedy. We refer, of course, to the body of young students who, during the past three or four years, have been returning in considerable numbers from the foreign countries in which they completed their course of education, and where they must inevitably have acquired, as part of their training, a familiarity with the principles of morality and domestic order upon which the best society of Europe and America is based.

Of these students, the larger proportion were sent and maintained abroad by the liberality of the Government. Others were supported by their own resources or the kindness of friends. But, under whatever conditions they pursued their course of foreign culture, a leading purpose of their present lives should be to utilize at home every advantageous particular of their experience elsewhere, and to strive for the introduction of every element which may contribute to the instruction of the populace,

and to the comfort, happiness, and dignity of family institutions and relationships. By the improvement of individuals, the elevation of the multitude is gradually attained, and the best hope of realizing essential benefits for the masses, lies in the salutary example that may be given by the advanced students of whom we speak. Most of them are between twenty-five and thirty years old,—an age when neither personal vigour nor the spirit of philanthropic enthusiasm should be lacking. The Government being ill provided with native experts in any department of science, responsible positions have been offered to most, if not to all, of their number, and they have to that extent the opportunity of redistributing the profit they have acquired. We should be sorry, however, to believe that they imagine their whole duty to be fulfilled in performing a few hours of daily service at public offices, and drawing substantial salaries each month. Was it for this, alone, that they were allowed to live and study, under circumstances of exceptional ease and good fortune, during their ripening years? The returned scholar who assumes that nothing more is demanded of him than to follow a technical routine, in accordance with the special study to which he may have devoted himself abroad, betrays a melancholy misapprehension of his obligations, and opens himself to the suspicion that the indulgence accorded him was largely undeserved. Nothing need compel him to neglect his particular functions. The engineer, the chemist, the architect, the mathematician, may each serve in his respective sphere, but all can find broader and more sympathetic labors ready to their hands. And in order that we may not seem to leave the subject in obscurity, we will offer a few suggestions of what may be undertaken, and with zeal and determination accomplished for the general good, by a cultivated and united body of young reformers.

To begin with, it should be their pride and loyal resolve from the moment of their arrival home, to keep their lives as free from uncleanness as we believe they generally were during their sojourn in other lands. Being at an age when wholesome influences were most likely to be effective, and having for the most part the advantage of healthy, upright surroundings, their collegiate careers were honorable and blameless, and, with very rare and unfortunate exceptions, they gained for themselves a character which gave them an enviable position in the communities where they dwelt, and would have proved of ines-

timable value, had it been their destiny to remain permanently on the same ground. To preserve this character unstained should be one of their foremost objects. The student who welcomes the relaxed conditions of Japanese society as a relief from the restraints imposed upon him in a sturdier atmosphere, and who celebrates his return hither by entering upon courses which the public opinion of Japan may not condemn, but which he knows would disgrace him in the places from which he has come, and are offensive to decency and ruinous to health anywhere,—such a student should be put under rigorous ban by his fellows, and made to understand, at least, that the liberty he craves is not the kind which philosophers wish to extend over the world. It is undeniable that a systematic abstinence from the meaner vices and more degrading revelries which occupy too much of the thought of Young Japan, would enable the class of higher students to assert a strong influence, and establish a standard of moral salubrity for the encouragement of all who are not naturally disposed to evil. The active declaration of their opinions, in this case, would not be necessary; the example alone would suffice. Are we justified in assuming that the example exists;—that even this simple incentive to amendment is uniformly given by those who are best capable of giving it? Is not the weight of evidence, rather, toward a contrary conclusion?

For active measures, numerous paths are open, some of which would naturally lead to a conflict with current prejudices, while others are free from that inconvenience,—if it be so regarded. The least combative of reformers need find no difficulty in devoting some time and toil to hygienic improvement among the lower and perhaps the middle classes. Much might be done to ward off epidemics, to destroy the germs of disease, to promote comfortable cleanliness, by organized investigation and exertion. Medical proficiency is not essential to all who engage in such works, for the greater part of which the average course of foreign education affords sufficient information. Where the skill of the physician is needed, it can be supplied by those who have been trained to that profession. There is not a ward in the City of Tokiyo, for instance, where infinite benefits might not be conferred by visitations from helpers and advisers, even if armed with no greater authority than that of intelligence and friendly intention. No urgent persuasion is needed to ensure the abandonment of many injurious habits

or the adoption of sensible precautions. The first disastrous cause of disease among the poor Japanese is ignorance. Kindly instruction is often more potent than official decrees, in removing the sources of peril. Connected with this service,—in which we believe the coöperation of hundreds of assistants might easily be enlisted,—there should be an examination into the pretended remedies cheaply sold by shopkeepers as uninformed as the purchasers, which the tests of chemistry would probably prove to be poisonous, and which, by proper representation, could be in great measure, if not entirely, suppressed. The endeavour to diminish sickness among the people is now left in the hands of a few alien missionaries. Some of these have sacrificed their lives in this struggle. How many educated Japanese have sacrificed a single leisure hour to the same end?

A task which many might shrink from approaching on account of its disagreeable character, but which would well repay an earnest effort, is the purification of the Japanese press. The noisome quality of much of what passes for amusing reading, in the newspapers of Tokiyo and other cities, is too well known to require exposition. It is the one offensive blot upon an otherwise commendable institution. That it is irremovable we can hardly bring ourselves to believe. The editors of most of the respectable journals—respectable, that is to say, but for the blemish to which we allude—are men of good position, who claim and obtain intercourse with well-bred citizens. They meet frequently with representatives of the student class upon which, as we assure ourselves, many hopeful expectations may be founded. If these dispensers of foul literature can be convinced that their practices are repugnant to the sense of the best informed body in the country; if they are taught that only by discontinuing that branch of their trade they can be admitted to association with reputable scholars, we shall soon see the end of it. It will not do for those to whom we appeal to say it is no affair of theirs,—that they do not read, and are not concerned with, the objectionable matter. In a broad sense, it concerns every man who believes in keeping the natural mouthpiece of the public unsoiled; in a nearer sense, it concerns all who have young brothers, mothers, or sisters, that can read. By a strange and scandalous perversity, the papers most addicted to this species of depravity are those ostensibly prepared for sale to women. In this arrangement, the worst kind of libel is implied. It is not true that the women of Japan have any

interest in such nastiness. It suits the stronger and coarser sex to cast that stigma, with many others, upon them, but all who have taken pains to acquaint themselves with the truth, in this and kindred matters, are fully aware that it is the masculine readers alone who are responsible for the continuance of the grossness.

One of the most astonishing spectacles to every stranger who visits the large cities of Japan, and one of the most painful to all foreigners, either new or old residents is the treatment to which beasts of burden are habitually subjected. The cruelties visited upon them are in one sense difficult of explanation, for the people are in most respects of a tender and kindly disposition, and the fondness lavished upon domestic animals is frequently extravagant. But the abuses inflicted on draft-horses seem almost incompatible with the commonest sense of humanity. It is next to impossible to walk from one end to the other of the principal thoroughfare of the capital, without witnessing barbarities enough to tarnish the reputation of any civilized community. Every Japanese who has travelled, and especially those who have lived in the United States, must be familiar with the methods there employed to prevent these debasing practices. If not acquainted with the details, they certainly know the result, and understand that wanton persecution of all animals is guarded against by a severe and watchful authority. They are not unacquainted with the fact that the officers of the societies devoted to this compassionate work are invariably ready and glad to explain the machinery of their system to inquirers, and that the establishment of a similar institution in this country would be made easy by the transmission of all the requisite information, with ample counsel as to the plans of organization and operation. We have reason to believe that these outrages have indeed attracted attention; but the response to outside suggestions that an attempt be made to put an end to them has taken the discouraging form of assurances that the populace at large would not sympathize with the proposed movement, but rather with the owners of the tortured beasts. "The average citizen," we are told, by some who are certainly not inclined to regard this question in a flippant light, "could not understand the idea of interference with the right of a stable-keeper, or omnibus proprietor, to use his horses in any way that should suit him; and the person arrested or punished for violence thus done to his own property would infallibly be looked upon as a victim

of official tyranny." This, if true, might render the task more difficult than it ought to be in an intelligent community, but does not at all disprove the necessity for endeavouring to meet and overthrow the evil. So long as it remains unredressed, the streets of Tokiyo supply each day a record of shame too flagrant to escape reproach not only here, but in distant lands, where the name of Japan ought for many reasons to be kept free from such stains.

While dealing with these subjects, we are constrained to bring into prominence an obligation of far greater importance,—perhaps, indeed, the most important of all which rest upon those who hope for the healthy progress of the State, and the true welfare of its inhabitants. Among the hundreds of Japanese who have journeyed or resided in countries where the English language is spoken, and where the ordinances of English morality are recognized, not one can blind himself to the wrongs connected with, and growing out of, the sorrowful social position of women throughout the empire. Not one who has seen what women are and may be, where a just respect is accorded them; where their inherent privileges of equality are conceded; where their beneficent influence is permitted to manifest itself unrestrained by ignorant prejudice or a brutal and unreasoning force, but knows and feels the weight with which Japan is hampered in her march toward enlightenment. Not one is honorably free to shirk the duty which his better judgment must impose on him, of discountenancing by example, and opposing with heart and soul, the unjust and oppressive customs which are suffered to darken the happiness of households and which may weaken the elements of confidence, integrity, and purity in every family circle. To deal minutely with this momentous question is not now our design. To what extent the future interests of Japan are bound up with it, the educated class to which we chiefly refer needs no warning, and he who sanctions by tacit approval the prevailing system, is destitute of genuine concern in his country's welfare. He who encourages it by imitation, in his own person, at once degrades himself and betrays the trust which devolved upon him when he was sent forth to gather the fruits of foreign culture for reproduction in the native soil. The forms of conventional submission to household authority become fictions when they forbid remonstrance against oppression, immorality, or cruelty. To excuse inaction on the plea that traditional propriety forbids the son to admonish his father, or the

younger brother to reprove his elder, when every instinct proclaims the need of admonition and reproof, is a shallow evasion. Fathers and brothers have had their undue supremacy long enough. Let the advocates of mothers, sisters, and daughters now be heard.

These are hints,—hastily and imperfectly set down,—as to what may be attempted for the common benefit by those who, as we have stated, possess both the knowledge and the influence requisite for such undertakings. It is with a deep regret that we fail to discern the desired signs of intention, on their part, to redeem the full promise of the years they passed in remote preparation for worthy work at home. During their term of absence, assurances were frequent of their resolution to apply themselves enthusiastically to the dissemination of upright and honorable principles, no matter at what cost, from the moment of renewed contact with their countrymen. Why are these resolutions forgotten? What has become of the pledges so fervently and spontaneously proclaimed? Is the task harder than it seemed? Is the opposition too formidable? Are the agents too few? Or is the fear of ridicule, the weapon to which Japanese are most sensitive, too deeply rooted? Poor pretences, all; no one of which should stand an instant against the impulse of a generous spirit or the mandate of a steadfast conscience. And if a glow of inspiration from without be needed, let it be recalled from LOWELL's fiery verse, fixed in the memory of most of those who have passed their term of youthful scholarship in either of the Anglo-Saxon nations:—

They are slaves who fear to speak
For the humbled and the weak;
They are slaves who will not choose
Hatred scoffing and abuse,
Rather than in silence shrink
From the Truth they needs must think.
They are slaves who dare not be
In the Right, with two or three.

THE DANGER OF BEING INTERVIEWED.

WE have had frequent occasion to comment in strong terms upon that most objectionable adjunct of modern journalism, the interviewer. Inaccuracy and recklessness seem to be his chief characteristics, and his comparatively brief career has been prolific mainly of mischief and misapprehension. In America the social tyranny of Republicanism enables his trade to find a place among recognized professions, but its worst dangers are generally avoided by the simple process of submitting the interviewer's notes to be read by the interviewed. Even this precaution, however, excellent as it is in itself, has one

evil result: it imparts a fictitious air of truth to all reports of interviews. Readers not unreasonably assume that no responsible public man will suffer his own version of his opinions to be ventilated in the columns of a newspaper without first assuring himself that he is not credited with some notion entirely foreign to his thoughts; or, again, that no honest writer will publish an avowedly verbatim record of this or that person's ideas without previous verification of its accuracy. Were these conditions always satisfied, the interviewer would cease to be a propagandist of error and become simply a nuisance. At present he is both, and as Englishmen we confess to a feeling of considerable satisfaction that he has not yet succeeded in invading the precincts of respectable journalism in the United Kingdom.

There are, however, exceptions even in England. A notable instance is now before us. The Vienna correspondent of the London *Standard* seems to have conceived the idea of interviewing His Excellency ITO during the latter's visit to Austria, and submitting him to a cross-examination calculated to elicit many interesting replies. Mr. ITO would probably have declined the honour had he foreseen its object, but Japanese statesmen are seldom difficult of access, and on this occasion there was no idea of anything beyond an ordinary conversation. It could not have been anticipated that a brief and casual interview was to furnish the columns of the *Standard* with a lengthy verbatim report, so full of inaccuracies and misrepresentations, that, were these eliminated, there would remain little if any of the original. Such, nevertheless, is the fact. By those who know anything about Japanese affairs in general and Mr. ITO in particular, the *Standard's* version was doubtless at once set down as an amusing, though unintentional, joke. But for the sake of those not equally well informed, it may be useful to furnish some corrections, premising that we do so with authority.

Mr. ITO is made to say that Japan "increased her army, introduced compulsory conscription, and remodelled her defences" at the time of the Riukiu complication, and that she "keeps prepared for a Chinese attack whenever it comes." The connection here indicated between Japan's military organization and China's action with regard to Riukiu is, perhaps, accidental, but neither in fact nor in any utterance of Mr. ITO has it the smallest foundation. The military system of this country, as it exists now and as it has existed even since the Restoration, was

an integral part of the administrative reforms introduced in 1870. That the Riukiu question cropped up shortly afterwards can only be regarded as a coincidence. Mr. ITO did not tell his interviewer that preparation against a Chinese attack had ever motivated Japan's military organization. What he said was that the purpose of that organization is purely defensive; that Japan is ready to repel attack from whatever quarter it arrives, but that to deliver any assault in an aggressive sense is the last thing she contemplates. He further explained that, while frankly desiring to be on friendly terms with her neighbour, China, and to remove every possible cause of umbrage, it was not for Japan to take any step with regard to the Riukiu islands. They are a part of her empire. If China has any grounds of complaint, it rests with her to formulate them, not with Japan to anticipate them. As for the Chinese army, what he said about it was of the most meagre description. He did not pretend himself to have any knowledge whatsoever of its actual condition, nor had he heard of any reforms in the methods of conscription and organization. The depreciatory opinions attributed to him by the interviewer are absolutely fictitious.

These are errors which, though they betray an extraordinary amount of carelessness on the part of the *Standard's* correspondent, are of a less flagrant and mischievous description than what follows:—

Does the Tonquin dispute bear any resemblance to your previous disputes with China?

Yes, but with this difference. When some six years ago we intended to make a treaty with Corea for the opening up of her ports, we were cautious enough previously to inquire in Peking whether Corea was considered an independent State with power to conclude international treaties. The reply was that Corea, although not independent, had such treaty-making power. Such a previous inquiry on the part of France before the 1874 Treaty was made with Tonquin would have prevented the present difficulties.

Inasmuch as there has never been any "dispute" between Japan and China about the treaty concluded by the former with Korea in 1876, it is needless to observe that this question was neither proposed nor answered in the above terms. Mr. ITO was asked whether he saw any resemblance between the treaty relations of France with Tonquin and those of Japan with Korea, *vis-à-vis* China. His reply was that, judging from the newspaper reports of China's attitude towards France and from his knowledge of recent events in Korea, there seemed to be a certain similarity between China's claims of suzerainty in both cases. But he explained that, so far as Japan's treaty with Korea was concerned, no doubt had been entertained of the latter's independence, and the

preamble of the treaty contained an explicit acknowledgment of the fact.

It will be seen that whatever resemblance may exist between Chinese relations with Korea and Tonquin, there is certainly no resemblance between Mr. ITO's real answer and that attributed to him by the correspondent of the *Standard*. The latter gentleman, indeed, appears to have imagined that Japan had been seeking to establish a protectorate over Korea or otherwise interfere with its independence, whereas the truth is that Korea virtually owes its independence to Japan.

Gross as they are however, these misrepresentations appear insignificant by the side of the motives which the interviewer attributes to Japan in the event of a war between China and France:—

You would then remain neutral during a Franco-Chinese war?

It would be rash to promise that. All, of course, depends on circumstances, and on the offers that might eventually be made to us. (After a pause.) We have nothing to gain from China.

Could any French offer induce Japan to form an alliance?

That depends. I repeat that we have nothing to gain from China. The differences of race, habits, education, and public institutions between the two nations are so great that no annexation of Chinese territory could be advantageous to Japan. Besides, I do not believe in war between France and China.

If Mr. ITO really made use of this language, his opinions would only admit of one interpretation—namely, that Japan sets little, if any, store by Chinese friendship, and that she is prepared to join, at any moment, in an attack on her neighbour provided a sufficiently high value be set on her assistance. That such ignoble motives should be soberly attributed to a Japanese statesman, or that he should be deemed so reckless of his country's reputation as to give them public expression, is almost inconceivable. What Mr. ITO really said was, that it was impossible to predict with certainty Japan's action in the event of war between France and China; that she would prefer neutrality, but that if her interests were seriously imperilled, action might become unavoidable; that a war with China, however it eventuated, could confer no benefit on the Japanese either commercially or territorially, the former for obvious reasons, and the latter because Japan neither desired, nor could profit by, any redistribution of her neighbour's possessions. In short, the whole tendency of Mr. ITO's replies was to make it clear that a quarrel with China would be most repugnant to Japan's feelings and could not contribute to her material interests. If the correspondent of the *Standard* had deliberately set himself to convey a false impression, he could not have succeeded more thoroughly. The only saving clause

is that he overdid the business. None but persons who are willing, if not anxious, to believe the worst that can be said of Japan, are likely to accept the *Standard's* version of Mr. ITO's opinions. Those who have taken the trouble to learn the truth know that this country desires nothing more sincerely than Chinese friendship. One barrier—and one only—stands between the two countries. They are treading divergent paths. Japan has irrevocably elected to adopt Western civilization and to place her relations with Western States upon the closest possible footing. China is apparently resolved to preserve her isolation and to persist in looking at the outer world by the light of her ancient prejudices and philosophies. Such radically incompatible purposes render sincere amity impossible, but need not, and so far as Japan is concerned do not, inspire enmity.

Finally, the statements attributed to Mr. ITO with regard to Japan's paper currency and the tariff are not less inaccurate. He did say that the depreciation and fluctuations of *Kinsatsu* had sensibly embarrassed the people of this country, but he explained that the Government had adopted, and were steadily pursuing, a scheme leading to a resumption of specie payments, and that success seemed to be already within measurable distance. A revision of the tariff in the sense indicated in the protocols of the revised treaties would, he added, assist to bring about the desired result, but as yet no decision upon this point had been indicated by the Treaty Powers.

THE DETAILED FINANCIAL ESTIMATES FOR 1883-84.

| | | |
|------------------------------------------|-----------|--|
| Total Expenditure of Public Works | | |
| Department | 468,294 | |
| Judicial Department | 287,385 | |
| Salaries | 160,800 | |
| Allowances | 33,162 | |
| Office Expenses | 75,127 | |
| Repairs | 2,500 | |
| Students | 15,796 | |
| Supreme Court of Judicature | 122,277 | |
| Salaries | 99,816 | |
| Allowances | 91,320 | |
| Office Expenses | 9,472 | |
| Repairs | 959 | |
| Courts of Appeal | 308,322 | |
| Salaries | 254,136 | |
| Allowances | 25,691 | |
| Office Expenses | 25,127 | |
| Repairs | 3,368 | |
| Courts of First Instance | 1,352,572 | |
| Salaries | 974,706 | |
| Allowances | 146,553 | |
| Office Expenses | 145,593 | |
| Repairs | 85,720 | |
| Total Expenditure of Judicial Department | 2,070,556 | |
| Imperial Household Department | 350,974 | |
| Salaries | 246,560 | |
| Allowances | 39,335 | |
| Office Expenses | 30,200 | |
| Repairs | 12,420 | |
| Fire Brigade | 12,460 | |
| Nobles' Bureau | 10,000 | |

| | | |
|--------------------------------------------------------|---------|--|
| Board of Ceremonies | 50,485 | |
| Salaries | 3,152 | |
| Allowances | 4,305 | |
| Office Expenses | 2,160 | |
| Repairs | 500 | |
| Religious Celebrations | 12,000 | |
| Total Expenditure of the Imperial Household Department | 401,460 | |
| Senate | 185,500 | |
| Salaries | 161,576 | |
| Allowances | 9,205 | |
| Office Expenses | 10,707 | |
| Repairs | 4,012 | |
| Legations and Consulates abroad:— | | |
| Legation in London | | |
| Salaries | 25,037 | |
| Allowances | 413 | |
| Office Expenses | 9,330 | |
| Legation in St. Petersburg | | |
| Salaries | 20,673 | |
| Allowances | 2,221 | |
| Office Expenses | 7,826 | |
| Legation in Paris | | |
| Salaries | 26,454 | |
| Allowances | 2,231 | |
| Office Expenses | 8,416 | |
| Legation in Washington | | |
| Salaries | 20,672 | |
| Allowances | 425 | |
| Office Expenses | 4,546 | |
| Legation in Berlin | | |
| Salaries | 22,035 | |
| Allowances | 397 | |
| Office Expenses | 7,837 | |
| Legation in Rome | | |
| Salaries | 17,837 | |
| Allowances | 613 | |
| Office Expenses | 6,546 | |
| Legation in Vienna | | |
| Salaries | 18,383 | |
| Allowances | 405 | |
| Office Expenses | 6,052 | |
| Legation in Holland | | |
| Salaries | 7,310 | |
| Allowances | 760 | |
| Office Expenses | 5,148 | |
| Legation in Peking | | |
| Salaries | 15,700 | |
| Allowances | 1,890 | |
| Office Expenses | 2,866 | |
| Consulate in Shanghai | | |
| Salaries | 12,660 | |
| Allowances | 350 | |
| Office Expenses | 1,013 | |
| Consular Court and Prison | 600 | |
| Consulate in London | | |
| Salaries | 9,273 | |
| Allowances | 340 | |
| Office Expenses | 2,166 | |
| Consulate in Marseilles | | |
| Salaries | 1,939 | |
| Allowances | 78 | |
| Office Expenses | 1,000 | |
| Consulate in New York | | |
| Salaries | 8,761 | |
| Allowances | 388 | |
| Office Expenses | 1,678 | |
| Consulate in San Francisco | | |
| Salaries | 6,909 | |
| Allowances | 268 | |
| Office Expenses | 1,678 | |
| Consulate in Hongkong | | |
| Salaries | 5,700 | |
| Allowances | 354 | |
| Office Expenses | 1,766 | |
| Consulate in Tientsin | | |
| Salaries | 6,120 | |
| Allowances | 302 | |
| Office Expenses | 371 | |
| Consulate in Sagalien | | |
| Salaries | 4,800 | |
| Allowances | 242 | |
| Office Expenses | 371 | |
| Consulate in Vladivostok | | |
| Salaries | 4,600 | |
| Allowances | 92 | |
| Office Expenses | 1,074 | |
| Legation in Soul | | |
| Salaries | 17,480 | |
| Allowances | 400 | |
| Office Expenses | 5,000 | |

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|----------------------------------------------------|---------|--|
| Hospital | 4,068 | |
| Escorts | 3,200 | |
| Consulate in Wonsan | | |
| Salaries | 9,020 | |
| Allowances | 300 | |
| Office Expenses | 3,351 | |
| Hospital | 4,500 | |
| Police | 4,100 | |
| Consular Court and Prison | 300 | |
| Consulate General in Pusan | | |
| Salaries | 13,620 | |
| Allowances | 240 | |
| Office Expenses | 3,250 | |
| Hospital | 5,200 | |
| Police | 6,000 | |
| Consular Court and Prison | 800 | |
| Consulate in Inchon | | |
| Salaries | 10,340 | |
| Allowances | 360 | |
| Office Expenses | 3,350 | |
| Hospital | 4,500 | |
| Police | 4,100 | |
| Consular Court and Prison | 300 | |
| Trade Commission in Honolulu | | |
| Salaries | 300 | |
| Office Expenses | 130 | |
| Consulate in Milan | 360 | |
| Consulate in Venice | 360 | |
| Consulate in Naples | 200 | |
| Consulate in Chefoo | 200 | |
| Consulate in Melbourne | 200 | |
| Consulate in Brussels | 200 | |
| Consulate in Berlin | 200 | |
| Consulate in Trieste | 200 | |
| Special Appropriation for Legations and Consulates | 9,500 | |
| Sundry Expenses for Legations and Consulates | 103,942 | |
| Total Expenditure of Legations and Consulates | 533,395 | |
| Naval Department | 203,131 | |
| Salaries | 134,637 | |
| Allowances | 43,172 | |
| Office Expenses | 6,402 | |
| Foreign Travel | 8,100 | |
| Students at Home | 492 | |
| Students Abroad | 10,328 | |
| Staff Bureau | 129,271 | |
| Salaries | 37,006 | |
| Allowances | 88,865 | |
| Office Expenses | 2,500 | |
| Dockyard Bureau | 883,026 | |
| Salaries | 65,770 | |
| Allowances | 23,516 | |
| Office Expenses | 61,654 | |
| Repairs | 123,088 | |
| Equipment | 163,817 | |
| Uniforms | 167,745 | |
| Coal | 63,670 | |
| Repairs to Men-of-war | 213,766 | |
| Hydrographic Bureau | 65,845 | |
| Salaries | 37,665 | |
| Allowances | 13,759 | |
| Office Expenses | 10,759 | |
| Repairs | 460 | |
| Marine Equipment | 3,202 | |
| Medical Staff Bureau | 97,240 | |
| Salaries | 44,376 | |
| Allowances | 9,960 | |
| Repairs | 960 | |
| Students | 3,540 | |
| Invalids | 29,524 | |
| Ammunition Bureau | 263,925 | |
| Salaries | 38,544 | |
| Allowances | 9,420 | |
| Office Expenses | 3,360 | |
| Repairs | 108 | |
| Ammunition | 212,493 | |
| Naval Courts-martial | 28,334 | |
| Salaries | 17,484 | |
| Allowances | 2,528 | |
| Office Expenses | 1,479 | |
| Prisons | 6,843 | |
| Naval College | 93,750 | |
| Salaries | 54,060 | |
| Allowances | 14,736 | |
| Class-rooms | 11,154 | |
| Repairs | 900 | |

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|----------------------------------------------|-----------|--|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------|--|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------|--|
| Students | 12,900 | | Office Expenses | 6,300 | | Repairs | 4,616 | |
| Naval Engineering School | 24,072 | | Repairs | 1,000 | | Agricultural enterprises | 73,020 | |
| Salaries | 12,372 | | Sundries | 120 | | Office for control of Manufactures at Sapporo | 264,963 | |
| Allowances | 5,232 | | Tokyo Gakushi Kwai-in (Educational Society under the auspices of the Government) | 17,940 | | Salaries | 28,660 | |
| Repairs | 300 | | Salaries | 120 | | Allowances | 27,557 | |
| Class-rooms | 3,180 | | Allowances | 7,080 | | Office Expenses | 11,212 | |
| Students | 2,988 | | Office Expenses | 1,070 | | Repairs | 900 | |
| Eastern Admiralty Office | 100,683 | | Gymnastic School | 8,500 | | Manufactures | 182,980 | |
| Salaries | 52,638 | | Salaries | 4,956 | | Improvements in land transport | 13,000 | |
| Allowances | 22,940 | | Allowances | 1,626 | | Bricks | 654 | |
| Office expenses | 3,473 | | Class-rooms | 1,723 | | Mining Bureau at Horonai | 32,410 | |
| Repairs | 300 | | Repairs | 195 | | Salaries | 19,746 | |
| Naval Conscriptio | 11,000 | | Total Expenditure of Educational Department | 935,035 | | Allowances | 7,063 | |
| Prison | 9,992 | | Bureau of Inland Revenue | 266,216 | | Office Expenses | 4,391 | |
| Sundries | 280 | | Salaries | 63,398 | | Repairs | 1,210 | |
| Branch Admiralty Office, Nagasaki | 8,196 | | Allowances | 22,747 | | Agricultural School at Sapporo | 48,032 | |
| Salaries | 4,623 | | Office Expenses | 26,789 | | Salaries | 20,328 | |
| Allowances | 2,213 | | Stamps | 134,834 | | Allowances | 3,075 | |
| Repairs | 300 | | Title-deeds | 18,048 | | Class-rooms | 11,979 | |
| Torpedo Training Establishment | 29,625 | | Repairs | 400 | | Repairs | 1,250 | |
| Salaries | 19,306 | | Branch Bureaux | 358,021 | | Garden | 11,400 | |
| Allowances | 8,170 | | Salaries | 106,699 | | Sugar Refinery at Monbetsu | 51,999 | |
| Office Expenses | 2,149 | | Allowances | 129,668 | | Salaries | 4,500 | |
| Men-of-war and Barracks | 1,154,594 | | Office Expenses | 25,676 | | Allowances | 2,131 | |
| Salaries | 645,351 | | Repairs | 5,855 | | Factories | 17,202 | |
| Allowances | 446,816 | | Conveyance and sale of taxes paid in kind | 99,123 | | Machinery | 26,466 | |
| Office Expenses | 18,292 | | Total Expenditure of the Bureau of Inland Revenue | 624,237 | | Repairs | 1,700 | |
| Repairs | 492 | | Customs Bureau | 32,739 | | Office for the control of Agriculture and Manufactures at Nanaye | 47,776 | |
| Foreign Cruises | 9,680 | | Salaries | 18,364 | | Salaries | 8,928 | |
| Students | 8,693 | | Allowances | 4,458 | | Allowances | 1,676 | |
| Coal | 25,270 | | Office Expenses | 4,430 | | Office Expenses | 1,313 | |
| Total Expenditure of Naval Department | 3,081,692 | | Repairs | 5,487 | | Repairs | 350 | |
| Educational Department | 332,098 | | Custom Houses | 172,232 | | Agricultural and Manufacturing Enterprises | 35,509 | |
| Salaries | 125,428 | | Salaries | 28,131 | | Office for the control of Agriculture and Manufactures at Nemuro | 67,992 | |
| Allowances | 14,726 | | Allowances | 30,819 | | Salaries | 6,551 | |
| Office Expenses | 40,237 | | Office Expenses | 19,216 | | Allowances | 6,067 | |
| Compilation | 40,000 | | Repairs | 4,066 | | Repairs | 1,359 | |
| Repairs | 15,662 | | Total Expenditure of the Customs Bureau | 204,971 | | Office Expenses | 2,818 | |
| Students Abroad | 22,360 | | Postal Bureau | 2,460,572 | | Agricultural and Manufacturing Enterprises | 51,187 | |
| Encouragement of Science | 49,500 | | Salaries | 172,245 | | Total Expenditure of the Bureau for the control of Industries in Hokkaido | 671,287 | |
| Educational Inspection | 24,185 | | Allowances | 64,800 | | Grand Total of Expenditures of the Council of State, Departments, Boards and Bureaux | 24,787,092 | |
| Musical Bureau | 11,713 | | Office Expenses | 139,197 | | Repairs and constructions | 100,931 | |
| Salaries | 3,840 | | Repairs | 52,031 | | Repairs to Shrines | 84,690 | |
| Allowances | 2,935 | | Foreign travel | 5,850 | | Repairs to the branch office of the Tokiyofu in the Bonin Islands | 300 | |
| Office Expenses | 4,452 | | International Postal service | 1,000 | | Repairs to the Magazines in Yokohama | 5,811 | |
| Repairs | 486 | | Working the Postal system | 285,000 | | Repairs to the Japanese quarters in Korea | 20 | |
| Tokyo Daigaku | 358,740 | | Stamps | 104,738 | | Construction of Prefectural offices at Okinawa | 10,110 | |
| Salaries | 217,707 | | Transport of mails | 55,000 | | Engineering | 708,813 | |
| Allowances | 42,474 | | Money orders | 10,710 | | Yodo River | 50,000 | |
| Class-rooms | 56,602 | | Collection and delivery of letters | 1,269,850 | | Tone River | 50,000 | |
| Repairs | 26,511 | | Subsidy to the Mitsu Bishi Company | 250,000 | | Shinano River | 50,000 | |
| Students | 12,701 | | Steamers to and from Okinawa Kwa | 9,000 | | Kiso River | 50,000 | |
| Invalids | 2,745 | | Steamers to and from Vladivostock | 10,080 | | Kitakami River | 50,000 | |
| Osaka Intermediate School | 26,904 | | Sundries | 31,151 | | Fuji River | 50,000 | |
| Salaries | 14,124 | | Post Office at Shanghai | 4,428 | | Shogawa | 50,000 | |
| Allowances | 3,178 | | Salaries | 1,080 | | Abutake River | 30,000 | |
| Class-rooms | 5,189 | | Allowances | 2,896 | | Oi River | 29,000 | |
| Repairs | 4,373 | | Office Expenses | 220 | | Akano River | 9,000 | |
| Students | 100 | | Repairs | 72 | | Chikugo River | 9,000 | |
| School for Foreign Languages | 45,140 | | Conveyance of mails | 84 | | Mogami River | 9,000 | |
| Salaries | 33,852 | | Sundries | 76 | | Yodo River | 17,093 | |
| Allowances | 2,715 | | Total expenditure of Postal Bureau.. Bureau for the control of industries in Hokkaido | 2,465,000 | | Water-Works | 9,718 | |
| Class-rooms | 3,756 | | Salaries | 22,932 | | Repairs to the Palace, etc. | 1,500 | |
| Repairs | 700 | | Allowances | 11,775 | | Repairs of roads inside Kuruma | 10,276 | |
| Students | 4,117 | | Office Expenses | 10,080 | | Expenses of construction and repairs in the foreign Settlements | 55,050 | |
| Normal School | 59,504 | | Repairs | 4,600 | | Subsidy to the construction of roads in | | |
| Salaries | 17,610 | | Agricultural experiments | 4,600 | | | | |
| Allowances | 3,555 | | Competitive Exhibition of marine and land products | 5,000 | | | | |
| Class-rooms | 8,006 | | Agricultural Office at Sapporo | 96,928 | | | | |
| Repairs | 14,213 | | Salaries | 8,592 | | | | |
| Students | 13,120 | | Allowances | 4,450 | | | | |
| Female Normal School | 27,566 | | Office Expenses | 6,250 | | | | |
| Salaries | 12,360 | | | | | | | |
| Allowances | 3,770 | | | | | | | |
| Class-rooms | 5,666 | | | | | | | |
| Repairs | 1,600 | | | | | | | |
| Students | 4,170 | | | | | | | |
| School for Mechanics | 31,880 | | | | | | | |
| Salaries | 15,068 | | | | | | | |
| Allowances | 2,575 | | | | | | | |
| Repairs | 6,000 | | | | | | | |
| Class-rooms | 8,237 | | | | | | | |
| Library | 9,780 | | | | | | | |
| Salaries | 4,691 | | | | | | | |
| Allowances | 1,085 | | | | | | | |
| Office Expenses | 3,704 | | | | | | | |
| Repairs | 300 | | | | | | | |
| Educational Museum | 17,940 | | | | | | | |
| Salaries | 7,534 | | | | | | | |
| Allowances | 2,986 | | | | | | | |

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| Kiyoto | 1,185 |
| Dredging in Nagasaki harbour | 30,000 |
| Subsidy to the construction of roads in Nagano | 30,000 |
| Subsidy to the construction of roads in Fukushima | 44,583 |
| Subsidy to the construction of the port of H'kwanseki, Kumamoto | 33,334 |
| Subsidy to the construction of roads in Kumamoto | 14,494 |
| Sundry engineering works in Okinawa | 3,080 |
| Total Expenditure for construction, repairs, and engineering | 809,744 |
| Expenditures for Cities and Prefectures:— | |
| Tokyo | 247,623 |
| Kiyoto | 191,703 |
| Osaka | 184,528 |
| Kanagawa | 150,713 |
| Hiogo | 171,556 |
| Nagasaki | 96,616 |
| Niigata | 138,900 |
| Hakodate | 196,028 |
| Sakitama | 85,621 |
| Chiba | 105,419 |
| Ibaraki | 99,473 |
| Gumma | 74,195 |
| Tochigi | 77,856 |
| Miye | 96,610 |
| Aichi | 105,821 |
| Shizuoka | 97,191 |
| Yamanashi | 57,954 |
| Shiga | 81,133 |
| Gifu | 75,438 |
| Nagano | 95,568 |
| Miyagi | 89,040 |
| Fukushima | 108,150 |
| Iwate | 92,890 |
| Awomori | 84,592 |
| Yamagata | 91,997 |
| Akita | 85,783 |
| Fukui | 74,651 |
| Ishikawa | 77,253 |
| Toyama | 82,567 |
| Tottori | 64,213 |
| Shimane | 85,123 |
| Okayama | 117,063 |
| Hiroshima | 96,673 |
| Yamaguchi | 99,483 |
| Wakayama | 76,290 |
| Tokushima | 78,835 |
| Yehime | 117,024 |
| Kochi | 78,489 |
| Fukuoka | 112,197 |
| Oita | 85,345 |
| Saga | 69,685 |
| Kumamoto | 94,922 |
| Miyasaki | 62,900 |
| Kagoshima | 103,362 |
| Okinawa | 213,685 |
| Sapporo | 280,332 |
| Nemuro | 180,569 |
| Sundries | 100,137 |
| Total Expenditure for Cities and Prefectures | 5,332,609 |
| Police Expenditure:— | |
| Police Courts | 392,458 |
| Salaries | 283,290 |
| Allowances | 53,608 |
| Office Expenses | 32,150 |
| Repairs | 3,600 |
| Detective Service | 15,000 |
| Uniforms | 4,160 |
| Annuities | 250 |
| Relief fund | 400 |
| Police for Cities and Prefectures | 2,082,906 |
| Salaries of Police Inspectors | 447,730 |
| Sundries for Police Inspectors | 131,893 |
| Salaries of foreign staff | 4,104 |
| Sundry Expenses for foreign staff | 361 |

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| Expenses of police in Bonin Islands | 575 |
| Expenses of police in the Prefecture of Okinawa | 50,000 |
| Allowances for Cities and Prefectures | 448,243 |
| Total Police Expenditure | 2,475,364 |
| Tokyo Penitentiary | 52,688 |
| Salaries | 13,064 |
| Allowances | 11,843 |
| Office Expenses | 3,762 |
| Repairs | 4,640 |
| Criminals | 19,379 |
| Miyagi Penitentiary | 53,398 |
| Salaries | 13,712 |
| Allowances | 14,994 |
| Office Expenses | 3,948 |
| Repairs | 4,169 |
| Criminals | 16,575 |
| Miike Penitentiary | 35,489 |
| Salaries | 14,624 |
| Allowances | 13,464 |
| Office Expenses | 6,426 |
| Repairs | 975 |
| Kabafuto Penitentiary | 202,284 |
| Salaries | 28,995 |
| Allowances | 63,380 |
| Office Expenses | 14,983 |
| Repairs | 4,062 |
| Criminals | 90,864 |
| Sorachi Penitentiary | 167,595 |
| Salaries | 22,638 |
| Allowances | 61,151 |
| Office Expenses | 9,201 |
| Repairs | 1,617 |
| Criminals | 72,988 |
| Expenses for Provincial Prisoners in custody in the Capital | 138,297 |
| Prisons | 56,931 |
| Repairs | 20,040 |
| Criminals | 61,326 |
| Total Expenditure for Penitentiaries | 649,751 |
| Shinto Shrines:— | |
| Jimmu's Shrine | 9,426 |
| Government Shrines | 70,666 |
| National Shrines | 61,121 |
| Removal of Shrines | 3,024 |
| Yasukuni Temple | 7,550 |
| Total Expenditure for Shinto Shrines | 151,789 |
| Agricultural Relief fund | 900,000 |
| Central Reserve fund | 300,000 |
| Repairs to the Palace | 5,566 |
| Sundries | 230,651 |
| Decorations, rewards, etc. | 46,980 |
| Conveyance of coin, etc. | 183,671 |
| Total Ordinary Expenditure | 61,195,778 |
| EXTRAORDINARY EXPENDITURE. | |
| Industrial undertakings:— | |
| Dockyard at Yokosuka | 136,386 |
| Victualling | 3,300 |
| Workmen | 47,000 |
| Timber | 86,086 |
| Gunpowder Factory | 87,041 |
| Barracks | 10,000 |
| Construction | 44,405 |
| Machinery | 32,636 |
| Mining Bureau at Miike | 75,700 |
| Miners' quarters | 1,930 |
| Machinery | 50,500 |
| Excavation | 14,500 |
| Construction | 2,000 |
| Enlarging the mine | 6,770 |
| Railways under the Public Works Department:— | |
| Construction of a railway between Tsuruga and Sekigahara | 200,000 |
| Construction of Telegraphs | 35,733 |
| Total Expenditure for industrial undertakings | 534,860 |
| Sundry Outlays:— | |
| Construction of the new Palace | 400,000 |
| Construction of men-of-war | 3,330,000 |
| Construction of forts | 240,000 |
| Barracks | 39,018 |
| Construction | 200,982 |
| Imperial Shrines | 58,200 |

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| Priests' Quarters | 9,899 |
| Construction | 37,931 |
| Machinery | 300 |
| Removal of Shrines | 10,070 |
| Cost of manufacture of paper currency | 136,650 |
| Subsidy to the Nippon Railway Company | 180,533 |
| Sundry Expenses | 1,213,905 |
| Kammu Tenno's Tomb | 4,174 |
| Judicial Court | 60,000 |
| Civil Law Courts' Bureau | 7,200 |
| Men-of-war stationed in Korea | 121,296 |
| Expenses incurred in giving employment to the <i>Shinshu</i> of Hi-meiji | 15,581 |
| Students abroad | 1,020 |
| Reform of land tax | 75,000 |
| Advances for industrial purposes | 10,400 |
| Erection of a laboratory | 50,000 |
| Tea Competitive Exhibition | 13,300 |
| Competitive Exhibitions in the provinces | 7,530 |
| Subsidy to the Commercial School | 15,000 |
| Allowances to Temples and Shrines in Okinawa <i>Ken</i> | 9,484 |
| Subsidy to the Mail Service between Mori and Muroran, Hokkaido | 10,000 |
| Relief to the Natives of Nemuro (Ainos) | 5,000 |
| Sundry items | 808,920 |
| Total of Sundry Outlays | 5,559,288 |
| Industrial Fund and Advance | 5,000,000 |
| War Fund | 1,816,133 |
| Supplementary Reserve for Warlike Purposes | 1,500,000 |
| Grand total of Extraordinary Expenditure | 14,410,281 |
| Grand total of Expenditure | 75,606,059 |

APPENDIX.

The total amount of the domestic and foreign debt remaining unredeemed on the 31st of May 1883 was yen 335,366,186.30.

This amount when compared with the sum of yen 349,771,176.50 mentioned in the Budget of the last fiscal year shows a decrease of yen 14,404,999.20. Such decrease has been effected in the following manner:—By the issue of bonds against paper currency an increase of yen 348,800 was effected, and yen 780 by the adjustment of Voluntary Capitalized Pension bonds and Hereditary Pension Bonds, but a diminution of yen 7,003,094 was effected by the redemption of Hereditary and Capitalized Pension bonds, and of bonds sold for the Encouragement of industries, &c., and yen 402,600 by the redemption of the foreign debt, and yen 7,348,800 (of which a sum of yen 348,800 was for bonds issued against paper currency), by the redemption of paper currency, and yen 76.20 by the withdrawal of counterfeit paper currency.

The total amount belonging to the part of the Reserve fund was yen 53,415,490.442 on 31st of May, 1883. The amount compared with that of the reserve fund of yen 55,854,207.876 mentioned in the budget of the last fiscal year shows a decrease of yen 2,438,717.434. This decrease was caused in the following manner:—Although more than yen 226,000 and yen 92,000 were added to the fund derived from the surplus of the 13th and 14th fiscal year respectively, and more than yen 434,000 by the interest on National Bonds on the part of the reserve fund and by various other receipts, yet a decrease of a sum of over yen 3,192,000 has been effected by the purchase of specie.

The total sum of Advances (Loans made by Government) was on the 31st May, 1883, yen 19,061,559.297, showing an increase of yen 6,007,589.792 when compared with last fiscal year, namely yen 13,053,969.505. This increase is due to the fact that, although the amount advanced has been

reduced by more than yen 512,000 from the repayment of loans made for relief, &c., and more than yen 290,000 from the repudiation or adjustment of loans to the former Han, of advances to the Han in proportion to the *Aoku-daka* (quantity of rice production) and other loans, yet the sum of yen 1,294,000 was newly advanced in the last fiscal year, and yen 3,980,000 already advanced out of the "Reserve Fund," was classed as an advance out of ordinary revenue; and the sum of yen 1,543,000 advanced for the improvement of Industries from the Fund for the Encouragement of Industries and those advances made by the former Colonization Department have been included in this part together with other advances herein mentioned.

The total amount of the Fund for the relief of Agricultural Distress was yen 1,897,695.238 on the 31st May, 1883. This sum when compared with last fiscal year's yen 1,598,248.134 shows an increase of yen 299,447.104. This increase was caused in the following manner. Although the sum of yen 552,896 has been disbursed on account of the great inundation in Kumamoto Ken during June 1882, yet yen 150,000, and yen 150,000, which are respectively a part of the fund for the last half of the 14th fiscal year and the first half of the 15th fiscal year, were added.

The sum of yen 884,508.02 mentioned at the end of the Budget of the current fiscal year is silver yen, the Shimonoseki Indemnity returned by the United States Government of America in U. S. Gold coin \$785,000.87.

THE BOUREE TREATY.

(Translated from the French of Gabriel Charmes in the *Journal des Debats*).

Three months ago it was maintained that Mr. Bourée had recognized by formal treaty the suzerainty of China over the Kingdom of Annam. To-day the aspect of matters had changed. There is no earthly question of such suzerainty in the draft of the treaty that the Minister of Foreign Affairs showed from the tribune. He had to refer to a letter of earlier date from Mr. Bourée, and, according to our opinion, interpreted it incorrectly. We should like some one to prove to us that Mr. Bourée did recognize, in the draft treaty, the suzerainty of China. We should be very much surprised to receive such proof, but we should admit it. Let it be produced. Instead of that an entirely different accusation is made. People say that Mr. Bourée and those who defend him are the advocates of a more or less illegal partition of Tonquinese territory between China and ourselves. As far as we are concerned, we utterly repudiate such a reproach. As far as Mr. Bourée is concerned we also repudiate it. For, after all, what has our former Minister in China done? We will say; but, first, we should like some one to explain to us an expression, in the Senate, of the Minister of Foreign Affairs. "We wish to be friends with China!" cried Mr. Challemeil Lacour: "and it is precisely for that reason that, far from cherishing the thought of making any attempt on her territory, we do not desire even to be her immediate neighbours." . . . Indeed! If this be so, what error has Mr. Bourée committed. When we possess, or desire to possess, Tonquin, if we do not wish to be the immediate neighbour of China, there is only one method, namely, to recognize between her and ourselves a neutral zone. And that is all the easier because that zone, which has never been officially determined, naturally exists. A belt of territory which does not belong, in any definite manner, to either of the two countries stretches between Tonquin and China. Along that line, the frontiers are, in a fashion, floating. They have never been precisely

established; and China desires that they never shall be precisely established. These intermediate regions, very mountainous, are inhabited by scarcely civilized populations, whose very nationality is *quasi* indeterminate. Numerous revolts and local troubles occur; and then it is not from Peking or Hué that orders of repression and gendarmes arrive. Prefects of the districts, be they Chinese or Tonquinese, arrange in a friendly way between themselves to stifle the movement in its origin and to re-establish order. Sometimes the Chinese, sometimes the Tonquinese, take the matter in hand: sometimes both act conjointly. However defective may be this administrative and political system, it constitutes a sort of Chinese wall peculiar to itself: a human wall, to the maintenance and preservation of which the Chinese attach an extreme importance, inasmuch as they see in it a guarantee of the security of their territory.

We ask: was the recognition of the existence of this neutral zone to partition Tonquin? Mr. Bourée has done no more (than recognize the belt). He has consented to the maintenance of the existing order of things, and that is all! But he has consented with so many precautions, that he has taken particular care not to determine beforehand the breadth of this neutralized zone. When people say that its width is excessive, they know not that they are speaking on the authority of some "little papers" ignored by the public; for the Minister of Foreign Affairs has told us that nothing had been settled. Nothing would have been more simple than to remove from the subject any points having strategic or industrial importance. These would have been the subjects of future negotiations which would have occupied the attention of China, while we were conducting and achieving our campaign in Tonquin. We should afterwards have seen what circumstances allowed us to do; but in any case, and for all those who are familiar with the language of international law, the establishment of a neutralized zone has never meant that that zone was ceded as absolute property (*en toute propriété*) to one of the two parties. The idea of partition has no place here.

True it is that, if Mr. Bourée had confined himself to neutralizing a belt of territory between Tonquin and China, he would have ceded to the latter the town of Lao-kai. It is not, we admit, without surprise that we learned, quite lately, that this city was the "key" of the Red River. We had thought up to then that the key of a river was its mouth and not the point where it ceased to be navigable. We have just arrived from Egypt, where we found the English, very ignorant people no doubt in matters of commerce, making the greatest possible efforts to obtain possession of the Delta: not one of them thought for a moment that the key of the Nile was at Assouan. In France we are better versed in commercial geography. Hence Lao-kai has assumed such importance in certain minds that the mere thought of seeing it fall into the possession of the Chinese excites an indignation in which we can hardly participate, failing to see exactly how the possession of that place could be of any advantage to us. Furthermore no one seems to remark that Lao-kai is, for the present, in the hands, not of the Tonquinese—from whom, it is said, it would be a disgrace for us to take it—but of the Black Flags, who use it both as a citadel and a refuge for their piracies along the Red River. And there again, Mr. Bourée—irreparable crime!—took existing facts into his calculations. Up to the present time the Chinese, without being in love with the Black

Flags, have shown them deplorable condescension. Mr. Bourée thought it a good move to hand over to them the capital of these river-rovers, whom they would very certainly have dislodged and massacred, unless the Black Flags, menaced with such a catastrophe, had preferred—and this hypothesis is the most probable—to renounce their manner of life and submit to Chinese domination. In one way or other the security of the Red River would have been assured: in one way or other Tonquin would have been cleared, almost without effort on our part, of those dangerous bandits who have just massacred Commandant Rivière and his companions. For our unfortunate compatriots, therein, was safety. And again, according to the expression of Mr. Bourée, the Chinese guaranteed to assimilate Lao-kai to an open port—that is to say, that Yunnan would have ceased to be closed to our commerce and our industry.

It is impossible, on the other hand, to establish a grievance against our former Minister in Peking, on the ground of his having acted without due authority; for nothing is more inaccurate. What? If he was unauthorized, what was the meaning of the despatch in which Mr. Duclerc, after having acknowledged the overtures of China, wrote to him that the draft of the treaty was presented in acceptable terms? To write thus, in diplomatic style, was assuredly to authorize Mr. Bourée and encourage him to negotiate. It is said, as we are aware, that the summary telegram in which Mr. Bourée announced to the Minister of Foreign Affairs the projected arrangements with China conveyed an "imperfect, inaccurate, and false" idea of them. We are surprised at this assertion, having read the speech of the Minister of Foreign Affairs; and it is in this very speech, and not at all in the unimportant papers (*petits papiers*) to which Mr. Challemeil Lacour alluded, that we read the following telegram:—

I sent you a draft convention arranged with the Viceroy of Pechili and affirmed by the Tsung-li Yamen, acknowledging the protectorate of France in Tonquin, save a zone, the limits of which are to be fixed, along the Chinese frontier. Reciprocal guarantee of this state of things against all external enterprise.

What difference is there between this telegram and the directions given by Mr. Challemeil Lacour upon the memorandum that followed it? We look for them, but fail to find them. The telegram is the faithful résumé of the points the development of which was indicated in the memorandum. Mr. Duclerc approved the telegram: Mr. Challemeil Lacour rejected the memorandum. There is the difference: no need to look for it elsewhere! Mr. Bourée, thus formally encouraged to pursue negotiations, nevertheless carried prudence so far as to limit himself to send to Paris, not a draft of the treaty, but, as the Minister of Foreign Affairs expressed himself, "a species of memorandum," intended to serve as the basis of the draft of a treaty. It was then only a question of propositions that one was free to discuss, to modify, to reject; but which in any case ought not to have been rejected but discussed with a view to necessary modification. Mr. Bourée had heard the ideas of the Chinese: then he had transmitted them to his Government with explanations, commentaries, and it appears "justifications." What could be more modest? What more correct? Verily one is forced to ask to what rôle our representatives abroad would be reduced if they could not take any such steps! If the simple fact of having discussed with the Governments to which they are accredited the conditions of a potential arrangement—and that with the approval of their own Government—were to render them liable to the most unforeseen recall?

SPECIAL COURT, TOKYO.

Before Mr. Justice TAMANO, and Messrs. HAYASHI, KAWADA, and NAGAOKA, Assessors.

THE PROSECUTION OF THE FUKUSHIMA SUSPECTS.

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 1ST, 1883.

The Court opened at 8.20 a.m. and Counsel for the defence commenced, before entering into the legal arguments, the examination of their clients on certain points concerning the declarations made by them.

Mr. Yamada remarked that, as the evidence adduced by prisoners No. 1 and No. 2, that the administrative officers participated in the examination of the accused, had an important bearing upon the case, he would like to examine those two prisoners.

Prisoner No. 1.—I was examined seven or eight times in the Police Station, including two occasions when I was charged with having libelled the functionaries. Many administrative officers took part in my examination. I do not know their names with the exception of one, Mr. Shibayama. He said that when Saigo Takamori rebelled the Government was aware of the plot, and that as the case was the same with us, it was impossible for us to conceal our plans.

Counsel—Were you examined on the premises of the Police Station or in any other place?

Prisoner—Of course, in the Police Station. But as the room was too small to hold all the prisoners, a temporary shed was erected and all the police inspectors in the province were called to assist in the examination.

Mr. Yamada proceeded to examine prisoner No. 2, who gave similar evidence to the former, adding that his examination took place between 8 and 12 every day.

Mr. Oi then questioned prisoner No. 3, Tamono, as to the declaration made by him that circumstances point to the fact that the covenant was drawn up under temporary pressure, but that he was only zealous to promote the welfare of his country.

Counsel said that statement was incomprehensible and he wanted to know its exact meaning.

Prisoner—The reason why I referred to the political condition of Fukushima, was that I wanted to show that even in the face of any possible difficulty I would not neglect my manifest duty.

A lengthy discussion ensued between the Judge and Counsel for the defence as to whether or no the reading of the indictment, in accordance with the Code of Criminal Procedure, should be dispensed with. It was finally decided that a synopsis of the indictments should be compiled.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 2ND, 1883.

The Court opened at 8 a.m. and the Judge called upon Hanaka for his defence.

Prisoner—I fully explained myself on the 19th and 24th of last month, so it is hardly necessary for me to go over the same ground again. There is only one thing to which I wish to refer. It took three days in the Police Station at Fukushima to examine me; yet my statements are written in a few pages. Thus it is impossible that the police should have given a trustworthy account of the facts of this case. For instance, the version of my explanation of the words "Oppressive Government" is all wrong. Once, the Judicial Court of Wakamatsu pronounced a lenient judgment, in a case on libel upon Govern-

ment officers. The Governor Mishima communicated with the Minister of Justice, accusing the Judge of partiality and the Minister rebuked the Judge. Hence in my examination extreme harshness was resorted to. Two judges, Messrs. Akashi and Hasegawa, examined me one after the other. The former officer asked me whether I had sent a letter to Mutaguchi Gengaku to effect a combination of the Liberals and Constitutional Liberals with a view to overthrow the present Government. On another occasion, a police inspector said to me, when I appeared in the Court in the prison uniform, that though I was a Liberal (*Jiyu-to*) in name, yet in fact I was a *Ju-jiyu* (one destitute of everything). He advised me to apply for a position under the Government. This incident, though of no importance in itself, is sufficient to show the manner in which my trial was conducted.

The Clerk then read the indictment of Hiroshima. The Counsel for the prisoner, Mr. Oi, demanded that a copy of the indictment should be given to each prisoner as it was impossible to commit the whole statement to memory.

The Judge said he would consult the wishes of the prisoners in the matter.

Kono—I have already explained my views fully. I do not care to have a copy.

Mr. Hoshi—I am of the same mind as Kono.

Mr. Oi—I wish to have a copy of Tamano's statement, because it is exceedingly long and I cannot remember all that he said.

Mr. Nakashima—The statements are very long and full of repetitions. Nobody can remember them all, so it is very desirable that a copy should be handed to each prisoner.

Prisoner No. 3—As my counsel has remarked, I cannot remember the statement, and I wish to read it.

Mr. Kitata—The preliminary trials of the prisoners have a most important bearing upon the final issue of the affair, especially that portion which concerns the cruel treatment of the accused in the Court of First Instance. And what the defence has to do is simply to disprove the charges preferred by the prosecution. I do not, therefore, think it necessary that each prisoner should be furnished with a copy of the indictment.

Mr. Horida, the Public Prosecutor remarked that a synopsis of equal value to a full copy; and that as the business of the Court was to decide upon discrepancies between the evidence and the charges preferred, the defence had to answer any questions addressed by the Court.

Mr. Hoshi—It will be better to give a copy to such prisoners as wish to have it.

Kono—On the 21st of last month, I gave full explanations of the case in Court. To avoid confusion, I will make a short explanation of the facts. In my answer to the question about the words "Oppressive Government" I discover an error: I wished to correct it, but had no time to do so. When I was arrested, I was scantily clothed. It was a very cold day, snow having fallen 3 to 4 feet deep. My life was in a great peril through exposure. In the prison, I could not take my meals regularly, and after giving a portion to the rats, I ate, because I had to eat something to preserve my life. I was compelled to stand in the snow exposed to a bitter wind. Subjected as I was to such harsh treatment, I had no chance to demand the correction of my statements.

Judge Tamano informed the Counsel for the prisoners Tamano and Hiroshima that they should be furnished with copies of the indictment.

The Court rose at 11.30 a.m.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 3RD, 1883.

The Court opened at 8.30 a.m., when Judge Tamano announced that some delay had occurred in procuring a synopsis of the report of the examination from the prison authorities. The indictments of Hiroshima and Tamano were read. The prisoners were cautioned not to refer to irrelevant matter.

Hiroshima—The reports of our trials are very confused and in some parts even appear contradictory. Therefore some explanation from me is necessary. What I wrote in the Wakamatsu Police Station on the 14th of January this year as a statement of the covenant according to my memory, is insufficient, so I corrected it on the 17th of the same month. I wish the Court to take the second copy as correct. The report of my examination contained an expression to the effect that the covenant was drawn up to resist oppression in this country. I never said any such thing. The mistake may have arisen from some statement that the covenant was drawn up in consequence of oppression in Fukushima. That I sealed the report of the trial with my thumb, was simply due to my not having detected the mistake when the document was read to me. I am at a loss to account for such an error, though it is but natural that the statement should be full of inaccuracies, because the report of my examination which lasted for four days is condensed into one or two pages. The report makes me say, in reply to the police inspector, that I plotted a revolution. This is inconceivable. I dislike to see even the characters which mean "revolution." It was my aim to warn our youth against so dreadful a word. The statement must be wrong somewhere. When I was examined at the Wakamatsu Court, I replied, to a question from Judge Akashi, that there was no inaccuracy in the report of my trial. This answer I gave because at that time I was under the impression we were not accused on account of the covenant, but on account of being suspected of mustering a band of liberals. I first became aware, on being sent to the Special Court, of the fact that we were indicted on account of the covenant. Therefore, I then corrected my statement carefully. My answer to Judge Hasegawa, given on the 1st of February, is correct. At the preliminary hearing before Judge Hiyo in the Court on the 24th of February, I replied that there was no serious inaccuracy in the report of my trial at the Fukushima Court. This answer was very vague. I intended to correct it, but I had no chance to do so verbally. I made a written statement of what I wanted corrected. It was not, however, at first accepted by the Court. But on sending it again, it was received, to my great satisfaction, and I was examined on the 2nd April. At that time, I gave a full explanation of the covenant and all affairs connected with the enrolment of the band of Liberals to which were suspected of belonging. I declared to the Court that the copy of the covenant written by me in Wakamatsu Court was full of errors as I wrote it from my memory. Though I have modified it several times, yet it is essentially the same throughout. The reason why I made corrections so often was that the report was not rendered accurately.

Tamono—I have fully indicated the errors in the report, so I need make no further explanation. During the preliminary hearing at the Wakamatsu Court on the 27th of January, the Judge said that he thought we had plotted to overthrow the Government. On that occasion, I replied, "Yes?" interrogatively. This answer appears as though I had confessed a design seeing the impossibility of con-

cealing it from the Court, but such is not the case. What I meant was that we had not plotted against the Government, but that the Judge could think what he liked.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 4TH, 1883.

The Court opened at 8.30 a.m., when prisoner No. 5, Aizawa, demanded that the letter he sent to Yoshida Koichi should be read to him. It was read, and runs as follows:—

Sir,—I presume that the Cabinet will not arrive at a speedy conclusion about the appeal from the Local Assembly. Mr. Murakami, Secretary, has not yet returned from Tokyo. Lately, many rumours have got abroad concerning the affair, and though I have tried to ascertain the facts, I have not as yet succeeded. The meetings of the Local Government are conducted with so much privacy that even the messengers are prohibited from entering the room. I am, however, informed that during this month the election of new members will take place, and that those elected will convene a regular meeting in August next. The Speaker has been already selected. The chief district officers of Date and Shinobu-gori will be represented by supernumerary members and supported by some of the local functionaries. Government interference is said to be conspicuous in the affair, the members of the Assembly being selected from among those who act on official inspiration. This measure was decided upon in at late meeting. I am of opinion that the influence of our antagonists will preponderate in the coming struggle. If we do not take precautionary measures, our former efforts will be rendered fruitless. Not only this, but public interests will be seriously injured. The Prefect has not changed his mood and is bent upon oppression. He has persuaded the chief district officers to support him in the proposal to construct roads on the same system as that resorted to in Wakamatsu—namely every resident to pay, per woman, 15 *sen*, and per man, 30 *sen* toward the road fund. He has contrived to attain his own selfish object by pretending that his desire is to reconstruct the shrine of Itakura. He has disposed of first class Government forest land at a low price. He has allowed his favorites to fell trees in the Government forests. All these things have been done to promote his own interest. Blame must attach to the representatives of the people if they do not chastise him. I am informed that he is greatly embarrassed, and that he has to resort to all sorts of artifices to maintain an influence which is merely superficial. This being the case, if you aim at the mark, you will surely come off victorious, etc.

I am, Sir, yours respectfully,

AIZAWA KENKEI.

To Yoshida Koichi, Esq.

P.S.—Mr. Kono is detained in this place by business connected with the publication of the *Fukushima Jiyu Shimbu*. The *Kenkai Nisshi* (daily report of the Local Assembly) is out, and will shortly be distributed. The public may be anxious to receive the paper; so I wish that you would help me in selling it.

Aizawa—There is nothing in this letter that indicates anything like a plot to overthrow the Government. The words "coming struggle" simply refer to the language of one of the members of the Assembly, who was wont to say, "prepare for the struggle," on almost all occasions. I sent the letter to Yoshida wishing him to take a firm attitude in the coming convention when the collection of taxes was to be discussed. In the latter part of the epistle, I find the words "chastise him." This means nothing but to admonish the Prefect for his misconduct. I did not use the words as a hint at assassination. I will now proceed to explain a few matters in connection with the report of my examination at Wakamatsu which took place on the 28th January last. It is full of inaccuracies. As I have already explained before this Court, I was sometimes obliged to sign a document under compulsion. The officer left out some words. I wish particularly to call the attention of the Court to this fact.

Judge Tamano caused copies of the covenants written by all the prisoners to be read in accordance with the request of Hanaka, and asked if any one of the accused observed any inaccuracy in the reports.

Kono—There is a slight difference in the wording, yet it has essentially the same meaning throughout. I observe that the name of Aizawa is put before that of Sawata, but as Aizawa was tried last, his name should be put after that of Sawata.

Aizawa—I have nothing to say.

Prosecutor—I wish to hear the evidence of Kamada read; but, as it is excessively long, I will point out what parts I particularly want to refer to.

Hanaka—I wish to hear the whole evidence of Kamada read, as I suspect him very much.

Prosecutor—It would be better to read first the whole indictment and then such portion of the evidence as requires explanation.

Hanaka—I want to hear both indictment and evidence read from beginning to end.

Mr. Hoshi—As the documents have a bearing upon the trial of all the accused, it would be expedient to lend to each of them a copy supplied to counsel, and allow them to read it in their cells. The documents are very long and no one could commit them to memory.

Mr. Kitata—The plan suggested by Mr. Hoshi is excellent.

Hanaka—It we may read the documents in our cells it will be a great convenience.

Mr. Hoshi—I wish the Court would arrange the matter at its own discretion, as it will cause unnecessary trouble for us to consult the rules.

Judge Tamano—The Court will allow the accused to read the documents in their cells. (Here the clerk read such portions of the documents as were required to be read by the prosecutors.)

Judge Tamano—Does any one of the accused find discrepancies in the documents just read?

Hanaka—I observe that it is stated that Kamada was threatened with starvation, and consequently confessed the plot on the 24th of February. Hiroshima and I were examined in the Police Station on the 14th of January, when the police inspector told us that, as Kamada had confessed the plot, we could not conceal our complicity with it. If Kamada was tried on the 24th of February, how could the police inspector know about the affair from him on the 14th of January. I am given to understand that this is all invention on the part of Kamada. I must, therefore, say that his evidence is unworthy to be accepted as testimony.

Hiroshima—I want to read the report of the examination of Kamada at this Court.

The Court then rose.

MONDAY, AUGUST 6TH, 1883.

The Court opened at 8.20 a.m. when Judge Tamano told prisoner No. 3, Hiroshima, that he might speak, as he had expressed a wish to do at the last sitting.

Hiroshima—I want to see the report of Kamada's examination in this Court. (Judge ordered the Clerk to hand the document to the prisoner who pointed out a few passages which he requested the Clerk to read to him. The Clerk read them.) In one part, deponent says he visited Sasaki's place on the 10th of January, and elsewhere he says that he paid the visit on the 19th of January. This difference of date is proof that his statements are inventions. The fact that the police took Kamada to Sasaki's residence to search for documents shows that the officers resorted to threats and deceit. Therefore their evidence cannot be relied upon.

Sawata—Kamada was examined for the first time on the 19th of January. The report of his examination says that he gave the copy of the

covenant on the 14th of January. This is a very doubtful statement.

Prosecutor—The evidence of Tamura ought to be before that of Sasaki. Sasaki's evidence is similar to that of Kamada. It is just as well to read his testimony first. (Read accordingly.)

Judge Tamano—Does any one of the accused find any discrepancies in the documents just read?

Prisoners (unanimously)—We have nothing further to say. (The Clerk then read the evidence of Tamura.)

Hanaka—Tamura says that Kamada had the copy of the covenant on the 5th of January. This is inconsistent with fact. Kamada met Hiroshima at Nihonmatsu on the 6th of January. If he really had the covenant on the 5th, he ought to have told Hiroshima about it at the time of the interview. Hiroshima requested Kamada to look after the important documents he had left at Mumei Kan and yet he said nothing to Hiroshima about the copy of the covenant. This shows that Kamada could not have been in possession of the copy on the 5th of January. My belief is fully confirmed by the statement Kamada made in this Court that he only saw the covenant after he was told by Hiroshima to look for it. His statements are contradictory in many respects.

Hiroshima—Tamura was my servant.

Prosecutor—Read the letter which Tamano sent to Mumei Kan.

The Clerk then read the epistle. It was as follows:—

August 15th, 1883.

To the Mumei Kan—The inhabitants of Kitagata district are as dolls compared with the people of our locality. The local Government and district officers are bent upon oppression, and treat them as though they were beasts of burden. At first, I did not believe this, but after personal observation, I found that such is really the case, and I am filled with indignation that shakes my whole frame. Alas! the people are apathetic and do not take any step to resist oppression. I paid a visit to the head-quarters of the local Liberals and was surprised to find the officers were only delivery men of the *Jiyu Shimbu*. I cannot but lament this state of affairs. That being the case, the influence Yasuse Keizo enjoyed can easily be accounted for. While he was in this place, things presented a better aspect. Of political problems, the people have no idea; they are endeavoring to form a local combination to argue political matters that are seven or eight years old. They do not know what a political party is. How much more, then, must it be natural that they should take no interest in the publication of a political journal. I told them that our Government was carrying out oppressive measures as every edict that is issued shows; and that it is high time to exert ourselves to resist it. I pointed out to them the dangers by which they are surrounded and the nefarious designs of the Monarchical Party, who are trying to destroy the Liberals. This intelligence of their own danger appears to have impressed them, and they seemed willing to subscribe towards the fund for publishing the newspaper; but beyond this, they showed no sign of recovery from their apathy. It is, however, gratifying to me to inform you that a series of political lectures were given at Kitagata and every time they were attended by immense crowds. I myself took part in them.

It will take many days to get up the full subscription, because just now the people are suffering from oppressive taxes and money is scarce. I fell short of travelling expenses, and was put to great inconvenience. Please send me information whether the formation of our party (Vehement Party) has been sanctioned by the local authorities or not. Mr. Ando is willing to help us. I advise you to entrust the sale of shares to him. I am informed that the Government granted 20,000 *yen* to the unemployed of Wakamatsu wherewith to start a useful industry. The people sent a petition to the district officers to convene a special meeting of the Assembly to discuss certain matters connected with the construction of roads, but they refused and sent back the petition.

TAMORO HIDEAKIRA.

Judge Tamano.—Is this your own letter?

Prisoner—Yes. I wrote it.

Hanaka—That letter has nothing to do with this case.

Kono—I have not seen that letter.

Aizawa—I have not seen it.

Sawata—I have not read it.

Here the Prosecutor demanded that the prospectus of the journal should be read. It was as follows:—"It is not by mere accident that humanity has founded nations and formed administrations. Nature has endowed men with freedom. Were it not for efforts to preserve that in a perfect form, they would not have been able to protect their lives and secure their happiness. Hence, the desire to enjoy freedom and it is their duty to augment it. The fact that we have established this nation as it is and formed an administration is due to this desire. Human power sometimes restrains or reverses our desires. Since, however, the main object of mankind is happiness, care for the welfare of each individual must be considered. This cannot be effected otherwise than through national freedom. The acquisition of freedom involves alteration in the administration. Without improving the administration and inviting all human beings to take a share in freedom, it is impossible to secure happiness. How can we hope for the safety of our lives in the present state of affairs? We must strive hard. But there are tigers and wolves that try to gratify their own avaricious purposes, to mould the nation to their own schemes, to make laws to defend their designs and to curtail freedom. We must exterminate such beasts. There are also ruffians who oppress the weak, take wrong for right, and offend the national authority in utter disregard of reason. We must chastise them. Knowledge is not as yet thoroughly diffused; and political ideas are not yet developed. Consequently, we cannot recover our rights. Our aim is to encourage the desire for the extirpation of abuses and to secure freedom and happiness. In carrying out our programme, we are destined to encounter numerous difficulties. Our responsibility is great. The first step we intend to take for the consummation of our object is to spread the doctrine of Liberalism and morality. To do this, the publication of newspapers and books, and lecturing are most necessary. These undertakings require the combination of many patriots, and first of all we intend to publish a journal. We shall thus be enabled to express our views and give an impulse to public opinion. We can put a stop to the existence of ruffians and beasts of prey. Not only this, but we can secure perfect freedom and happiness. We shall establish the seat of our organ at Fukushima, etc., etc."

September, 1882.

Hanaka—I drafted this prospectus at the request of Hiroshima. But it has nothing to do with this case.

Kono—I do not see what that prospectus has to do with this case.

Hiroshima—That prospectus plainly indicates our real aim and dissipates the idea of our desire to overthrow the Government.

Judge Tamano—Now the examination of the is concluded. Has any one of the accused anything to say?

Prisoners—We have nothing to say.

Mr. Hoshi—I understood that the Prosecutor has something to adduce beyond the evidence. I wish to hear all the evidence read, in order that there may be no confusion afterwards.

Prosecutor—There will be no confusion whatever, whether all the evidence be read now or not.

I do not see why the evidence read now cannot afterwards be used.

Judge Tamano (addressing the Public Prosecutor)—Please let us hear your argument.

Prosecutor—This charge is preferred against these six men on the same indictment. I will, therefore, expound succinctly the charge against them all. They are accused of plotting to raise an insurrection. In August of the 15th year of Meiji (1882), they met in Mumei Kan and made preparations to overthrow the Government. This is clearly proved by the covenant which they signed with their blood. The accused, in their defence, have paraded the conduct of the Prefect (Mishima) and the wrong doing of the police in order to conceal their own crime. They insist that they drew up the covenant under the pressure of the occasion, and that they were justified in inserting the clause subjecting to the death penalty any of those of them who should reveal the secret of their confederacy. But the direct evidence is in the hands of the proper authorities. These documents clearly demonstrate their culpability. They cannot blot out the criminality of their designs. For this reason, I have laid my charges against them. I should advise you (addressing the accused) not to refer to irrelevant matters.

Hanaka—The Public Prosecutor has said that the evidence clearly shows our culpability, but he has failed to show what point is strong enough to incriminate us. His statement is absurd, and is unworthy of refutation by me. He has said that we mentioned the bad conduct of the Governor to conceal our own crime. We are not so mean as to resort to so cowardly an artifice. We gave our account of the Governor and the unwarrantable proceeding of the police to elicit the facts. He should tell us what point of the covenant proves our culpability and how. If he wishes me to reply to such vague questions, I have only to reply that I am not guilty.

Mr. Hoshi—This charge concerns all the accused. Is it not, therefore, productive of inconvenience to make the prisoners speak without regard to the order of their indictment?

Judge Tamano—If the first does not speak first, the last may speak first.

Mr. Hoshi—I wish that the prosecution would not base the culpability of the prisoners on the mere wording of the covenant. Some of the accused say that the words "overthrow the Government" were struck out. The prosecution ought first to establish the ground of the accusation and disprove the defence. But when they merely say that the accused are guilty, the latter cannot admit the accusation. If they do not point out what point of the covenant proves the culpability of the prisoners and for what reason, I have no more to say.

Mr. Nakajima—I am of the same opinion as our learned friend. Until the prosecution explains how the covenant proves the culpability of the accused, we cannot proceed with our argument. Although the covenant contained the words "overthrow the Government," yet I cannot see how it incriminates the prisoners in a plot to raise an insurrection. The prosecution must explain how the words "overthrow the Government" mean insurrection. If they cannot point out what part of the covenant proves the culpability of the accused, they have no case.

Mr. Yamada—The prosecution has no case. They have not produced a title of evidence.

Mr. Kitata—The covenant appears to be the cause of the accusation. But it is not produced, and what is called evidence, is nothing more than the "copy"

of the covenant written by the accused from memory. Some say that the original contained the words "improve the administration" instead of the words "overthrow the Government." Others say the words were struck out. The fact is not yet proved. It is premature to say that the guilt of the accused has been established. The prosecution can declare the guilt of the accused only after it has been proved. It is desirable that the evidence of criminality should be given separately in the case of each prisoner, because though the prisoners are all accused of the same crime, yet the facts adduced by each are different, and it is, therefore, necessary to enter upon the legal argument of each separately.

Judge Tamano (to prisoners)—Have you anything to say?

Prisoners (unanimously)—We all rely upon our Counsel.

Prosecutor—I have fully explained the cause of the criminality. The covenant itself is the evidence. I do not, therefore, think it necessary to go over the ground again.

Mr. Kitata—I claim the benefit of Article 300 of the Code of Criminal Procedure.

Here followed a discussion between the Counsel for the defence and the prosecution as to whether or no the evidence had been fully explained.

The Court rose at 12 o'clock.

TUESDAY, AUGUST 7TH, 1883.

The Court opened at 8.30 a.m., when Judge Tamano called upon the accused for their defence, remarking that he would hear Counsel afterwards. They were warned not to use libellous terms in their argument against the charge.

Hanaka—As I stated yesterday, I have not made any effort whatever to conceal our crime. I wish the Court to take note of this.

Mr. Yamada—I am Counsel for Hanaka. The prosecution merely say that the accused are guilty of a plot to raise an insurrection, but fail to show how that is so. In the absence of a definite statement to that effect from the Prosecutor, it is hard for me to proceed with the legal argument. But I will do my best. This case is the most important of any heard since the new Criminal Code came into operation, and is of a most complicated nature. It is not an easy case to decide, but I do not see how it comes under article 125 of the Criminal Code. The reply of the prosecution is vague, for which I can find no reason. In old times, many innocent persons incurred suspicion and languished under false accusations. This was frequently caused by the want of a sufficient explanation of the facts. I must, therefore, make a full explanation of the facts in this case. The prosecution remarked that the accused were trying to conceal their crime. But such is not the case. They have only stated the facts, and we can place our confidence in their statements. To find the cause of the affair, we must refer to the conduct of the police at Fukushima. Their proceedings were unwarrantable and in open violation of the Penal Code. The Article 93 of the Code of Criminal Procedure clearly defines the treatment of persons accused by the police. If they thought Kono and others were guilty of high treason they should have transmitted them to the Commissary. This they did not do, but undertook to conduct an examination of the accused. Hanaka was in prison at the time when the arrest of the suspects took place. He ought to have been immediately transferred to the Commissary, and in not doing so the police did not act in accordance with the Code of Criminal

Procedure. Secondly, the accused were subjected to the utmost brutality and cruelty. This is well proved by the report of their preliminary trial. Please read the report of the hearing of Kono, dated 7th December last. (Report read.) I find a passage in the report which states that the police participated in the examination of persons charged with high treason, etc. This shows that the police violated the Code of Criminal Procedure. Please read the report of Aizawa's trial, dated the 8th December. (Report read.) This report clearly shows how far the intolerable action of the Prefect (Mishima) contributed toward the culmination of the affair in a contest between him and the people. He was ignorant of their customs, and did not study their wishes; the people offered him advice, which invoked hatred from him. Advice either becomes a reproach or a libel, according to the light in which the recipient may look at it. Mr. Mishima apparently regarded the advice tendered in the latter light, and the accused were arrested and imprisoned through the malice of that functionary. In the declaration made by the accused, we find not a few apparently violent expressions. But when we interpret these properly, there is not the slightest element of violence in them. In the report of the examination of Hanaka, dated the 17th February, I find a statement to the effect that he referred to the bureaucratic Government of Japan, and that he thought it better to die than to be subjected to further injury, etc. This he mentioned because he was subjected to cruel treatment during the trial, which he could not endure, and in desperation gave utterance to the expression. (The report of Hanaka's trial at the Special Court was read according to the request of the Counsel.) This report clearly shows how far he was justified in using the expression. (The report of Hiroshima's examination, dated the 2nd January last, was then read.) It says that the police inspector informed the accused that he was mustering three hundred of the Liberals and that, as the evidence was given to the authorities by Tamura (Hiroshima's servant), it was impossible for him to conceal the plot, etc. This was nothing but deceit and intimidation. According to the report of Tamura's examination, dated the 5th January, he said that when Kono was arrested on the 1st of December, he returned to Numei Kan and found a covenant and saw three hundred signatures affixed to it. Hiroshima was examined on the 2nd of January. How, then, could the police know Tamura's evidence before he gave it on the 5th? I do not think they have ability to foretell events. (Here the Clerk read the indictment against Hanaka by Police Inspector Iwashita.) According to this indictment, it appears that the culpability of Hanaka was, for the first time, proved by the evidence given by Kamada. But Kamada was examined on the 19th of January, whilst Hanaka was examined on the 14th. Here again, we find inconsistency of facts. In short, the conduct of the Fukushima police is against the existing law of the land.

Here the Counsel intimated his intention of consulting with his colleague, Mr. Kitata.

The Prosecutor asked if he spoke in regard to a portion of the preliminary hearing of the prisoner.

Mr. Yamada replied that he would state the facts first and then continue his argument.

Prisoner No. 2, Hiroshima.—The prosecution insist that the covenant is evidence of our criminality, but do not show what part of it incriminates us. Their argument is vague. I will explain what insurrection means, and show that our action was not intended to raise an insurrection. Insurrection means rising in arms against the existing Government, and a secret plot is the preparation for the act. To incriminate men, evidence must be given founded on action really taken toward the consummation of the plot. Now the prosecution brought forth something akin to evidence and then accuse us of insurrection. The prosecution doubtless base their charge on the words "overthrow the Government" in the covenant. But in law, men cannot be indicted on a supposition. There is nothing in the covenant that proves our culpability. If the prosecution thinks there is, why do they not exhibit it? There is no reason why we should be punished without cause.

H.E. ITO AS FOUNDER OF THE NEW JAPANESE CONSTITUTION.

(Translated from the *Hochi Shimbu*.)

From the moment of the departure from Hongkong of H.E. Ito, the arrival of the French mail steamer on which he had taken passage was anxiously expected. This means that our people are convinced that his presence at home is important in its influence on the nation's welfare. His Excellency has visited Europe to inquire into the constitutions of various countries, in view of the establishment of one for Japan. His study of the subject must have been extensive, and his name will ever be connected with the new administrative system of Japan. Although it is not in his immediate power to decide what form the constitution shall adopt, yet his intense desire for the happiness of the people, and his profound knowledge of the best forms of constitution must make his opinion preponderant over that of his colleagues, and inspire the respect of his Sovereign. What an enormous responsibility he has! And, so, we should like to submit a few questions for his consideration.

Political changes are so rapid that, looking back only a short way into the past, we find ourselves in quite a different world. Mr. Ito may have studied domestic politics very closely; yet it is very likely that his sojourn in foreign countries may have produced a marked impression on his mind. On his return he must have been struck by the remarkable changes effected in his absence. The Government kept him well supplied with information in addition to all that he could glean from the journals; and yet so many changes have occurred that no description could accurately represent them. One phenomenal change is the growth of political organizations, which have caused men of education and influence to engage in polemical discussions. Another is the dissonance between the Government and the people. Yet another, the press and banking regulations. The Union Shipping Company has been started. Mr. Iwakura, popularly regarded as the pillar of the State is no more. But these things are mere externals. When we turn to internal matters we find that even more important events have occurred. We recommend to His Excellency the careful study of all these occurrences. The Japan of to-day is not the Japan of the day when he started for Europe. Even the administration which he proposed to introduce in the fifteenth year of Meiji is unsuitable to the sixteenth year of Meiji. Thus he has many obstacles in his way. Some people may desire a German constitution. Others, desirous of promoting harmony between Government and people, think that the present is a splendid opportunity to establish a liberal constitution. And the fact is that partisans of all kinds are sanguine that it is Mr. Ito who will achieve their object. Thus he is placed in a serious dilemma. If he should satisfy one party he will incur the displeasure of some other. Most of the period that he passed in Europe was passed in Germany. Hence the public believes that most of his attention was devoted to that country. We have to attend developments. Men make many mistakes, but their errors are soon corrected.

The laws enacted by the Government since March of last year up to the present are no doubt the outcome of necessity. The spirit of the policy is the same as that which has prevailed since October, 1881. The Government is pursuing the old course at the peril of falling into extremes. But, as its members have ability to assimilate themselves to new institutions, there is no doubt that they will change their course if an opportunity occurs to do so. This very opportunity we observe in the return of H.E. Ito. The Government at one time established an office for investigation into the constitution of various countries in the *Genro-In*. But it is without precedent that it should have despatched a Minister to foreign countries to investigate their constitutions. The return of H.E. Ito is the starting point for the introduction of reform. If, therefore, the Minister misses this opportunity, no other will offer. He has to lay full reports of the German and English constitutions and those of other nations before his colleagues. Then they will deliberate upon them and establish the basis of the innovation. But the change cannot be effected at once: it would be judicious to carry it

out step by step. Though the public may desire to see the change effected in a moment, yet weighted as he is with difficulties, H.E. Ito cannot act rashly.

Among the most important steps to be taken toward the accomplishment of the work is the codification of the constitution which is to be promulgated in the 23rd year of Meiji with the opening of a National Assembly. A rumor has it that an office for the arrangement of a constitution is established and will commence its work directly. Whether or no this office was established for carrying out the programme of reform in accordance with the wishes of the public, we are not in a position to say. It is exceedingly desirable that the Government should make known its real intentions to the people. Were it opened for the mere purpose of gratifying public curiosity and not for replacing the old routine, we should regret that the office was ever established. It is through the revelation it makes of the motives of the Government that it will confer a great benefit upon the nation. It is only this revelation that can add to the stability of the Imperial throne and the happiness of the people. Proceeding a little further, let us question, for the sake of argument, whether the reform will be confined to the working of a few Governmental departments or whether all the reforms should be made with a view to the establishment of harmony between ministers belonging to a few favored clans. If the Government entertains even the slightest idea of approaching the subject in the latter spirit, the result will be pernicious in the highest degree. As the fame of Mr. Ito is so closely connected with that of the new administration, he would do well to give frank information to the public.

NOTIFICATION NO. 15 OF THE HOME DEPARTMENT.

It is hereby notified that, in consequence of the prevalence of cholera in Swatow and Canton, the Quarantine Regulations issued by Notification No. 31 of last year shall be enforced on vessels arriving from the aforesaid ports, at Yokohama, Kobe, and Nagasaki.

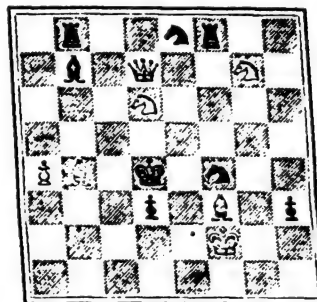
YAMADA AKIYOSHI,
Minister for Home Affairs.

7th August, 1883.

CHESS.

By E. A. M. M. of India.
From the *Illustrated London News*.

BLACK.



WHITE.

White to play and mate in 3 moves.

Solution to Chess Problem of 4th August,
by J. H. FINLIXSON.

White.

Black.

- 1.—Kt. to Q. R. 2. 1.—B. to R. 6.
- 2.—Q. to Q. Q. Kt. sq.
- 3.—Mate.

Correct solution received from "TESA."

LATEST TELEGRAMS.

[SPECIAL TO THE "JAPAN MAIL."]

FIVE THOUSAND PEOPLE KILLED.

London, August 4th.

An earthquake has occurred at Casamicciola, causing a terrible destruction of property, in which five thousand persons lost their lives.

AN INFORMER SHOT DEAD.

James Carey, the informer, has been shot dead at Port Elizabeth.

TYPHOON IN SHANGHAI.

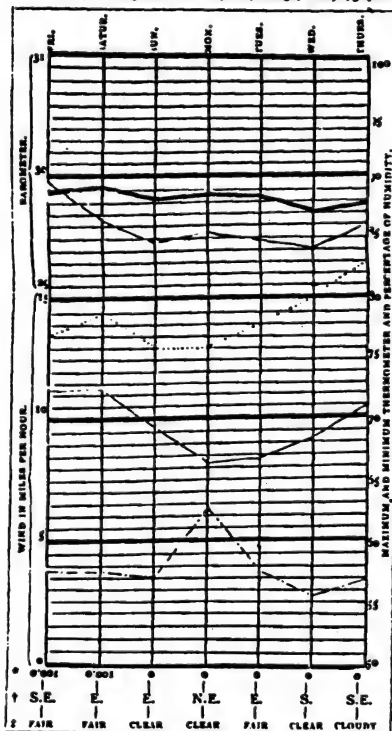
Shanghai, August 6th (Morning).

A heavy typhoon has been raging here since yesterday morning.

METEOROLOGICAL REPORT.

FOR WEEK BEGINNING FRIDAY, AUGUST 3RD, 1883.

Observatory of Daigaku, Moto-Fujicho, Hongk, Tokijo, Japan.



REMARKS.

Heavy line represents barometer.

Light continuous line—maximum and minimum thermometers.

--- represents velocity of wind.

--- percentage of humidity.

The barometer is reduced to the freezing point and to the level of the sea.

* Rain in inches. † Direction of Wind. ‡ Weather.

Maximum velocity of wind 14.9 miles per hour on Friday at 3 p.m.

The highest reading of the barometer for the week was 29.963 inches on Friday at 10 a.m., and the lowest was 29.635 inches on Wednesday at 6 p.m.

The highest temperature for the week was 69.9 on Friday, and the lowest was 66.5 on Monday. The maximum and minimum for the corresponding week of last year were 82.9 and 63.2 respectively.

The total amount of rain for the week was 0.003 inches against 3.928 inches for the corresponding week of last year.

LATEST SHIPPING.

FREIGHTS.

During the week there have been no charters effected for either coast or foreign. The bark *Valparaiso* sailed for Kobe on the 17th instant to complete her loading for Havre and Hamburg. The steamship *Euphrates* left this for Kobe on the 4th instant, and is supposed to return to secure additional cargo. At present the only steamship on the berth is the *Ascalon*, for New York via Amoy, advertised to depart on the 11th instant. The steamship *Oxfordshire* is shortly expected from Kobe. There is likely to be some business for a handy vessel from Hakodate to Shanghai, but at rates which will hardly induce Captains to go in that direction in ballast.

ARRIVALS.

Hiogo Maru, Japanese steamer, 896, R. N. Walker, 5th August,—Hakodate, Mails and General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Wakanoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,342, A. F. Christensen, 5th August,—Kobe, 3rd August, Mails and General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Seirio Maru, Japanese steamer, 591, 6th August,—Yokkaichi, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Gembu Maru, Japanese steamer, 670, F. J. Brown, 5th August,—Yokkaichi, General.—Kiyodo Unyu Kwaisha.

Akitsuishima Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,149, Frahm, 6th August,—Nagasaki 2nd August, Coal.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Taganoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 610, 8th August,—Yokkaichi 6th August, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Tsuruga Maru, Japanese steamer, 880, Dithlefsen, 8th August,—Kobe 6th August, Mails and General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Bengloe, British steamer, 1,108 Alex. Webster, 9th August,—London via Hongkong, Mails and General.—Mourilyan, Heimann & Co.

Takasago Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,229, C. Young, 9th August,—Shanghai and ports, Mails and General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Coptic, British steamer, 2,787, Kidley, 9th August,—San Francisco 21st July, Mails and General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.

Seirio Maru, Japanese steamer, 329, G. R. Nirel, 9th August,—Yokkaichi 8th August, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Awajishima Maru, Japanese 3-masted schooner, 386, Creighton, 9th August,—Nagasaki 22nd July, Coal.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Mary Winkelman, American bark, 505, H. O. Alberg, 10th August,—Tientsin 10th July, Ballast.—Mourilyan, Heimann & Co.

Essex, United States gun-vessel, 619, Captain A. H. McCormack, 11th August,—Honolulu 8th July.

J. E. Graham, British bark, 1,384, Cochran, 11th August,—Cardiff 21st March, Coals.—Messageries Maritimes Co.

Minerva, German brig, 319, Duhme, 11th August,—Nagasaki, 21st July, Coals.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.

Niigata Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,091, Hubbard, 11th August,—Hakodate, Mails and General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

DEPARTURES.

Zambesi, British steamer, 1,540, L. H. Moule, 4th August,—Hongkong via Kobe and Nagasaki, Mails and General.—P. & O. S. N. Co.

Valparaiso, German bark, 486, F. Mayer, 7th August,—Havre and Hamburg via Kobe, General.—C. Illies & Co.

Wakanoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,342, A. F. Christensen, 7th August,—Kobe, Mails and General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Gembu Maru, Japanese steamer, 670, F. J. Brown, 7th August,—Otaru, General.—Kiyodo Unyu Kwaisha.

Hiogo Maru, Japanese steamer, 896, R. N. Walker, 8th August,—Hakodate, Mails and General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Nagoya Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,015, Wilson Walker, 8th August,—Shanghai and ports, Mails and General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Taganoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 448, 8th August,—Yokkaichi, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per Japanese steamer *Wakanoura Maru*, from Kobe:—Dr. K. Rathgen, and 8 Japanese in cabin; and 1 European and 182 Japanese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Seirio Maru*, from Yokkaichi:—189 Japanese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Akitsuishima Maru*, from Nagasaki:—3 Japanese in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Gembu Maru*, from Yokkaichi:—130 Japanese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Tsuruga Maru* from Kobe:—Mr. Cook, and 3 Japanese in cabin; and 145 Japanese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Takasago Maru*, from Shanghai and ports:—Mrs. Ellwood, Rev. J. Taylor, Messrs. F. Krebs, F. J. Marshall, F. Retz, S. Strauss, Mayeda, W. H. Kano, Hayashi (2), Asano, Hasegawa, Takaishi, Asai, and Kin Rio Kwan in cabin; and 3 Europeans, 4 Chinese, 2 Koreans, and 187 Japanese in steerage.

Per British steamer *Coptic*, from San Francisco: Messrs. Wm. Binney, G. C. Curtis, Galetzky, and G. Isaacson in cabin. For Shanghai: Rev. M. Greenwood, Messrs. A. W. Danforth, Leang Tazeshick, and W. Sprent in cabin. For Hongkong: Mr. Fritz A. Brockelman in cabin; and 256 Chinese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Seirio Maru*, from Yokkaichi:—7 Japanese in cabin; and 104 Japanese in steerage.

DEPARTED.

Per British steamer *Zambesi*, for Hongkong via Kobe and Nagasaki:—Messrs. R. C. Hannan and E. C. Kirby in cabin; and 1 European, 6 Chinese, and 18 Japanese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Nagoya Maru*, for Shanghai and ports:—Governor and Mrs. Kishira, Governor Sakai, Mr. and Mrs. Mailand, Mr. and Mrs. Gardner and maid, Lieutenant R. B. Newland, Lieutenant Hewison, Lieutenant A. B. Wyckoff, Surgeon W. G. Smith, Captain Mignard, Rev. J. Imbrie, Messrs. M. Z. Martin, Roberts, J. Cadwalader, J. H. Wing, Kasby, Jouat, Murata, Ishikawa, Arimura, Ishii, Okochi, and Sonoda in cabin; and 15 men of H.B.M.'s Navy in second class.

CARGOES.

Per British steamer *Zambesi*, for Hongkong via Kobe and Nagasaki:—Silk for France, 162 bales; for England, 43 bales; Total, 205 bales.

Per Japanese steamer *Tsuruga Maru*, from Kobe:—Treasure, \$18,000.00.

Per Japanese steamer *Takasago Maru*, from Shanghai and ports:—Treasure, \$250,000.00.

REPORTS.

The Japanese steamer *Wakanoura Maru*, Captain Christensen, reports leaving Kobe on the 3rd August, at 6.30 p.m. with light and variable winds and fine weather to Oo-sima; thence to port moderate north-easterly winds and cloudy weather. Arrived at Yokohama on the 5th August, at 8 a.m.

The Japanese steamer *Akitsuishima Maru*, Captain J. Frahm, reports leaving Nagasaki on the 2nd August, at 6 p.m. with fine weather and light variable winds or calm to Rock Islands; thence to port strong northerly winds. Arrived at Yokohama on the 6th August, at 9 a.m.

The Japanese steamer *Tsuruga Maru*, Captain Paul A. Dithlefsen, reports leaving Kobe on the 6th instant, at 6 a.m. with fine weather and strong currents throughout the whole passage. Passed the American flagship *Richmond* at anchor in Kaneda Bay.

The Japanese 3-masted schooner *Awajishima Maru*, Captain Creighton, reports having experienced light easterly winds and calms throughout the passage.

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

There has been a moderate business in Yarns during the week, sales amounting to 925 bales. The enquiry for Shirtings has slightly improved, but the demand is not brisk enough to enhance values, except in Medium qualities for which firmer rates are quoted. Silk-faced Satins, Mousselines, and Velvets are in better demand, although transactions are small, and prices remain stationary. Contracts are reported in Satins at a small concession on current rates. There is but little doing in Woollens, and Metals are very quiet.

COTTON YARNS.

| | PER PICUL. |
|-----------------------------------|------------------|
| Nos. 16 to 24, Common to Medium - | \$25.00 to 28.50 |
| Nos. 16 to 24, Good to Best - | 29.25 to 30.50 |
| Bombay, No. 20, Good to Best - | 25.50 to 28.25 |
| Nos. 28 to 32, Common to Medium - | 31.25 to 32.25 |
| Nos. 28 to 32, Good to Best - | 33.00 to 35.25 |
| Nos. 38 to 42 - | 35.25 to 37.25 |

COTTON PIECE GOODS.

| | PER PIECE. |
|------------------------------------------------|----------------|
| Grey Shirtings—8½ lb, 38½ to 39 inches - | \$1.70 to 2.15 |
| Grey Shirtings—9 lb, 38½ to 45 inches - | 1.87½ to 2.40 |
| T. Cloth—7 lb, 24 yards, 32 inches - | 1.45 to 1.55 |
| Indigo Shirting—12 yards, 44 inches - | 1.55 to 1.67½ |
| Prints—Assorted, 24 yards, 30 inches - | 1.10 to 2.40 |
| Cotton—Italians and Sateens Black, 32 inches - | 0.07 to 0.09 |
| Turkey Reds—2 to 2½ lb, 24 yards, 30 inches - | 1.15 to 1.35 |
| Turkey Reds—2½ to 2½ lb, 24 yards, 30 inches - | 1.35 to 1.65 |
| Turkey Reds—3 lb, 24 yards, 30 inches - | 1.70 to 1.82½ |
| Velvets—Black, 35 yards, 22 inches - | 5.90 to 6.70 |
| Victoria Lawns, 12 yards, 42-3 inches - | 0.70 to 0.75 |
| Taffetas, 12 yards, 43 inches - | 1.75 to 2.07½ |

WOOLLENS.

| | |
|----------------------------------------------------|----------------|
| Plain Orleans, 40-42 yards, 32 inches - | \$3.80 to 5.25 |
| Figured Orleans, 29-31 yards, 31 inches - | 3.25 to 4.00 |
| Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches - | 0.18 to 0.28 |
| Mousseline de Laine—Crape, 24 yards, 31 inches - | 0.15 to 0.15½ |
| Mousseline de Laine—Itajime, 24 yards, 31 inches - | 0.18½ to 0.26 |
| Mousseline de Laine—Yuzen, 24 yards, 31 inches - | 0.30 to 0.37½ |
| Cloths—Pilots, 54 @ 56 inches - | 0.30 to 0.49 |
| Cloths—Presidents, 54 @ 56 inches - | 0.40 to 0.50 |
| Cloths—Union, 54 @ 56 inches - | 0.30 to 0.55 |
| Blankets—Scarlet and Green, 6 to 5 lb, per lb - | 0.35 to 0.40 |

IRON.

| | PER PICUL. |
|---------------------------------|----------------|
| Flat Bars, ½ inch - | \$2.50 to 3.00 |
| Flat Bars, 1 inch - | 2.80 to 3.00 |
| Round and square up to ½ inch - | 2.80 to 3.00 |
| Nailrod, assorted - | 2.25 to 2.50 |
| Nailrod, small size - | 2.85 to 3.10 |

KEROSENE.

Another week has passed without any business being reported in Oil. Holders now ask the undermentioned prices, but dealers are keeping back in expectation of lower rates. Deliveries during the week have been 15,000 cases, leaving a Stock of some 627,000 cases sold and unsold Oil.

| | PER CASE. |
|----------|-----------|
| Devon - | \$1.66 |
| Comet - | 1.63 |
| Stella - | 1.55 |

SUGAR.

The Market is very flat, and transactions nil, accumulating Stocks having at length had the effect of lowering prices considerably. Annexed quotations are prices demanded, but buyers make no response.

| | PER PICUL. |
|-----------------|----------------|
| White, No. 1 - | \$8.00 to 8.25 |
| White, No. 2 - | 7.50 to 8.00 |
| White, No. 3 - | 6.75 to 7.00 |
| White, No. 4 - | 6.00 to 6.50 |
| White, No. 5 - | 5.00 to 5.20 |
| Brown Formosa - | 4.50 to 4.60 |

EXPORTS.

SILK.

Business in this staple has continued much as last advised; there is no special feature to notice. Settlements are returned as 300,600 piculs for the week. Quotations are about on a par with those of last issue, and the Stock is again slightly increased. Export to date is 1,915 against 2,394 last year, but the outgoing M.M. steamer *Godavery* will go a long way towards equalising the figures.

QUOTATIONS.

| | |
|-----------------------------------|--------------|
| Hanks—No. 2 - | \$500 to 510 |
| Hanks—No. 2½ - | 480 to 490 |
| Hanks—No. 3 - | 460 to 470 |
| Hanks—No. 3½ - | 440 to 450 |
| Filatures—Extra - | 650 to 665 |
| Filatures—No. 1, 10/13 deniers - | 640 to 650 |
| Filatures—No. 1, 14/16 deniers - | 630 to 640 |
| Filatures—No. 1½, 14/17 deniers - | 610 to 620 |
| Filatures—No. 2, 10/15 deniers - | 600 to 620 |
| Filatures—No. 2, 14/18 deniers - | 600 to 610 |
| Re-reels—No. 1, 14/16 deniers - | 610 to 620 |
| Re-reels—No. 1½, 14/17 deniers - | 600 to 610 |
| Re-reels—No. 2, 14/18 deniers - | 580 to 590 |
| Kakedas—Extra - | 625 to 635 |
| Kakedas—No. 1 - | 600 to 610 |
| Kakedas—No. 2 - | 550 to 570 |

TEA.

Business during the past week has continued much on the same scale as previously reported, the demand being still almost entirely confined to the lower grades, prices for which are again somewhat dearer. In all grades above "Fine" there appears to be no demand whatever, and it is impossible to form an opinion as to what natives would be disposed to accept. The aggregate Settlements since our last weekly issue are 4,275 piculs, and as arrivals have been light, Stocks are again reduced. The P.M. steamship *City of Peking* despatched on the 4th instant, carried from this port 126,887 lbs. for New York, 61,959 lbs. for Chicago, 43,056 lbs. for St. Paul, 158,517 lbs. for San Francisco, and 31,394 lbs. for Canada, making the total of 421,813 lbs. Tea.

QUOTATIONS.

| | |
|---------------|----------|
| Common - | \$11 |
| Good Common - | 12 to 13 |
| Medium - | 15 to 17 |
| Good Medium - | 18 to 20 |
| Fine - | 22 to 24 |
| Finest - | 25 to 27 |
| Choice - | Nominal |
| Choicest - | Nominal |

EXCHANGE.

There has been rather more doing in Private Paper during the week, and rates have consequently remained steady. The demand for Bank Bills has been small.

| | |
|-------------------------------------------|------------|
| Sterling—Bank Bills on demand - | 3/7½ |
| Sterling—Bank 4 months' sight - | 3/8 |
| Sterling—Private 4 months' sight - | 3/8½ |
| Sterling—Private 6 months' sight - | 3/8 |
| On Paris—Bank sight - | 4.60 |
| On Paris—Private 6 months' sight - | 4.71 |
| On Hongkong—Bank sight - | 4 0/0 dis. |
| On Hongkong—Private 10 days' sight - | 4 0/0 dis. |
| On Shanghai—Bank sight - | 72½ |
| On Shanghai—Private 10 days' sight - | 73½ |
| On New York—Bank Bills on demand - | 88½ |
| On New York—Private 30 days' sight - | 89½ |
| On San Francisco—Bank Bills on demand - | 88½ |
| On San Francisco—Private 30 days' sight - | 89½ |

KINSATSU QUOTATIONS.

The following table shows the rate of the day, and the fluctuation during the past week:—

| | |
|-------------------------|------|
| Monday, August 6th - | 123½ |
| Tuesday, August 7th - | 124 |
| Wednesday, August 8th - | 124½ |
| Thursday, August 9th - | 124 |
| Friday, August 10th - | 123½ |
| Saturday, August 11th - | 123 |

IMPORTANT NOTICE.

SMALL CAPITALISTS, wishing to establish a business, should see if there is an opening for a Mineral Water Manufactory in their District. All information and recipes for the purpose of making Lemonade, Soda Water, &c., is given, previous knowledge is not necessary. The demand for these drinks is so much on the increase in all parts of the world, that the outlay for the machinery in all cases leads to a profitable and safe business. Catalogue forwarded free, on application to

BARNET & FOSTER, Engineers,
23c, Forston Street, London, N.

May 1st, 1883.

THE GREATEST WONDER OF MODERN TIMES

HOLLOWAY'S PILLS.

PERSONS suffering from weak or debilitated constitutions will discover that by the use of this wonderful medicine there is "Health for all." The blood is the fountain of life, and its purity can be maintained by the use of these Pills.

Sir SAMUEL BAKER,

in his work entitled "The Nile Tributaries in Abyssinia," says—"I ordered the dragoman Mahomet to inform the Fakar that I was a Doctor, and I had the best medicines at the service of the sick, with advice gratis. In a short time I had many applicants, to whom I served out a quantity of Holloway's Pills. These are most useful to an explorer, as possessing unmistakable purgative properties they create an undeniable effect upon the patient, which satisfies them of their value."

SIMPLE, SAFE, AND CERTAIN!

HOLLOWAY'S OINTMENT

Is a certain remedy for bad legs, bad breasts, and ulcerations of all kinds. It acts miraculously in healing ulcerations, curing skin diseases, and in arresting and subduing all inflammations.

Mr. J. T. COOPER,

in his account of his extraordinary travels in China, published in 1871, says—"I had with me a quantity of Holloway's Ointment. I gave some to the people, and nothing could exceed their gratitude; and, in consequence, milk, fowls, butter, and horse feed poured in upon us, until at last a tea-spoonful of Ointment was worth a fowl and any quantity of peas, and the demand became so great that I was obliged to lock up the small remaining 'stock.'"

Sold by all Chemists and Medicine Vendors throughout the World.

May 1st, 1883.

E. P. & W. BALDWIN,

TIN PLATE AND SHEET IRON MANUFACTURERS.

Works:—Wilden, near Stourport; Swindon, near Dudley; Horsley Field, Wolverhampton, London Office:—4, Corbet Court, Gracechurch Street, E.C.

For the excellence of our Manufactures, we have received following AWARDS:—

Vienna Exhibition, 1873, Diploma of Merit.

South African Exhibition, 1877, Gold Medal.

Paris Exhibition, 1878, Gold Medal.

Sydney Exhibition, 1879, First-class Diploma.

Melbourne Exhibition, 1881, First-class Award.

* The ONLY ONE awarded to any Tin Plate Manufacturer.

Sole Export Agent—BROOKER, DORE & Co., Corbet Court, London, E.C.

May 1st, 1883.

ROOT'S PATENT TUBULOUS STEAM BOILER,

Safe, Economical, and Easy of Transport in Mountainous Countries.

Knap's Patent Mechanical STOKERS, applicable to all kinds of Boilers and Furnaces, economical and smoke consuming.

The Patent Steam Boiler Company,
HENFAGE STREET, BIRMINGHAM.

May 1st, 1883.

FOR SALE.

FOR SALE, Volumes No. 1 and 2 of the "China Review," bound in Half Calf, and in good condition.

Apply to the *Japan Mail* Office.
Yokohama, May 2nd, 1883.

NOTICE.

PRINTING of every description, at Prices which will bear favourable comparison with any in the East, can now be executed at the Office of the *Japan Mail*.

CARDS.

CIRCULARS.

BILL HEADS.

PRICES CURRENT.

AUCTION CATALOGUES.

CHEQUE BOOKS.

ORDER BOOKS.

&c., &c., &c.

OFFICE, 72, MAIN STREET.
Yokohama, May 1st, 1883.

**Macfarlane's Castings.**

Plain and Ornamental for Rain Water and Building purposes.

| | | | |
|------------|-------------|------------|-----------------|
| Railings, | Standards, | Fountains, | Verandahs, |
| Gates, | W.H.Basins, | Lamps, | Covered Ways, |
| Balconies, | Urinals, | Spandrels, | Bandstands, |
| Panels, | Closets, | Columns, | Conservatories, |
| Stairs, | Dust Bins, | Windows, | Structures. |

DECORATIVE TREATMENT BY PAINTING AND GILDING.

FIRST CLASS AWARD**INTERNATIONAL SANITARY EXHIBITION.**

Illustrated Catalogue, Price List, and Estimates on application.

WALTER MACFARLANE & CO., GLASGOW.

Architectural, Sanitary and General Ironfounders.

CONTRACTORS by Appointment to Her Majesty's War Department.

PRIZE MEDAL AWARDED

JOHN OAKLEY & SONS

MANUFACTURERS OF

WELLINGTON KNIFE POLISH

EMERY

EMERY CLOTH

BLACK LEAD

SILVERSMITHS SOAP

CABINET GLASS PAPER &c.

WELLINGTON EMERY & BLACK LEAD MILLS

LONDON

PHILADELPHIA EXHIBITION 1876

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YOKOHAMA, AUGUST 18TH, 1883.

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The Japan Weekly Mail.

"FAIS CE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL," must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith. It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, AUGUST 18TH, 1883.

WEEKLY NOTES.

A VERMACULAR newspaper takes occasion, when informing its readers that the cost of the new offices of the Kanagawa Prefecture is fixed at 100,000 yen, to say that the Local Authorities have warned all their subordinates against accepting any douceurs from contractors or other artisans who may chance to be connected with the work. If this veto has any meaning at all, it is a most important meaning. Japan's progress in the matter of public works is doubtless chiefly obstructed by the apathy and inexperience of her people. The story of Mr. Nishima, Prefect of Fukushima, illustrates this fact. His attempt to get roads made by resorting to a system of compulsory labour or fines was denounced by the people of the vicinity as gross tyranny, in spite of the fact that, ever since the Restoration, the Government have been endeavouring, by the bestowal of honours and rewards, to rouse the country folk to a perception of the value to themselves of work of this kind. But it is said that there is another scarcely less radical obstacle to the successful conduct of public

works in Japan, namely—their unnecessary costliness. The system of commissions and squeezes which obtains, to a greater or less extent all over the world, seems to flourish here with exceptional vigour. Probably it is this that has prevented the growth of a responsible body of contractors, capable of carrying out large works in an efficient and conscientious manner. Until such men are available, extravagance, waste, and peculation will be prominent features in the history of public works. The Prefect of Kanagawa has set a good example. We only hope that he may be able to get his injunctions carried out.

The degree of immorality which attaches to the offering or receiving of bribes in the East is very difficult to determine. Japanese history shows that in old times presents of money or goods were a common feature of almost every transaction, social or official, and that they were not regarded as immoral or improper, except when their object was the concealment of wrongdoing. Gifts made in acknowledgment of services rendered were never tabooed in this country any more than they are among ourselves to-day. It must be confessed that the difference between receiving commissions on goods ordered, and receiving a douceur from a contractor whose tender has been successful, is not sufficiently palpable to justify the wholesale strictures we are in the habit of passing on Japanese morality in the matter. On the other hand, one is obliged to admit that a people among whom such things as the Yunnan bribery case occur, are not living up to a particularly high standard of honesty. A recent *Peking Gazette* contains the conclusion of this case, which will well repay perusal. The Censor Ch'en Ch'i-t'ai was the first to draw attention to the wholesale bribery that had been resorted to get the accounts passed. This denunciation was followed by a further representation from the Censors Hung Liang-p'in and Teng Ch'eng-hsin, who stated that Ching Lien and Wan Wen-shao, Presidents of the Board of Revenue, were both implicated in the charge of bribery. A commission of high officers was accordingly appointed to enquire into these charges, whose numbers were augmented from time to time, and finally consisted of Prince Tung, Yen Ching-ming, Pan Tsu-yin, Chang Chih-wan, Lin Shu, Weng Tung-ho, and Hsieh Yun-sheng. Their report has now come to hand, in which they state that all the bribes that have been received have been refunded, and suggest the

penalties which the various actors in the matter should receive. In this case, Ts'ui Tsung-yi was entrusted with the preparation of the accounts, showing the manner in which the money received for military expenses in Yunnan was expended, and Pan Yin-chang undertook to commission Chou Jui-ch'ing to get Lung Chi-tung to explain to Sun Chia-mu, who was the Secretary in the Board of Revenue, who prepared the drafts of the memorials, that there would be Tls. 80,000 at the disposal of the Board if the accounts were passed. The amount was paid over, and the secretaries and clerks received sums varying in amount. Although, on a further scrutiny of the accounts by the Board of Revenue, it was found that all the items of expenditure as reported in these accounts were legitimate, that systematic bribery to the extent of several lacs of taels should have permeated through the ranks of all the secretaries and clerks, of the Board is a matter of very serious importance, and the offence must be met with the severest penalties. Sun Chia-mu, Secretary in the Board of Revenue, already cashiered, who received Tls. 7,000, and Chou Jui-ch'ing, who though he did not undertake to pass the accounts, or take any bribe, was nevertheless the medium through which bribes passed, are sentenced to banishment to the Amoor. The plea of the latter, that his mother is aged and has no one but himself to look after her, will not be entertained. The following officers are sentenced to banishment into servitude on the military post-roads:—Fu Chih, second class Secretary to the Board of Revenue, who, although he was not a party to the preliminary transactions, eventually accepted Tls. 4,000; Pan Yin-chang, who was persuaded to undertake a commission to bribe, and though he was privy to the fact that Ts'ui Tsun-yi had appropriated public moneys, did nevertheless borrow from him Tls. 1,700 and more; Lung Chi-tung, second-class Secretary in the Board of Revenue, who was induced by Chou Jui-ch'ing to make arrangements, and accepted Tls. 300; and Li Yu-hua, Censor, who, although he was not concerned in the Yunnan accounts, made himself feared by the parties who were concerned by reason of his pertinacious enquiries, and finally appropriated Tls. 400, the balance of a purchase he made on behalf of Pan Yin-chang. Ts'ui Ch'en-huam, and Chou Sung, second-class Secretaries in the same Board, who borrowed money from Sun Chia-mu, although they paid it back, were borrowing public money, and are forthwith dismissed. The clerks Ch'u Shih-heng, Chang

Ying, Wu Ching-lin, and Chang Chao-hung, who took the money, are sentenced to a hundred blows with the heavy bamboo, and banishment to a distance of 3,000 *li*. Tsun-yi, formerly Grain Tao-t'ai of Yunnan, who appropriated Tls. 23,200 of the public moneys, is dead, but sentence of dismissal from the public service will nevertheless be recorded against him, and his family will be called on to make good the amount of his depredations. As regards the implication of Ching Lien and Wang Wen-shao in this case, enquiry of P'an Ying-chang, and Chou Jui-ch'ing, as well as amongst the secretaries and clerks of the Board, fails to elicit any testimony of the receipt of bribes by these two officers, nor do the books of the banks show any payments to them on P'an Yin-chang's account. They have, nevertheless, been guilty of carelessness, and are further to blame for not discovering that their Secretaries Sun Chia-mu and Fu Chieh did receive bribes. A list comprising their names, together with those of the Vice-Presidents of the Board in office at the time, as well as those of the Presidents, Vice-Presidents, and Secretaries of the Board of Works who failed to ascertain that their clerks were taking bribes, is to be sent to the Board of Civil Office, who will determine the penalties which each officer should respectively receive. The Governor-General and Governor of the province have rendered themselves liable to a penalty, not only for their failure to discover the appropriation of so large a sum as Tls. 100,000 of public money by Ts'ui Tsun-yi, but because they further placed him in the highest class at the special scrutiny that takes place every six years. They neither discovered that Ts'ui Tsun-yi and P'an Yin-chang were resorting to bribery to get their accounts passed, nor, when the fact was revealed, did they ascertain the correct amount of the moneys that had been appropriated to other purposes. Liu Ch'ang-yu, Ts'ên Yü-ying, and Tu Jui-liên will be handed to the Board for the determination of penalties. Let effect be given to the other suggestions submitted by the Commissioners.

THE Japanese authorities appear to regard with disfavour the employment of their countrymen to draw jinrikisha in a foreign country. We learn that a Japanese tradesman, some time ago, imported three of those vehicles to Shanghai, and "horsed" them with Japanese. No objection appears to have been raised at first, but when he proceeded to develop his speculation by adding thirteen jinrikisha to his stock in trade, he received an intimation from his Consul that the new vehicles must not be drawn by Japanese. One can sympathise with the spirit which dictated this interdiction. The trade of a jinrikisha coolie is degrading not only to those that practice it, but to those also that witness its practice. It is an occupation which the Government may well desire to render as unpopular as possible, though they wisely refrain from attempting to legislate against it in Japan. Yet if we go to the root of the matter, it is difficult to see the difference between rowing a boat

and pulling a jinrikisha. The amount of muscular labour involved is pretty equal in both cases, and if the latter employment can be said to convert its followers into beasts of burden, the former is certainly open to the same stigma. The fact is that, under existing social conditions, men are compelled to do a great many things which are both morally and physically injurious. The jinrikisha coolie is a case very much in point, and yet the jinrikisha coolie regards himself as several patches above the more muscular, but less human, individual whose life is spent between the shafts of a luggage cart, and as an incomparably finer fellow than the scavenger. Anyone who has travelled in Japan and seen men, and even women, yoked to heavy harrows which they painfully drag over the surface of a paddy field, wading knee-deep in mud, with a blistering sun beating down upon their heads, is capable of appreciating the foolish fuss that has been made about the "degrading and deadly occupation of the jinrikisha coolie." These things are inevitable. We shall see them disappear in time, as sedan chairs and the dragging of under-ground tram-cars by semi-nude women have disappeared in England; but it is doubtful whether that most desirable consummation is not impeded rather than accelerated by official interference such as that attributed to the Consul in Shanghai. If men can earn more money and thus command more of the comforts of life by pulling a jinrikisha than by plying any other trade within the compass of their abilities and opportunities, by all means let them pull one. We cannot see any material difference between the performance of that act in Yokohama and in Shanghai. Certainly the Japanese speculator whose operations have been arbitrarily interrupted will see no difference.

It is stated that the Viceroy of Chili, Li Hung-chang, at the instance of the United States Minister, has granted permission for a service of passenger boats on the upper Peiho, between Tientsin and Tung-chow. Hitherto that portion of the river route to the capital has been performed by barges, which, proceeding at a snail's pace and making frequent stoppages, required five days to accomplish the distance. The course of the river is tortuous in the extreme, and the terrible weariness of this monotonous journey through a country singularly flat, barren, and uninteresting even for China, has had the effect of virtually isolating the capital so far as foreign visitors are concerned. Doubtless an important point of national prejudice was concerned in preserving the metropolis of the Middle Kingdom from the direct contact of steamers and other unequivocal evidences of foreign intercourse. Years ago a similar spirit prompted the Sakai outrage, when the men of Tosa, fired with unreasoning indignation at the notion that even the residence of the "Son of Heaven" himself was not to be free from the contamination of foreign presence, set themselves to prevent that, to them intolerable, indignity by massacring a boat-load of unfortunate

Frenchmen, the pioneers, as they thought, of the army of desecration. Probably many of these same misguided patriots lived to travel by rail to Kyoto, and to see the Son of Heaven go about among his people without half the ceremony that marked the goings and comings of a petty Daimiyo in the old days. All these changes were accomplished ten years ago, and now, at last, we learn that the most enlightened Chinese statesman of his day has consented to let steamboats run within a short distance of the Chinese capital. It cannot be charged against China that she is moving too fast for those who admire deliberation. Recently it has fallen to her lot to be rather applauded than otherwise for her stubbornness. The human mind is so constituted that everything resolute, even resolution in wrongdoing, commands a certain amount of reverence. Formerly Japan was the cynosure of all eyes. The thoroughness of her conversion from old-fashioned prejudices, and the remarkably practical evidences of that conversion her conduct displayed, were points which lovers of reform could not choose but extol. Yet there was something to pity rather than to censure in China's lonely attitude of faithfulness to tradition—something even dignified in the unflinching persistence of her obstinacy. She does not, however, display quite so much dignity when she openly chafes, as she has lately begun to chafe, at the lion's share of foreign approbation that falls to Japan's lot. If there was anything that condoned the error of her perverse conservatism, it was her calm faith in the superiority of the part she had chosen, and the indifference that faith enabled her to oppose to hostile criticism. This indifference seems now to have deserted her. She wants to be praised and petted by the very persons she has hitherto professed to despise, and it may be that her new mood is the forerunner of a decided step in the only direction where Western respect awaits her. The United States Minister at Peking has the credit of giving her very sound advice in these matters, and this last concession which he has obtained seems to indicate that his influence is likely to bear practical fruit.

NOTES.

WE have been hearing a great deal about Prefect Mishima of late. Judging from the stories told by the Fukushima suspects, he must be an official of exceedingly resolute, not to say arbitrary methods. The charges preferred against him in the Special Court of Tokyo have been, however, somewhat vague, and it is with a feeling of satisfaction that we find a definite version of his misconduct in the columns of the *Hochi Shimbun*. It appears that he has been seized with a species of road-making mania, and that he carried his fancy so far as to plan two new roads connecting Fukushima with Tokyo and Niigata. To carry out this project his plan was to require that every man and woman in the Prefecture, from fifteen to sixty years of age, should work one day a month or pay a fine of 10 *sen* per woman and

15 *sen* per man. The cruel part of this enactment, according to the *Hochi Shimbun*, was that some of these forced labourers had to travel as much as twenty *ri* to perform one day's work, so that they spent six days journeying to fro. Possibly they preferred this, on principle, to paying a fine of ten or fifteen *sen*, but no reason is assigned for their choice. At the first blush one is inclined to think that the hardship of Mr. Mishima's regulation is mainly attributable to the peculiar temperament of the people he had to deal with. If a journey of six days, varied by one day's road-making, seems to the good folks of Fukushima better than a disbursement of six-pence, their faculty discrimination must be something out of the common. The *Hochi Shimbun* takes no note of this idiosyncrasy, and is equally silent with regard to the part which the Local Assembly took in passing the so-called "Mishima regulation." If the people choose representatives who want to create roads by heroic processes, and having chosen them, choose afterwards to make those processes seven times more irksome than their representatives made them, it seems scarcely quite just to lay the whole blame on the Prefect's shoulders.

SOME months ago, a humane and intelligent captain of a merchant ship had the good fortune to rescue, while on a voyage from New York to this port, a number of wrecked and starving natives of the Gilbert Islands, whom he brought with him to Yokohama, with the intention of ultimately restoring them, if practicable, to their home. In a charmingly simple and unaffected narrative, he told the story of their delivery from death, their return to health and strength, their gratitude for the unlooked for relief, and their humble desire to be reunited to their families, with an effect which few professed writers could have equalled. Finding that his course back to New York would not allow him to approach the Gilbert Islands, he set about the work of carrying out their wishes in another way. Chiefly by his exertions, a sum of money was collected, sufficient to pay all that would be demanded for their passage from San Francisco to their native place,—transportation from Yokohama across the Pacific being furnished gratuitously, we believe, by one of the steamship lines. Few acts, or series of acts, more generous, disinterested and thoroughly honourable than those by which this gallant and true-hearted sailor helped the poor castaways back to the life they had almost surrendered, and sent them, filled with happiness and hope, on their ways to the home they thought they had lost for ever, have fallen within public observation in this part of the world. We mention it at this time, partly because the news has been received of their safe arrival at, and departure from Honolulu, and more particularly because, although frequent allusions to the incident have appeared in American and other newspapers,—the kind treatment accorded to the islanders in San Francisco and Hawaii being liberally reported and abundantly eulogized,—we do not remember to have seen,

on any occasion, the name of Captain Slocum, the prime mover in these benevolent deeds, more than incidentally alluded to,—and that in the slightest and most indifferent manner. It is possible that those concerned in the various publications on the subject, being acquainted with the Captain's modest disposition, and proceeding upon the principle that virtue is its own reward, have thought it best to withhold his share in the transaction,—if that can be called a share which was so nearly the whole,—from the light of newspaper notoriety. Without disputing the value of these motives, we are still inclined to think that no harm will come from presenting, at least for once, the conduct of so worthy a man in its true aspect. Nobody will be injured by it, and there is always the possibility, if the original facts are known, that others may do likewise; whereas from what has thus far been revealed, it would be difficult to discover that a particularly commendable example had been set by any body. It seems a sort of duty to endeavour to repair that omission, and to express the hope that such oversights may not be carelessly repeated.

VIEWED from the standpoint of the telegraph operators, the recent strike in the United States cannot be called a very successful movement. The grievances which caused the demonstration seem to have been real enough. The average wages for commercial operators in the State of New York are only \$54.43 per month, and those of railroad operators \$39.50. No extra compensation is given for Sunday work, and it is said that at many of the stations railroad operators have to remain at their posts from fourteen to sixteen hours a day. This state of things has not been suddenly brought about. It is the final result of three general reductions of wages made during the past ten years. Neither did the operators adopt the extreme measure of leaving the service to take care of itself without giving their employers due warning and ample opportunity to come to terms. On the contrary, it is admitted on all sides that they conducted the affair with frankness and honor, advising the corporations fully of their dissatisfaction, their desire for redress, and their resolve to go off duty unless their demands received favorable consideration. Those demands were four: First—a day's work to be limited to eight hours instead of 9½ as at present. Second—seven hours to be a night's work instead of 8½. Third—no Sunday work without compensation. Fourth—an increase of fifteen per cent. on all salaries now paid. None of these concessions were deemed possible by the companies. They held that they had dealt fairly with their *employés*, and professed to believe that the public would be willing to suffer some inconvenience rather than sustain an unjust demand. In reality, however, they appear to have been confident that no strike would occur at all, and that the operators would think twice before leaving positions that earned them a comfortable living. In this faith they erred: The Brotherhood of operators who had pledged themselves to

proceed to extremities if their demands were refused, numbered no less than thirteen thousand, that is to say, nearly one half of the whole staff throughout the country, and they had estimated that the experts not enrolled in their Union could not possibly satisfy the wants of the public service. Accordingly at noon on the 19th of July the demonstration began in the Western Union telegraph room, several hundred operators laying down their utensils and leaving the building simultaneously. The method adopted to communicate the fact from the head-quarters of the Union to other districts was to telegraph the message "General Grant dropped dead on the street in New York," it being presumed that every operator, whether a member of the Brotherhood or not, might be relied on to spread that story without delay. As the message flashed from place to place each office contributed its quota of strikers to the general body, so that by 3 o'clock in the afternoon the demonstration was complete, having extended even to Toronto in Canada. Everything went on so quietly, however, that outsiders were scarcely conscious of what had happened. At many of the offices the superintendents were taken completely by surprise, their general disbelief in the likelihood of a strike having been supplemented by an idea that a compromise had taken place at head-quarters. Nevertheless, little time was lost in making arrangements to meet the emergency. Most of the old hands remained at their work. Their reminiscences of the strike of 1870 were not of a nature to encourage repetition. The female operators, too, with every few exceptions, took no part in the affair. Very soon substitutes from the branch offices were on their way to New York and other important places, while former *employés* of the Company, now in other lines of business, flocked in and offered their services to tide over the embarrassment. A telegraph college in New York also supplied a number of students, and thus, by one device or another, things were in fair working order at most of the principal places before evening. In short the immense and universal inconvenience which the strike might have caused was virtually avoided altogether, and the Companies are in a position to offer terms at their leisure. The strikers, meanwhile, are reported to be in good spirits and quite confident that the concessions they demand must be made. They are for the most part young unmarried men, who can live for some time without pay as they belong to an association called the "Knights of Labour," which is bound to help them financially and otherwise. It is to be observed, however, that the longer they hold out the less will be the necessity for reemploying them, as their *remplacants* will be acquiring skill all the time. Judging, indeed, from the telegraphic news which has reached us, the trouble is adjusted already, though whether it has been found necessary to accede to some of the striker's demands, or whether the Companies have managed to do without their rebellious *employés* altogether remains to be learned.

THE Silk Association of America tabulates the imports of Raw Silks into the ports of New York and San Francisco during six fiscal years as follows:—1877-8, bales 10,190, value \$5,002,483; 1878-9, bales 15,949, value \$8,080,681; 1879-80, bales 21,741, value \$11,749,943; 1880-1, bales 20,198, value \$10,885,167; 1881-2, bales 21,682, value \$13,177,898; 1882-3, bales 23,927, value \$14,687,584.

The imports of Raw Silk at the ports of New York and San Francisco during the month of June last, were 1,545 bales, valued at \$895,344. Those of Waste Silk and Pierced Cocoons were 126 packages, valued at \$64,709.

For the seven last fiscal years, each ending on the 30th of June, imports of Silk manufactures into the port of New York were in value as follows:—1876-7, \$20,709,585; 1877-8, \$19,078,661; 1878-9, \$23,023,903; 1879-80, \$30,596,509; 1880-1, \$30,501,851; 1881-2, \$36,432,706; 1882-3, \$33,967,141. That is to say that, in seven years, a sumptuary luxury in a manufactured form has been imported into one city of the United States to the enormous value of about thirty-nine million pounds sterling.

Of the total of 23,927 bales of Silk, valued at \$14,687,584, imported into the ports of New York and San Francisco during the fiscal year ended on the 30th of June, 1883, Japan contributed 10,152 bales, valued at \$6,379,115; Hongkong, bales 4,772, value \$1,678,270; Shanghai, bales 5,631, value \$2,768,323. The remainder consisted of:—Strictly European, bales 2,131, value \$3,716,609; re-shipped Asiatic, bales 241, value \$145,267.

To conclude our notices of the Report of the Silk Association, we find a remarkable increase in the quantities of manufactured goods entered for "Warehouse" during the months of April, May, and June. The total increment of the stocks thus stored as compared with the withdrawals is estimated at \$1,149,329; and the cause is evidently the intention on the part of speculators to take advantage of the new tariff immediately on its inauguration.

A MARINE Court of Enquiry has been held at Hongkong into the loss of the *Spark*, the old river steamer late the property of the Hongkong, Canton, and Macao Steamboat Company. The finding of the Court stated that the vessel was lost on Cape Cami through the careless navigation of the master, Archibald Hugh Brooke Rose, whose certificate was suspended for two years. The steamer will be remembered on account of her having been pirated by Chinese, who were on board playing the rôle of passengers, and a large amount in dollars carried off.

In the Netherlands Court, on the 13th inst, Mr. Jan de Boer appeared before the Acting Consul. F. Krien, Esq., at the suit of one Yamamoto, who claimed yen 36 odd in compensation for injuries alleged to have been sustained in an assault

committed by the defendant. It appears that on the 27th of April last Mr. Jan de Boer, when in pursuance of instructions from Mr. Whittall, and acting in concert with Mr. Whiteford, master of the little steamer *Kokusen*, was resisted by Japanese when unmooring the vessel from the English Hatoba. Mr. Whiteford deposed that de Boer merely resisted an assault committed upon him by the plaintiff. His Honor adjourned the case.

For a masterpiece of geographical confusion, we commend the following extract from *Harper's Bazar* of July 21, respecting which it would be interesting to know if the writer himself could explain its meaning:—

A splendid barometer has been given to the Abbot of one of the great Buddhist colleges in Japan by the Prince of Wales, in the name of his sons, who were entertained there while travelling in India.

As an evidence that the feudal spirit is not extinct in Japan, and that the sentiment of devotion to the great families survives the ancient forms of vassalage, we may mention that more than two hundred and fifty followers of the house of Owari came, unsummoned, from Nagoya, to be present at the funeral, on the 8th instant, of their former lord. Although their attendance was quite voluntary, and was intended to be at their own cost, we understand that they were lodged and entertained, during their stay in the capital, by the representatives of the late daimiyo. The majority of the visitors were aged men, who had personally served their master. The ceremonies preceding the burial took place at the mansion in Honjio, near Riogoku Bridge, where the descendants of Owari have resided since they relinquished the immense *Yashiki* at Ichigai.

A FRENCH gentleman in Saigon communicates to the *Independent* an extract from the letter of a compatriot, an officer in the Chinese Customs service stationed in Hankow. The writer gives a shocking account of the condition of the people in the neighborhood, who, in addition to calamities existing on the 8th of July, were threatened with the flooding of the Blue River. He says that the district of Hupeh is a prey to famine, typhus, and other diseases. Only sixty miles from the port the population was living upon the leaves of trees. There has been no harvest for three years; and this year inundation is to be added to the miseries of the poor wretches who fall and die, for want of roads and thanks to the charming imperial administration, from which the people we may remark, *en passant*, would gladly be delivered. There has been a beginning of revolt; and twenty-four heads had fallen to the sword; but the hydra has one hundred heads, and if China declared war against France a domestic revolution might be feared. It was doubtless his that frightened Li Hung-chang. The French writer concludes by saying that he has been assured that peace is secure; that China will not oppose the movements of France, and that the latter will not demand any indemnity

from the Imperial Government. This does not prevent China from arming with all speed; but it is said that there is another enemy than France in view.

We have to acknowledge the receipt, a couple of mails ago, of a volume of reports, by the Medical Staff of the Chinese Maritime Customs, on the health of the districts under their control, for the half-year ended 30th September, 1882. All the papers are technically valuable: many of them contain statements and hints that are of interest even to lay readers. For instance, there is a very common impression that excessive consumption of opium and alcoholic intoxication are rarely simultaneously prevalent among people of the same district. This theory according to Dr. Henry is not justified in Hupeh. The doctor writes from Ichang on the Yangtze, where he says that Szechuan opium is much smoked; while the sight of a "drunken labourer or farmer, reeling home from market, wake, or wedding is com non enough to be suggestive of life in Western lands." Drunkenness and dirt generally go together, and it is the filthiness of these Chinese, rather than their vices, which renders them uncomfortable as regards themselves, and disagreeable to others. Their habits explain the universal plague of parasites and parasitic diseases of the skin,—porrigo, scabies, and tinea representing the latter; pediculus, cimex, and pulex, the former. "But," the writer observes, "a mode of treatment has been devised, which I may term the smoke-bath, and which appears to be an Ichang invention, that might be recommended to the speculators at home in hydropathy, electropathy, and such-like, on the score of novelty. About sundown one may often see on the beach a naked form lit up by the lurid glare of a pile of burning shavings. The form waves a bundle of clothing frantically around in the smoke. This seeming joss-pidgin is merely the recognised and effectual mode of parasiticide." Perhaps it might be satisfactorily imported into Japan and other countries for the removal, other than manual one, of cutaneous parasites. To the looker-on at least it would have a more picturesque effect, than the commoner process upon which one not unfrequently sees a *désœuvré* jinriki drawer or other laborer earnestly employed.

Dr. Henry speaks regretfully of a fine field of anatomy which he is forbidden to till. After recording the objections of the natives to undergo a course of medical treatment, while they are willing enough to take a dose of medicine, he ventilates a more serious grievance:—"Prejudice equally closes the very extensive field that exists here for post-mortem examination. Fatal accidents are common. During the early part of the year, a party of eight beggars, who were sleeping at night in a hollow in the bank of the river, were killed by the falling in of the superincumbent mass of earth and stones. A similar fate not long since overtook a coolie who was excavating clay in a pit hard by the Custom House." This is hard on a would-be dissector,

whose opportunities in cases of suicide also, which is very prevalent, "prejudice" ruthlessly cancels. It is creditable to the Doctor, smarting under disappointment, that he testifies to "the existence of the sentiment of humanity. I may adduce," he says, "two important institutions here, namely, free ferries, and the peculiar red boats, which are often effectual in saving life in the numberless cases of accident on the river at this place, and more especially higher up, in the rapids."

Among the other reports we notice that of Dr. B. S. Ringer, of Amoy, who gives a word of wise counsel applicable everywhere in seasons or imminence of epidemic. He suggests that it would be well "if lay residents could be brought to understand that an outbreak of cholera may commence slowly and insidiously, that cases may at first be few and far between, and that a town may be in imminent danger of a severe epidemic without necessarily a sudden and sensational death-rate occurring. This knowledge might to some extent prevent the apparent surprise caused by the refusal of health certificates and the adoption of other sanitary measures necessary under such circumstances, and pursued by those in a position to form an opinion in the matter."

In addition to his ordinary report on Pakhoi, Dr. Lowry furnishes some notes on an epidemic disease, which prevailed there from April to September, 1882, and which he is not unwilling to identify with the "plague," now supposed to be extinct, which used to ravage both Asia and Europe. On the face of the matter there seems no reason why the two maladies should not be identical. The plague may not have been eradicated but only confined to exceptionally favorable localities. The science of sanitation, cleanliness in living, sobriety, and sense in diet—all generally unknown in Europe three hundred years ago—are unknown in many parts of Asia yet. They drove away the plague and many another affliction from the homes of Europeans. They have not been able to approach those of millions of Asiatics. It is about time that they laid siege to such strongholds of disease and death as is Pakhoi, according to Dr. Lowry's picture of its condition—a picture which it would be useless, if it were possible, to transfer to these columns.

Indeed, personal and domestic cleanliness is not to be found in the category of the Chinaman's numerous good qualities. From Dr. Jamieson's report it is evident that Shanghai, in the native quarter at all events, is not much better than Pakhoi. And, parenthetically, this authority touches a subject which, *ceteris paribus*, is of as much importance in the foreign settlements of Japan as in those of China. It has been alluded to by the Sanitary Boards in times of danger of epidemic, and not unfrequently touched in the columns of this paper. And now from a foreign source we derive an identical moral. Let Dr. Jamieson speak with his accustomed plainness:—"Unless foreign

householders make a practice of frequently inspecting their servants' offices, they have no security whatever against the introduction of the most dangerous forms of communicable diseases within their premises. Their male and female servants will take no precautions whatever, and children are as likely as not to be brought into immediate contact with diseases against which parents flatter themselves that they are protected by the care which is lavished upon keeping them far from known sources of contagion. An unexpected visit to one's servants' quarters reveals many astonishing facts. No doubt it is only exceptionally that disease and death are found sheltered under one's own roof. But the incredible dirt in which the most respectable native servants live, the vermin which they cherish in their rooms, and the overcrowding of quarters calculated on no very liberal scale for the number of persons actually employed, are revealed with a clearness startling to anybody who for the first time undertakes such an exploration as I recommend." Matters are not quite so bad with us in Yokohama; but that they are much worse than they should or need be may probably be discovered without consulting the reports of the local Sanitary Board, composed of foreign and Japanese medical men, after the occasion of their house-to-house visitation in the summer of 1877. Householders are not mindful enough of the comfort of their servants, on which their own health and comfort so largely depend; and probably the majority of the domestics employed hereabout are but too well used to squalor in their homes not to take it with them even to light and airy habitations. But how many of the servants' rooms attached to the average good bungalow will answer to the latter description? It would be well if every master before taking a house would satisfy himself that the offices are in good order, and, by occasional personal inspection and strict discipline subsequently, insist that they are kept so.

HONGKONG papers mention the arrival there of a company of actors known as the "Loftus Troupe," consisting of sixteen ladies and gentlemen, and add that it is the intention of these artistes to visit Japan. It is too late to advise them against the fulfilment of their project now. Visitors to Japan generally manage to pass a very pleasant time in a fine climate amid pleasant surroundings; but fine scenery is with professional actors quite a secondary consideration to a full treasury. Especially at this season of the year is the exploitation of the Yokohama public, in a theatrical sense, a most ungrateful task. However, the Loftus Troupe have very good recommendations, and we can only hope that their trip to this region may not be so pecuniarily disastrous as many precedents would lead us to believe it will.

"CELESTIAL JOTTINGS" in the *Hongkong Daily Press* occasionally contain interesting and instructive items written in a pleasant style. The latest instalment has a note on Chinese supersti-

tions regarding the dead and graves. The writer gives an amusing instance as regards the latter subject. He says:—"I shall never forget the fear depicted on the face of a Chinese official who had from a long distance thoughtlessly fired off a long range rifle of foreign construction at a Chinese grave, little thinking the rifle would really carry so far. He pulled the trigger and, as luck would have it, scored a hit; in fact, he broke the bull's-eye, which proved to be the *liang pai*, or tablet inscribed with name and surname, &c., of the deceased Chinaman whose bones, probably washed clean and carefully deposited in an earthenware pot, reposed beneath. The successful, or rather perhaps unfortunate, marksman grovelled in the dust; with his forehead on the ground he worshipped fully half an hour; then retired, looking behind him and making an obeisance at every few steps for fully half a mile from the grave and remained after this occurrence sad and melancholy for the rest of the day."

The "Celestial Jotter" says that he has been asked to explain the reason why some Chinese take their friends home to die whilst others have so strong a repugnance to a death in the house that they will turn their nearest relatives out of doors to die. An instance in point is cited of a wealthy compradore or merchant whose relatives recently placed him on a bamboo chair in his own backyard to expire. The writer says that he has made inquiries and obtained a simple, if inhuman, solution. The Chinese, as a people, are eminently utilitarian. The dying merchant's relations 'm of *kū ching nan chung chong*, did not want him to make dirty the bed. The house in which deaths have occurred is, according to Chinese superstition, haunted (*lit. dirty*). The moribund was not, however, it may be observed, wholly removed from the care and attentions of his friends; and on actual decease the funeral rites and ceremonies would be duly observed. Here we have the glaring anomaly of grossly cruel neglect of the still living combined with excessive respect and worship of the dead. This is the reason why Chinese do not like their relatives to die in the hospital "because the funeral rites, or at least those of them immediately supervening on decease, cannot be properly observed." When persons as, for instance, young children, are left to die uncared for, it may be assumed that they are friendless or have no immediate relatives on whom would naturally devolve the duty of carrying out the funeral rites and ceremonies of the death-wake. The author holds that the various superstitions concerning life and death, spirits, ghosts, demons, and the unknown, have their origin in the fantastic development of, and excrescences from, the Taoist faith as originally projected by Lao-tsz, enlarged on and amplified by Chuang-tsz, and still further added to and diversified by annotators and commentators innumerable since the time of this last mentioned worthy. Taoism, as it at present exists, seems to be a system of the grossest materialism; the superstitious Chinese believe in the actual material presence of ghosts,

goblins, fiends, or demons; their beliefs and superstitions are, in reality, almost as gross, coarse, vulgar, and absurd as those of the modern American and other spiritualists. It may, however, be said in favour of the superstitious Chinaman that he does not dream or think of putting his ghosts to such mean uses as do our own spiritualists; the awful presence of a disembodied spirit inspires him, as it should do any properly constituted mind, really believing in the actual presence of a being from the land of shadows, with dread and reverential awe. Hence it is intelligible that the mandarin mentioned in the preceding paragraph had a lively fear that the ghost of the occupant of the grave whose tombstone he had unwittingly splintered, might collect his own bones, surge from the earth, and belabor or clapperclaw his insulter. The wonder is that the latter had the courage to point the weapon toward the monument at all.

Our telegraphic news of the 15th inst. indicates that a storm is brewing in a corner of Europe which has enjoyed for some years past considerable quiet. There appears now to be added to Nihilism in Russia, Fenianism in Ireland, and Socialism of a more or less virulent type everywhere else on the Continent, Carlism in Spain. There can be no doubt that the fall of Tolosa in the winter of 1876 did not mean the extinction of the followers of the Duke of Madrid, and that the insurrectionary movement referred to in Wednesday's telegram is simply a reanimation of the old Carlist trouble. This view is amply supported by the recollection of the conditions under which Don Carlos retired from the contest, and from Paris issued this proclamation:—"Being desirous of putting a stop to bloodshed, I forbear continuing a glorious, but at present fruitless, struggle. In the face of a great superiority of numbers, and in view especially of the sufferings of my volunteers, it became necessary to return the sword to the scabbard. I will never sign a *capitulacion*. My flag remains furled until the moment which God shall fix as the supreme hour of redemption."

MR. H. VIKKOT, the able Editor of the little sheet, *L'Indépendant de Saigon*, is writing a lengthy "summary of reforms to be accomplished in Cochinchina, in order to develop there French colonization and commerce," the gist of which is the administrative amalgamation of French colonies in the Far East. He would have all those possessions, including French Cochinchina, Cambodia, Tonquin, Annam, and their dependencies, formed into one great Government, under the authority of a Governor-General of Indo-China, with Governors of the various provinces, much in fact on the system according to which our own Indian Empire is administered.

MR. GLADSTONE, speaking at the Mansion House, said that "fuller advices from Madagascar confirmed the hope that the Tamatave affair would be satisfactorily arranged." This news is by telegraph, and the words could only have been uttered two or three days ago. We pub-

lished, however, a telegram yesterday from a Saigon paper, which translated in the *Hongkong Daily Press* stated that "the affair with reference to English Consul at Tamatave arose from an error. Settled." On referring to the original telegram in the *Indépendant* of the 26th of July we find that the Havas words are:—"Affaire consul anglais Tamatave résultat erreur calmée," which, according to orthodox telegraphic interpretation should read:—"The affair concerning the English Consul at Tamatave arose from an error—calmed," and not "settled" as the *Daily Press* rendered it, the inference being that the excitement in England, consequent on the outrage, has subsided. This deduction is warranted by the Reuter's telegram above referred to.

A COURT-MARTIAL was held on the *Victor Emanuel* at Hongkong, on the 1st instant, for the trial of Henry W. Hill, Lieutenant-in-Command of the *Cockchafer*, 4, screw composite gunboat. The court was composed of Commodore Cum-ling (President), Captain Fullerton (*Sapphire*), Commander Collins (*Swift*) Commander Jones (*Victor Emanuel*), Lieut. Tisdal (*Swift*) Mr. S. W. Wright (Commodore's Secretary) Judge Advocate. Lieut. Hill was charged with drinking intoxicating liquors to such excess between the 2nd May and the 19th June last as to produce an attack of *delirium tremens*, by which he was incapacitated from performing his duty on board ship on the 19th June. The defendant pleaded guilty. The Court was cleared to consider the sentence, which was read by the Judge Advocate on its re-opening. The defendant, having pleaded guilty, the case was considered as proved against him, and the Court adjudged him to lose five years' promotion as a lieutenant, to be also severely reprimanded, and to be dismissed from the *Cockchafer*.

MINISTER FOOTE'S first dispatch from Korea was received by the State Department at Washington early in July. It has not been published in full, so far as we discover, but numerous extracts are permitted to appear in New York newspapers. Considerable space is devoted to the details of official transactions,—the exchange of ratifications of the treaty, formal interviews and presentations, and the like. Already we observe the signs and portents of much confusion in nomenclature of individuals and localities,—the inevitable result of accepting no standard of authority as regards pronunciation or spelling. After long years of experience of the inconvenience of such irregularities in China, and to some extent in Japan, it seems a pity that proper means cannot be taken to provide against their repetition in the lately opened country. In reading Mr. Foote's correspondence, we have every reason to suppose that we are brought into contact with officers and diplomatists more or less familiar to us, through their connection with Japanese proceedings: but it is next to impossible to identify a single one of them. The American Envoy was met, before his landing upon Korean territory, by a "Vice-President of

the Foreign Office" and a Foreign Office Secretary; and upon the arrival of these gentlemen at the port of disembarkation, a Korean flag, "prepared at the suggestion of Commander Cotton, of the *Monocacy*," was hoisted at that vessel's fore, and saluted with twenty-one guns. After the salute, Mr. Foote received his visitors, and "through the medium of interpreters engaged them in a long conversation without the least difficulty." It is not our business, perhaps, to find fault with the phraseology of the "first" dispatch from Korea, but we cannot help feeling and expressing some curiosity as to why there should be "the least difficulty" in carrying on the said conversation, provided the interpreters were competent, which we believe they were, in a very high degree. If the newly arrived plenipotentiary had unfortunately been obliged to conduct his colloquy without interpreters, and had managed his interview, under those circumstances, "without the least difficulty," it would indeed have been an achievement worthy of record. However, the Korean gentlemen had their say, and the most interesting of their utterances was an assurance that "within a few months a decided change had taken place in the disposition of their own people toward foreigners." This is a very valuable fact. The announcement might have carried more significance, undoubtedly, if it had been accompanied by some indication of the exact number of months since the "decided change" began to manifest itself. We could then indulge in speculations, not entirely at random, respecting the cause of this sudden revolution in the feelings of a population of eight millions. If it took place about the time when the Chinese authorities performed a feat of prestidigitation upon the ex-Regent, and transported him from his native shores to a provincial prison in the heart of Chihli, with a marvellous rapidity unrivalled since the days of Aladdin's lamp, it may be that the skill and ingenuity displayed in that performance produced the revulsion. If it were co-incidental with the planting of a certain Japanese colony in their capital, as a standing remonstrance against the sanguinary ebullitions of the multitude, we might trace it to the growth of a wholesome respect for strangers who would not allow such atrocities to pass unpunished. If it asserted itself about the period when the Koreans discovered the facility with which large sums of money could be borrowed from outsiders, without apparent resources or perceptible security on their own part, their conversion would more naturally be attributed to a sentiment common to all the races of the earth,—the financial fellow feeling that makes us wondrous kind. But conjecture exerts itself in vain, owing to the vagueness of the data supplied. All we know is, that the disposition of the people underwent a change, presumably in the winter of 1882-3. Even if we knew more, we might still be confronted with the difficulty of finding a suitable meaning for the word "people,"—which, as every one is aware, has a very different signification in Western nations from that applied to it by Oriental Governments. So, possibly,

the fact enunciated by the Vice-President and the Secretary of the Foreign Office was not so valuable, after all.

As the Envoy's direct intention in coming to the East was to establish himself near the Korean Court, no surprise is excited by the statement that he "accepted an invitation to visit Sôul." But we are justified—in the exercise of the same curiosity that was evoked by the reference to the conversation through interpreters—in asking why it is thought necessary to publish the fact that Mr. Foote, on landing in Korea, "accepted an invitation to visit" the place he had come all the way from America to live in. It reminds us irresistibly of the law clerk's wedding expedition, in "Great Expectations." The party walk forth with the sole purpose of celebrating a marriage. "Hullo, here's a church," says the bridegroom; "let's go in." In the same way, the Foreign Office gentlemen who hasten to the seaport expressly to conduct to the capital the Envoy who has come with no other design than to be conducted thither,—these gentlemen say, as if a sudden and totally unpremeditated idea had struck them, "Oh, there's Sôul; perhaps you would like to visit it." We do not, of course, mean to intimate that anything of the kind actually occurred, but merely that this is the picture called up by the odd manner in which the narrative is given. Well, "having accepted the invitation to visit Sôul," the excursionists set out; including the Minister, his Secretary and Interpreters, and the Commander and eight officers of the *Monocacy*. The route, which was hardly a road but simply "a very narrow path," lay over hills and through valleys, amid villages of by no means neat or attractive aspect, the houses being constructed of stones and mud. The inhabitants were "clothed in white," and exhibited "no animosity." "Their appearance," we are told, "indicated Mongolian characteristics and a stalwart race." We are sensible, at this point, of a recurrence of the curiosity which has twice before seized us, but we stifle it, and pass on. Within four miles of Sôul, the strangers were met by the District Governor and another delegate from the Foreign Office; and from that spot to the city "the way-side was literally lined with people." "Thousands were congregated." Moreover, "having learned the object of Mr. Foote's visit, they became interested spectators." From which we infer that if they had not been told all about it, they would not have been interested at all. But for the fear of falling liable to the charge of a persistent pressure of curiosity, we should certainly pause to inquire whether it is a well considered plan of the Korean authorities, previous to, or upon, the arrival of foreign diplomatists, to acquaint the masses with the intentions of the new comers, in order to make sure of their interest in current proceedings. Whatever the course determined upon, the result in this latest case certainly compares advantageously with the manner in which popular emotion declared itself last year, with respect to the presence of an accredited Japanese agent; for the American

visitors were "treated with the utmost civility, during the entire journey." On arriving at their destination, "all were made comfortable, and every attention (was) paid to them." Numbers of officials, whom we recognize but dimly under their alphabetical disguises, greeted Mr. Foote, and so impressed him, not only with their hospitality, but with their general intelligence, that he lost no time in testifying to the broad range of their understanding. "These gentlemen," he wrote,—after they had "called upon him to express their gratification that the United States had sent a diplomatic representative to that empire (?) " and their "strong hope of happy results from the new relations, apparently appreciating the policy of the U.S. in the East,"—"these gentlemen are well versed as to the condition of other countries." For the last time we repress the impulse of inquiry which rises uncontrollably at the perusal of these lines, and check the desire to be informed whether the apparent *non sequitur* really exists, or is smoothed away in an amiable conjunction of perfectly harmonious thoughts. If we suffered the curiosity, to which we have confessed, to get the better of us to the very end, we might be accused of an ungentle wish to wound by unkind criticism; our true motive being just to glance sportively at a theme which fairly invites good humoured comment. But we would give a good deal to know what "well versed" means.

EARTHQUAKES have been felt in the South-West of England. A correspondent of *Nature*, writing from Woodtown, South Devon, on the 25th June, says:—

I have just felt and heard the shock of an earthquake. The trembling of the earth was very great and the accompanying noise very loud, comparing it with one or two other slight shocks which I have before experienced in this district. I found the time to be 1.38 p.m. The time it lasted was several seconds. It was longer and louder than an ordinary clap of thunder when the lightning is not far off. A man reports that the slates of the cow-house were made to rattle.

As I now write (2.7 p.m.) a second shock has been felt, a little less severe. The weather is very calm, sky cloudy. This place is close to Dartmoor, on the westward side, about 500 feet above the sea-level.

Another correspondent of the same paper, writing on the same day from Bosccastle, Cornwall, chronicles a similar—probably the same—spasms:—

I beg to inform you of the occurrence of two slight earthquake shocks here to-day, one shortly before 2 p.m., the other near half an hour later. The direction of progress seemed to be from north-west to south-east—that is along the line of the deep and narrow valley. The tremor was sufficient to cause a jingling of glass and earthenware, and of the slates covering the house. The usual rumbling noise accompanied the shocks.

A HAVAS telegram from Paris to the *Indépendant* de Saigon states that the Chamber has rejected a bill for the Tonquin Telegraph Cable, because it gave the concession to an English Company. Mr. Blancsube proposes a French cable. The Chamber voted urgency.

ACCORDING to the *Choya Shimbun* the launch of H.I.J.M.S. *Tenriu Kan* in Yokosuka Dockyard will take place on the 18th instant. It is said that the Emperor has signified his intention of presiding at the ceremony. Special trains

will convey the Tokiyo guests to and from Yokohama. We understand that, as on previous occasions, the Yokosuka boats will also be at the disposal of those who are invited to attend.

THE Mitsu Bishi steamship *Tsuruga Maru* which arrived here yesterday brought up the officers and crew from the wreck of the Company's steamer *Sumida*.

WE are pleased to hear that the merit and long services of Dr. A. J. C. Geerts have been gracefully recognized by the Japanese Government, in whose employ he has been for many years. He has received from the Emperor the distinguished decoration of the Order of the Rising Sun.

THE *Mainichi Shimbun* says that the *Adsuma Kan* has orders to proceed on the 18th instant to Kwanonzaki to test, by firing upon them, the fortifications. Three batteries there have now been completed.

WE notice that the Hongkong papers received an additional item in connection with the telegram which announced the dreadful calamity at Casamicciola, namely:—"Mount Vesuvius was in active eruption."

THE telegraph announces the resignation of the French Naval Commander in Madagascar. The reason given is ill-health, but there is just a possibility that, in the settlement of the Tamatave affair, the British Government may have insisted upon the recall of the French Naval Commander in view of recent events.

THE telegraph announces that progress is being made with a view to a settlement of the Opium question with China. It is quite time, considering the period that has elapsed since the conference between the high officials took place at the Northern port.

THE passage after the third reading of the Corrupt Practices Bill, mentioned in our telegraphic news, is a satisfactory announcement. The Bill on doubt will pass the Upper House and receive the Royal Assent at once, and come into operation at an early date.

OUR private advices from the seat of French operations in Annam give assurance that no movement, on an extensive scale, is contemplated before the end of September. This delay, however, does not appear to be owing to the apprehension of intolerable heat, for we are told, in contradiction to the common opinion, that, up to the beginning of this month, there had been no suffering from that cause. Foreigners at Haiphong and the other stations had not then begun to sleep without blankets or other bed covering. As an additional dispensation of good fortune, it is mentioned that no necessity for using mosquito curtains had arisen. In other particulars, also, it seems possible that the extremely adverse reports, hitherto accepted without question, respecting the general character

of the country, may require considerable modification. The soil is pronounced exceptionally prolific, needing only proper cultivation to make it bountifully productive. The whole region is liberally supplied with watercourses, and the Red River is said to overflow each year, like the Nile, fertilizing vast tracts by the deposit of a rich loam. The inhabitants are incapable of availing themselves of these natural advantages, and the much despised territory may yet prove, contrary to expectation, a sufficiently good field for foreign enterprise;—certainly better than the earlier explorers have given us reason to suppose.

THE *New York Times* of July 9th contains an editorial article, entitled "The Opening of Korea," in which the treaty recently ratified between that country and the United States is repeatedly spoken of as the first ever negotiated, by any foreign Government, with the "hermit kingdom" of Asia. Minister Foote is congratulated, upon being the first diplomatist received by the Koreans, whose flag is declared to have been, by his instructions, "saluted for the first time by the guns of a foreign Power." All this is wrong, as every journalist in New York must know, if he would take the trouble to remember. The opening of political and commercial relations between Japan and Korea, seven years ago, was fully reported in the newspapers of America, and the fact that Japan's influence upon her coy neighbour has opened the way to peaceful intercourse with other nations, is as well understood as any passage of Eastern history. To say, as the *Times* says, that "the Government of the United States is the first to enter into treaty relations with Korea," is not only inaccurate, but particularly inconsiderate and unjust.

THE end of the Opium agitation would almost appear to be in view, according to a telegram published in another column. This is a consummation devoutly to be wished. The message runs:—"The negotiations regarding opium have progressed so far that the British Government has intimated its willingness to accept the proposals made by the Chinese Government on certain conditions." The main point of the conditions referred to is probably a term of years at the end of which England will be prepared to agree to the propositions now put forward by China—propositions by the way which could never be entertained by the Government of India without some years in which to prepare for the enormous curtailment which must necessarily follow in the matter of Indian revenue.

WE deeply regret to hear of the death from stroke, at Hakone, of Captain J. M. Batchelder, of Tokijo, one of the oldest and most esteemed American residents in Japan.

WE are informed by telegraph that cholera is on the increase at Alexandria. This is to be regretted, as the cause is apparently indicated by the preceding message which announces that "riots have occurred in Alexandria," on account of the natives' objection to the sanitary measures

taken to prevent the spread of the scourge. It is, however, satisfactory to learn that the riotous fellaheen have been promptly dispersed by the Police, who will probably, after this ebullition, be more strict than ever in assisting the sanitary officers in carrying out the preventive measures ordered to be put into execution.

THE anomalies in the Bankruptcy Laws have for a long period demanded a sweeping reform. The telegraph now informs us that the Bill brought forward this session has been read a third time and passed. The law officers of the Crown are to be congratulated upon this measure, inasmuch as it was hardly expected at the commencement of the session that time would be found to deal with the Bankruptcy Bill, and it was prophesied that the much needed reform would have to be shelved.

WE publish further telegraphic confirmation of the error in the *Daily Press* translation of the Saigon paper's telegram in which reference was made to Madagascar affairs as "settled," the message declaring that "The Under Secretary for Foreign Affairs, in reply to a question in the House of Commons stated that negotiations are still proceeding with the French Government regarding the detention of Mr. Shaw, an English missionary at Tamatave."

WE have received a letter signed "Fiat Justitia" commenting in somewhat severe terms upon certain phases of journalistic amenities in Yokohama. But truly it seems to us that the matter has gone far enough. It exhibits, at this stage, a tendency to drift into personalities, and we have no desire to provoke further exhibitions of the very scandals condemned by our correspondent.

WE understand that the British Fleet, which left Nagasaki on the 10th inst., will proceed to Hakodate and cruise in the North before visiting Yokohama.

A SMALL piece of advice to the numerous practical jokers who pervade this Settlement may be culled from the following anecdote which reached us yesterday, but which is already a day or two old:—Within a few miles from Yokohama stands a certain hostelry, whither those in search of recreation are wont to resort to escape the heat and the dullness of Yokohama. It has hitherto been also a favorite lounge for members of the mercantile marine when in port here. A few days since a certain well-known and popular member of this class entertained a few friends at the said caravanserai. As often happens after an occasion of this kind, a little joke was perpetrated; and the generous entertainer carried off in sheer fun a jar of pickled cabbage, that was discovered in the road after the festivities were concluded. But the results were serious. Upon returning to his vessel the next morning the captain was met by a respectable looking Japanese with a letter from one of our most honored legal

luminaries requesting him to hand over at once \$20, the value of the jar of pickles, or to be at once arraigned before H.B.M. Court on a charge of theft. The \$20 was paid. The joke was a costly one. Of course the hotel-keeper had a right to act as he pleased in the matter; but he might, we should think, in the circumstances and knowing well his customers, have adopted a suaver manner to obtain redress, which more than probably would have come to him without any effort on his part.

THE announcement by telegraph that the Province of Catalonia is declared to be in a "state of siege," and that "Carlist emissaries are active in the North," confirms the view taken by us on our first announcement a few days since of the insurrectionary movement in Spain. The Catalans inhabit a country the physical features of which are such as to make the suppression of a revolutionary rising a most difficult task; and the people themselves are described as differing from the rest of the Spaniards in language, habits, and character, being the bravest and least bigoted, as well as most active and enterprising of the Spanish people. Here all the elements exist for a successful revolutionary movement, and we cannot understand the latter portion of the telegram, which says, "It is officially announced that the Spanish insurrection is suppressed." There must be something wrong about this. Movements having for their end such results are not knocked on the head at the first blow, and this has nowhere been more forcibly illustrated than in Spain.

WE suppose Mr. H. Sampson must be credited with the following, for the reason that there are few men who could perpetrate its equivalent as much as for the fact that it is a cutting from a recent number of *Fun*:—

"LI HUNG-CHANG"—(a strange cognomen)—
China's warlike chief is named;
Fearless he of any foemen,
And for martial prowess famed,
But doubtless France, since "Li" has stated
"China dreads not France's fang,"
Now wishes him more "elevated"—
In fact, thorough-Li Hung-chang.

MR. BOURRER, late French Minister to China, arrived in Paris on the 30th of July. His Excellency sailed with his family hence for San Francisco, en route to Europe, in the *Coptic* on the 25th of June.

WE would draw attention to the sailing notice of the next Mitsu Bishi mail steamer to Shanghai, the *Genkai Maru* having been fixed for Saturday, the 25th inst., instead of the usual sailing day.

THE *Hongkong Daily Press* notes that, among the passengers that arrived by the P. & O. mail steamer *Ravenna* at Hongkong, was Mr. A. R. Colquhoun. Mr. Colquhoun, the *Straits Times* says, is en route to Tonquin, as representative of *The Times*.

Its issue of the 14th of August, the *Hiogo News* relates that, when, the *Nagoya Maru* last passed through the port of Kobe bound to Shanghai, *via* Nagasaki, she had on board, as passengers for the latter port, six Russians accused of being escaped convicts from Siberia or Saghalien. Says the *Hiogo News*:—"We hear that they were taken off a small island by an otter-hunting schooner and landed in Hakodate, where the Japanese delivered them to the Russian Consul. The story told by the men was that they were the sole survivors of the crew of an American vessel, but as they had on prison clothing, and cannot speak a word of English, it does not seem as if they would be able to substantiate their contention. If, as appears only too probable, these men turn out to be escaped prisoners, they will be consigned to the mines, which is equivalent to lingering death." The writer continues:—"One feature in this affair has a strange appearance. The prisoners—who were chained and shackled together in a manner which in England would have ensured the interference of the Society for the prevention of Cruelty to Animals, that is if dumb beasts were so treated—were being escorted to Nagasaki by a person employed in Her Britannic Majesty's gaol in Yokohama. Surely there is something unusual, if not altogether irregular, in this sort of procedure. There are, certainly, a good many things done out in the East that would not be tolerated at home for a single moment, and this escaped convict incident seems one of them. If the British Government are complaisant enough to relieve other foreign nationalities in Japan of the trouble of guarding their criminals, let the fact be known as publicly as possible, a remunerative tariff of charges be fixed, and who can tell but a lucrative business may spring up. At all events it is utterly opposed to common-sense that Great Britain should, through her officials, be smirched with this sort of dirty work, and lose money by it at the same time." The story, as narrated, is substantially correct. The six poor fellows in question were, on landing in Yesso, arrested by the Japanese police, who fed them as they were starving, and handed them over to the Russian Consul at Hakodate, as they, without exception, were clad in the unmistakable uniform of convicts doomed to toil in Siberian prisons. If there could be any doubt as to their nationality, it was removed by the fact that none of them spoke any language but Russian. If any sane person could entertain any doubt as to their unhappy status, it must be removed by the avowal of one of them, here in Yokohama, who said that they had preferred death, or even the chances of recapture, to the ceaseless terrible work and punishment which they had to undergo at the lighthouse that they were constructing. After their arrest, their transfer to Nagasaki, whence they could be conveyed to Vladivostock on board a Russian man-of-war, was ordered by their Minister in Tokiyo. What else could have been done with them? They were brought, on their way to Hizen, on board ship, under an escort of Japanese police, to Yokohama, where

they were lodged in H.B.M. jail. But *why* in H.B.M. jail? Because, under one of the kaleidoscopic phases of exterritoriality, many nations who have consular representatives here have no jails—and happily for them, few and seldom prisoners to incarcerate. In the event, however, of their being troubled with an occasional malefactor, they have an arrangement with the English authorities, in virtue of which they may avail themselves of the convenient premises on Lot No. 155, Yokohama, when occasion requires. Among these nationalities is Russia, who contributes a certain sum, no matter what, but no doubt fairly calculated, toward the maintenance of the jail, and her share of the wages of one jailer. Hence she was, and is, entitled to accommodation for her prisoners in H.B.M. jail, and to her proportionate share of the jailer of whose wages she pays a part. It was possible that the particular jailer might have been a Frenchman or a Russian, Swiss or Belgian, or whatever; for Great Britain is exceptionally cosmopolitan in her choice of servants. As it happens, the jailer who was in charge of these Russian convicts on their voyage to Nagasaki, though not an Englishman is an English subject. This is beside the question though it might not have been so. Briefly, the Russian Consul had to imprison half a dozen of his nationals in his prison for a time, and to convey them to a certain destination, in charge of an officer in the service of his country. The warder in the English jail, in fact, was a Russian officer for the nonce; and for the time Russia had the control of, say, the six-sixths, instead of the one-sixth, of his services. A similar case may occur at any moment with five other nationalities. The manner in which six desperate men, escaped convicts, each serving out a life-penalty in commutation of a death sentence, are to be conveyed from one spot to the other in charge of one officer, must, one would think, be left in some respect to the discretion of that individual. As it happens the Russian Consul ordered his officer, possibly with some view to the safety of the latter, as well as the safe delivery of the prisoners, to keep the men in irons during their passage. The manner in which they were manacled is a matter of Russian taste. Anyone who has seen the transport from prison to prison of a gang of English convicts will not affirm that the predilections of those escorted are particularly consulted, or that they are treated with lady-like consideration by their guard. However, *pseudo* Don Quixotes will endeavour for ever to earn popularity. We may mention, *en passant*, that, if these prisoners had been sent on board an English steamer, our Consular officials, who are not lacking in vigilance, would doubtless have stipulated that they should be conveyed as British prisoners would be under similar circumstances. They were carried on a Japanese steamer; and the duty of their custodian was to deliver them in safety at their destination. Inquiry as to that man's disposition and character divulges that he is not likely to have failed in humanity towards his unfortunate charges. He would not have received many benedictions from the foreign community in

Hiogo, or from the Japanese people and authorities of the locality, if he had tied his temporary wards with silken thread, and they had bid him good bye with a *rendezvous* at Nunobikino Taki or Maya-san. But let us return to the real point, which is that the men are Russian escaped convicts, arrested by Japanese officials on Japanese territory, handed over by the Japanese Government to the Russian Minister, by whom they are lodged temporarily in a Russian jail, whence they are sent, passage paid, on board a Japanese vessel, in charge of a Russian officer to their destination, namely a Russian man-of-war, which is ordered to take them back to their terrible duress. It may be a pathetic story! the men may or may not be criminals; but the hard fact remains that they are escaped convicts, and that their recapture and return has been strictly *en règle*. That an English jail should be a French-Russian-German-Swiss-Turkish-Greek-Swedish-Danish-*&c.*-*&c.* jail, and a British jailer should be a Russian jailer conveying Russian convicts in Russian style, is one of those developments of the perfect system of exterritoriality which grind fresh facets on the lens of the imagination. Does it prove anything? Yes. It proves the vast preponderance of British power and interest in these regions? Does it suggest anything? No. Of course not that that power and interest should be employed in the right, because righteous, direction.

EXCURSIONISTS who pass over the familiar pathway from Miyanoshta to Kiga may notice, a little beyond the bridge which traverses the stream between the two acclivities, a large slab of dark stone, standing erect, and covered with characters of evidently modern inscription. It was placed there, a few years since, to mark the site of a bath house said to have been built and used by the famous Taiko. The spot has been kept in recollection by tradition, and on the occasion of opening the new road to Kiga, it was decided by certain enterprising villagers to erect this monument, with the double design of recalling to tourists the interesting relic which once stood there, and placing on record the completion of meritorious public work,—which was not a government undertaking, but was planned and executed by the people of the neighborhood, on their own account. At the request of all concerned, Mr. Fukuhara Yoshimasu, a member of the Genro In, who was then visiting Kiga, wrote the lines for the inscription, which are to the following effect:—

At a former period there was in this exact locality a stone bathing house for the hot springs, believed to have been erected by Toyotomi Hideyoshi. Also in this place, during the era of Meiji, the villagers here residing opened a new roadway to Kiga Sokokura, for the convenience of travellers. I have written these facts, for the information of future visitors.

In addition to the signature of the scribe, are the names of the stone mason and cutter and the individuals concerned in opening the improved route of communication; so that every one engaged in the transaction is sure of his share of fame, for as many ages as the monument shall last.

THE WORLD'S ESTIMATE OF CHINA AND JAPAN.

AT an evening party in Hartford, Connecticut, some years ago, three or four Asiatic visitors, with others who had long been familiarly acquainted with the East, were among the guests. Of the former, the most prominent was YUNG WING, well-known as an energetic advocate of foreign education for Chinese youth, and honourably distinguished as one of the most liberal and intelligent reformers his country has produced. The conversation turned, naturally, upon the growing intercourse between Western and Oriental nations, and the interest excited by developments in lands supposed to have been impenetrable to progressive civilization. Certain gentlemen declared their purpose of travelling in the localities under discussion, and others expressed a strong desire to imitate their example, if circumstances would allow. The impulse toward exploration and inquiry in these distant regions was shared by all, with evident enthusiasm. But, on looking closely into the object of each individual's concern, it was found that attention was directed to Japan, and to Japan alone. Not one of those present had bestowed a thought upon China, or seemed disposed to extend his field of observation to the Asian continent. The situation was perhaps awkward for the friends and associates of YUNG WING, who himself appeared a little disconcerted at the unanimous indifference manifested for the place of his birth. "I see," he said; "every one's thoughts are fixed on Japan. Nobody cares for my country. I never hear a friendly question about it. I never learn that a friendly traveller goes there. You all flock to Japan,—nowhere but Japan."

Some of the company, thinking that a logical exposition of cause and effect might soothe the smart,—and probably making a mistake in so imagining,—ventured to suggest that sincere alliances between different races were possible only when the amicable instinct was mutual; and that foreigners could hardly be expected to "flock" in great numbers to an empire the inhabitants of which showed no disposition to welcome strangers, their customs, their ideas, or even their good-will. More than this they could not say; and, indeed, if they had felt at liberty to use the extremest arguments in support of their preference, it is not likely that the comfort of China's representative would have been increased thereby. No man of patriotic feeling wants to be convinced, by practical demonstration, that his country's character contrasts disagree-

ably with that of another, its neighbour. But several things were thought, if not uttered; and the thoughts found echoes and responses in numerous quarters. The reasons of Japan's superior attractions,—which had till about that time been rather vaguely acknowledged, without especial investigation,—began to be analyzed, formulated, and presently proclaimed by many whose opportunities of disseminating their views were abundant and frequent. YUNG WING need not have waited long to find, in most of the periodical publications of America, and not a few of Europe, conclusive explanations of the increased favour felt for Japan, and of the continued apathy with which his own empire and its people were regarded.

During the dozen years which have passed since this incidental illustration of the estimate in which the two countries were held, little has happened to diminish the approbation which Japan, through her briskness and activity, succeeded in winning at the outset, and still less, unfortunately, to stimulate a higher appreciation of her sluggish neighbour. As the one empire has stood immovable, while the other has persevered steadily in its course of advancement, the distance between them is constantly growing greater. Yet there are, at this day, men of high position in China, whose privileges of observation are exceptional, and whose means of forming an accurate judgment ought to be sufficient, who profess a naive wonder that the nations should be so differently esteemed, and who querulously insist that the sympathy of the world is unjustly withheld from their side. The irritation produced by this suspicion of unfair usage,—an irritation which asserts itself too bitterly to allow of any doubt as to its genuineness,—is revealed in the most extraordinary manifestations of spite that ever brought discredit on a Government. Trivial pretenses are sought for grave quarrels; transparently fictitious complaints are invested with the solemnity of real grievances; the plainest diplomatic proprieties are ruthlessly violated; the simplest exchange of Japanese courtesy with a friendly Power is distorted into a secret intrigue or hostile combination against the peace and dignity of the Middle Kingdom. But for the self control and wise discretion of one party, the other would have forced matters to an angry issue on a dozen occasions. Only a few weeks ago, in the midst of a foreign entanglement which might well have diverted his ideas from the frivolous fancies of a wounded national vanity, the first statesman of the Chinese empire found it impossible

to discourse upon the anxious and truly ominous questions left to his charge, without a fusillade of petty malice against this, the only Government capable of thoroughly understanding the tribulations which threaten him and his people.

Whether the theory that the Western public discriminates unjustly against China and with undue partiality for Japan is actually credited by those who profess it, or is merely a pretence to preserve their envious susceptibility from utter ridicule, it might be worth while for rulers like LI HUNG-CHANG, and reformers like YUNG WING, to consider that the prevailing respect for this country's aspirations, and commendation of its actions, have not been called forth by direct appeals from the Japanese themselves. They are largely, and almost without exception, due to an intermediate agency. That the intellectual development of the last fifteen years would have received proper acknowledgment, under any circumstances, in course of time, nobody can doubt; but its prompt and universal recognition is owing to the zealous representations of influential advocates who were drawn to Japan's support by a sincere admiration for her spirit and enterprise, and a resolute faith in the stability of her early promise. These were the friends who "flocked to Japan" in order to observe closely and report directly the movements of the revived empire, or who watched from their own homes the course of events, and assisted in diffusing intelligence of the extraordinary endeavors and unlooked for achievements of a people whose destiny was believed by mankind at large to have been wrought out ages before, leaving nothing to be recorded but decay. For many successive years, the stream of approbation ran steadily and copiously,—in newspapers, in magazines, pamphlets, volumes, all tending to the enlargement of public sympathy, and the ready acceptance of this country as a worthy candidate for admittance to the comity of nations. Greater or more disinterested energy has seldom been shown in the pursuit of any generous object. The ardour may sometimes have seemed too little under control,—the pleading may have been tinged with extravagance; but all was genuine and sincere, and the truthfulness and integrity of the testimony was self-evident. Japan's term of probation was reduced to easy limits. Her case was stated, her claims were presented and argued, and her cause was morally established, long before she could gather in the slower harvest of material success,—which, indeed, is even yet withheld from her

grasp, in spite of the world's unconcealed conviction that she has fairly earned it.

Not only during the years of Japan's trial, but for generations preceding, China has had an equal chance to win the approval of Western communities, and to make good whatever title she possesses to enterprise and vitality. Students of scientific and moral progress, investigators into the growth of liberal ideas in places deemed disadvantageous for such observations, would have been glad to avail themselves of so extensive a field of operations. The exploring knight-errantry would as willingly have "flocked" to the continent of Asia as to the outlying islands, if anything to reward their inquiry could have been expected, or even if they could have made good their footing. They might have overlooked the absence of a welcome, and risked the inconveniences of a prolonged sojourn, if any prospect of rendering service to society or humanity had been perceptible. But the temptations were next to nothing, while there were innumerable discomforts and dangers to repel them. The Government, in every branch, was avowedly hostile. The people held all strangers in deadly abhorrence. The very idea of progress was odious to the mass of inhabitants. The amenities of civilization were reviled, and those who practised them contemned. Not one of the genial characteristics by which the Japanese unconsciously exercise a charm over their visitors could be detected by the most diligent searcher though the provinces of the Middle Kingdom. No sign of that desire for mental enlightenment which is always discernible here, was ever apparent in that region. The only classes to which even a temporary residence in China appeared desirable were the merchants, whose interests are confined to a few trades; the missionaries, whose duties are felt to be as imperative in the worst as in the best communities; and the material scientists, whose scope of study does not touch humanity, or, touching it, does not penetrate beneath the surface.

In the face of these facts, we are told that Chinese officials of intelligence and ability profess indignation, grief, and surprise at the different valuation placed, by Europe and America, upon their country and Japan. We do not doubt the report, but we give no credence whatever to the existence of any sentiment on the subject that is not tinged with arrogance and selfishness. All sensible Chinese know that the opinion in which they are held is the work of their own hands. It gives them no surprise, and not much grief that is worth

considering. Indignation, or rather an unreasoning resentment, may possess them when they see the comparative inferiority of their position, but no shame for their own short-comings, nor consciousness of neglected duty, seems to mingle with their jealous rage. They would see Japan crushed and humbled, if possible, solely because she has gained honours which they affect to despise, yet which they cannot bear to see another wear, when withheld from themselves. But they would not lift a foot to follow in Japan's path. They wish to stand on the same level, without making any of the efforts which have raised the successful competitor to her present superiority. There is not a trace of nobleness, manliness, or dignity in the temper they display. It is the petulance of forward children, who scold and storm because their better behaved companions are preferred to themselves. We have said that the vexation they suffer is the work of their own hands, for this reason, among others;—that although the average Chinaman is not endowed with the engaging attributes which enable the Japanese of all classes to make speedy friendships, he has much about him to awaken interest, if he were not encouraged by authority to disclose his worst characteristics, and to reject every genial advance on the part of foreigners. The people, as a whole, have been instigated and trained to make themselves as obnoxious as possible. As regards the rulers, but for their own persistent aversion to those who wish them well; who could have served them in softening external animosities and establishing a relationship the ground-work of which might be a reciprocal good understanding instead of an undisguised distrust; they need not to-day be plagued by the envious torments which they proclaim incessantly to all listeners.

It is worth noticing, incidentally, that an attempt appears to have been made, at the eleventh hour, toward conciliating European and American judgment with respect to China, by the method which proved efficacious in acquainting the world with the movements and aspirations of Japan. Articles have begun to appear in periodicals of good standing, not only asserting the high claims of the older empire to universal consideration, but simultaneously throwing discredit upon the status of this country. These articles are not destitute of rhetorical skill,—that being a probably necessary condition to publication in the columns where they have appeared,—and they show a certain ingenuity which may not be ineffective with readers to whom the

subject is new. But they lack the vital element of sincerity. They are cold examples of special pleading, and their purpose would be betrayed, if by no other evidence, by the elaborate disparagement of everything Japanese, in exact ratio to the exaltation of everything Chinese. That was not the way in which the volunteer advocates of Japan went to their work. No idea of belittling any other country entered their minds, nor was China often alluded to, except in case of some unavoidable conjunction of the two empires. Indeed, the feeling which prompted the maintenance of Japan's cause would readily have been extended to China, at any time, if the latter's attitude had given warrant therefor. But the plan of the recent Oriental essayists aims quite as plainly at Japan's degradation as at China's rehabilitation. The first part of this design cannot under any circumstances be successful. The wholesome seed has been too long sown, and the convictions implanted by a steady course of honest, disinterested labour cannot be uprooted by a few tardy animadversions, the handiwork of which, on close inspection, does not seem over-trustworthy. We took occasion to deal with one of these effusions, some days since,—a fair specimen of its class, from *Nature*,—and our readers can determine for themselves whether such productions are calculated to afford substantial support to Celestial pretensions, or to detach from Japan any portion of the popular favour belonging to her. A more extravagant and audacious species of eulogy has been undertaken by a writer in *Harper*, who calls himself a native of China, and sets out to convince the subscribers to that magazine that in every development of moral culture, social virtue, domestic happiness, political integrity, and judicial probity, the land of CONFUCIUS is so immeasurably in advance of Europe and America that no basis for a comparison can be found. With this comprehensive programme before him, the essayist dashes breathlessly through four or five pages of the most reckless assertion ever adventured. The local magistrate of China, he avers, is "like some venerable parent dwelling amid his children, whom he loves too well to allow of their falling into the ways of error unrebuked." His powers "are never abused;" and if a Chinaman should be driven by hunger to commit theft, although he might be tried and convicted, "think you that additional wrong (!) would be heaped on him by the carrying out of the sentence?" Not at all, says our Chinese monitor. "Should any magistrate dare to

order the punishment, the lookers-on would rise *en masse* and mob him." What would then follow, we are not told, but the writer assures us that the dissemination of justice, as well as every other function in his native country, is so wisely, nobly, and humanely governed, that no complaints are ever heard and no discontent ever aroused. There is only one way in which true happiness can be diffused among less favored lands, and that is by following China's course in every particular. "The sooner Western nations, and especially the United States," do this, "the sooner will the millennial day dawn upon our beclouded vision. By this system, which has stood the test for more than two thousand years, and by this system only, can we ever hope for a pure and upright administration." The persual of this modest and unpretending *pronunciamiento* is not likely to produce instantaneous conviction,—at least in the direction contemplated by the author,—and it may indeed serve an unintentional good turn by illustrating the *reductio ad absurdum* of arguments more warily urged elsewhere. The rhapsodies of the Chinese patriot, in *Harper*, have really just as much solid foundation as the more guarded but not more veracious productions in *Nature* and other London publications. Like the player queen in "Hamlet," they all protest too much. We do not say that the Chinese are without grievances, nor that a disinterested inquiry into her foreign relations might not reveal many just causes of complaint against the Powers which have forced treaties upon her; but she cannot obtain redress by promulgating fictitious eulogies of her own transcendent virtue, any more than she can reverse the world's judgment as to herself and Japan by aspersing the latter's well-earned reputation. Her advocates should be better instructed, or nothing will come of their efforts, however diligently pursued.

THE LATE COUNT OF CHAMBORD.

SINCE the recently rumoured demise of that eminently conservative French Prince who, for his own part, has always preferred to be known as the Count of CHAMBORD; whom his devotees persist in styling HENRY the FIFTH; and whose more correct title is Duke of BORDEAUX, a curious rumour has begun to circulate through the capitals of Europe, giving indication that the ruling spirit of stubbornness which pervaded his career is not only strong to the last, but is likely to exert a certain influence upon public events, even after his death. The obstinacy which, in

the estimation of the BOURBONS of all centuries, "becomes the throned monarch better than his crown," and which has been the one unimpaired heritage handed down through the line from the days of LOUIS XIV., increasing in magnitude and density in proportion to the decline of material appanage,—this ineradicable family attribute has perhaps never been more strikingly developed than in the person of the exile of Frohsdorf. Others did, indeed, preserve and cherish it with inordinate devotion, but he simply made it the guiding principle of his existence. Upon all possible occasions, suitable or the reverse, it has seemed his greatest joy and pride to proclaim his own inflexibility as the glory of his race and the fixed star of his individual destiny. He was never without ambition, and the hope of succeeding to the throne of his fathers has always had a place in his heart, although his sense of dignity has forbidden him to take active steps for the attainment of that object. His partisans aver that, in more than one crisis, he had only to assert his pretensions with energy, and accommodate his rigid doctrines in some slight degree to the changing spirit of progress, in order to realize his highest aspirations. But this latter effort has invariably proved beyond his strength;—or, rather, the strength of his deep-rooted instincts was too positive to permit him to make the effort. At one memorable epoch, his dogged self-will appeared likely, for a moment, to give way, to the extent of accepting the easy conditions necessary to ensure his undisputed possession of regal power. But the spell was too heavy upon him, and the glittering temptation was insufficient to induce the abandonment of a single petty prejudice. He had roused himself to the task of reëntering France, in 1871, and taken up his abode in the fine old castle near the Loire, from which he derived his favourite title. Amid the confusion of parties, at that period, he would have found little difficulty in establishing himself at Versailles, and later at Paris, if he had been prepared to offer a few concessions, which his most zealous followers considered merely nominal. How far from humiliating they were, may be judged from the fact that the most important among them was the recognition of the tricoloured banner which had been the emblem of France for the better part of a century. To this proposition his refusal was peremptory and unconditional. The arguments of his adherents and the entreaties of his family were alike powerless to move him. He would march to the throne under the ancient white standard of HENRY

IV., or not at all. Consequently, he did not march at all, excepting by a retrogressive route back to Frohsdorf, where he remained in gloomy retirement to the end of his days. His versatile ancestor, the first of the BOURBONS, was less scrupulous. Under similar but more embarrassing circumstances, he decided that Paris was "well worth a mass," and unhesitatingly changed the colour of his creed. This modern and less pliable BOURBON would not win a kingdom by changing the colour of a flag.

For many years past, the hopes of the monarchical faction in France have been turned to the Count of PARIS, the eldest grandson of LOUIS PHILIPPE, and the direct heir of the house of ORLEANS. Excepting in the eyes of a few bigoted legitimists, the Count of CHAMBORD was unfitted for the succession by his own impracticable temper. There has been, of late, no unfriendly feeling between the two branches of the family, and it was commonly reported, some years ago, that the Count of PARIS had visited his elder cousin with the express purpose of declaring his intention never to interfere with the latter's hereditary claims. If these claims are now extinguished by death, it would naturally be supposed that the titles and privileges of the late prince must fall to the ORLEANS representative, and that the support of all Royalists would centre upon him. But the rumour to which we have referred at the commencement of this article is calculated to throw a doubt upon this just and reasonable conclusion. It is stated that the troublesome White Flag of Navarre, which the Count of CHAMBORD could not keep out of his head for the sake of getting a Crown, reappears in his will, and waves all the defiance with which that document can endow it, against the idea of any occupancy of the French throne excepting upon the antiquated conditions which have controlled his own narrow and useless course of life. His successor must renounce the Tricolour, whoever he may be; and the Count of PARIS shall not reign, with his cousin's sanction, under a standard which represents so many sentiments offensive to pure BOURBON theories. Thus, the division which has lasted for fifty years,—ever since the abdication of CHARLES X.,—and which, it was supposed, would cease with the disappearance from the scene of that sovereign's grandson, is to reappear in full force; and the question of legitimate succession is to remain as unsettled as before.

There is little probability, however, that the posthumous influence of the Count of

CHAMBORD will be sufficient to cause anything more than vexation or inconvenience among the more fastidious monarchists. If any one ascends the throne of France within the next five years, it will assuredly be the Count of PARIS or his nearest of kin. The Prince's testamentary provision will be impotent, for many good and sufficient reasons. It is quite true that there are plenty of living BOURBONS to be found, to whom his rights might be transferred, if his will could set aside the accepted traditions of the family. PHILIP, Duke of Anjou, and grandson of LOUIS XIV., who became king of Spain in 1700, left descendants enough to misgovern all the States of Europe, even counting them before the wholesale territorial fusions of the last quarter of a century. One of the first difficulties, in attempting such an adjustment, would be the selection of the personage to be so honoured. DON CARLOS, in the natural bent of his humour, would stand in the front rank of pretenders. King ALFONSO would doubtless present himself as a candidate, notwithstanding the fact that he now rules by virtue of a descent which the Salic law of France does not recognize, and which, if strictly examined, would leave him without any paternity at all, to speak of. Then there are the Italian BOURBONS, most of whom have been monarchs out of place and looking for engagements ever since the Sardinian movement began. Whether there are any of the CONDE branch remaining, since the suspicious death of that Duke of BOURBON whose vast fortune found its devious way into the possession of the present Duke of AUMAË, we are unable to say; but some of the CONTIS still linger, and altogether the only embarrassment in choosing a successor to the Count of CHAMBORD would grow out of the number of probable applicants for the vacancy. But, in spite of their undoubted willingness to assume an equivocal position, the historical records of the family would summarily dispose of their pretences. The Duke of ANJOU, on taking the title of PHILIP V. of Spain, formally renounced all claim to the French crown, for himself and his posterity. Moreover, upon the accession of LOUIS XV. it was authoritatively decreed that, in the event of the death of the Sovereign or any of his heirs without direct issue, the House of ORLEANS should succeed without dispute or question. The arrangement then agreed upon has never been disturbed, and it may be accepted as a legal fact that the Count of CHAMBORD had no right or power to set it aside. By every rule of family faith which

the BOURBONS hold sacred, the throne is accessible to the Count of PARIS, and to him alone. That he would accept it regardless of any stipulation as to flags, there is little reason to doubt. The pertinacity which belongs to BOURBONS of the first degree is not an overweening characteristic of the collateral shoots. Humourists would probably hold that there was not enough of that questionable quality to "go around." Philosophers might explain that the practical education and instructive experiences of the ORLEANS Princes have enabled them to guard against the evils of this unhappy birthright. But, although the grandson of LOUIS PHILLIPPE would certainly not refuse to reign, there is no likelihood that he will make any urgent endeavour to obtain the supreme power. What his hopes may be, can be fairly judged by those who look dispassionately upon the present condition of the Republic; who can weigh the chances of popular content and prosperity under an administration which seems to strive, like the cuttle-fish, to exist by fastening its tentacles upon every object within the extremest range, forgetful of the dangers to which its body may be exposed; and who can compare these chances with the prospects afforded by a liberal, prudent, and constitutional monarchy. Each departure of the Republican rulers from moderation and sobriety is a material advancement of Royalist expectations, and it is only by reversing the extravagant system of recent years that the existing organization can hope to compete with the growing inclination for a radical change of government. For such a contingency, the Imperialists acknowledge themselves unprepared; and the voice of one of the most strenuous of BONAPARTIST advocates, PAUL DE CAS-SAGNAC, has just been raised in support of the ORLEANS leader. There has not been a time since the expulsion of LOUIS PHILLIPPE, when the hopes of his descendants appeared so bright as at this moment. The Republic is tormented by feverish excitement, and is fretting itself into a decline. The Empire is hopelessly prostrate, and its revival can be achieved only by some interposition little short of miraculous. The Monarchy waits with a serenity and confidence which no other party to the contest can emulate. There is, to be sure, a powerful hand which may be stretched out from Berlin, at any instant, to overthrow the most trustworthy calculations; but it does not appear, in spite of ominous hints and innuendoes to the contrary, that the Count of PARIS has any substantial interference to apprehend from that quarter.

CORRESPONDENCE.

[Our readers must distinctly understand that we are in no sense responsible for the sentiments or opinions of our Correspondents, for the accuracy of their assertions, or for the deductions they may choose to draw therefrom.]

PUBLIC CRITICS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—The leading article which appeared in your issue of 11th instant, calls attention to a subject which has for a long time so forced itself upon my notice, that I have with difficulty refrained hitherto from expressing my opinions thereon; and that subject having been now accidentally opened, I am determined with, your assistance, to give publicity to my sentiments.

There are in this Settlement certain newspaper Editors who appear to have decided to devote their energies solely to adverse criticism of the Japanese Government, the Provincial Authorities, and the Police.

If this criticism were impartial, no objection could be raised to a fair and moderate censure whenever such appeared to be deserved; but there is nothing but censure, and that of such a violent kind, that all men having any regard for decency must long ere this have become indescribably satiated, and heartily ashamed of the continual stream of invective poured forth by the foreign press of Yokohama.

The tone of some of the articles which have from time to time appeared in one of the foreign newspapers, and the language employed therein, can only be fitly described as *brutal*; and another newspaper, if more refined in its style of abuse, is more persistent in its attacks, and equally unjustified in the course it has for a long period been pursuing.

There may be some excuse for attacks which are made in connection with matters affecting the interests or well-being of foreign residents; but quite frequently the subjects handled are those with which foreigners are in no way concerned; and although I do not desire to convey that such matters are beyond the criticism of foreign newspapers, I maintain that they should be dealt with in a manner which partakes of the character of friendly advice, rather than threatening and dictatorial censure. As an instance of this, I may refer to a report published sometime ago in a Japanese newspaper, that it had been decided to build the new palace for the Mikado half in Japanese half in foreign style; which was immediately seized upon and made the pretext for a furious denunciation by one of the foreign journals, in which the Japanese were positively threatened with some undefined punishments, if they dared to perpetrate so gross an outrage on architectural propriety.

Something of a like nature was indulged in when there was talk of building a new Kencho after the fire, but I should be glad to know what concern these matters have for foreigners, or what right any of them can possibly show that they possess to dictate to the Japanese Government on such subjects. To most persons it would seem waste of time to ask the above question, but as evidence that it is not altogether so, and that some foreigners have a very ill-defined and enlarged idea of their powers, I may adduce the letter signed "John" which appeared in the *Japan Herald* of the 8th inst., in which the writer states "that it is full time the Consuls should take the matter up" i.e., the

Consuls should interfere between the Japanese Authorities and Japanese subjects, more especially in restricting the repression of vice. I fancy that the "tales I have heard of the treatment of the native (female) attendants at the house on the beach by those worthies," might be quite possibly eclipsed by the tales which might be told of the treatment of the same attendants by the foreigners who go there to "indulge in the luxury of a dip."

The letter of "John" is a disgrace to the journal which insulted the Japanese Authorities by publishing it, and the man (if he be a man), who wrote it, can only be excused on the ground that his impudence is exceeded by his ignorance.

Another journal, like the prophet Micah, prophesies no good concerning the Japanese, but only evil; and when there is a lack of subjects the Editor fabricates one for the occasion. Some time ago, this ardent well wisher, as he professes to be to the Japanese people, drew a dreadfully pitiable and heart-rending picture of the terrors of a famine, of—which—by some occult power known only to himself, he had been able to foretell the occurrence this year through a wet and cold summer. Fortunately, under the auspices of a providence kinder to the people of this country than the wishes which apparently fathered the thought of the writer in this journal, there is at present no prospect of his prophecy being fulfilled; but what shall be said of the man who needlessly, and wantonly, endeavours to strike a chill of apprehension and terror into the hearts of the rulers and people of this country by threatening them with the horrors of hunger, and painting a picture of the probable occurrence of a disastrous dearth? Again, the degradation of the jinrikisha driver is a fruitful subject to rant upon, comparing these men to beasts, and insisting upon the certain injury to the health of the men, and consequent deterioration of physique of the whole labouring population. Young men must live; but apart from that, does this writer ever think how many years it is since chairs and chairmen were employed in London? Is it more injurious to draw a jinrikisha in Japan than to carry a fat foreigner up to the Peak at Hongkong? Jinrikishas have been introduced into the British Colonies of Hongkong and Singapore, and also into Shanghai and Calcutta, where they seem to have met with much favour, and no apprehension has been expressed of the evil likely to be produced upon the health of the Chinese, Malay, or Bengali drivers. Why has not the voice of this philanthropic writer, so anxious for the health of the Japanese labourer, been raised in protest and warning to the people of the above-mentioned places? Because it gives no opportunity for abuse, and the people of those places would laugh at him. I am not advocating the employment of human beings in the place of animals, but I desire to show that the clamour is inconsistent and hypocritical. I have resided in the agricultural districts of England, and in Ireland, and have seen men and women employed in labour quite as degrading to the human form divine as drawing a jinrikisha. I seem also to remember having heard at no distant date of something about the employment of women and children in mines in England, under circumstances infinitely more degrading and injurious to health than the occupation of jinrikisha drawing.

Japanese prisons, and treatment of lunatics, form another peg to hang a jobation on; and all humane people must wish to see improvements in these things as well as in other directions; but we who have so recently swept our own houses, are

scarcely justified in devoting a column of vituperation to an alleged case of ill-treatment of a lunatic, when similar cases can even at the present day be sometimes seen reported in the English press.

Inconsistency and intellectual strabismus are the besetting sins of this writer, combined with an overweening confidence in his own infallibility. In commenting on a recent correspondence, he compares me to a steam-hammer employed to crack an egg, and laments that talents which might often be so profitably employed, are wasted on such paltry trifles as a question of the repression of immorality.

How much more worthy of a gigantic intellect is it to cry "Eureka" over an imaginary discovery of a new dish, or the best method of securing an unlimited supply of tomatoes at the lowest current rates, by permitting your compound to be pervaded by an army of peripatetic green-grocers, instead of buying your vegetables in the market.

The last instance in which this writer allowed his mischievous malice to exhibit itself in its full vigour, was on Saturday last, when commenting upon a conversation between H.E. Ito (in the journal in question care is taken to print *his excellency* without capitals) and the correspondent of a London newspaper; and the utmost pains are taken to show that H.E. Ito, and the Japanese Government generally, are a dishonourable set of mercenaries ready to sell themselves to the highest bidder; and an effort is made to create if possible, a difficulty between the Chinese and Japanese Governments, by magnifying this, at least questionable, report of the correspondent, into a *casus belli*. The utmost that could be said, even if the report were correct, would be that H.E. Ito in his desire to be courteous, had not been as cautious as he should have been, but no unprejudiced person will believe that any such meaning was intended to be conveyed as that put upon the reported conversation by the malicious writers in the Yokohama journals.

I think, Sir, I have adduced quite sufficient to show that these newspaper writers are solely animated by a malignant and unreasoning hate, which nothing can satisfy, and of which all impartial and justice-loving men must feel ashamed, and much more than satiated. How long will the respectable foreigners of Yokohama permit themselves to be identified with, and have their opinions represented by, such organs?

I am, Sir, your obedient Servant, TSUJIN.
Yokohama, August 13th, 1883.

JAPAN'S FRIENDS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—Permit me to direct your attention to an absolutely unique example of confused thought and contradictory assertion.

In its issue of last Saturday, the *Japan Gazette*, under the heading of "France, China and Japan," devotes the first column of a leading article to an attempt to prove that "selfishness is the only law by which the intercourse of nations is regulated." This doctrine was enunciated originally by the same journal, as a definition of the motives which actuated the United States to return to Japan their share of the Shimonoseki indemnity. A standard of political morality so singularly base does not often find public expression, and is especially out of place in the columns of a newspaper which for years has made itself conspicuous by criticising, in the most unmeasured terms, Japan's supposed failure to regulate her foreign intercourse on the very principles now declared to be "delusive and

fleeing." I was not surprised, therefore, when a correspondent addressed you on the subject and denounced "the low ideal" of the writer in the *Japan Gazette*. To that correspondent's strictures your contemporary now finds what he apparently considers a crushing retort in the utterances ascribed to His Excellency Ito by an interviewer of the *London Standard*. Mr. Ito is reported to have said, in effect, that Japan, having nothing to gain by Chinese friendship, is willing to accept the risks of Chinese enmity provided only some sufficiently desirable *quid pro quo* be offered to her. This venal principle your contemporary parallels by quoting a despatch of Lord Palmerston, and then goes on to say:—"The transient character of international friendships, as defined by Lord Palmerston, is vividly exemplified by the principles of political morality which, according to H.E. Ito Hirobumi, form the standard of national ethics in Japan."

Very well, Sir. So far we are on solid ground. We have a consistent trinity—the *Japan Gazette*, Lord Palmerston, and His Excellency Ito.

But observe; in a moment we have this critic on his stilts again. Commenting upon the utterances of Mr. Ito, who "follows," we are told, "the dictum of Lord Palmerston, a statesman far more distinguished than either Mr. Gladstone or Mr. Bright," the *Japan Gazette* asks loftily:—"What have become of honour, principle, loyalty in Japan? and informs us "that these questions naturally arise from mature consideration of the manner in which a high Japanese Minister announces to the world the disloyalty of his Government to the solemn obligations of a treaty?" But, Sir, if your contemporary may be credited, that was Lord Palmerston's manner also, and it is avowedly the manner of the *Japan Gazette*, which attributes the complexion of all international intercourse to purely selfish motives. Why, then, should the so-called universal habit of all nations be dishonourable, unprincipled and disloyal in Japan's case only?

But there is more, Sir. This miracle of inconsistency is not yet exhausted. We have before us two distinct statements. First; that according to Lord Palmerston and the *Japan Gazette*, international intercourse is motivated solely by "the hope of benefit" or "the fear of consequence." Second; that these motives, in Japan's case, become "criminal treachery of the most heinous character."

To these statements a third is now to be added. It is this:—"If Mr. Ito's words mean anything at all, they mean clearly that Japan is bound by none of the loyal principles on which the intercourse of nations is supposed to be founded and regulated."

Thus we are told in the first quarter of this remarkable article that these principles do not obtain in international intercourse but are there replaced by "the hope of benefit or the fear of consequence": in the second quarter we learn that Japan's assumed neglect of them is "criminal treachery of the most heinous character:" and in the third, we are informed that they do constitute the basis and regulators of international intercourse.

It will, I think, be admitted that a quainter hotch-potch of conflicting notions was never served up for public diversion. The writer appears to play at cat's cradle with his ideas, suffering them to assume whatever bizarre shape best fits the circumstances of the moment. Yesterday, he warned Japan that, in the face of a seemingly unselfish and generous act on the part of the United States, no reliance was to be placed on American honesty or magnanimity because those qualities find no place in international ethics. To-day he

accuses her of criminal treachery because he thinks that she is pursuing the same policy as America.

Were it possible to require obedience to any rule of logic in a thesis which is only consistent in its contradictions, it would be necessary to admit that the sweeping denunciations here applied to Japan were not less applicable to Great Britain under the guidance of Lord Palmerston, whose definition of international friendship is "vividly exemplified by Mr. Ito's principles of political morality;" and not more applicable to Great Britain than to the United States, whose action with regard to the Shimonoseki indemnity elicited your contemporary's first declaration of universal international depravity. Of all alike, we should be obliged to record the verdict now entered against Japan; that she is "henceforth to be regarded as an unprincipled political adventurer, bound by no obligation voluntarily entered into and restrained by no moral law from the prostitution of such influence and power as she may possess to the embraces of the highest bidder."

But my object is not to comment on the brutality of this language, though I doubt whether that has ever been surpassed in journalistic writing. Neither need the attention of your readers be directed to the ingenuousness of a writer who bases these gross and unconditional charges on a newspaper report of utterances explicitly and publicly disavowed by their author. Courtesy and conscience have obviously no place in this context. What I am curious to learn is the purpose of all these contradictions and condemnations. Reading on a little further, I find it stated that the perusal of the *Standard's* version of Mr. Ito's utterances "cannot fail to excite anger and indignation" at Peking; and that if China "is willing to submit to the awful humiliation of this insult from Japan, it is her own affair." Now, Sir, if among the fortuitous concourse of phantasies which ramble in the wilderness of your contemporary's brain, any fixed idea be discernible, it can only be described as a desire to embitter the relations between China and Japan, and if possible to involve them in war. To charge the latter with being lost to the principles of "honour and loyalty"; with "disloyalty to the solemn obligations of her treaty with China"; with "criminal treachery of the most heinous character"; with "an avowed absence of principle and political morality in her relationship with China"; to call her "an unprincipled political adventurer, restrained by no moral law," and then to speak of China's just "anger and indignation"; to enquire what answer will be returned to her "demand for an explanation"; to declare that in formulating that answer "prevarication will serve the purpose of the Japanese Government no longer," and finally to ask China whether "she is willing to submit to the awful humiliation of this insult from Japan"—all this, I say, can have only one purpose, and that purpose is to fatally interrupt the peaceful relations of the two empires.

I do not believe that in the end any benefit accrues from attempts to fetter free speech. Whatever latent causes may influence the action of the Japanese Government, I think that the restrictions they impose upon the Press serve chiefly to alienate their best ally—public opinion. But there is, I hope, some influence capable of checking such pernicious writing as that upon which I have here commented. The purpose of our presence in this country is neither to malign the character of its people nor to involve them in the disaster of a foreign war. We are Japan's friends; not her

bitter enemies. To which class the *Japan Gazette* belongs there can no longer be any reasonable doubt.

I am, Yours, &c., &c.

Yokohama, August 14th, 1883.

S.

TO THE EDITOR "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—I have perused with the utmost astonishment two articles in the *Japan Gazette* of last Saturday. The first is an attempt to show China that she has been grossly wronged by Japan, and that unless she resents the wrong, her dignity will be compromised, but that, resenting it stoutly, she will have the sympathy of the civilized world against a country which has been guilty of "criminal treachery." I presume that the relations between China and Japan are not likely to be disturbed by anything which appears in the columns of the *Japan Gazette*, but I trust that neither Chinese nor Japanese will fall into the error of accrediting Englishmen with any share in, or anything but the most unmeasured indignation at, this scandalous endeavour on the part of an English journal to stir up strife between two neighbouring empires.

The second article has reference to H.E. Ito's corrections of the statements attributed to him by the *London Standard*. Inasmuch as those corrections appeared, by Mr. Ito's authority, in your own columns, I shall confine myself to observing, with regard to them, that even before their publication, everybody who had any knowledge of Japanese politics and of Mr. Ito's character, must have been persuaded that the *Standard's* version was incorrect.

My motive in addressing you, however, is to enquire whether we are seriously asked to believe that an interviewer's reminiscences of a Japanese statesman's utterances are more trustworthy than the direct assertions of that statesman himself. For this, in effect, is what your contemporary declares. In his first article he tells us that "prevarication will serve the Japanese Government's purpose no longer;" that "the words used by a Minister 'speaking English fluently' cannot be subjected to modification on the ground of misinterpretation," and that "nothing that H.E. Ito can now say will in any sense shake public belief in the accuracy of the *Standard's* correspondent."

So, then, the *Standard's* correspondent is to be trusted before the gentleman he interviewed! And this, too, in the face of the fact that his account of the interview contains statements which could not possibly have been made by any Japanese possessing even a superficial knowledge of the points under discussion!

On Thursday morning there appeared in your columns an article which your contemporary describes as "either from the pen or the dictation of H.E. Ito." It embodied what you declared to be, and what he avowedly recognized as, Mr. Ito's corrections of the *Standard's* misconceptions. With those authorized corrections before him, your contemporary published, on Saturday afternoon, an article founded entirely on the assumed truth of the *Standard's* version; an article charging Japan with being "an unprincipled political adventurer," and calling on China not to "submit to the awful humiliation of the insult" put upon her. This article, he tells us, was written before yours appeared. Why, then, was it published nearly three days later? Is it consistent with the moral laws and high principles about which your contemporary is so solicitous, that he should base a series of foul

libels and a mischievous attempt to stir up international strife upon statements which had been disavowed three days previously by the gentleman to whom they were erroneously attributed?

This is pitiable and, let me add, disgraceful. But the display is not without diverting incidents. "*The Japan Mail*," says your critic, "undertakes with the authority of H.E. Ito, for it is impossible the authority could be conferred by any one else, to lessen the mischief by an attempt to prove, or rather by totally unsupported assertion to stigmatise, the reporter or correspondent of the *Standard* to be guilty of grave deviations from truth." I am curious to learn what evidence Mr. Ito ought to produce in support of his own version of his own thoughts. It would be charitable to credit your contemporary with complete ignorance of the meaning of words. Otherwise when he describes Mr. Ito's account of his own statements as a "totally unsupported assertion," his motives are apt to be construed in a fashion still less complimentary.

Side by side with this consider the following:—"These incautious utterances of a Japanese statesman have been given to the world and cannot be recalled; and until they are expressly disavowed by the only body capable of doing so, the principles enumerated will remain as the declared principles upon which Japan regulates her conduct towards other nations." One might imagine that the only person capable of disavowing them is Mr. Ito. But no. The Japanese Government is the "body" here alluded to. "Have the Government" your contemporary asks, "telegraphed to London an official disavowal of the language used by H.E. Ito? That is the only course open to Japan to relieve herself of the burden of discredit those damaging utterances of a member of her Government have brought upon her. The telegraphed qualifications of H.E. Ito would have little effect: it (*sic*) would merely be pitting the recollection of one man fifty days subsequent to the event against that of another deliberately recorded in less than as many minutes after that event had taken place." Pitting, observe, Mr. Ito's recollection of his own statements against the version of "an experienced correspondent of a London newspaper." It would be interesting to discover what your contemporary knows about this "experienced correspondent." Could he even tell us his name? I doubt it. And then, imagine, if you can, the Japanese Government telegraphing a disavowal to the *Standard*! What a charmingly naïve idea your contemporary has of the methods and habits of Governments! I can conceive nothing more grotesque than the assurance which induces such a writer to sit in judgment upon official, and national, acts. His rude attempt to charge a Japanese Minister with untruthfulness is worthy of the spirit which prompts him to promote international misunderstandings and to blacken the reputation of a country towards which, with consummate hypocrisy, he declares himself "animated by the best feelings."

I have ventured to address you, Sir, upon this subject because I cannot consent to remain silent in the presence of such an unprecedented exhibition of discourtesy and mischief-making on the part of an English newspaper. I desire, as far as possible, to join in assuring the Japanese that very few Englishmen have anything in common with the insolent abuse daily heaped upon this country in the columns of the English local press.

I am, Sir, Your obedient Servant,

ENGLISHMAN.

Tokyo, August 14th, 1883.

EXTERRITORIALITY.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN DAILY MAIL."

SIR,—In the *Japan Weekly Mail* of the 11th instant, in an article referring to a matter which had been recently under public discussion, you make use of the expression "that another prop has been applied to exterritoriality." I am however, compelled on this occasion to differ with you, for I think several props have been knocked away by recent occurrences.

When the foreign merchants, and the better class of foreigners generally, who wish to cultivate friendly relations with their Japanese neighbours; to see an extended and mutually profitable commerce; to see harmony and good feeling between Japanese and foreigners; and a disappearance of the very strained relations that have for a long time existed; when they see that exterritoriality is used as a shield from behind which to fulminate the basest slanders, and the most criminal charges against the members of the Japanese Government, individually and collectively; to charge one Finance Minister with deliberately hoaxing and deceiving a party of foreign merchants, and others with publishing false statements; to charge another Minister with corruption, and, inferentially in a doggerel rhyme, with robbery; to stigmatise another distinguished member of the Government as a liar and prevaricator; and the whole Government of Japan as a political prostitute; to strike below the belt, and make cowardly attacks from an inaccessible stronghold; when honorable and justice-loving gentlemen (of whom I am sure there are many among the foreign residents of Yokohama and Tokiyo), fully realize the cowardly and wicked nature of the almost daily vilification which fills the columns of some of the foreign newspapers, and the immense evil that it must cause to the interests of both Foreigners and Japanese; they will surely be convinced that, if exterritoriality is not abolished, some modification is urgently needed to check what is working inestimable injury, is grossly indecent, and a public scandal.

I am, Sir, Your obedient servant,

ANOTHER ENGLISHMAN.

Yokohama, August 16th, 1883.

JAPAN'S FRIENDS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—Your correspondent "Tsujin" deserves gratitude, not for what he has written himself but for what he has been the means of making others write. It is most desirable that the foreign community should distinctly understand the whole extent of the rights conferred on them by the treaties. Those documents are not yet appreciated at their full value. I am quite sure that until "John's" last letter appeared, many of my fellow residents were not less ignorant than I with regard to the meaning of the "decent treatment" of foreigners. They did not know that the term includes exemption of all the Japanese females in our neighbourhood from police supervision. Of course, when one considers the matter carefully, it becomes plain that if "cur dogs" of policemen are to be allowed to put coarse questions to young ladies with whom we associate, we, too, are treated indecently by proxy. The foreign residents cannot recognise too plainly that this is a part of the Government's scheme to drive them out of the country. It is a deep plot, Sir. I fear I shall tax your cre-

dulity when I tell you that, rather than give Yokohama grounds to complain of partiality, the Japanese residents in Tokiyo are still more harshly treated. The tea-houses there are subjected to domiciliary visits at most inconvenient hours, and their inmates are carried off to prison at a moment's notice. Let no one suppose that the object of this system is to suppress vice. It is simply to make things hot for foreigners. The police stop at nothing. They actually have the assurance to declare that the little girls at Homoko were twice detected, a short time ago, *in flagrante delicto*, when, as is well known, one of our most prominent citizens has offered to vouch for the poor children's virtue. The most spotless reputations are not safe from the slanderous assaults of these despicable spies. Of course the Consuls should take the matter up. The Japanese must be compelled to keep their arbitrary government out of our sight, just as they keep any other nuisance, and I am decidedly of opinion that wherever we go in Japan our fashions ought to be followed and our principles respected. That is the only honest rendering of the treaty obligations which this country has incurred towards us. The idea that unfortunate women are to be arrested "simply because they are guilty of the atrocity of waiting upon foreigners" is distinctly opposed to the spirit of the treaties. I cannot conceive a more flagrant instance of returning evil for good. As "John" justly says, we are only doing our duty and seeking to promote "the best welfare of the kind, courteous, and hospitable Japanese people" when we publish their faults in our newspapers and make them out as bad as possible that their efforts to improve may be the more determined. Yet, in return for this good-nature, they bully girls who help us to bathe and who sit on our knees to learn morality. "Tsujin" has chosen his name badly if he does not understand that cordial friendship for Japan is the motive which induces our local journalists to hold up to public execration everything Japanese. The people we denounce are more discerning. They know that when we blacken their reputation, our ultimate aim is to whiten it, and that, when we say we can never like or trust them, we are preparing them to be worthy of our affection and confidence. I am sure, Sir, that they fully appreciate the sterling character of a good-will which does daily violence to its own inclinations, and the constancy of an affection which never suffers itself to be betrayed into any exhibition of regard.

Your obedient servant,

ROJIN.

Yokohama, August 16th, 1883.

TREATY REVISION AND THE CRIMINAL CODE.

(Translated from the *Choya Shimbun*.)

A rumor has lately been set afloat to the effect that, in a certain quarter, the opinion prevails that the Criminal and Penal Codes were issued to facilitate the revision of the treaties, and to bring about such revision as soon as possible. If this be so, it has not yet been responded to by foreign powers. Again, it is said that if they are meant to apply to Japanese alone they are too far ahead of the civilization of the nation, and that, as they have been found impracticable in many respects, they must be revised. At first we thought this rumour had no foundation and laughed at it, but it has since obtained credence in many quarters, some even going so far as to state they could prove the

accuracy of the report. As rumours of this description are likely to mislead the public, we are compelled to show that they are groundless. The *canard* that the Criminal and Penal Codes were compiled to work upon the feelings of foreigners needs no refutation, since the public are well aware that the Government is working to recover the national rights in spite of the interference of foreigners. There is no reason why the Government, having once resolutely commenced the work, should abandon it because they are disappointed at the refusal of the foreign powers to accede to their demands; on the contrary, it should cause them to redouble their efforts to attain the desired end. In point of fact the Codes were compiled for the Japanese people, and not for foreigners. It may be the case that their publication was hurried forward to facilitate the revision of the treaties; but after all, *they were framed to promote the happiness of the people, and, at the same time, to obtain the approval of foreigners, but certainly not chiefly to expedite the revision of the treaties.* If our laws are imperfect, foreigners will not place themselves under our jurisdiction. It is therefore of importance that the laws should be improved in order, among other things, to bring about the revision of the treaties. If the new Codes are altered because the foreign powers have not acceded to the revision of the treaties, will foreigners consent to be amenable to our laws or will their objections be stronger than before? If they are dissatisfied with our new Criminal Code, it would be better to leave it as it is at present, and gradually press our demands for the revision of the treaties as our civilization progresses. There is no reason why, because the foreign powers have not yet agreed to the revision, our Government should alter the new Code or take any other retrogressive steps which might prevent treaty revision being effected. The foregoing clearly shows that the first part of the rumor must be untrue.

Again, to say that the new Criminal Code is in advance of the national enlightenment is irrational. After the Restoration the Government made the most strenuous efforts to introduce the best institutions of the West into Japan. The public is well aware that the Government did not fail to adopt all that was good, and eliminate all that was bad, so as to endow the country with the richest attributes of Occidental civilization. This was more particularly the case as regards the laws, to the improvement of which the Government set itself with energy and zeal. The present Code is the result of this labour. It was not a mere translation from a foreign book, produced in a night without any regard to the civilization of the country or the customs of the people. This being the case, there is no doubt that it is consistent with the present progress of the people, and that it is practicable. The opinion that the Codes are in advance of the times may have originated in the fact that they are more perfect than other institutions. Yet sometimes rumors are founded on some fact, and in spite of the absurdity of the above rumor we cannot state that it has no foundation at all. As we have said our Government will endeavour to augment the prestige of the country, and will not be diverted from its course by a single disappointment. If the delay in the revision of the treaties is caused by the imperfection of our laws, the Government will apply itself to their improvement with greater energy than before. Although our Codes are good, they were compiled to suit our own standard, and therefore may not be deemed satisfactory in the eyes of foreigners. But, apart from the

merits of the Codes, foreigners place no confidence in the practical application of them; the Government, therefore, will do everything in its power to remove the cause of their dissatisfaction so that under its working they may enjoy safety and happiness. It thus appears that, if any alterations were ever proposed, it was in the direction of further improvement. The greatest difficulty the Government has to encounter in the enforcement of the new laws is the different interpretation placed on some of the passages by different individuals. This is so conspicuous, that it sometimes appears as though there were two different laws in the country. It is the intention of the Government to remove this inconvenience. To briefly recapitulate what we have stated above, the rumor that the Government contemplate altering the Criminal Code because the treaties have not yet been revised, and that it is in advance of our present state of civilization, is groundless. If any alteration is contemplated, it is in the direction of further improvement, since the Government is always eager to extend the national prosperity and add to the prestige of the country. If our views are incorrect, we shall be obliged to anyone who is better informed if he will put us right.

INQUIRY INTO LOSS OF LIFE AT SEA.

A Marine Court of Inquiry, acting under Section 269 of the Merchant Shipping Act of 1854, was held yesterday, the 15th inst., before Russell Robertson Esq., Consul, into the circumstances of the death of Alfred Lonsdale, an ordinary seaman of the British barque *J. E. Graham*, official number 83,204.

The *J. E. Graham*, Captain Cochran, sailed from Cardiff on the 21st of March last with a cargo of coal consigned to the Messageries Maritimes Co., and arrived in this port on the 11th instant. During the voyage, on the morning of the 17th of May, in lat. 36° 30' S., long. 19° 34' W., a lad, Alfred Lonsdale, who had shipped as cabin-boy but was shortly after sailing transferred to deck duty, was lost overboard.

George Brison, first officer of the *J. E. Graham*, was sworn and deposed—At about 10 minutes past seven on the morning of the accident (17th May) I told the boatswain to wash down. The next thing I heard was the cry "A man overboard!" I ordered the wheel hard down, hove a life-buoy overboard, and went aft to see who was missing. I was told he was not in sight. The boatswain told me "he was last seen there," pointing to a spot in the water. I started the boatswain to get a boat into the water, and called all hands. The starboard boat was lowered as quickly as possible, the second mate in charge, and search was made for two hours. Then the boat came back bringing a life-buoy. The weather was calm: the vessel going four or five knots an hour: wind on starboard quarter about S.W. I am not sure within a point or two. I do not remember how she was heading. The second mate was in charge of the boat with four men. There were no boats on the davits: all were on the skids. I last saw the man when the relieving watch was called at 4 o'clock: he was then in the waist.

To the Court—The boatswain was the first to call "man overboard." The ship was under all sail. I put the helm hard down, and the ship came right round. I did not see the man in the water.

Georgius Giarasimo, a Greek, whose English was so fluent that it is not astonishing that a subsequent

witness, one of the crew, deposed that he could not understand him, was next sworn—He deposed that he was boatswain of the *J. E. Graham*: that on the 17th of May, at six o'clock in the morning, the lost boy was on the look-out on the top-gallant fore-castle. The witness called him down and sent him to look for brooms and buckets. He went to witness' room, and fetched a broom which he hove on the poop, and then went to the after hatch and brought buckets. Witness did not see him fall into the sea, but heard something fall: saw witness in the sea on the port side, and sung out "man overboard." From that time it was about ten minutes until a boat was got into the water.

In answer to the Court, witness said that he had slapped the boy "as boys are slapped on board ship." The last time was about ten or twelve days before the accident.

On the Court asking if any of the crew wished to give evidence, four or five men rose.

The evidence of Michael Kearny, ordinary seaman, was to the effect that the lost boy, and himself, and others of the crew, had been ill-used by the boatswain; and that after the accident a long time—quite half an hour—elapsed before the boat was lowered.

James Welsh, ordinary seaman, sworn, said:—At the time of the loss of the deceased I had just relieved the wheel on the port watch when I heard the cry "man overboard!" The mate ordered the helm hard down, and the ship came up to the wind. From the wheel I saw the men running about in confusion for half an hour before the boat was lowered.

Mr. Brison, in answer to the Court—I didn't see him (the lost boy) when I threw the life-belt.

Witness continued—The officers were all talking. There was great confusion; and the boatswain was saying all sorts of hard things, and calling the men all out of their names, crying, "hurry up! you son of a b—" and so on. The last time I saw the deceased was about half-past six. He was on the look-out. I don't think any one saw him go overboard. It was dark at the time. Day broke about ten minutes after the accident. Half an hour or more passed from the time of the cry "man overboard" to when the boat was lowered. The lad was ill-treated every day by the boatswain, who kicked and beat him constantly, and threatened to throw him overboard. I often saw the boatswain strike him. The last time was the day before he fell overboard.

The Court—What did the boatswain strike the boy for?

Witness—I don't know. We didn't understand half what the boatswain said; and he thought we were making game of him. He has often beaten and kicked me, and has threatened to throw me off the main-yard. The lost boy complained to the Captain of his treatment. I did not complain, because the lost boy's complaints did not bring him better treatment. I have heard him say that when the ship arrived in Yokohama he would "go to the Consul."

The Court—You say that half an hour elapsed from the time of the alarm to the lowering of the boat. How did you know the time?

Witness—I judged it.

William Cochran, sworn—I am master of the *J. E. Graham*. I was below at the time of the accident. I heard the cry "man overboard," got on my coat, and went on deck, where I found the vessel well in the wind, and the men busy getting ready a boat which was lowered in about ten or fifteen minutes. I could not find that anyone on

board knew how the accident had occurred. I took charge of the boy's effects, among which I found one or two letters, but no paper stating he had been ill-used, or any letter to me. His effects are all on board. I consider that at the time of the accident everything was done that could be done. The men were smart in getting the boat overboard.

In answer to the Court, and after some hesitation, the witness was understood to say that the boy had not complained to him of ill-treatment.

The boatswain (recalled by the Court)—I last saw the boy bringing buckets and brooms from the main hatch. He was not drawing water from the ship's side. We were only getting ready to wash down. We do not draw water from the bulwarks, but by pumps.

Peter Demetri, an Italian, was sworn and examined through an interpreter. He deposed that the accident occurred at about 6 a.m. He had heard the boatswain order the boy to bring buckets and brooms, first to go forward and then aft. He next heard the shout, "man overboard!" Then orders were given to clear a boat, which occupied half an hour or more.

The Court—Why did it take so long?

Witness—The men were excited and running about. No tackles were ready.

Mr. Brison, in answer to a question from the Court, said that the boat was unlashed and turned over from the skids to the davits and that the tackle was at hand and in good order.

Robert Strange, an ordinary seaman of the *J. E. Graham*, sworn—On the morning of the accident, soon after six o'clock, my watch below, all hands were called on deck. We got out in a few seconds, and heard that a man was overboard. There was great delay in lowering the boat. No oars could be found at first. There were no proper tackles, as there are in well found ships. All was confusion. I was first called aft and then sent forward. At last I found the oars under the fore-castle. The boatswain sent me there. I have no opinion as to how the lost boy got overboard. I do not know what is the opinion on board. The lad was constantly threatened and struck by the boatswain. He was shipped as cabin boy, and soon after rated as ordinary seaman; but he knew nothing of the work. He was bright and quick; but much frightened through being constantly struck and threatened by the boatswain.

The Court suggested to Mr. Brison, Chief Officer, that he might ask this witness some questions as to his evidence concerning the tackles.

Mr. Brison commenced his interrogation in so emphatic a style that the Court had to remind him that he must not intimidate the witness. It is due to the officer to say that, with every appearance of respect and honesty, the witness, Strange, said that neither he nor anyone on board had occasion for complaint against him.

Strange, in answer to Mr. Brison, persisted that the tackle was found forward, and said that a boat, inboard, if the ship is properly found, should be put over the side in five minutes. The men on board were constantly struck and beaten and sworn at. To the Court, witness said that the buckets and brooms were kept near the main hatch. One or so would be in the boatswain's cabin.

To Captain Cochran, who, at the suggestion of the Court, also questioned the witness, Strange repeated what he had said about the tackle. The crew were struck and abused, and called "sons of b—s" and "sons of w—s," and so on, by the officers.

Here Mr. Brison indignantly started from his

seat, and was held to order by the Court. He asked the witness if he (Brisson) had used the words in question, and was told "no," in the same terms as before. The officers referred to were the second mate, the boatswain, and carpenter.

At noon the Court adjourned, to hear the evidence of the second officer, who had been left in charge on board, until 2 p.m.

The Court resumed at 2 o'clock, when

Albert Crowe, second officer of the *J. E. Graham* was sworn. He stated—The chief officer came down and said—"Jump up, boys, there's a man overboard!" I was on deck immediately, and gave the order to "turn over, quick!" They turned the boat over on the skids, got the tackles on, and lowered her into the water in fifteen minutes—not more than that to the best of my belief. I went away in charge of the boat, and searched for two hours, but could find no trace of the missing man.

Louis Naragel, one of the crew, was sworn. He said:—The deceased told me on the 9th of May that the boatswain had struck him again, and wanted to throw him overboard. I remember the boatswain singing out, "man overboard!" I jumped out and ran aft. The boatswain told me to "go and get the oars," swearing at me. Nothing was ready to put the boat in the sea. The carpenter was singing out, "you son of a"—this, that, and the other—"come here!" The second mate gave all sorts of contrary orders. It was at least half an hour before the boat was let down. All the men were frightened. A great deal too much striking is done on board. The second mate, the boatswain, and the carpenter beat the crew. I have seen the boatswain strike the deceased with wedges. The boy was a very good little fellow, very obedient, but he had never been to sea before.

The Court then read an extract from the official log of the *J. E. Graham*, signed by the master, the mate, and the boatswain's mate. (The officer constantly referred to as "the boatswain" in the evidence, is rated on the articles as boatswain's mate.) After some necessary literal corrections are made, it runs as follows and was admitted by Captain Cochran:—

May 17, 1883. Lat 36° 30' S, Long 19° 34' W. This is to certify that at about 6h. 15m., a.m., mate called me "man overboard." I was asleep in my berth at the time. I got out, ran on deck, found the ship in the wind, and people getting the boat unlash. I could not hear or see anyone overboard. The vessel had been going about four knots with a light breeze from the S.W. Course S.E. by S., and heavy swell from the S.W. We got the boat out in a few minutes, and sent her in search of the man. [The Court. "You say a few minutes, Captain?" "Yes, Sir."] After rowing round for over an hour, the boat returned to the ship. Could not find the man. They picked up the life-buoy that the mate threw from the stern. Took the boat in and kept the vessel on her course. No one saw or could account for how he got overboard. The boatswain's mate a few minutes before told him to bring the buckets and brooms aft. They were going to wet down the deck. He then came along amidships when he heard the man in the water. He got over the side, [The Court—"Who got over the side?" "The boatswain,"] and tried to reach him but couldn't. He passed him and sunk. The Chief Mate was on the poop at the time. He threw a life-buoy over the stern but could not hear or see him. He had gone down. His name was Alfred Lonsdale, O.S., of York, England.

The Court here asked if the lad could swim, and was informed by one of the crew that he could—a little.

FINDING OF THE COURT.

I find that Alfred Lonsdale, O.S., of the British Barque *J. E. Graham*, Official Number 83,204, met his death by drowning on the morning of the 17th of May, 1883, at about 6.15 a.m. in Lat 36 degrees 30' S., Long. 19 degrees 34' W.: that there is nothing in the statements made before me to show how the man got overboard, it being dark at the time—just before daylight was breaking. On comparing the

different statements made as to the measures taken to rescue Lonsdale, I am forced to the opinion that there was unnecessary delay in launching the boat, and that the means for launching a boat at any time were not at hand in that state of readiness which they should have been in any well-found ship. It appears to me that the time occupied in getting the boat into the water was from twenty to thirty minutes, a delay which would preclude much hope of rescue except in the case of a strong swimmer.

SPECIAL COURT, TOKIO.

TUESDAY, AUGUST 7TH, 1883.

Before Mr. Justice TAMANO, and Messrs. HAYASHI, KAWADA, and NAGAOKA, Assessors.

THE PROSECUTION OF THE FUKUSHIMA SUSPECTS.

On the opening of the Court, the Counsel for Hiroshima addressed the Bench.

Mr. Nakashima—I repeatedly requested the Prosecutor yesterday to give an explanation of his argument, but he has not done so. I will now proceed to explain the case as it stands. The Prosecution alleges that the accused are guilty of a plot to raise an insurrection, and that the prisoners are endeavoring to conceal their crime. But the Prosecutor has put forward nothing to prove this bald assertion. I asked yesterday for what purpose they caused the prospectus of the newspaper and the letter in reference to it to be read. They replied that these documents are a portion of the evidence against the prisoners. I will now prove that the accused have not tried to evade inquiry. The conduct of the Fukushima police was unjust, unwarrantable, and deceitful. They tried to incriminate the accused by threats, and confessions were in this way extorted from the prisoners. My learned friend, Mr. Yamada, has already referred to that, but I will mention one fact which he omitted. Please read the report of Aizawa's examination, dated the 28th of January. (Report read.) We can place no confidence whatever on the reports prepared by the Police, which were obtained by resorting to all manner of brutality and fraud. Look, also, at their carelessness. Such an important report as one bearing upon a charge of high treason ought to be made with the greatest possible care. The contrary, however, is the case, as the police got up the report in one or two pages. (Here Mr. Nakashima pointed out the contradictions in what is called a statement of facts in reports of Hiroshima's examination and that of Tamura, as was done by Mr. Yamada). Hiroshima, he continued, was examined on the 17th of January on which occasion he had given an explanation of the words "bureaucratic government" as referring to the Government of Japan. But we cannot tell with certainty whether this interpretation was really given by him or written by the police themselves, since he presented the copy of the covenant on the 14th, that is to say, three days before his examination on the 17th of January in which he proved the inaccuracy of the wording in question. There is every likelihood that the police willfully prepared the false report. (The report of Tamano's examination, dated February 3rd, was then read in accordance with the request of the Counsel). If my view is correct, this is simply fraud. The police inspector told him that Kono had confessed that he entered into the confederation with Tamano to subvert the exist-

ing Government of Japan, and that as the evidence was already before the Police, it was impossible for him to conceal his complicity in the plot. This well illustrates the fraud resorted to by the police. But, fortunately for Tamano, he discovered the fraud, and stated the fact. The action of the police is against the existing law of the land, and the evidence adduced by them is therefore valueless for the purposes of the prosecution. I will define the meaning of the word insurrection. A case of high treason is treated differently from other offences, as the law does not recognize this particular offence as high treason unless the action premeditated is actually perpetrated. But in deciding as to the existence of a secret plot, great care is necessary. In matters of ordinary occurrence, we might as well call it a private consultation, where two men or more meet together and make an arrangement. But to give the offence the name of high treason, we must first find a sufficient cause. On considering well what high treason really is, we find that it means plotting to overthrow the existing Government of a country, and taking measures to carry out such a plot by evading the law in order to ensure its success. Until such measures are taken, it is impossible to call the offence high treason. If there is an intention only, and no steps have been taken, such offenders ought to be punished according to the Press Law, as in the case of journalists and lecturers who used the words "overthrow the Government." Or, if steps only are taken, while there is no intention of carrying the scheme out, then the case is on a par with that of curio dealers who purchase swords said to be for trivial purposes. Monsieur Boissonade, who drafted our Penal Code, in his interpretation of its passages, speaks of the high crime of treason as a resort to physical power and violence to establish the form of Government one admires. This equally means the harbouring of intention and taking steps. The present case contains none of the above elements. Even though the words "overthrow the Government" were written in the covenant that is no reason why the accused should be guilty, since they have taken no active steps. They cannot, consequently, be punished. They are most certainly not guilty of high treason. I would like now to go through the evidence before the Court, but will wait until the Prosecutor has replied.

The Court rose at 11.40 a.m.

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 8TH.

The Court opened at 8.30 a.m., when Judge Tamano asked the prisoner Tamano to reply to the accusation.

Prisoner—The Prosecution insist that our culpability has been fully proved by the covenant, the prospectus of the proposed newspaper, and correspondence. We hold that we have already proved that we are not guilty. We have nothing to say further.

Mr. Oi—I am Counsel for Tamano. The Prosecution base the charge on the covenant, the prospectus, and correspondence. The argument of its Counsel is vague; and in spite of repeated requests, we could receive no explanation. The law does not take cognizance except in cases of premeditated action. If human intention were punishable, no person would be free from penal conviction at some time or other. The prosecution holds the opinion that, though the accused did not actually procure supplies of arms and munitions of war, yet they had the intention of over-

throwing the Government. I desire to call the attention of the Court to one point, namely, that Asiatics, generally, have come to look on the word "overthrowing" as conveying the idea of some pernicious design. They use it of persons desirous of wresting violently anything from an opponent. In a wider sense the term can be employed as referring to any ministerial change; and thus the accused made use of it. We have proved substantially that they had no intention of resorting to violence. However strange this may appear, there is nothing at all extraordinary in it. The covenant in question is in no respect in violation of the law; and the conduct of the accused in their every day life bears ample testimony to the fact. Did they even entertain an "intention," there must be some evidence in the numerous letters that passed between them. They were prompted to the draft of the covenant by extreme love for the cause of liberalism. The freedom of the people depends upon the administration; and the accused merely combined to achieve an improvement in the existing system. In what respect, then, are they guilty of high treason? Correctly speaking, high treason consists in a rupture, on the part of those committing it, with the Government—a rupture caused by the Government working in opposition to the popular voice. Here the contrary is the case: the Government has met the desire of the people, and promised to establish a National Assembly in the 23rd year of Meiji. Hence there was no possible motive for the accused to have drawn up an obligation to overthrow the Government or to have troubled the peace of the realm. Politically or otherwise there is no necessity to overthrow the Government. The evidence of the prosecution is without value; there is no ground whatever for the punishment of the prisoners.

Kono, Prisoner No. 4, next addressed the Bench. He dwelt upon the misconduct of the Fukushima police, and the tyrannical behavior of Governor Mishima, to whose actions he ascribed all the troubles that had occurred.

Mr. Hoshi said that he would divide his argument into six heads:—(1) What is the definition under the Penal Code of the word "insurrection?" (2) Is the covenant sufficient to substantiate the charge preferred against the prisoners? (3) What was the character of the accused prior to the drafting of the covenant? (4) What was the real object of that contract? (5) Under what circumstances was it composed? (6) How did the accused behave subsequently to its being drawn up? As regards the first and second headings, he asked that the reports of Aizawa's examination on the 28th of January, Hiroshima's on the 23rd, and Tamano's on the 25th, be read. (Read accordingly.) He continued—"Insurrection" means rising in arms against the Government, implying what the French call *guerre civile*; and our own Penal Code is based upon the French. In English it is called civil war: in English law it is "levying war" against the Sovereign. In fact it means raising an army against constituted authority, and comprises procuring arms, money, and provisions to attack the Government. Talking of and writing about "overthrow" mean nothing, unless arms, money, and munitions have been provided, or steps have been taken to procure them. The law does not punish any secret device as long as it does not disturb the national tranquillity. What evidence is there to prove that the accused ever plotted to raise an insurrection? The covenant only. But does that prove the accusation? Certainly not. The only value of the evidence is that it shows

nothing. The evidence is but the shadow of an object which has no existence, and so is void. Notwithstanding this the instrument can hardly be called a lawful one. On the contrary, it is what in English law would be called an "illicit agreement" which is punishable; but in Japan no provision is made for any such offence; and, according to the maxim that the law cannot punish an offence for which it has not provided, the accused are not guilty. Such is the inevitable conclusion to be arrived at from the evidence adduced against the prisoners. How much the more could I establish this if I were to argue on the demonstrated fact that the original covenant was amended and the objectionable words were struck out. As regards the second point, the proceedings of the Police were illegal and in open violation of the Penal Code. Confessions were extorted by treachery and threats. I can demolish the whole charge brought by the Prosecution. Counsel on the other side argue that some words in the covenant prove the intention of the accused to raise an insurrection. What do those words prove? Nothing incriminatory of the accused. Even did the words "overthrow the Government" occur in the document, their interpretation is simply that the signatories had decided to eradicate bureaucracy by the force of public opinion.

The Court rose at 11 a.m.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 11TH.

The Court opened at 8 a.m. when Judge Tamano asked the prisoner Aizawa to reply to the accusation.

Prisoner—The Prosecution bases its opinion of our culpability on mere presumption. This is against the law, therefore it cannot punish us. We have nothing to say further.

Mr. Kitata (Counsel for Aizawa)—The argument of the Prosecution is based upon the indictment, the principal evidence being the covenant. Article 1 of the covenant is the whole origin of the trouble, or speaking more closely to the point, the four words "overthrow the existing Government" are the sole cause. This passage admits of two interpretations, to wit:—(1) the improvement of the administration by peaceful means; and (2) the alteration of the existing system of Government by violent measures. Recourse to the latter plan would involve the nation in calamity, while the adoption of the former would be productive of benefit to the whole community. That this was the object the prisoners had in view when they penned the characters in question may be easily gleaned from their declaration that they combined to effect an amendment in the administration by the operation of public opinion. They are not guilty in any respect whatever. Even be the words understood in the sense in which their use is imputed, there is still no evidence to incriminate the accused. As my learned colleagues have already explained, "insurrection" means rising in arms against the Government. To rise in arms one must make preparations—procure arms, munitions, money. Had the accused really intended to organize an insurrection they would have prepared for the event, or at least have taken measures to procure what was required for the purpose. They simply did nothing of the kind. Our argument is supported by the interpretation of the term "insurrection" given by Mr. Tamura—one of the Commissioners who drafted the Penal Code. Mr. Boissonade, in his commentary on the Criminal Code, speaks of an attempt to overthrow the Government as hateful; but adds that the law

does not punish intention but only the fact. This is in consonance with our Japanese proverb, "I hate the crime; I do not hate the man." I desire to add something more, but I wish to hear first what the Prosecution has to say.

Prisoner No. 6, Sawata—No doubt the Prosecution proposes to demolish our defence, but it is impossible to do so. We have stated the real facts of the case. Suppose that a man armed with a sword at the time a certain murder is committed. Is that sufficient to convict him of the crime? Surely not. Some investigation has to be made as to the circumstances. We cannot be content with an unfair judgment.

Mr. Uyeki—I am Counsel for Sawata. I request the Court to read the report of Tamano's examination held in February this year. (Read accordingly.) The Prosecution has proceeded against all the prisoners *en masse*. But, as Sawata was arrested in the capital, he was not examined in Fukushima; and consequently no version of the covenant has been furnished by him. Differences of wording occur in the renderings of the document furnished by the other prisoners. In proceeding against Sawata the Prosecution should have indicted him separately. As it has not done so, I must imply that it holds him guiltless; and in that case I request the Court to set him at liberty as promptly as possible. Concerning the general aspect of the case, I have only to say that the confessions were extorted by threats and deceit, and as such are valueless. The covenant requires no explanation, since we have amply demonstrated that the accused framed it with a view to the foundation of a liberal constitution. The report just read will show whether I am correct or not.

Mr. Yamada—I had to break off my argument very abruptly. I wish to address the Court again, but can wait until Counsel for the Prosecution have spoken.

The Judge—You may speak after the reply of Counsel for the Prosecution.

Mr. Watanabe (one of the Counsel for the Prosecution)—I have already referred to the principal features of the case. Accused and their Counsel contend that the argument of the Prosecution is vague, and that the charge is founded on mere assumption. To prove the real facts we must hold to the covenant. In the first place, then, the words "bureaucratic Government" clearly refer to the present Government of Japan. Secondly, the term "overthrow," implies that preparations shall be made for an insurrection. Thirdly, no importance can be attached to the assertion of the accused that the covenant was cancelled. The defence insists that the expression the "bureaucratic Government" refers to all such Governments in the world; and that, as a National Assembly is to be established in 1890, that of Japan must be excluded from the category. Yet facts cannot be gainsaid. Now, two of the accused, Hanaka and Hiroshima, positively admitted that the phrase in question was meant to apply to the Government of Japan. The letter from Tamano to the Mumei Kan contained a passage to the effect that the Government of Japan is bent upon oppression, as is proved by every edict it promulgates, etc. The accused unanimously admitted that they held the same opinion. All this clearly shows that they were conspiring to overturn the Government of Japan. How could they possibly have plotted to destroy "all the bureaucratic Governments in the world?" The word (*tempuku*) means to "upset" to "overthrow." Some effect of force is required to turn anything upside down. How

much the more is this the case when a Government is the object to be turned upside down? The result cannot be achieved without the exertion of some physical energy. Hence we deem that the object of the accused was insurrection. The defence, however, pretends that the meaning intended to be conveyed was that an improvement was to be wrought in the administration by the mere pressure of public opinion. This is a subterfuge invented for the occasion. The two witnesses, Kamada and Sawaki, have deposed that they read the words "overthrow the Government" in the copy of the covenant. It is a task too difficult to believe that the phrase was altered to "improve the administration." The third article of the covenant provides:—"Those who reveal the secrets of our society shall incur the penalty of self-despatch." No one inspired with a strong desire to act in accordance with the principles of justice could have subscribed such a clause. Prisoner No. 4, Kono, protests that, having drawn up the covenant as a measure for his own protection, he felt ashamed of it subsequently and destroyed it. This statement is incredible. Kono requested Tamano to convene a meeting with a view to the cancellation of the agreement; but Tamano did not convene any such meeting, nor did he even inform the other members of the proposal to annul the covenant. Kono next says that he gave information of the matter to Aizawa at Mumei Kan, while Aizawa states that the conversation took place in the District Office. Thus there is a discrepancy of three weeks between the dates stated respectively as the time when the information was imparted. The strangest part of the affair is that no mention of the proposal was made to Hiroshima in whose possession the instrument then was.

Mr. Watanabe, Counsel for the Prosecution, continuing his address to the Bench, said—In repeating the assertion that the Prosecution have fully explained everything necessary to meet the defence set up by the prisoners, I will now add that I can easily upset the arguments of their Counsel, the gist of which is the validity or otherwise of the charge and the interpretation to be placed upon the term insurrection. Though I may be liable to fall into confusion if I attempt to deal *seriatim* with each individual prisoner's defence, I intend to take that course, and will afterwards deal with what their Counsel has put forward on their behalf. To begin with Hanaka (No. 1), his defence amounted to nothing, as all he said when called upon to plead was that he was free from having committed any mean action, whilst his Counsel, Mr. Yamada, asserts that the confession is valueless in his case, inasmuch as it was not a voluntary confession, and that the declaration made by the prisoner later on was the proper statement to be taken, and although some inconvenience might arise were the Court to accept this advice, it must be remembered that the Bench has a large discretion, and no doubt knows well how to use it. Hanaka's Counsel urges that the report of that prisoner's examination at Fukushima and Wakamatsu can have no weight whatever in this Court, inasmuch as the Police at those places are not empowered to take evidence in a case of so grave a nature as that of high treason. This argument is at least premature. Supposing the Police were at first unaware of the nature of the case, and took the evidence in the ordinary course, afterwards, on discovering the gravity of the charge, handing the prisoners over to the Commissary? Supposing, I say, such a case, what then is to be done with the proceedings of the Police? But to go

farther. Even though the Police had conducted the examination of the prisoners and were well aware at the time of the nature of the charge against the accused, the evidence adduced cannot be thrown away as valueless because it happens to be through the Police that the facts are brought to light, and ultimately brought before this Court. The copy of the covenant written by Hanaka bears the date 14th January, whilst the report of his examination is dated the 17th January. At first sight this difference of date appears strange, but not so when it is remembered that this prisoner was under examination for several days in succession, and the value of the evidence is firmly established when it is remembered that Hanaka acknowledged it and signed it with his thumb. In these reports I notice that the accused invariably replied in the affirmative when questioned by the Court, but how is it, I ask, that the prisoners generally, and Hanaka in particular, failed to request that the reports should be corrected when they were offered that opportunity? They did not take it, and from this fact I argue that the reports of the examinations as produced in this Court must be taken to be substantially correct. Mr. Yamada also holds that, as the confessions of the prisoners were extorted from them by threats, they possess no value in law. Of course it is intolerable for judges to use threats to extort a confession. But admitting, for argument's sake, that threats were used in this case, that is altogether beside the question. There is the evidence, which can neither be disputed nor demolished. Coming to prisoner No. 2, Hiroshima, his defence is scarcely worth a remark. His Counsel, Mr. Nakashima, takes a line similar to that adopted by Mr. Yamada as to the worthlessness of the confessions on account of these being involuntary, but this is inconsistent, as the prisoner referred to gave in this Court his own version of his connection with the crime with which he is charged. I need refer no further to the Counsel's argument when he endeavoured to give his interpretation of the term insurrection, as the same in Hiroshima's case was urged on behalf of the others. My remarks apply equally to the rest of the prisoners, Tamano, Kono, Aizawa, and Sawata, and it is unnecessary to go over the same ground again, or to attempt to rebut the defence set up by their Counsel, Messrs. Hoshi and Oi, as it amounts absolutely to no defence at all, or is simply a repetition of the arguments advanced by the Counsel for Hanaka and Hiroshima.

The Court rose at 12 o'clock.

MONDAY, AUGUST 13TH, 1883.

The Court opened at 8.30 a.m. when Mr. Watanabe, Counsel for the Prosecution, continued his speech as follows:—I will now proceed to explain what "insurrection" amounts to. Beginning with Hanaka (No. 1), we find that his definition, like that of his counsel, Mr. Yamada, requires no refutation at all. Hiroshima (No. 2) holds that it means rising in arms against the Government, and intriguing secretly and making preparations to that end. He further insists that, if the accused had done this, there must have been some actual evidence of the facts. This is a mistake. A secret intrigue is a plot in which confederates unite surreptitiously in order to avoid the discovery of their objects. To show that such a plot existed in this case we have only, again, to appeal to the covenant entered into by the accused, and the letters they addressed to Mumei Kan. Insurrection comprises two elements. (1) preparation (*yobi*), (2) secret intrigue (*inbo*). The former, as Hiroshima said, is manifested in outward action; and the latter is intellectual. To this point I will return anon. As regards Mr. Nakashima's plead-

ing, I find his interpretation of "interruption and overthrow" very quaint. Thus, he will "overthrow" peaceably—by public opinion, to wit. Of course he is quite wrong. According to the Criminal Code "insurrection" admits of a wide definition, and includes "overthrowing" (*tempuku-suru*) or attempting to overthrow, see Article 121, wherein, under the head "of Crimes and Delicts against the Domestic Safety of the State," it is provided that all individuals guilty of having taken part in a civil war, insurrection, or armed sedition, having for its object to overthrow the Government of the country, &c., &c. As for the defence of Tamano, No. 3, I find that he proclaims himself a patriot, and therefore unable to take part in any insurrection. Overturning a Government and patriotism are totally different affairs. It does not follow that because a man is a patriot he will not attempt to overthrow the Government of his country, since patriotism itself often prompts men to such an endeavour. Mr. Oi's argument can be divided into four parts. (1) No matter how much or how long an insurrection may be plotted, the conspirators cannot be prosecuted unless they have committed some overt act of insurrection. (2) The overturn of a Government can be effected by peaceful means. (3) The present prosperous condition of Japan does not warrant any one in raising an insurrection. (4) The accused had no intention to seize the reins of power. The first and second points are similar to those put forward in Hiroshima's case, and so are unworthy of serious refutation. Mr. Oi contends that Asiatics have come to consider the word "overthrow" as conveying some pernicious design, while such is not the case with Europeans. This statement is altogether contradicted by facts. The term embodies in the West exactly the same destructive principle as it does with us. As regards the third point I am perfectly in accord with the defence: no necessity exists for rising in revolt; but that is not equivalent to a positive assurance that the accused did not conspire to overturn the Government. Kono says that the prime object of the confederacy was to replace the existing system by representative institutions. This may be true; but to overturn a Government one must resort to such physical manifestations as the law will punish. (Here the orator entered into a long disquisition endeavoring to prove the incorrectness of Mr. Hoshi's rendering of the French term *guerre civile*.) My argument applies to the interpretation attempted to be made of the word "overthrow" by the other prisoners and their Counsel. Mr. Watanabe concluded by ridiculing the argument of the defence that the accusation was founded on mere assumption, and said that the judgment would be nothing more than an assumption founded on matters of fact.

Mr. Hoshi—I previously argued to the second point of my reply. If the argument of the Prosecution ceases here, I should like to conclude my address.

Judge Tamano—The prosecution does not, I believe, conclude its case here. If you desire to speak now, you have the ear of the Court.

Prisoner Hanaka recapitulated his former statements, and declared emphatically that his scheme of political improvement embraced the whole world, and extended through endless generations. His Counsel, Mr. Yamada, addressed the Court on his behalf in much the same terms as those he employed on the previous occasion.

TUESDAY, AUGUST 14TH, 1883.

The Court opened at 8.30 a.m., when Mr. Yamada, Counsel for Hanaka, addressed the Bench as follows:—I will show what the word *tempuku* (overthrow) amounts to. At first sight, it conveys an impression that menace is intended. Therefore the accused changed it to "improve the administration," an expression which is certainly not a violation of the law. Had the accused really intended to overturn the Government they must have given some outward and visible sign of that intention. They had no arms whatever, a conclusive proof that they had no felonious design. Counsel for the prosecution has quoted at great length from the French Criminal Code, endeavoring thereby to establish the culpability of the accused; but there is a wide difference between the French and the Japanese people. The former adore revolutions and are always watching for an opportunity to subvert

their Government, while the latter are docile and law-abiding. It would be the height of absurdity to punish the accused according to the spirit of French law.

Hiroshima (by permission of the Court)—I desire to explain as regards one point. I said on a previous occasion that a judgment based on mere presumption would seriously damage our interests, a proposition that the prosecution took some pains to endeavour to refute. I did not mean any judgment arrived at by a logical process; but one the result of illusion and a perversion of facts. Our lives now depend upon the words *tem-puku*, on the meaning whereof we may be saved or destroyed. Consult the third volume of Mencius, where you will find the following words, *Taiko in no kaiten wo tem-puku-su*; which may be translated "He 'overturned' the criminal sentence passed upon him by Taiko," or, in other words, did not submit to the sentence pronounced upon him by Taiko, as that potentate was immoral. I have proved that the word *tem-puku* may refer either to physical or intellectual demonstrations. As intended in our covenant it refers to the improvement of the administration by the pressure of public opinion and not by deeds of violence. As regards the assumption that, because I always replied in the affirmative to the questions of the Court, I thereby acknowledged my culpability, I must reply that I had no opportunity to correct any errors that I may have made in my statement. That we did not conspire to upset the Government is abundantly proved by our behaviour. For the prosecution to try to establish that the cancellation of the covenant is an invention because of some discrepancy in dates, is cruel. From the time when we were imprisoned, we were lodged in separate cells, and prevented from communicating with each other. Thus situated, how could we concert together to promulgate a falsehood? It must be evident to all that our statements are true. We can only say of the argument of the prosecution that it is incomprehensible.

Mr. Nakashima, Counsel for Hiroshima—I notice a discrepancy in the wording of the covenant, as given by the different prisoners. I should like to know which of the versions the prosecution selects as evidence.

Prosecutor—The Court will take them all as evidence.

Mr. Nakashima—I combat the whole argument of the prosecution. It obstinately holds to the assumption that the words "bureaucratic Government" must refer to the Government of Japan, which is not the case. The statement to that effect in the report of the examination of the accused is due to the carelessness of the Police in recording the proceedings. All the accused maintained that their scheme of political improvement embraced universal society. *Tem-puku* means turning a thing upside down. There are two ways of doing this, peacefully and violently. The accused's method was the former. The prosecution, in support of the contrary opinion, quotes from the letter, written by Tamano, wherein he says that the Government of this country resorts to the extremity of oppression, as every fresh edict shows, &c. This is merely a passing expression of opinion upon a political matter. The prosecution cannot believe that the prisoners might desire to improve the condition of other peoples, and calls the idea sheer nonsense! Our party—the Liberals—wishes to spread liberalism through the length and breadth of the earth; and the accused united to attain that object. They have unanimously declared that by *tem-puku* they mean to convey the same idea as that embodied in *katriyo* (improve). The two witnesses, Kamada and Sasaki, deposed that they saw a paper attached to the original covenant containing the alleged correction. It is, therefore, impossible for the prosecution to dispute the truth of the declarations made by the accused. I must repeat that the accused intended to bring about political improvements by peaceful means. This is quite within the bounds of possibility. Look at Rai Sanyo who contributed toward the downfall of the Tokugawa usurpation by publishing books. Look at Patrick Henry, who roused the Americans by his eloquence to resist British oppression and obtain their independence. These and other instances show that political improvements can be effected by peaceful measures. The accused combined to accomplish their work of reformation without having recourse to violence.

LATEST TELEGRAMS.

[REUTER "SPECIAL" TO "JAPAN MAIL"]

London, August 13th.

MR. GLADSTONE ON MADAGASCAR.

Mr. Gladstone, in a speech at the Mansion House, stated that fuller advices from Madagascar confirmed the hope that the Tamatave affair would be satisfactorily arranged.

RESIGNATION OF THE FRENCH NAVAL COMMANDER.

The Commander of the French Naval Force in Malagasy waters has resigned on the ground of ill-health.

TROUBLE IN SPAIN.

A widespread insurrectionary movement has been discovered in Spain. The Spanish Ministry is suspended, pending Constitutional guarantees.

London, August 15th.

THE CHEFOO CONVENTION.

The Under Secretary for Foreign Affairs, in reply to a question in the House, said that negotiations are now progressing regarding the Opium clauses of the Chefoo Convention.

THE CORRUPT PRACTICES BILL.

In the House of Commons the Corrupt Practices Bill was read a third time and passed.

INSURRECTION IN SPAIN.

The Province of Catalonia has been declared in a state of siege, and Carlist emissaries are active in the North.

Later.

It has been officially announced that the insurrection in Spain has been suppressed.

London, August 16th.

THE OPIUM QUESTION.

The negotiations regarding opium have progressed so far that the British Government has intimated its willingness to accept the proposals made by the Chinese Government on certain conditions.

THE MADAGASCAR AFFAIR.

The Under Secretary for Foreign Affairs, in reply to a question in the House of Commons, said that negotiations are still proceeding with the French Government with reference to the detention of Mr. Shaw, an English Missionary at Tamatave.

THE NEW BANKRUPTCY BILL.

In the House of Commons the Bankruptcy Bill was read a third time and passed.

RIOTS IN EGYPT.

Riots have occurred in Alexandria on account of the natives objecting to the sanitary measures which have been taken to prevent the spread of cholera.

Later.

The rioters in Alexandria have been dispersed by the Police.

Cholera is on the increase in Alexandria.

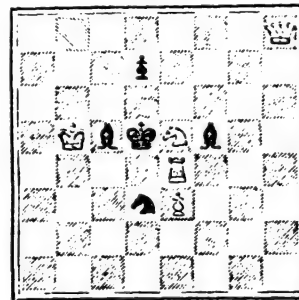
SUNDAY CHURCH SERVICES.

Christ Church : 11 a.m. and 5.30 p.m.
Union Church : 11 a.m. and 8 p.m.
Roman Catholic Church : 8 and 9.30 a.m.
English Church, No. 12, Sakaicho, Shiba, Tokiyo : 11 a.m.

CHESS.

By W. B. MASON, Nagasaki.

BLACK.



WHITE.

White to play and mate in 2 moves.

Solution to Chess Problem of 11th August, by E. A. M. of India.

White.

- 1.—Q. to K. 7.
- 2.—Kt. takes Kt. Ch.
- 3.—B. to Q. B. 3 mate.

Black.

- 1.—Kt. to K. 3.
- 2.—K. to K. 4.
- if 1.—Kt. takes Kt. (at Q. 6.)

- 2.—Q. to K. 5 Ch.
- 3.—B. to Q. B. 3 mate.
- if 2.—K. to B. 5.
- 3.—Q. to B. 3 mate.
- if 1.—B. takes B.
- 2.—Q. to K. 3 Ch.
- 3.—Q. to B. 5 mate.

Correct solution received from "TESA."

MAIL STEAMERS.

THE NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From Shanghai, Nagasaki, & Kobe } per M. B. Co. Thursday, August 23rd.*
From America ... per P. M. Co. Friday, August 24th.†

* Left Shanghai on August 15th. † City of Rio de Janeiro left San Francisco on August 4th.

THE NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For Kobe per M. B. Co. Monday, August 20th.
For Hakodate ... per M. B. Co. Monday, August 20th.
For Shanghai, Kobe, and Nagasaki } per M. B. Co. Saturday, August 25th.
For America per O. & O. Co. Thursday, August 30th.

The arrival and departure of mails by the Occidental and Oriental, the Pacific Mail, and the Peninsular and Oriental Companies, are approximate only.

TIME TABLES.

YOKOHAMA-TOKIO RAILWAY.

The Trains LEAVE YOKOHAMA Station at 6.45, 8.00, 8.50,* 9.45, and 11.00 a.m., and 12.15, 1.30, 2.45, 4.00, 4.45,* 6.00, 7.15, 8.30, 9.45, and 11.00† p.m.

The Trains LEAVE TOKIO (Shinbashi) at 6.45, 8.00, 9.15,* 9.45, and 11.00 a.m., and 12.15, 1.30, 2.45, 4.00, 4.45,* 6.00, 7.15, 8.30, 9.45, and 11.00† p.m.

Those marked with (*) run through without stopping at Tamurui, Kawasaki, and Omori Stations. Those with (†) are the same as above with the exception of stopping at Kawasaki Station.

UYENO-KUMAGAI RAILWAY.

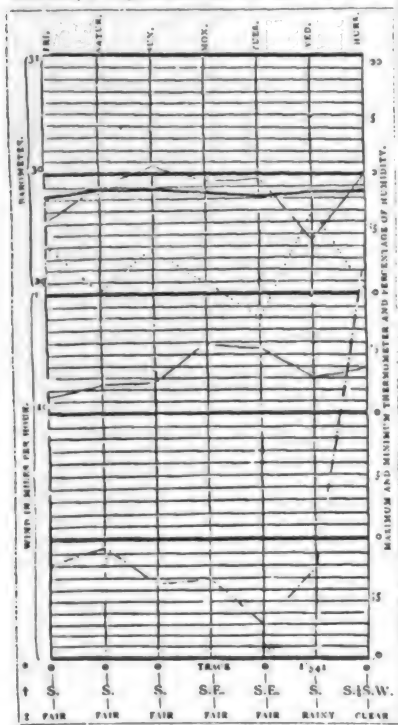
The Trains leave UYENO at 6 a.m. and 1.30 p.m., and KUMAGAI at 9.30 a.m. and 4.30 p.m.

The Fares are:—Special-class (Separate Compartment), yen 2; First-class, yen 1.20; Third-class, yen 60. The distance from Ueno to Kumagai is 38 miles.

METEOROLOGICAL REPORT.

FOR WEEK BEGINNING FRIDAY, AUGUST 10TH, 1883.

Observatory of Daigaku, Moto-Fujiho, Hongō, Tokyo, Japan.



REMARKS.
Heavy line represents barometer.
Light continuous line—maximum and minimum thermometers.
Dotted line—represents velocity of wind.
The barometer is reduced to the freezing point and to the level of the sea.
• Rain in inches. † Direction of Wind. ‡ Weather.
Maximum velocity of wind 10.2 miles per hour on Thursday at 5 p.m.
The highest reading of the barometer for the week was 29.931 inches on Sun eve at 10 a.m., and the lowest was 29.733 inches on Thursday at 6 p.m.
The highest temperature for the week was 90° both on Sunday and Tuesday, and the lowest was 71.4 on Friday. The maximum and minimum for the corresponding week of last year were 89.9 and 44.5 respectively.
The total amount of rain for the week was 1.541 inches against 1.945 inches for the corresponding week of last year.

LATEST SHIPPING.

FREIGHTS.

As usual lately, the freight Market has been without any features of interest, rates for coastwise business have receded lower than have ever been known, while nothing whatever offers off coast; ship masters have many of them decided to "lay up" rather than continue to run at such ruinous figures. For New York via Suez Canal, the steamship *Ascalon* sailed on the 11th instant, leaving the *Oxfordshire* occupying that berth; while for the same port direct, the British barque *Annie T. Marshall* is still loading at Kobe. For San Francisco the American ship *St. David* and the barque *Mary Winkelman* divide the berth, both circulated with quick dispatch.

ARRIVALS.

Louise, French bark, 303, Lemoine, 11th August, —Nagasaki 27th July, Coal.—P. M. S. S. Co.
Taganoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 448, Matsu-moto, 11th August, —Yokkaichi, 10th August, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S. S. Co.

Yechigo Maru, Japanese steamer, 751, Jones, 11th August, —Hiogo 10th August, General.—Kiyodo Unyu Kwaisha.

J. V. Troop, British ship, 1,291, Farnsworth, 12th August, —New York 29th March, 48,851 cases Kerosene.—Cormes & Co.

Suminoye Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,320, Frahm, 12th August, —Kobe 10th August, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S. S. Co.

Wakanoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,342, A. F. Christensen, 12th August, —Kobe, 10th August, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S. S. Co.

Seirio Maru, Japanese steamer, 329, G. R. Nirei, 13th August, —Yokkaichi 12th August, Rice and General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S. S. Co.

Arabic, British steamer, 2,787, W. G. Pearne, R.N.R., 14th August, —Hongkong 8th August, Mails and General.—O. & O. S. S. Co.

Galveston, German bark, 619, Stunkel, 14th August, —Nagasaki, Coal.—Mitsu Bishi M. S. S. Co.

Kashgar, British steamer, 1,515, W. J. Webber, 14th August, —Hongkong 6th, Nagasaki 10th, and Kobe 13th August, General.—P. & O. S. N. Co.

Tokai Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,042, Carrew, 15th August, —Kobe 13th August, Machinery, &c.—Mitsu Bishi M. S. S. Co.

Genkai Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,084, G. W. Conner, 16th August, —Shanghai and ports, Mails and General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S. S. Co.

Normandy, American ship, 1,156, E. F. Tukey, 15th August, —New York 24th March, Oil.—Master.

Oxfordshire, British steamer, 998, C. V. Jones, 15th August, —Hiogo, 13th August, Ballast.—Smith, Baker & Co.

Taganoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 610, Matsu-moto Matsugoro, 15th August, —Yokkaichi 14th August, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S. S. Co.

Tsuruga Maru, Japanese steamer, 880, Dithlefsen, 15th August, —Kobe 13th August, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S. S. Co.

Mensaleh, French steamer, 1,276, B. Blanc, 17th August, —Hongkong, 11th August, Mails and General.—Messageries Maritimes Co.

Hiogo Maru, Japanese steamer, 806, R. N. Walker, 16th August, —Hakodate via Oginohama 14th August, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S. S. Co.

Antelope, American ship, 1,259, Peabody, 17th August, —New York 4th April, Oil.—C. & J. Trading Co.

Kworio Maru, Japanese steamer, 800, G. Withers, 17th August, —Kobe 15th August.—Mitsu Bishi M. S. S. Co.

Seirio Maru, Japanese steamer, 591, 17th August, —Yokkaichi, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S. S. Co.

DEPARTURES.

Ascalon, British steamer, 1,523, Geo. Dinsdale, 11th August, —Kobe and Amoy, General.—Ilies & Co.

Coptic, British steamer, 2,787, Kidley, 12th August, —Hongkong, Mails and General.—O. & O. S. S. Co.

Godavery, French steamer, 1,040, Du Temple, 12th August, —Hongkong, Mails and General.—Messageries Maritimes & Co.

Wakanoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,343, A. F. Christensen, 14th August, —Kobe, Mails and General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S. S. Co.

Niigata Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,091, Hubbard, 14th August, —Hakodate, Mails and General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S. S. Co.

Seirio Maru, Japanese steamer, 591, 14th August, —Yokkaichi, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S. S. Co.

Takasago Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,229, C. Young, 15th August, —Shanghai and ports, Mails and General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S. S. Co.

Yechigo Maru, Japanese steamer, 751, Jones, 15th August, —Hakodate, General.—Kiyodo Unyu Kwaisha.

Ada, British schooner, 68, Hardy, 16 August, —Kurile Islands.—H. Cook.

Bengloe, British steamer, 1,198, Alex. Webster, 16th August, —Kobe, General.—Mourilyan, Heilmann & Co.

Taganoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 448, 16th August, —Yokkaichi, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S. S. Co.

Tsuruga Maru, Japanese steamer, 880, P. Dithlefsen, 17th August, —Kobe, Mails and General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S. S. Co.

Arabic, British steamer, 2,787, W. G. Pearne, R.N.R., 18th August, —San Francisco, Mails and General.—O. & O. S. S. Co.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per Japanese steamer *Taganoura Maru*, from Yokkaichi:—2 Japanese in cabin; and 110 Japanese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Yechigo Maru*, from Hiogo:—60 Japanese.

Per Japanese steamer *Suminoye Maru*, from Kobe:—3 Japanese.

Per Japanese steamer *Wakanoura Maru*, from Kobe:—Messrs. N. D. Townsend, C. Baynes, and 4 Japanese in cabin; and 132 Japanese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Seirio Maru*, from Yokkaichi:—1 Japanese in cabin; and 68 Japanese in steerage.

Per British steamer *Arabic*, from Hongkong:—Mrs. Dalton Sayle, 2 children, and servant, Mr. C. Menzies and servant, Messrs. J. Knox Wight, A. Mingard, and J. J. Mentieth in cabin. For San Francisco: Messrs. H. G. James, M. Beazele, J. S. Berris, and Louis Simon in cabin; and 223 Chinese in steerage.

Per British steamer *Kashgar*, from Hongkong:—Mrs. St. Edwards, Dr. MacMun, Messrs. Sadler, MacPherson, Taylor, Forbes, Bunker, Hare, Ravenhill, and Allen in cabin; and 25 second class; and 20 Japanese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Genkai Maru*, from Shanghai and ports:—Dr. and Mrs. Little and 2 children, Miss Little, Miss R. W. Little, Miss Parkes, Miss Sowerby, Rev. W. Imbrie, Messrs. E. C. Kirby, W. V. Sentance, C. D. West, J. M. Collins, M. Willett, J. Donald, Tanoda, Tashima, Isono, Kurakama, Taseki, Wada, Hirone, Umehara, M. Shingetsu, Hashimoto, Hurakami, Kobayashi, Isekie, Master Tashima, and Mr. Hurakawa in cabin; and 5 Europeans, 2 Chinese, and 198 Japanese in steerage. For San Francisco:—Mrs. W. Thomas in cabin. For Liverpool: Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Anderson and Mr. F. Craven in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Taganoura Maru*, from Yokkaichi:—1 Japanese in cabin; and 85 Japanese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Tsuruga Maru*, from Kobe:—Messrs. C. Georgsen, P. C. Fuelt, E. Axelsson (officers of the *Samida Maru*), and 1 Japanese in cabin; and 27 Japanese in steerage.

Per French steamer *Mensaleh*, from Hongkong:—Messrs. Tagemo, Salabelle in cabin; and Yokota in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Hiogo Maru*, from Hakodate via Oginohama:—Sir Harry Parkes, Miss Parkes, Messrs. Popp, Schlatter, and F. Lapanesi in cabin; and 130 Japanese in steerage.

DEPARTED.

Per British steamer *Coptic*, for Hongkong:—Messrs. J. Pestonjee and servant, D. Nowrojee and servant, and G. Ramsay in cabin; and 1 Chinese in steerage.

Per French steamer *Godavery*, for Hongkong:—Mr. and Mrs. Nomura Kintaro in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Takasago Maru*, for Shanghai and ports:—Commodore Baron Gullis, Rev. M. Greenwood, Messrs. A. W. Danforth, J. McBride, Leung Teyshik, J. R. Haggit, E. Major, C. W. Dimock, F. Galetsky, Sprent, C. E. Bowen, Koc Man Tsing, Itagaki, Ishiwata, Yoshida, Nishiuchi, Araki, Shiraki, Hayashi, Kamino, Tanabe, and Ogawa in cabin.

MEN-OF-WAR.

Essex, American gun-vessel, 619, Captain A. H. McCormack, 11th August, —Honolulu 8th July.

Richmond, American flag-ship, 14 guns, 300 men, 2,700, Captain J. S. Skerrett, U.S.N., 9th July, —Nagasaki 5th July.

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

There has been less doing in Yarns during the week, sales reported amounting only to some 550 bales. Prices for Shirtings are fairly maintained, although there have been but few transactions, but there is more enquiry all round. Mousselines have advanced, and there seems a better feeling as regards Velvets. Woollens generally are quite neglected, and there is but a small current business doing in Metals.

COTTON YARNS.

| | PER PICUL. |
|----------------------------------|------------------|
| Nos. 16 to 24, Common to Medium- | \$25.00 to 28.50 |
| Nos. 16 to 24, Good to Best - | 29.25 to 30.50 |
| Bombay, No. 20, Good to Best - | 25.50 to 28.25 |
| Nos. 28 to 32, Common to Medium- | 31.25 to 32.00 |
| Nos. 28 to 32, Good to Best - | 32.75 to 35.25 |
| Nos. 38 to 42 - | 35.00 to 37.25 |

COTTON PIECE GOODS.

| | PER PIECE. |
|------------------------------------------------|----------------|
| Grey Shirtings—8½, 3½ to 39 inches - | \$1.70 to 2.15 |
| Grey Shirtings—9½, 3½ to 45 inches - | 1.87½ to 2.40 |
| T. Cloth—7½, 24 yards, 32 inches - | 1.42½ to 1.52½ |
| Indigo Shirting—12 yards, 44 inches - | 1.55 to 1.67½ |
| Prints—Assorted, 24 yards, 30 inches - | 1.10 to 2.40 |
| Cotton—Italians and Sateens Black, 32 inches - | 0.07 to 0.09 |
| Turkey Reds—2 to 2½, 24 yards, 30 inches - | 1.15 to 1.35 |
| Turkey Reds—2½ to 2½, 24 yards, 30 inches - | 1.35 to 1.65 |
| Turkey Reds—3½, 24 yards, 30 inches - | 1.70 to 1.82½ |
| Velvets—Black, 35 yards, 22 inches - | 5.90 to 6.70 |
| Victoria Lawns, 12 yards, 42-3 inches - | 0.70 to 0.75 |
| Taffachelas, 12 yards, 43 inches - | 1.75 to 2.07½ |

WOOLLENS.

| | |
|----------------------------------------------------|----------------|
| Plain Orleans, 40-42 yards, 32 inches - | \$3.50 to 5.25 |
| Figured Orleans, 39-41 yards, 31 inches - | 3.25 to 4.00 |
| Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches - | 0.18 to 0.28 |
| Mousseline de Laine—Crape, 24 yards, 31 inches - | 0.15½ to 0.152 |
| Mousseline de Laine—Itajime, 24 yards, 31 inches - | 0.18½ to 0.26 |
| Mousseline de Laine—Yuzen, 24 yards, 31 inches - | 0.30 to 0.32½ |
| Cloths—Pilots, 54 @ 56 inches - | 0.30 to 0.40 |
| Cloths—Presidents, 54 @ 56 inches - | 0.40 to 0.50 |
| Cloths—Union, 54 @ 56 inches - | 0.30 to 0.55 |
| Blankets—Scarlet and Green, 6 to 8½, per lb - | 0.35 to 0.40 |

IRON.

| | PER PICUL. |
|---------------------------------|----------------|
| Flat Bars, ½ inch - | \$2.50 to 2.90 |
| Flat Bars, 1 inch - | 2.80 to 3.00 |
| Round and square up to 1 inch - | 2.80 to 3.00 |
| Nailrod, assorted - | 2.25 to 2.50 |
| Nailrod, small size - | 2.85 to 3.10 |

KEROSENE.

A barter sale of 5,000 cases is reported, otherwise no business has been done in Oil during the past week. Deliveries have been 21,400 cases. The *F. V. Troop*, *Normandy*, and *Antelope* have arrived with 135,350 cases, making our present stock some 740,000 cases sold and unsold Oil. Quotations must be taken as quite nominal.

| | PER CASE. |
|----------|-----------|
| Devoe - | \$1.65 |
| Comet - | 1.60 |
| Stella - | 1.50 |

SUGAR.

Although there is little or no business being done in any kinds, holders would no doubt make a concession to buyers if the latter could be found. Brown Formosas have been offered during the week at as low a figure \$4.35 without a transfer being effected.

| | PER PICUL. |
|-----------------|----------------|
| White, No. 1 - | \$8.00 to 8.25 |
| White, No. 2 - | 7.50 to 8.00 |
| White, No. 3 - | 6.75 to 7.00 |
| White, No. 4 - | 6.00 to 6.50 |
| White, No. 5 - | 5.00 to 5.20 |
| Brown Formosa - | 4.35 to 4.47 |

EXPORTS.

SILK.

Trade in Silk has been active during the week, especially in kinds suitable for America. Settlements for the week 700 piculs of all descriptions, and prices generally are well maintained. Export to date is 3,045 against 3,081 last year, and the *Kashgar* leaving this afternoon should take some.

Hanks.—Some Shimomita and Shinshu have appeared; a few transactions have been entered into, but the quality of the Shinshu at present is not

very good, the parcels on offer being mixed and ca-ed.

Filatures.—A fairly current business has been done in these, and *Re-reels* of good quality are in demand.

Kakedas, have been taken to some extent for the United States markets, for Europe but little doing.

Hamatsuki, sorts have been eagerly taken at quotations, presumably to supply an imagined deficiency in coarse silks from China.

QUOTATIONS.

| | |
|-----------------------------------|----------------|
| Hanks—No. 11 - | \$5.50 to 5.50 |
| Hanks—No. 2 (Shinshu) - | 5.15 to 5.25 |
| Hanks—No. 2 (Maibash) - | 5.00 to 5.10 |
| Hanks—No. 2½ - | 4.90 to 4.90 |
| Hanks—No. 3 - | 4.60 to 4.70 |
| Hanks—No. 3½ - | 4.40 to 4.50 |
| Filatures—Extra - | 6.50 to 6.65 |
| Filatures—No. 1, 10/13 deniers - | 6.40 to 6.50 |
| Filatures—No. 1, 14/16 deniers - | 6.30 to 6.40 |
| Filatures—No. 1½, 14/17 deniers - | 6.10 to 6.20 |
| Filatures—No. 2, 10/15 deniers - | 6.00 to 6.20 |
| Filatures—No. 2, 14/18 deniers - | 6.00 to 6.10 |
| Re-reels—No. 1, 14/16 deniers - | 6.10 to 6.30 |
| Re-reels—No. 1½, 14/17 deniers - | 6.00 to 6.10 |
| Re-reels—No. 2, 14/18 deniers - | 5.50 to 5.90 |
| Kakedas—Extra - | 6.25 to 6.45 |
| Kakedas—No. 1 - | 6.00 to 6.10 |
| Kakedas—No. 2 - | 5.50 to 5.70 |
| Kakedas—No. 3 - | 5.20 to 5.30 |
| Hamatsuki—No. 1, 2 - | 4.50 to 4.70 |
| Hamatsuki—No. 3, 4 - | 4.40 to 4.50 |

TEA.

There has been only a moderate business done since our last weekly issue. Settlements reaching about 2,040 piculs; of these the greater portion is presumably intended for the Pacific Coast Trade, and consists principally of grades below Fine. Arrivals have been on a larger scale, and the unsold stock is somewhat augmented. The market at the close is quiet, and quotations remain much as last given. The following are the shipments of Tea to the United States and Canada since last report. Per steamship *Enphrates*, sailed on the 3rd August, 35,640 lbs. Tea, viz:—6,595 lbs. for New York and 29,045 lbs. for Canada. The steamship *Ascalon*, sailed on the 11th August, 1,119,763 lbs. Tea, viz:—1,010,264 lbs. for New York and 109,499 lbs. for Canada. The only steamer on the berth for New York via ports is the *Oxfordshire*, rate of freight 50 shillings per ton of 40 cubic feet. The overland rate for the next three steamers has been reduced to 2 cents per lb. gross for the Eastern States and Canada, and \$9 per ton of 40 cubic feet for San Francisco. The sailing vessels *Saint David* and *Mary Winkelman* are loading for San Francisco, the former with despatch about the 28th instant, and the latter on the 7th proximo, both at \$6.00 U.S. Gold per ton of 40 cubic feet.

QUOTATIONS.

| | |
|-------------------------|------------|
| Common to Good Common - | \$13 under |
| Medium - | 14 to 16 |
| Good Medium - | 17 to 20 |
| Fine - | 21 to 24 |
| Finest - | Nominal |
| Choice - | Nominal |
| Choicest - | Nominal |

EXCHANGE.

A moderate business has been done during the week in Private Paper. The demand for Bank Bills has been small, and rates closed steady for the week at the following quotations:—

| | |
|-------------------------------------------|----------------|
| Sterling—Bank Bills on demand - | 3/7½ |
| Sterling—Bank 4 months' sight - | 3/8 |
| Sterling—Private 4 months' sight - | 3/8 |
| Sterling—Private 6 months' sight - | 3/8 |
| On Paris—Bank sight - | 4.61 |
| On Paris—Private 6 months' sight - | 4.72 |
| On Hongkong—Bank sight - | 1-16 0/10 dis. |
| On Hongkong Private 10 days' sight - | 4 0/10 dis. |
| On Shanghai—Bank sight - | 72½ |
| On Shanghai—Private 10 days' sight - | 73½ |
| On New York—Bank Bills on demand - | 88½ |
| On New York—Private 30 days' sight - | 89½ |
| On San Francisco—Bank Bills on demand - | 89½ |
| On San Francisco—Private 30 days' sight - | 89½ |

KINSATSU QUOTATIONS.

The following table shows the rate of the day, and the fluctuation during the past week:—

| | |
|--------------------------|------|
| Monday, August 13th - | 122 |
| Tuesday, August 14th - | 120½ |
| Wednesday, August 15th - | 121 |
| Thursday, August 16th - | 120½ |
| Friday, August 17th - | 119 |
| Saturday, August 18th - | 120 |

IMPORTANT NOTICE.

SMALL CAPITALISTS, wishing to establish a business, should see if there is an opening for a Mineral Water Manufactory in their District. All information and recipes for the purpose of making Lemonade, Soda Water, &c., is given, previous knowledge is not necessary. The demand for these drinks is so much on the increase in all parts of the world, that the outlay for the machinery in all cases leads to a profitable and safe business. Catalogue forwarded free, on application to

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May 1st, 1883.

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May 1st, 1883.

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JOSEPH GILLOTT'S STEEL PENS. 1878.

May 1st, 1883.

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THE Japan Weekly Mail,

A REVIEW OF
JAPANESE COMMERCE, POLITICS, LITERATURE, AND ART.

No. 17, VOL. I.]

YOKOHAMA, AUGUST 25TH, 1883.

[£24 PER ANNUM.]

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The Japan Weekly Mail.

"FAIS CE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL," must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith. It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, AUGUST 25TH, 1883.

WEEKLY NOTES.

We referred, in a recent issue, to the different methods adopted by different Foreign Representatives in publishing the Regulations for Medical Inspection promulgated by the Japanese Government. The method of the United States Consulate had the merit of simplicity. It ran thus :-

TO AMERICAN RESIDENTS AND SHIPMASTERS.
[AM informed officially by the KENREI of Kanagawa, that SWATOW, China, having been declared by the Central Board of Health, a Port infected with Cholera, all vessels arriving from that Port will be subject to the Regulations for Medical Inspection promulgated by Imperial Decree No. 31, of last year.

(Signed) T. B. VAN BUREN,
Consul-General.

It would, perhaps, be hypercritical to point out that the application of this notice to American vessels is disputable. The Consul-General merely conveys to his nationals an intimation that the Japanese authorities have adopted certain precautions, and notified him of the fact. He does not say that ships of the United States will be required to observe those Regulations: still less does he declare that they will be subject to any penalties in the event of non-observance. Yet, from a practical point of view, his notification seems to meet all the requirements of the case, and would, doubtless, be quite sufficient but for the somewhat peculiar condition of foreign relations with Japan in these respects.

It would appear, however, that something more explicit was deemed necessary by the U. S. Minister, who has issued the following notification over his own name :-

TO ALL CITIZENS OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA IN JAPAN, and to all COMMANDERS and MASTERS OF VESSELS bearing the flag of the UNITED STATES IN JAPANESE WATERS.

THE UNDERSIGNED, in accordance with the request of HIS IMPERIAL JAPANESE MAJESTY'S MINISTER FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS, hereby notifies the CITIZENS OF THE UNITED STATES IN JAPAN and the COMMANDERS and MASTERS of all NAVAL and MERCHANT VESSELS OF THE UNITED STATES arriving from SWATOW, CHINA, at the Ports of NAGASAKI, KOBE, or YOKOHAMA, JAPAN, that the port of SWATOW, China, has been declared to be infected with CHOLERA, that all Vessels arriving at either of said Ports in JAPAN from SWATOW will be subject to MEDICAL INSPECTION, and that the Regulations for such Medical Inspection promulgated by the Imperial Decree of His Japanese Majesty's Government by Notification No. 31, dated the 23rd of June, sixteenth year of Meiji (1882), will be enforced in said several Japanese ports, in respect to all vessels arriving therein from SWATOW, and that the COMMANDERS and MASTERS of all UNITED STATES NAVAL or MERCHANT VESSELS arriving at either of said ports in JAPAN from SWATOW will be required, until further notice shall be given, to CONFORM in all respects to the PROVISIONS of the aforesaid REGULATIONS for the Medical Inspection of Vessels arriving from localities infected with Cholera.

Given under my hand, at the UNITED STATES LEGATION, Tokyo, Japan, this 21st day of August, 1883.

JNO. A. BINGHAM,
Envoy Extraordinary and Minister
Plenipotentiary of the United
States of America in Japan.

From the fact that this amended form is issued directly by the U.S. Legation, one is disposed to infer that the Consul-General took exception to the proposed change of terms. But this is scarcely probable. The authority to determine what methods shall be pursued in matters of this nature is unquestionably vested in the United States Minister, and if a departure from ordinary routine has been judged necessary in the present case, it is probably because the expediency of reissuing the same notice in different terms over the same signature seemed problematical. Mr. Bingham's notification is much more explicit than that of the Consul-General, though, we observe, it is equally silent as to the penalties to which masters of ships render themselves liable by refusing to comply with the Regulations. It says only that they "will be required to conform in all respects to the provisions of the Regulations." Like the German notification, however, it requires obedience to the Japanese Regulations themselves, not to a foreign Regulation founded upon them. This is the radical difference between the British method and those pursued by other countries. Which represents the correct rendering of the treaty, we do not

propose to discuss; but we shall be glad for the sake of England's popularity when she can see her way to be less singular.

PROBABLY the Editors of Japanese papers are not grieved that the reports of the trial, long drawn out, of the Fukushima suspects, occupies their columns to the exclusion of other subjects. Indeed, as is usual at this season of the year, with the Japanese as with ourselves, there are few local subjects of discussion; and the directors of vernacular journalism may be pardoned if they regard the arraignment of half a dozen enthusiasts among their compatriots, a public State trial, free access to the Court, and perfect liberty to report all proceedings, as a godsend. It provides them with subject matter of large extent and of considerable interest to their public, at the same time as it exempts them from the necessity of providing something else, and the consequent risk that they may be tempted into some of those scandals, libels, and diatribes against people in authority which are so frequent a source of loss of profit and liberty to those responsible for their utterance. As for the trial itself, it appears to be conducted with singular candor and propriety. It has now reached a stage in which Counsel for prosecution and defence are engaged in a sort of conversational debate in a style that is a little surprising to those accustomed to English methods of procedure. Another feature that must also strike frequenters of British Courts or students of British law reports, is the latitude of speech allowed—the invitations even to explain—to the accused. This lenience, however, is creditable to the Court, and appears to be in no way abused by those to whom it is extended. It is doubtless a part of the system inaugurated by the new Code of Criminal Procedure that prisoners, while enjoying the benefit of professional assistance, are at the same time permitted to act as their own Counsel. The result is a little confusing and, under easily conceivable circumstances, might become fatally obstructive. But in the present case, owing to the patient carefulness of the Judge and the decorous attitude of the prisoners themselves, no serious inconvenience has been experienced. The line adopted by the defence is not very ingenious. An attempt is made to show that the covenant by which the prisoners bound themselves to "overthrow the bureaucratic government" was cancelled before their arrest, and that the "bureaucratic government" referred to therein is not the Government

of Japan. Some discussion has also taken place about the exact signification of the word *ten-paku*, which is generally translated "overthrow." It is contended that this term is not less applicable to a legitimate, than to an illegitimate, programme of reform. Whatever these pleas may be worth, they are urged with considerable ability and persistence, and the result is awaited with interest by the foreign, as well as the Japanese, community.

A GENTLEMAN writing over the signature of "Jigai-hoken" (exterritoriality) complains, through the columns of the local press, that having missed the last train when on a trip to Tokiyo, and being "compelled to accept the hospitality of a Japanese merchant," he was disturbed in the early morning by a visit from the police, who came to enquire why his host had given lodging to a foreigner without informing the authorities. "Jigai-hoken" justly remonstrated against being disturbed, but was told that the enquiry was not addressed to him but to the master of the house, and the latter was ultimately fined 1.95 yen "for receiving a foreigner in his house without first obtaining permission from the police." The occurrence seems to have given much annoyance to "Jigai-hoken," and it must be confessed that, from his standpoint he had good reason for the criticisms he subsequently published and for the contrast he drew between the liberal treatment Japanese receive abroad and the illiberal treatment they sometimes meet out to foreigners in Japan. In the abstract there is not a word to be said in favour of the restrictions upon trade and travel to which strangers are subjected in this country. The incident which "Jigai-hoken" describes illustrates a most unhappy state of affairs. We do not, indeed, set much store by the fact that residence, or even lodging, outside the limits of the Foreign Settlement is forbidden in Tokiyo. That is easily explained. "Jigai-hoken" may not know that eight or nine years ago foreigners were virtually able to live where they pleased in the capital. To put up for three or four nights at any tea-house or inn outside Tsukiji was an affair of common occurrence. Of course this was irregular. Strictly speaking the Foreign Settlement was the only place foreigners had any right to pass the night, but the Japanese Government saw no reason to prevent what was in itself perfectly harmless. Strange as it may seem, however, foreigners themselves objected. A Tsukiji resident refused to pay his land-rent on the ground that the Japanese had broken faith with him by allowing others to live outside the limits existing when that rent was originally fixed. The case made a good deal of noise at the time, and had the effect of forcibly directing official attention to a state of affairs which, so far as the Japanese were concerned, presented no objectionable features. The immediate effect was a practical revival of restrictions which had become almost a dead letter, and which, had no such *contretemps* occurred, would soon have ceased to exercise

any authority whatsoever. Shortly afterwards this mischief was supplemented by another of a still more serious description. An attempt was made to compel the Japanese Government to extend to all foreigners the privilege of travel and residence in the interior. By an almost incredible twisting of the "favoured nation clause," the authorities were actually accused of violating the treaties because they allowed their foreign *employés* greater liberty than other Westerns! That such a pretext should have been gravely advanced seems grotesque; that it should have been entertained by the Japanese was even more absurd. Yet it was entertained, in a measure, for under the influence of their momentary alarm the Government consented to certain modifications of the passport regulations. But they drew in their horns in another direction. Even their *employés* were thenceforth obliged to apply for passports when they desired to go beyond treaty limits. It is to this short-sighted and unjust system of converting every spontaneous act of Japanese liberality into an official precedent or a ground of complaint that foreigners owe nearly all the inconvenient restrictions to which they are subjected to-day in Japan. Nothing can be gained by shutting our eyes to the situation. For good or for evil, Japan has obviously made up her mind that she will not agree to any alterations of the treaties in a sense favorable to our interests until we are prepared to meet her with similar concessions. Abuse will not help us. Inveective will not help us. Daily exhibitions of unreasoning rancour will not help us. The Japanese who are in a position to detect the difference between such unseemly exhibitions and our real mood are necessarily in the minority. What the bulk of the nation see is that we call upon them to do everything for us while at the same time refusing to do anything for them. Let it be granted that their own interests suffer most by their illiberality. To us that fact seems beyond question. But it is idle to talk of seemingly remote interests when sentiment is in question. That a Japanese gentleman residing in the capital should not be able to treat his foreign friend to the hospitality of a lodging for one night without the permission of the police, is a state of affairs that Japan may well be ashamed of. But the shame is not hers alone. Even if no direct evidence to the contrary were forthcoming, it would be absurd to assume that her illiberality is of her own choosing. The whole fault is seldom on one side, and Japan's conduct has shown, over and over again, that she is ready to sweep away every barrier which separates her from the Occident, provided only she is not called upon to make a permanent sacrifice of the rights that constitute national independence. She believes that the sacrifice will be permanent if she surrenders everything unconditionally. Is she justified in this belief, and should we ourselves act differently in her place?

THE Tonquin trouble hangs fire. Li Hung-chang has returned to his old post in Chili and, so far as China is concerned, things seem to

have drifted into a groove of indifference or hopelessness. M. Challemel-Lacour appears to be the only person actively concerned. His demonstrations in the Senate represent the sum and substance of French operations for the moment. But they are barren demonstrations. It is plain, as we conjectured some time ago, that the French cabinet is not unanimous, and we shall not be surprised to learn, at any moment, that M. Challemel-Lacour has carried his vapourings and indiscretions into private life. His last reported statement in the Senate is both ill-advised and equivocal. "Although there is not open war yet," the telegraph makes him say, "all the acts and language of Tu-Duc, and likewise of China and her Ambassadors, have been such that we must consider ourselves at war with Annam." On what conceivable grounds can war between France and Annam be attributed to the acts of China and her ambassadors? Hitherto the world's idea upon the subject has been that whatever part China takes in the trouble is designed to prevent, rather than to promote, war. Indeed the French Minister himself, elsewhere, in the very speech from which we have quoted, says he does not believe that the Tu-Duc has asked assistance from China, and seems desirous of confining the Middle Kingdom's responsibility to the acts of "a band of Chinese." We said three months ago, and we do not hesitate, to repeat to-day, that France's foreign interests are not in the hands of men who command much confidence. Everybody seems to be a little "exalted," from the Minister at Paris to his lieutenant in Shanghai. A correspondent of *L'Italie*, writing from Paris, under date 25th June, speaks of a rumour that M. Challemel-Lacour is not likely to hold the portfolio of Foreign Affairs much longer, inasmuch as Lord Granville has let M. Jules Ferry know, through Lord Lyons, that the diplomatic relations between France and England can scarcely remain upon a satisfactory footing if their conduct continues in M. Challemel-Lacour's hands. In support of this rumour it is mentioned that M. Tissot has received leave of absence for an indefinite period; that his First Secretary, the Count Lepelletier d'Aulnay is to be accredited to the Court of St. James's as Chargé d'Affaires, and that Lord Lyons, also, contemplates a temporary absence from Paris. Perhaps the best chance of a peaceable solution from the difficulties which French aggression has excited at this end of the world would be a change of Ministry in Paris. The Admiral who carried matters with such a high hand in Madagascar has resigned, and we are disposed to think that others might follow his example with advantage.

NOTES.

WE had occasion, a few days ago, to speak of an extraordinary ebullition of Chinese conceit, which the publishers of *Harper* found reason for circulating in their influential magazine. The authorship is attributed,—correctly enough, no doubt,—to a native of the Celestial Empire, named Wong Chin Foo, respecting whose pre-

tensions to credit as an eulogist of his native land we shall presently have a word to say. In their search for novelty and variety, the conductors of a popular periodical often accept strange material, and they are not expected to assume responsibility for the vagaries of their contributors; but it would seem that some rational limit ought to be fixed, if only to protect innocent readers from being led utterly astray by the eccentric or the wilfully mischievous. The essay of Wong Chin Foo may be a mere fantastic outburst of Oriental enthusiasm, or a work of premeditated deception; but, either way, it is the most unblushing compendium of sheer mendacity ever crowded by human ingenuity into less than five octavo pages. Its character, as a whole, can be estimated from a few of its imaginative gems, which we pick out at random;—premising that the writer's purpose is evidently to demonstrate the political and social superiority of China over every other nation now existing, or that ever has existed. The laws, he tells us, are ideal in their wisdom and majesty, and their administration is the perfection of purity. The method by which officials are appointed to "positions of distinction and trust," is "the very acme of human endeavour in this respect." After the installment of the candidates, as "the nation's honoured sons," they set themselves to work with an integrity which never varies, and which is accounted for partly by their love for the people, and partly by "good strong common sense among the masses." Another reason why "unimpeachable impartiality" prevails, and the powers of the magistrates are never abused, is found in the confidence of the community that, in the event of injustice, they can "secure immediate redress from those higher in power." This makes them "independent of their immediate superiors," and "insures an outspoken manifestation of their opinions," if any instance of official misconduct comes before their eyes. In fact, the proper application of the laws is in the hands of the populace, rather than in those of the dignitaries of State. We are informed, for example, that while there is a statute prohibiting larceny, and a punishment provided for that offence, no Chinaman who should "have stolen a loaf of bread by reason of being forced so to do by the pangs of hunger," even if "detected in the very act by the watchful guardian of the public peace," could possibly suffer the "additional wrong" of undergoing the penalty. Mr. Wong gives no hint as to the previous "wrong,"—that to which the wrong of punishment would be "additional." He simply says,—“Think you that, although tried and convicted of the crime, additional wrong would be heaped upon him by the carrying out of the sentence?” He himself thinks that among "the nation's honoured sons," as he calls the magistrates, there might be some so indiscreet as "to order the punishment inflicted," but in that case, "the lookers on would rise *en masse*" and add mobbery on a multitudinous scale to the robbery previously perpetrated, under the instigation of appetite, by a single citizen. We are called upon to "compare

this state of affairs" with the heart-rending spectacles witnessed in Christian lands, where thieves, when caught, are punished as often as not, and a peddler has been known to suffer "arrest for peddling without a license." Such a "cruel travesty upon justice" as this latter proceeding, would in China be "immediately avenged." The laws in that empire are framed "to enable the needy to help themselves." From what has been stated above, it might be supposed that our author would have us understand that the needy may "help themselves" to anything they can lay their fingers on, secure in the happy consciousness that, if called to account, no "additional wrong would be heaped upon them;" but that is not precisely his meaning. With the coöperation of the laws, the needy may "help themselves;" the deserving poor may "earn their living by every means not conflicting with the rights of their neighbour;" and all "controversies may be adjudicated free of cost to the parties concerned," without "rendering profitable the office of judge." These being the facts, it is pointed out that the plain duty of Western nations is to remodel their constitutions in imitation of that Asiatic empire which, "by the results here indicated, demonstrates mathematically her scientific attainments in political economy and Government wisdom." "In no other nation are political honours based upon scientific attainments in all branches of study as they are in China." Consequently, there is nothing left for us all to do but to turn Chinese, in principle if not by formal process of naturalization. There is no true system but that of the Middle Kingdom,—“a system which has stood the test for more than two thousand years;” and by which, alone, “can we ever hope for a pure and upright administration.” “The sooner Western nations adopt it, the sooner will the millennial day dawn upon our beclouded vision!”

This is not burlesque, as a hasty reader might imagine it to be, but a formal and elaborate plea for universal recognition of China's moral, intellectual, and political superiority to the nations that are made up of the rest of mankind. And now let us inquire for a moment into the antecedents of the Oriental sage to whom the liberal editors of *Harper* have accorded the unusual privilege of turning history and truth upside down in their columns. The name of Wong Chin-Foo ought not to be unfamiliar to those whose memory extends back half a dozen years. In 1877 he first came forward in New York as a shining light of philosophy, and for a considerable time scintillated through the cities of the United States, shedding illumination, by the way, upon innumerable dark questions of morality and religion. Wong Chin-Foo was only a portion of his name,—the nucleus, one might say; for twenty-one additional syllables followed, like the tail of a comet, obedient and ornamental, if not capable of utilization. The burden of his discourse was to prove the lofty ascendancy of Buddhism over all forms of faith; not forgetting that social supremacy of his native country, which we again find him pro-

claiming in 1883. It is, indeed, quite within probability that his communication to the *July Harper* may be one of his early addresses, or a fragment thereof. From descriptions published when he was passing through the period of platform notoriety, he seems to have been a rather commonplace, but not wholly ineffective instrument of some enterprising speculator. He wore a dress which, the newspapers announced, was "in strict conformity with the customs of his country, and exhibited that taste and richness that mark the Chinese upper classes." Inasmuch as all of us have not enjoyed the opportunity of learning how members of the Chinese upper classes clothe themselves, it may not be amiss to recall that his costume consisted of "a coat and waistcoat of black velvet embroidered with silk, a silk gown reaching to the ankles, shoes of velvet elegantly worked in coloured silk, a black skull cap for his head, a gold chain for his neck, and a diamond clasp for his scarf." Thus arrayed, he appeared night after night, and, after introducing himself by the whole of his name, "with a musical cadence to his voice, both marked, and pleasing," plunged into an animated narrative of his adventurous life and exciting experiences. He was twenty-six years of age. In 1869 he went to Harvard University, Massachusetts, after graduating at which institution he returned to China, was immediately taken into favour by the Emperor, rose to the station of chief translator, and was "admitted to membership in the Imperial household." But his ways were not long ways of pleasantness. The dynasty of China suddenly changed,—so he said; and "upon the succession of the Tartars he became involved in a conspiracy, and was obliged to seek safety in flight." His daring exploits and marvellous escapes were recounted in detail, and the conditions under which he was awaiting "a change in the Chinese Government" were felicitously explained.

This closed the second section of his entertainment, which we take to have been divided into three parts;—first, the announcement of his complete name, in twenty-four syllables; next, the recital of his personal history, and finally, his examination into the relative merits of Chinese and Western principles, resulting in a triumphant vindication of the former over all rival theories or systems. The exuberant fancies which embellish his arguments in *Harper* were not wanting in these earlier productions. Anglo-Saxon convictions respecting the habits, beliefs, present aspects, and future expectations of his countrymen, received such staggering blows as could be delivered only by one who was determined to let no trammels of veracity impede his resolute purpose. "Cruelty to man or beast," he averred, rarely stained the reputation of his race. "Children were almost worshipped in their youthful innocence." "Anger was the growth of foreign contact," and no Chinaman had been heard to swear, "unless in the English language, after he had become demoralized." That cats or dogs were eaten by the poor he "had never heard until told in America." "The Chinese cannot get divorces easily," and so they "do not

marry recklessly, like people in Christian states. Above all, they are a pitiful race, and are charitably inclined to see all men lifted to their own happy level; wherefore, while "very grateful to foreigners for sending them missionaries, they desire to send some in return, so that all the world may learn the value of the true principle of religion,—that is, Buddhism." That is the kind of man that Mr. Wong Chin Foo is, or was seven years ago. He may have renewed himself physically, in the interval, in accordance with a well understood scientific theory, but he appears to be mentally, in 1883, much the same as he was before. That so impudent a humbug should have been tolerated, even as an abnormal show, outside the ranks of Barnum's monstrosities, is rather to be regretted, but hardly to be wondered at, considering the public's omnivorous greed for any form of imposture; but that, after once fulfilling his rôle of mountebank, and sinking out of sight, he should come to the surface again, and go through the same old pranks and capers under the patronage of a highly respectable magazine, affords a somewhat melancholy proof of the eagerness with which civilized humanity submits itself to be imposed upon by the very clumsiest of tricksters. The Wongs of this world may always reckon upon popular credulity enough to carry them comfortably through the course of their worthless lives.

The Echo du Japon of the 20th instant publishes what it may well call "A Curious Document." It runs as follows:—Translations of a placard by Lun Vinh Phuc, chief of the Black Flags, sent to Mr. Chenieux, Consul of France at Hanoi, by the Tong Doc, Chief of the Annamite police, who found it affixed to the Southeast gate of the citadel on the 10th of May:—1883.

"The sturdy warrior Lun issues the following manifesto to the French:—

"You are nothing but brigands, without the pale of the law. Other nations take no account of you."

"Wherever you go, you say that you go to teach the true religion. That is a lie, intended to draw towards you the respect of the natives. You lie, again, when you say that you come for trade. You come to steal our land."

"You have the heart of a vile animal, and your conduct is that of a savage beast."

"Ever since you have arrived in the kingdom of Annam you have done nothing but take fortresses and assassinate our mandarins."

"Your crimes are as numerous as the hairs on your heads."

"You take possession of our Custom Houses, and lay your hand on all our products. This delinquency is death-worthy."

"You are the cause of the misery of the people; and through you the country is on the ragged edge of ruin."

"All the populace is enraged, and heaven is crying 'Vengeance!'"

"This day I (the Tao) have received orders to make war upon you. I have led my troops to Phu-Hoai-Duc. My flags and spears darken the sky. My guns and swords are as numerous as are the trees in a forest. I have made all these arrangements to come and kill you and blow up your infernal concession (*repairs*).

"But public interest must be considered before anything else. I will not allow myself to take for field of battle the outskirts of the town of Hanoi, for fear of doing damage to the fortunes of its inhabitants."

"For this reason I warn you that, if you are strong enough, you have only to bring your French troops to Phu-Hoai for me to take their measure."

"If you are frightened: if you have not courage enough to come along: all right. Cut off the heads of your Consul, your Commander-in-chief, your Colonel, and your Captains, and send them to me at my house."

"Next, give up the fortresses, go back to Europe, and then I will have sufficient pity not to massacre you all."

"If you are too long in coming to me, or if you fail to come at all, I will bring down my forces, and will kill you to the last man."

"Consequently, reflect!"

"The 4th day of the 4th month of the 36th year of Tuduc. (L.S.) Lun Van Phuc."

The Frenchman who forwarded this Homeric document to Europe says:—"We will take care not to answer this lunatic challenge. A sortie now would be a folly."

THE climate of the Channel Islands so much resembles that of Japan that the speculative person—the word being used in the abstract sense—wonders why the soil and gardeners of these islands should not produce between them Jargonelle pears instead of the woody and fibrous abominations which are dignified by the name of "pears" in this region. With improved methods of culture and careful grafting, the fruit of Japan may doubtless be brought to the perfection of that which Pomona prides herself on in Jersey, Devonshire, and Normandy orchards. Already her tubers, even of foreign origin, can defy the competition of the world. This year's early potato crop has been plethoric; and the consequent cheapness of the vegetable is extraordinary. On the average it costs about half a cent or less than a farthing per pound. Now, Jersey sent to London last year over forty thousand tons of early potatoes. The earliest market realised about 30s. a ton to the rearers, or at the rate of about six and a half cents per pound.

PROBABLY during last week the local heat was sufficient to satisfy the most cold-blooded individual, were he even a jelly-fish. But the recent heat of Yokohama and its environs has been outdone by that of Berlin, where Fahrenheit has been registering 100 degrees in the shade.

LORD DEAS, a well-known Scotch judge, was trying a man for sheepstealing recently, when the Public Prosecutor made the remark that it was so difficult to trace stolen sheep in Aberdeenshire that it would require almost a special Providence to assist the police. "Well," remarked his lordship, "if it requires a special Providence to get any trace of stolen sheep in Aberdeenshire, I should not like to have many sheep in it."

THE discussion that has taken place regarding overhead telegraph wires in London has not come a moment too soon. In the numerous

half-rotten and disused wires hung up in the air there is certain death or mutilation for those who happen to be passing under when they break. If the Metropolitan Board of Works cannot order these wires to be placed underground, they can at least find out and register the names of those to whom they belong, in order that the owners may be made liable for any damage done by them to individuals.

IN the summary of the *Ceylon Observer*, written immediately on the arrival of the last Australian mail, we read that the news that the Home Government had refused to sanction the annexation of Eastern New Guinea created quite a sensation throughout the Australian Colonies. Even remote Western Australia was roused to send in a protest through Governor Napier Broome, and strong representations are to be made by Victoria and Queensland, which are chiefly interested, supported, however, by New South Wales and New Zealand, and, we believe, also by the South Australian and Tasmanian Governments. It was shrewdly suspected that the refusal to annex New Guinea arose out of the simultaneous pressure with reference to the New Hebrides, Solomon and other Pacific groups of islands, and, if so, it will probably be found that Sir Arthur Gordon's well-known opposition to annexation has carried weight with the Ministry. Be that as it may, the Australian colonies have clearly gone too far to recede. The programme now will be the annexation of all islands between Fiji and New Guinea, the possession of which by any other European Power would undoubtedly form a menace to the Australian Governments. Already, it seems, the French are trying to form a settlement in the New Hebrides, and so far the mail brings the answer to one argument urged by Mr. Gladstone. However, it has since come out that the Home Government would withdraw its objection if the Colonies only agreed to federate with reference to the expense and control of the annexed islands, at the same time agreeing to use a common tariff and to adopt common measures for defence. Out of evil, good may come, if through the delay over the New Guinea annexation, the grand cause of Federation gets pushed on. The Melbourne press with its usual enterprise had started special expeditions to explore and report on New Guinea—that of the *Argus* being headed by Capt. Armit, F.L.S., a well-known Queensland explorer and clever writer; while the *Age* had secured young Mr. Morrison, whose travels among the South Sea Islands and walk across the Australian continent have brought him into notice. The *Age* refers to the expedition as follows:—

The unknown interior, for climatic reasons dependent on the altitude, is believed to be the most suitable place for an English settlement. The natives of the interior are also thought to be more civilized than those dwelling on the coasts. On these and many other points of like interest we may shortly expect to receive valuable information from Mr. Morrison. A walk of 300 miles across the island from east to west, unless there are unforeseen difficulties in the way, ought not to be a very formidable matter to a man who has tramped from the Gulf of Carpentaria to Melbourne. To be the first white man to penetrate into the silent wilderness, and see the teeming soil wasting

itself in magnificent but useless vegetation; to scale the topmost point of the Owen-Stanley range, and to be the first to view the glorious prospect of emerald valleys, of running waters, and of wood-crowned heights which that eminence must afford, to say nothing of the delight of being able to disclose the hidden secret of this "dark continent," will be a unique experience worth having lived for. The joy should be akin to that of

A watcher of the skies
When some new planet swims into his ken.

The question of the expense of annexation is, after all, the rock ahead of the Colonies, for, as "Egles" of the *Australasian* shrewdly argues:—

Looking on calmly from afar (mentally) one can reckon up pretty accurately that the gush for annexation will cool down presently. It is all lovely and joyous and serene until the time comes for paying the piper. Then those who have been dancing will begin to count the cost of the music. A General Australasian Protectorate—a kind of joint-stock kingship of the Cannibal Islands—is a rosy proposal, but just wait until some one has to adjust the contribution of each of the governing powers. Won't there be a snatching up of marbles, and a crying out of "I won't play any more!" This narrow jealousy—the dread of paying two-pence more than one's share—has done more to keep the colonies apart than anything else. Indeed, the first symptom of give-and-take was displayed in the conclusion of the Postal Union Conference. But despite that cheering sign, economic Parliaments will so wrangle over the contribution clauses that the idea of a joint government of detached islands is very remote and shadowy. And the cost would really be no trifling matter. Protectorate implies armed defence, and counting up the cost of Australasian military works (incomplete), where such are concentrated and comparatively easy, it would be a wild calculation to estimate the expense of defending a group of scattered islands.

On the other hand, New Zealand had already announced its readiness to bear a fair share of the cost. The latest telegraphic news from Australia reports the downfall of the Queensland Ministry on the question of Syndicate Railways, while the Opposition leader (Mr. Griffiths) is reported to be also opposed to Indian coolie immigration, although sound in reference to the annexation question. Finally railway communication between Melbourne and Adelaide is expected to be completed by 1886, so that the Exhibition of South Australia in 1886, the jubilee year of the colony, may have the full benefit of this advantage. Ere long it will be possible to travel by rail, from Western Australia right round the continent to Queensland.

REUTER has been needlessly murderous lately. It is a question, even now, whether his attack upon the life of the Comte de Chambord was successful. It would appear not, as the Orleans Princes have "gone to Frohsdorf." And now Cetewayo, who was reported killed on the 1st of August, has defeated his rival, Usibepu, and is recovering from his wounds.

Our telegraphic advices through Reuter's Agency inform us that the Chinese Government has ordered two more corvettes at Kiel. They will probably be on the *Ting Yuen* pattern. China evidently means to be armed for any contingency.

THE telegraph lines between Yokohama and Nagasaki were broken down from seven o'clock on Saturday night to ten o'clock on Sunday morning, shortly after which we learned that a severe gale, which commenced on Friday night (17th), had visited Nagasaki, and that the Mitsu Bishi mail steamer had been detained in

consequence. The gale was also felt in Kobe, and there is no doubt that the gusts of wind experienced in Yokohama during the early part of the week were connected with the atmospheric disturbances referred to above, especially as the direction of the storm was towards this port. The value of the Government weather reports as published in these columns daily is forcibly illustrated by these circumstances, as on Saturday morning the report wound up with the announcement that the S.W. Coast from Shimonoseki round to Kochi had been "warned." According to our information Shimonoseki experienced the worst of the gale.

WE regret to learn that cholera is on the increase in Egypt. With singular irrelevance and ill-nature, some of the Parisian papers ask whether cholera is one of the reforms introduced by the English into the land of the Pharaohs?

THE *Echo du Japon* of Saturday affirms that H.E. Mr. Tricou will not return to Japan; and that Mr. Sienckiewitz, formerly French Consul at Hongkong, and more recently Consul-General at Alexandria, a post that he occupied during the time of the British expedition to Egypt, has been nominated Minister Plenipotentiary for the Republic in Tokijo. The *Echo* has been informed that this intelligence was known here since the 4th instant, and adds:—"The person who gives us the information is astonished that the French Consul who, as every one knows, takes a peculiar interest in the *Echo du Japon*, did not communicate it to us many days ago."

DURING the thunderstorm of the 15th instant, says the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*, the network of telegraph wires at the Central Police Station, in Kobiki-cho, Tokijo, was so violently affected by atmospheric electricity that the whole building was shaken. Lightning fell in an adjoining street, and the whole neighborhood quivered with the shock. One of the gas pipes in the Telegraph Office was broken, and the gas escaping burst into a blaze which was extinguished with difficulty by the officials on the spot.

THE *Daily Press* tells us that carrier pigeons in China are, as of course elsewhere, frequently molested by birds of prey; so, to ward off this danger, "a plan which is not wanting in originality has been put to the test. To the root of the pigeon's tail a little apparatus, consisting of slender bamboo tubes, is attached, being fastened firmly to the feathered traveller's body by means of threads passing beneath the wings. As the bird flies along, the action of the air through these tubes, ten in number, produces a shrill whistling sound, sufficiently audible to keep birds of prey at a respectful distance. The pigeon thus protected is in no way inconvenienced by the apparatus, the weight of which is hardly perceptible, and at present the plan has, it is stated, been found to answer satisfactorily. The only drawback to it is that some pigeons—nervous ones probably—are quite upset by the strange appendage fixed to their tails, and

find considerable difficulty in accustoming themselves to the shrill whistling sound. Their perplexity is very comprehensible; but perhaps in time they will be brought to understand the advantages of a system which, on a first application, very naturally puzzles them." This is all true, except as regards the novelty of the device. It is old—perhaps as old as the Chinese Wall itself. In the stillness of early morning, the visitor to Peking, if he happens to be awake, will hear and perhaps be startled by a noise, in tone not unlike that produced by big Japanese kites, rushing through the air, approaching and receding in succession in mournful cadence. It is produced by the flight of flocks of pigeons, soaring and wheeling about, each bird provided with one of these instruments. The effect produced is far from unpleasant. It has certainly been the subject of a good deal of wonder and guessing to the non-Chinese speaking European sojourning in the Manchu capital.

THE British three-masted schooner *Formosa* experienced heavy squalls all round the compass, and strong adverse currents between the Lammocks and Hongkong. On the 7th instant, when in company with an American barque, she saw that some accident occurred to the forward gear of the latter, as she went away to the N.E. with only a topsail set forward.

THE anomalous condition of British rule in Egypt is accentuated, oddly enough by the cholera, for which, as we remarked the other day, some of our good-natured French friends would make that rule responsible. And it is regrettable that English authority has not been asserted with sufficient beneficent force to check the scourge which now threatens to infect the whole of Europe and perhaps the world. "A dozen constables," we are told by *The Times* correspondent at Alexandria, "under intelligent officers, might, four months ago, have prevented the epidemic which has destroyed two per cent. of the Damietta population. . . . Rendered secure by the presence of English soldiers and the indifference of the people, the members of the Government close their eyes, live in a fool's paradise, and neglect all ordinary precautions." "This" pertinently remarks the *St. James's Budget*, "is the mischief of our ambiguous position in Egypt. Left to themselves, the Government would be bound to take action, if they would avert not only plague but disaffection; but as it is they can shelter themselves under the thought that the English will see them through somehow. This is a very unsatisfactory state of things; and it becomes increasingly plain that, if we do not intend to withdraw from Egypt, we shall have to accept the full responsibility of seeing that the country is properly governed."

ON Tuesday, in H.B.M. Court for Japan, before Russell Robertson Esq., Acting Judge, William Patterson was charged for the eighth time with being drunk and sleeping in the streets. The

prisoner begged His Honour to "give him two years," as the jail was the most comfortable place he knew, and he would promise to be good when he came out. His Honour passed a sentence of six weeks' imprisonment with hard labour, at which verdict the prisoner seemed much dissatisfied.

We read in *The Times* a Paris telegram dated the 4th of July in which reference is made to the sad death of Commandant Revière. It is added that some Japanese officers have obtained permission (from the French Government?) to accompany the French expedition to Tonquin.

THE *Whitehall* remarks that recent news from the Transvaal reads something like a Chapter from *Lothair*. There seems to be more gold than the diggers know what to do with. Two of them, says one report, "actually throw away lumps of quartz which they have not the necessary means of crushing, but which have been proved to contain 4 oz. of gold to the ton." At the same time, it may be remarked that if the diggers have no handy means of crushing the stone, it can hardly be expected that they are to carry about a ton of quartz because of a possibility that it may contain 4 oz. of gold. Indeed, under the circumstances, it is difficult to think what the diggers could have done with the quartz unless they did throw it away. But even in the "rubbish" nuggets weighing 20 or 30 oz. are found. If this really be so, we should strongly recommend the diggers to stick to the "rubbish," and let the tons of quartz take care of themselves. The Boers, it is said, object to gold-mining being prosecuted on their farms; but we fear that sentiment will avail but little when once the gold adventurer finds his way to the ore fields. The Japanese used to be adverse to gold-mining on the plea that it was robbing their successors of the riches of the earth. They have, however, become converted in this matter, and are now content to let the future take care of itself.

MR. GEORGE W. CLARKE, of the China Inland Mission, stationed in Yunnan, gives some interesting particulars on the introduction of opium culture into that district and Kweichow. The poppy was first grown there some time ago in small quantities for medicinal purposes. A record was discovered by Sir R. Alcock of its cultivation in Yunnan in A.D. 1736; but after diligent research Mr. Clarke has established, at least to his own satisfaction, that it has only been imported and cultivated for smoking during the last forty or fifty years. One old man, who applied to the writer for an anti-opium medicine, said that he had smoked the narcotic for the last mentioned period, commencing the practice when he was only thirteen years of age. In his youth no native opium was smoked. The drug used was foreign and, said the aged transgressor, "it was brought by Cantonese, and sold in small pills as medicine at thirty cash apiece. It was a peculiar stuff. After a short time of taking these pills you could not get on without them."

The missionary asked a native of a city near the border of Kweichow, who is forty years old, this question: "If you had not previously cultivated the poppy in Yunnan, whence did the people get the seed?" He replied, "My father told me that, about 1835 some seed was brought from Canton, and a few people began to cultivate small patches, and when asked what it was, they would give a false reply. At that time foreign opium was sold for about four ounces of silver an ounce, and the native drug for one ounce of silver an ounce. In course of time the consumption of both opiums increased, and their prices decreased because the native opium drove the foreign out of the market." The present price in Yunnan-fu is, for foreign opium its weight in silver (very little is used), native opium about one-tenth of its weight.

The evil habit of opium-smoking has spread in the districts mentioned with alarming rapidity during the last four or five decades. Our informant has been told by an old man of Kweichow-fu, how the Cantonese used to smuggle it to that city and sell it secretly; that about 1840, those who used it had to secrete themselves; that some found smoking had their property confiscated and were banished; and that a certain military mandarin cut off the upper lips of some of his soldiers addicted to the vice, or branded their cheeks with a hot iron. About this time the Viceroy of Yunnan killed his own son for smoking opium. During this potentate's time, opium merchants bought opium in the west of the province and had it conveyed to the city in coffins. Both foreign and native opium had to be sold secretly, and those who used it were not respected. The foreign drug led the way, but now native produce has driven it out of the market. And not only so, but millions of ounces are annually sold to the Cantonese who once brought the foreign drug into these provinces. Mr. Clarke believes that it is only a matter of time, when the foreign opium will be driven out of China by the native drug; because the ruined smokers will demand a cheaper article to supply their craving; and one presumes that Indian opium cannot be sold in the interior or seaboard provinces at the same price as the native drug.

Our writer exclaims:—"What terrible havoc opium has made in these provinces!" Forty years ago perhaps one person in ten thousand used it; but now probably seven-tenths of the men, perhaps one to three-tenths of the women, and a good many boys from ten to fourteen years of age, smoke it. He once employed eighteen coolies from Kweichow-fu to Ta-li-fu (thirty-seven days' journey), and seventeen of them smoked the narcotic. It would be safe to affirm that nine-tenths of the coolies engaged in the provinces of Kweichow and Yunnan are slaves to the pipe. The result is poverty, weakness, light loads at high rates, and thus both the imports and exports are somewhat retarded. Forty years ago opium had to be sold secretly, but now it is sold publicly. In front of the

Examination Hall in Kweichow-fu, daily there are at least a score of men who sit selling opium; each man has a basket containing several basins of opium; it is sold for eight-pence an ounce. In the rear of these men one sees the fruits of their trade, crowds of lazy, dirty fellows gambling, or selling their clothes, and old-clothes sellers. Mr. Clarke has often met men carrying a basin of opium about the main street for sale: the basin has a tax paper pasted on it, and a bit of straw stuck in it as a sign "for sale." In Yunnan-fu it is not thus sold, but there are many shops wholly devoted to the trade; whilst scores partly deal in the drug. At times one may see the counters of the wholesale shops covered with parcels and pans of opium being repacked, and many Cantonese or Hu-nan coolies waiting with their baskets to carry it away. Only those who are buried among the Chinese a thousand or more miles from Hankow, and who inquire into the working system of the native opium trade, have any idea of the great number of persons engaged—bankers, merchants, money-exchangers, pedlars, and a legion of scouts, who, hunt up the drug for buyers from Kwang-tung, Fuh-Kien, Cheh-Kiang, Hu-nan, and other provinces.

According to the *Choya Shimbun*, the sailing ship *Jinso-Maru*, of the Kiyodo Unyu Kwaisha, is reported to have been lost off Kagoshima on the night of the 21st instant, while on her way back from Karatsu, in Hizen, with a cargo of coal consigned to the Naval Department. Quite recently she had been repaired in the Yokosuka Dockyard, and was insured for yen 7,000 in the Tokiyo Marine Insurance Company. We regret to say that inquiry made at the Union Shipping Co.'s office proves that the rumour is substantially correct. The actual site of the wreck was a place called Fukumoto-mura, Yamagawa, about twenty-five miles from Kagoshima. One man is reported drowned.

THE *Brussels Nord*, whose relations with the Russian chancellerie are reputed to be very intimate, has received a letter from St. Petersburg which seems to annihilate the theory recently enunciated that Russia is likely to act as mediatrix between France and China in the Tonquin matter. According to this correspondent, apart from questions of domestic policy which compel her to maintain the greatest caution, Russia's interest is to remain a mere spectator of a quarrel, not one of whose issues can be to her advantage, "without expending a man or a rouble." The writer scouts the opinion of any war. The Chinese themselves are too well advised to let matters come to any such extremity. Indeed, he expects that China will make concessions whose result will be to enfeeble her in the eyes of her neighbours and her own people—a result which is wholly conformable to Russian interest. The more considerable the weakening, as for instance such as would ensue from an unsuccessful war with France, the greater would be the advantage that would accrue to Russia. On the other hand, this

writer argues, the action of France in Indo-China, which for the moment at least "attracts the centre of gravity of the diplomatic action," whatever that may mean, of the British Government in that direction, liberates Russia for some time to come from the worry that the jealous policy of Great Britain in Central Asia causes her. On the other hand, if she were to meddle in the affairs of Tonquin, Russia would only "expose herself to lose the modest results from which she ought to benefit to pursue others more than problematical, and which cannot in any event be more advantageous for her." The *Nord* correspondent concludes with the distinct assertion, whether inspired or not, that Russia's fixed intention is to remain neuter, in all respects, between France and China, at the same time carefully watching the course of events.

THE *Galley of Lorne*, Captain Pomeroy, which arrived here on the 23rd instant from London and Hongkong, brought in the three-masted schooner *Guam*, Captain Marns, bound from Takao to this port with a cargo of sugar. The *Galley of Lorne* fell in with the *Guam* on the 20th inst., in lat. 31 N. long. 132 E., and the schooner having been dismasted and otherwise disabled in a hurricane three days previously, the steamer took her in tow. The *Guam* had previously been in tow of the bark *Helena*, but the hawser having parted, the latter vessel kept on her course. The *Guam*, left Takao on the 1st August, and had light winds and calms for the first four days; on the 6th she experienced a heavy S.W. gale, and light winds again till the 17th, when she met a hurricane from the E.N.E., in which she lost foremast, bowsprit, and main top-mast, and sustained various damage to hull and decks. During the hurricane Captain Marns was injured by having his hands and feet crushed.

THE telegram in another column which reports the decrease of cholera in Egypt is eminently satisfactory, inasmuch as it is evidence that the sanitary measures introduced by the authorities are beginning to bear fruit, and, having commenced, may be expected to continue. The message states that the epidemic has almost disappeared from Cairo, and is decreasing in the provinces. Damietta, the stronghold of the pestilence, is not mentioned, but we shall probably learn more in a few days.

OUR telegraphic news of the 23rd instant announces the election of another Home Rule member of Parliament, the ranks of this strong element in the House having received another accession by the return of Mr. Lynch for Sligo by a large majority over his opponent.

MR. BLANCSEUR, a member of the Colonial Council of Saigon, has extraordinarily liberal ideas, for a French legislator, of the potential privileges of the press. He intends to ask the Council to open a credit to support the travelling expenses of a certain number of representatives

of newspapers who will have to be present in Tonquin during the probably approaching operations. For obvious reasons that proposition appears too extraordinary to be entertained for a moment; yet there is no knowing what extent of liberality, or the reverse, a Republican Government in a French colony may not achieve.

GENERAL BOUET is said to have ordered for signal-service in Tonquin a number of heliographs (*appareil de télégraphie optique*). They, together with three small gun-craft, for river service, are on their way to Tonquin, if they have not already arrived there, from Toulon, on board the French transport *Saone*.

A FRENCH journal, quoted by the *Echo du Japon*, announces, "from an English source," that the Chinese Government on learning that the French fleet will bombard Hué in case the demands of the Republic are refused, has declared that it would consider such an action a *casus belli* and would instantly take reprisals.

THE mania for striking, says a San Francisco paper, has become epidemic among the Chinese. Following the example of the Chinese shoemakers of this city, the laborers who have been employed on the California and Oregon Railroad have struck and are holding out with considerable obstinacy. Many members of the gangs have scattered through the mountains, with a view to prospecting for mines, while others have gone down into the valleys looking for work on the ranches, where laborers are now in demand. It is less than a year since the Immigration law went into effect, and the nightmare of cheap Chinese labor will soon be a thing of the past.

A WHITE marble memorial to Commander Wyatt Rawson, R.N., has been placed in the Royal Garrison Church at Portsmouth. Commander Rawson—whose last words, "Didn't I lead them straight, General?" will be long remembered—served as naval aide-de-camp to Lord Wolseley, by whom and the personal staff in Egypt the tablet has been erected, and, after conducting the army across the desert by the light of the stars, fell while with the second division at the Battle of Tel-el-Kebir. The tablet bears an inscription stating that it is erected "as a token of affection and esteem by Lord Wolseley and the members of the personal staff."

THE *Lancet* has made the discovery that there is "no more powerful apparatus for the conveyance of disease than a book." It mentions measles, scarlet fever, diphtheria, and other ills to which the juvenile community are especially prone as being easy to catch from books. The germs of disease may lie for months or even years between the leaves of books that are seldom handled. The *Lancet* does not recommend that books be excluded from schools nor that bound literature should be avoided. Indeed, it does not make any recommendations on the subject. Perhaps it would be well to sprinkle

books frequently with a weak solution of carbolic acid or some other disinfectant, but probably the most practical remedy against this storing up of disease germs would be to keep the books well aired.

TELEGRAMS from Wimbledon in San Francisco papers to hand by last mail, announce that the British team won the great match by 45 points, the total scores being—British, 1,951; Americans, 1,906. This means for our American cousins "defeat, but not disgrace." Particulars in another column describe the great cordiality that prevailed, and how Colonel Howard, in a little speech for the Americans, remarked that the latter "had enough backbone left in them to cheer the winners."

"CHICKEN-THIEVES" are just now very industrious. Several abductions of fowl are reported. The fowl-house at No. 38, Bluff, was emptied the other night, and not by a fox; for fourteen fowls, and an equal number of ducks and ducklings were carried away. There were no geese about, the birds which Sir Boyle Roche, or a countryman of his, described as "the best watch-dogs in the world," otherwise the inmates of the house might have been put on their guard.

THE *North China Daily News* understands that the French fleet will not go to Shanghai; the large vessels will go to Nagasaki and the smaller ones to Chinese ports. The *Triomphante* and *Tourville* have arrived to form part of the China squadron, and the *Kersaint*, now temporarily detached to that squadron, will return soon to the Tonquin fleet under Admiral Courbet.

MR. NIXON, in England, has shown what can be done in the way of tricycle speed by winning the 100-mile race in 7 hours and 23 minutes. This shows an average speed of fourteen miles an hour.

THAT there are some good points along with many bad ones about the Salvation Army seems to be admitted on all hands, and an effort is being made to develop the good and get rid of the bad in the establishment of what is to be called the "Church Army." A large meeting has been held in Lord Mount-Temple's house, in Great Stanhope Street, to hear details as to the working of the new "Army," which, if it be carried on in the way and in the spirit then indicated, may do a deal of good among the lower classes, who are difficult to reach by ordinary methods of working.

ONE reason says the *Alla*, for supposing that California will be found to possess universal advantages for rearing silk worms is that the climate is a matter of great importance, and that the dry Summer climate is just what is required. The silk worm, as a rule, objects to damp, moist weather, sudden changes of temperature, and clouds charged with electricity; when these occur in the fifth age, or after the fourth sleep or torpor, the mortality becomes very great, the

worms are attacked with a *flacherie*, or wasting away, they refuse to eat, and die. In China the hatching of the eggs of the silk worm takes place about the 20th of April, and according to Chinese account the rearing should be accomplished, if the weather is warm, say 69° to 74°, in 23 to 24 days. A Chinese work on sericulture is quoted from as follows by a Shanghai exchange: "If the meals of mulberry leaves be given frequently the worms will advance rapidly to maturity; and if seldom, they will be long in arriving at the mature age. If this stage be arrived at in 25 days it is calculated that each hurdle of worms will produce 25 ounces of silk; if in 28 days then each hurdle will produce only 20 ounces; but if the worms are a month or 40 days in coming to maturity, then each hurdle will only give ten or a dozen ounces; when the silk worms fall into and awake from their torpor at irregular intervals the silk will be deficient in quantity. After the great (fourth) torpor, silk worms only require 15 or 16 meals before they arrive at maturity." And these must be very large ones, as may be judge from the following remark: "When the worms are aroused from their third torpor, put a pound of them in one basket from which you will afterward obtain eight pounds' weight of cocoons."

FUNNIER than anything Mark Twain ever wrote was the remark of the melancholy clergyman of Pennsylvania, who said, as he returned the *Innocents Abroad* to the book-agent:—"The man who could shed tears over the tomb of Adam must be an idiot." Only a shade less amusing was the serious criticism which the *Saturday Review* published on the same work—a criticism of which Mark himself observes:—"If I had a cast-iron dog that could read this English criticism and preserve his austerity, I would drive him off the door-step." But neither the Pennsylvania parson nor the deluded reviewer can give any odds to the *London and China Express*, which, in criticising Mr. Holtham's *Eight Years in Japan*, says:—"The writing is rather what might be termed of the flighty style, though the facts are solid. There are numerous terms that may be called Americanisms, which the author is fond of using, while such words as "galumphing," p. 68, would puzzle anyone without the context. Even with it, it is hard to know the exact meaning, as no dictionary contains many of Mr. Holtham's words." This is one of the most consummate pieces of gentle idiocy we have ever been fortunate enough to encounter. Conceive this solemn critic searching Webster, Richardson, Latham, Johnson, and other celebrated lexicons, to discover the signification of "galumphing," and after patient turning over of leaves and conning of indexes, coming to the reluctant conclusion that the "exact meaning" of the word is "hard to know," and that even the context scarcely removes the obscurity altogether.

AMONGST the telegrams in the American papers is the announcement of the death of Sir William Fenwick Williams, better known as "Williams

of Kars," which took place on the 26th ult., at the advanced age of 83. The following particulars of his career are taken from *Men of the Time*:—

Williams, Gen. Sir William Fenwick, Bart, K.C.B., born in Nova Scotia, Dec. 4, 1800, entered the Royal Artillery in 1825, became First Lieut. in 1827, Captain in 1840, was employed in Turkey till 1843, and for his military services there received the brevet rank of Major. Having been sent to Erzeroum, to meet the Turkish and Persian plenipotentiaries, he took part in the conferences preceding the treaty concluded there in May, 1847, and for these services obtained the brevet rank of Lieut.-Colonel. In June, 1848, he was appointed English Commissioner for the settlement of the Turco-Persian boundary, and was admitted a Companion of the Order of the Bath in 1851. On being nominated British Commissioner with the Turkish army in the East, in Aug., 1854, he was promoted to the local rank of Colonel, and a few months later to that of Brigadier-General. The victory won, under his auspices, over the Russian General Mouravieff, on the heights above Kars, Sept. 29, 1855, after the city had been invested for four months, made his name familiar to the British public. Gen. Williams and his brave comrades, amongst whom was the Hungarian, the late Gen. Kmetz, did all that men could do in defence of Kars, holding out sternly on scantiest the hope. Gen. Mouravieff summoned the garrison to surrender, Nov. 14, and Gen. Williams, after holding a council of officers, sent a flag of truce to demand a suspension of hostilities. This medium failed though unforeseen difficulties, and Gen. Williams, having demanded an interview with Gen. Mouravieff, accepted terms of capitulation. Gen. Williams, on being restored to liberty, returned to England, and was rewarded with a baronetcy, a pension of £1,000 a year for life, the rank of K.C.B., the Turkish Order of the Medjidie with the rank of "Mushir," the honorary degree of D.C.L., at Oxford, and the freedom of the City of London. He was returned member in the Liberal interest for Calne, in July, 1856, and again at the general election in March, 1857, and retired in 1859. He was appointed to the command at Woolwich, and proceeded, in 1859, to assume the command of the troops in Canada, which post he held for some time. In Aug., 1870, he was appointed Governor-General of Gibraltar in place of Lieut.-Gen. Sir R. Airey. He resigned that post in Nov., 1875, and in Oct., 1877, he retired from the army.

LAST evening H.E. Sir H. S. Parkes, K.C.B., K.C.M.G., met his friends of the foreign community of Yokohama and Tokiyo in the Bluff Gardens, by special invitation, to bid them farewell. The pleasant grounds had been brilliantly illuminated, and the scene was one of the most delightful ever arranged in Yokohama. Accompanied by the Misses Parkes, Sir Harry arrived shortly after nine o'clock, and was conducted to a pavilion specially prepared at the lower end of the Gardens. There Mr. A. J. Wilkin, Chairman of the Committee of Reception, read a valedictory address, to which His Excellency replied eloquently and affectionately. The constantly improving charms of the Kiოდոသံ's music afforded an opportunity for some dancing on the velvet sward. At eleven o'clock the pleasant party broke up. The *amari aliquid* is that it was valedictory.

WE are informed that the P. & O. steamship *Zambesi* left Nagasaki for this port on Thursday, at 6.30 p.m., and that the *Kashgar* sailed from Nagasaki for Hongkong at 5.30 p.m. on the same day.

WE read in *Nature* that there will be an annular solar eclipse, visible here on the 31st of October next. In May last we had a case where the track of a total eclipse of the sun was almost wholly an ocean-track, and where it was consequently necessary to send expeditions to the Mid-Pacific to obtain observations. The annular eclipse in October next is similarly circumstanced; excepting possibly one or two mere rocks in the Pacific, it will not be observable on land, elsewhere than on the island of Nippon, Japan. If we calculate from the *Nautical Almanac* elements for longitude 9h. 20m. 48s.

E. and latitude 38° 11' N., we find the annular phase commences at 7h. 28m. 25. a.m., and ends at at 7h. 35m. 23s., a duration of 7m. 21s., and the sun will be at an altitude of about 12°. At Tokiyo the eclipse will not be annular; the greatest phase is at 7h. 28m. a.m., magnitude 0.88 (the sun's diameter being taken as unity).

THE telegraphic line to Europe *via* Siberia has been interrupted since yesterday morning, but the line *via* Hongkong is in working order.

THE fixture of the Autumn Meeting of the Nippon Race Club has been made, commencing on Monday, the 5th of November.

ABOUT 11 o'clock p.m., the 7th inst., a native jinrikisha-man was murdered by a foreigner in Shanghai. The *Mercury* says:—The murder is supposed, by the traces of blood, to have taken place opposite T. W. Soong's timber yard, about 100 yards from the Honan Road Bridge, on the pathway up the creek, where the deceased was stabbed in the throat just above the breast bone. The wound is about an inch and a quarter long, taking a downward direction, severing the wind pipe, and another wound in the back, which is supposed to have penetrated the lung. The poor fellow's jinrikisha and lantern were left opposite the timber yard, and in the vehicle were found four cash, and clenched in his hand were about five cash. It is supposed that deceased carried his fare as far as the timber yard, and that he was not satisfied with the amount he received, so he followed his fare some yards further on, where he received the stab in the throat, and that he then ran towards the bridge, the murderer running after him, giving him the second stab in the back just about where he was found. The murderer, of whom no trace had been discovered, was supposed to be a Manilaman.

A PARISIAN paper says that many Arabs exiled in Corsica on account of the Algerian rising in 1871 ask to be sent to Tonquin to fight in the French ranks, and thus both to give proof of their devotion to France and also to obtain leave at last to return to their homes. They have addressed their request to the Algerian deputies, whom they beg to plead their cause with the competent Ministers.

AMONGST the passengers by the *Tokio Maru*, which arrived here on the 23rd instant, is H.H. the Duke of Mecklenburg.

A GOOD story is told in some of the papers of one of the expedients resorted to by Georgians who do not believe in local option, which is the law there. One trader bought a lot of cocoa-nuts, and, draining off the milk, filled them up with whisky. Soon after a clergyman came into the store and wanted to buy a cocoa-nut. The dealer declared them to be unsound; but the minister shook one, and said it was all right. The fears of information and prosecution were relieved half an hour afterwards, when the customer sent for six more cocoa-nuts exactly like the first.

THE PROPOSED "KANA" REFORM.

WE learn from a paragraph in the Tokio newspapers that His Imperial Highness ARISUGAWA NO MIYA has accepted the presidency of the *Kana no Tomo*, a society whose object is to encourage a freer and more general use of the Japanese *kana* characters than now prevails, in all kinds of writing and printing. The ultimate aim, indeed, is to insure the abandonment of all other characters, and to relieve the written language from the various complexities which frequently render it next to incomprehensible by the masses. That any argument should be needed in support of such a purpose, is an illustration of the persistency with which conventional anomalies are sometimes cherished, when no shadow of reason can be offered in favour of their maintenance. In the *kana* syllabary, the Japanese have had for ages a pure phonetic system, the simplicity and perfection of which may well be envied by European philologists. Teachers who believe in the facilitation of study and would hasten the inevitable reforms of which orthography stands in need, all the world over, would rejoice everywhere at the prospect of so convenient a method for Western languages as the *kana* supplies for the Japanese. But here, where it has always existed, and needs only to be applied, it is looked upon with contempt, and pronounced fit for the ignorant alone. In other words, a result which inventors are endeavoring to produce by every effort of skill and ingenuity, and which they have failed to satisfactorily accomplish in Western countries, is ready and complete here, but is kept out of use by a prejudice which nobody can logically defend. What would be thought of the educated men of any European nation, who should similarly bind themselves together to oppose a measure of undoubted progress? Suppose, for instance, that all German boys and girls were obliged to devote five or six years of unremitting labour to the mere acquirement of the capacity to write a letter, or to read the newspaper, not to speak of a higher mastery of their own language; while an easy process lay disregarded and discouraged, by which the same end could be attained in a week, at the farthest. That is precisely what we now see in Japan. The *kana* signs, which any intelligent child can commit to memory in a few days, cover and embrace the whole breadth of the country's literature, as thoroughly as the Roman alphabet comprehends all the needs of the European tongues. In fact, the *kana*

is theoretically superior to the alphabet, not only by its conciseness, each character representing a syllable, but by its unvarying precision and accuracy. A word printed in *kana* can be pronounced in only one way. An English word spelled alphabetically may be pronounced in many ways, for its appearance gives no clue to the proper utterance, and the same sound may be indicated by half a dozen different combinations of letters. A person totally unacquainted with the Japanese language may, after a day's preparation, read aloud any book printed in *kana*, so as to be entirely intelligible to a native listener. A stranger to English speech may know all there is of the alphabet, and yet not read two lines so as to make himself understood.

These are elementary principles, with which the members of the society in question are familiar, and the soundness of which ought to be apparent to all scholars, no matter how wedded they may be to practices in which they have grown up and have been taught to consider suitable to a particular standard of culture. But the determination to ignore them is almost as obstinate to-day as if years had not been spent in the endeavour to demonstrate them and render them apparent to everybody's comprehension. The *Kana no Tomo* has been actively pursuing its design for a long period, under the auspices of an intelligent section of the community, and led by some of the most accomplished linguists of the capital, yet the obstacles in its way are almost as insuperable as when the founders first set themselves at work. It seems as if those to whom they appeal were wilfully blind and deaf on this subject. The friends of the movement assert what is virtually an axiom. The most primitive mathematical proposition could not be clearer or less disputable. But the conservative advocates of the Chinesesquare character either refuse altogether to consider the question, or bring up on their side a series of arguments so childish as to throw suspicion on their own faith in them. "The dignity and exclusiveness of literature must be preserved;" as if the first object of cultivated men should not be the *diffusion* of literature,—which in good time can take care of its own dignity. "The elegance of polite correspondence must be kept from contamination;" as if no communication were permissible excepting in stilted forms which are a burden both to writer and reader, and interpose a barrier rather than afford an encouragement to epistolary intercourse. "Shall the proclamations and decrees of Government be shorn of their stateliness and ceremony?" Better that,

than circulate unread and uncomprehended by those to whom they are addressed, as is often now the case. Such are the frivolous objections of the adherents of the old and established style. Occasionally, but rarely, remonstrance takes another tone. "Are we who have wasted our lives in attaining perfection in this difficult caligraphy, and who have no other claim to scholarship,—are we to be put aside as superfluous veterans, and is our sole accomplishment to be discarded as obsolete?" This, indeed, is an honest protest, and to that extent respectable; but it has no weight that should enable it to retard a needed change, while it is in truth the single cause to which all the opposition may be traced. The selfish vanity of the old school of scribes stands chiefly in the way of a reform the consequences of which would be of broader reach and more immediate advantage than any other educational improvement we can call to mind. By its agency, study would receive an impetus which no other expedient could give it. An impediment which has for centuries obstructed the dissemination of knowledge among the lower orders of the people would be swept away forever. New and abundant opportunities of instruction would be placed within the reach of all. In a single generation, thousands upon thousands,—millions, perhaps, in a country where the appetite for learning is so keen as in this,—would be added to the class of mentally developed and well informed citizens. We can conceive of no way in which so great a good can be effected by means so simple and easy. Yet, year after year, the reform remains unachieved.

To attract public attention to their project, the members of the association have established a periodical publication, in which it is intended to demonstrate the benefits of the proposed change, not only by appeals to the understanding of readers, but also by practical exemplification. This magazine, which is issued monthly, is called the *Kana no Michibiki (Kana Guide)*; is edited by SHIMIDZU USABURO, and is actively supported by gentlemen of scholarly distinction, including YOSHIMURA SHIGETOSHI, President of the Nihon Ginko; NABESHIMA CHOKUDAI, head of the house of Hizen; TAKAHASHI SHINKICHI, ITO KEISUKE, KOYASU SHUN, KANDA NAIBU, and others equally well known. A circumstance connected with the issue of the first number is said to indicate the spirit of the opposition brought to bear upon the movement. It is necessary to submit the title, etc., of all new publications to the *Naimusho*, on applying for a license;

and in this instance, conformably to the purpose of the undertaking, not only the name of the periodical was written in *kana*, but also the editor's, and that of the Government officer empowered to grant the requisite permission. To have employed any other style would have been a surrender of principle at the very outset. The innovation was not satisfactory, it appeared, to the *Naimusho* functionary concerned, and the petitioners were informed that their solicitation must be remodelled, in accordance with the established custom. To this they demurred, but no concession could be obtained, further than a promise that the subject should receive consideration at a future time. As the initial number was ready for distribution, and delay was particularly to be avoided, the point was waived by the applicants, and the old form was followed. But the incident was put to an ingenious use. The facts were succinctly stated in the second number, and the inflexibility of conventional antagonism was thus newly attested. We, who are not partisans in this matter, discover no necessity for impugning the propriety of the officer's action. Possibly he had no choice; and, even had he been inclined to grant the license without dispute, his instructions may have forbidden him to do so. But the controversy is enlivened by the occurrence, which, of course, is easily turned to the advantage of the *kana* vindicators. The general tone of discussion, in the *Michibiki*, is moderate and persuasive,—not at all defiant or aggressive. Certain statistical comparisons are presented, the mere statement of which should be more convincing than any argument that can be employed. For example, the number of square characters required for ordinary, every day purposes, and used in newspaper offices, is shown to be ten thousand,—the *kana* signs being less than fifty. For the highest and most refined style of composition, a knowledge of not ten thousand only, but of upwards of fifty thousand different characters is demanded,—the forty odd *kana* being still all-sufficient. A careful article is devoted to a refutation of the theory that *kana* will not meet the needs of scientific discourse, and that technical terms imperatively call for expression by the Chinese method. A treatise upon the human eye is printed in both ways. The *kana* version occupies more space, but the desired result is conclusively proved; every word and idea (as might be foreseen) being quite as exactly conveyed by the simple as by the formidable complex types,—and much more clearly. Some of the striking inconveniences of reliance

upon the old characters are exemplified as in cases where two or more are joined together, the spoken sound of each then undergoing an absolute change. The influence of this magazine, if it continue to be conducted with the same care as at the beginning, should soon be manifest. It is already in large demand, subscriptions having been received from all parts of the empire, excepting,—as the publishers candidly avow,—Kiyoto and Osaka. That the Kiyoto public should be indifferent or hostile to the ideas it represents is not surprising; that Osaka should inconsiderately reject them is not so easily explained. Since the appearance of the first number, numerous additions have been made to the *Kana no Tomo*; the names of several ladies, we are glad to observe, appearing on the list. It is eminently fitting that the half of the community most likely to derive immediate benefit from the projected reform should be welcomed to membership in the association.

FOREIGN JURISDICTION IN CHINA.

A CASE which recently created no little interest, and even excitement, in Shanghai, offers some curious illustrations of the relations at present existing between Foreigners and Chinese.

On the 8th (or 9th) of July a Chinaman by name WANG A-AN was arrested for fighting in the Settlement, and when taken to the police station two pawn-tickets, for a ring and a watch, were found in his possession. These were handed over to SI-YUNG, a detective in the employ of the Foreign Municipality, who proceeded to the pawn-shop, and, recovering the articles, delivered them to the proper authorities until their owners could be discovered. On the 11th of July (Wednesday), the man WANG A-AN was released on bail, and his first proceeding was to assault the detective SI-YUNG. His wife, or concubine, assisted at the attack, charging the detective with having taken her jewelry from the pawn-shop and made her "lose face." The exact incidents of the fight are still unknown, but while it was in progress a native constable came to the assistance of the detective, and the two assailants were marched off to the Central Police Station. There the woman was set free, and the man locked up until the following day (Thursday), when he was brought before the Mixed Court, but remanded owing to the absence of a Foreign Assessor. That evening he was released, on bail, by the Chinese Magistrate, and two days after-

wards he died. His friends, alleging that his death had been caused by injuries received at the hands of the detective, haled the latter before the Mixed Court, whence he was shortly afterwards taken to the Central Police Station by one of the Foreign Inspectors of the Municipality. Up to this point it will be seen that the proceedings of the authorities on both sides had been in order. The detective, being a servant of the Foreign Municipality, was entitled to have the charge against him duly formulated to his employers and investigated by the Mixed Court. If, after investigation, the nature of the offence was found to be such that the Court had no competence to adjudicate, then the accused should have been handed over to the Chinese Authorities, always presuming that the evidence seemed sufficient to warrant that step. Accordingly, on Monday morning—the detective's arrest had taken place on Saturday—a preliminary investigation was held by the Mixed Court. Both the Chinese Magistrate and the Foreign Assessor appear, however, to have conceived a very limited idea of their functions. The former confined himself to stating the charge against the prisoner, declaring, at the same time, that he could not deal with it at all; and the latter, accepting this disclaimer, merely told the detective what he was accused of, and then agreed that he should be sent at once to the Taotai's Yamén. No steps were taken to inform the Municipality of their servant's offence, nor were the details of that offence explicitly stated at the Mixed Court. This was specially regrettable, because it left the foreign public under an erroneous impression that the charge against the detective had reference solely to his encounter with WANG and his wife on Wednesday the 11th, when the latter were the assailants, whereas in reality the prosecution alleged that the detective had fought with the deceased on Friday evening, and given him a kick in the stomach which disabled him at once and caused his death on the following day. On the strength of the former theory, many persons had little difficulty in believing that the whole charge had been trumped up by some rowdies with the design of ruining an officer whom they found inconveniently active. This view received emphatic endorsement from a section of the local press, which, from the first, imported into the affair every element calculated to defeat the ends of justice. The detective himself said that a "squeeze" was the sole aim of his accusers, and that they had offered him the alternative of paying \$100 or standing his trial—a pro-

ceeding which, even if it were true, could prove nothing as to the cause of WANG'S death, but only that his friends were willing to condone the detective's alleged crime for a pecuniary consideration.

SI-YUNG, it will be observed, was handed over to the Chinese Authorities on Monday. On the preceding day (Sunday), while he was still in charge of the foreign police, an inquest was held by the Marine Sub-Prefect on the body of WANG, and, not unnaturally, the evidence of the detective was required. A message was accordingly sent to the Central Police Station requesting SI-YUNG'S attendance, but the Superintendent of Police, acting under instructions from the Municipal Council, refused to comply. Four times the Magistrate of the Mixed Court—who was assisting at the inquest—visited the Central Police Station with the same request, and four times he received the same reply:—that violence on the part of the mob was apprehended, and that unless a guarantee were given for the safety of the detective, his attendance could not be permitted. The Magistrate seems to have been a man of singular patience and perseverance. His last visit to the Police Station was at 9 o'clock in the evening, and he was then so tired and hungry that he was fain to dine off a seventy-five cent bottle of sweet biscuits, using the office desk as a table. The remnants of this repast he wrapped up in a soiled handkerchief, and sent them to his brother Mandarin, the Sub-Prefect, who remained at his post until eleven o'clock, and then went home without having obtained the necessary evidence. The whole incident is most noteworthy. Those two Chinese dignitaries, the one sitting for seven hours beside a corpse at the end of a dirty alley, surrounded and probably ridiculed by a crowd of idle loafers; the other persistently journeying to and fro in the humble hope of at last overcoming the obduracy of the Foreign Police and persuading them to let a Chinese witness come to give evidence at the inquest of a Chinese supposed to have been murdered; these two Mandarins unable to satisfy the laws of which they were the guardians, and in the end going home tired and baffled, are a spectacle which, viewed from this distance, seems to imply that the power of the Chinese to administer justice to their own people in Shanghai is sometimes dependent upon foreign caprice. We do not doubt that the Foreign Municipality believed they were acting for the best in this matter, but it is certain that the only motive they assigned for refusing to comply with the Magistrate's request

was a rumour that the mob contemplated violence.

On Monday, then, the detective, after a very perfunctory investigation at the Mixed Court, was handed over to the Chinese authorities with the consent of the British Assessor. The transfer seems to have been quite an imposing ceremony. The Chinese Magistrate and his retainers headed the procession; after them came a carriage with SI-YUNG and two Foreign Police Inspectors; then followed a dozen Foreign sergeants and constables in jinrikishas, while the rear was brought up by a crowd of sightseers. Arrived at the Taotai's Yamén, the detective was placed in a cell, and the foreign portion of his escort took their departure. It does not appear that the Taotai gave any promise as to the place of SI-YUNG'S detention, and certainly he was at liberty to send the man to whatever prison seemed most convenient. Yet when he sent him to the Yamén of the District Magistrate, an English local newspaper did not hesitate to describe the act as an "outrageous deception on the part of the Chinese Authorities."

SI-YUNG had not been long in the hands of the Chinese when the mistake that had been made in giving him up was discovered. The Municipal Council, whose servant he was, had received no official intimation of the charge preferred against him, and the Chairman of that body accordingly wrote to the Senior Consul requesting him to move for the restoration of the detective to their custody. It might be expected that in an official communication of this nature, the Chairman would have confined himself to noting the irregularities that had been committed and simply formulating his demand for redress. He went a good deal farther, for he did not scruple to add:—"The Council consider the charge made against WANG SI-YUNG to be an unfounded one, and that what he did was done in the execution of his duty." In other words, the Council undertook to prejudge the merits of a case which had not yet been officially submitted to them. It seemed as though their clear vision was momentarily obscured by the same spirit which induced one of the local English journals to write:—"The issue in this case is really whether the Municipal Council are to have power to suppress crime and preserve the peace in these Settlements, or whether the lawless mob of thieves, gamblers, loafers, and ruffians, who intimidate the Che'sien and his deputies in the City and the Sub-Prefect of the Mixed Court, are to have their own way. It is an undeniable fact

that in this case these bad characters have conspired to kill SI-YUNG, a detective who has endeavoured to discharge his duties to the Municipality faithfully, and for the benefit of the community." All this, be it observed, while the details of the charge preferred against the man were still unknown!

The Senior Consul, on receipt of the Municipal Council's letter, paid an official visit to the Taotai, and pointing out that an error had been committed, requested that it should be corrected before further steps were taken. The Taotai declared himself "anxious at all times to preserve the cordiality which had hitherto marked the intercourse of his office with the Foreign Settlement," but remarked, very pertinently, that the detective had been sent to him "in charge of the chief peace officer of the Municipality, acting under the orders of the Mixed Court Magistrate and a Foreign Assessor." Ultimately it was arranged that SI-YUNG should be given up on receipt of a guarantee from the Municipal Council that they would produce him for trial, and after the return of the District Magistrate, who was then absent. Carrying this guarantee, and accompanied by about twenty armed constables, the Inspector of Police set out at 10 o'clock p.m. for the Taotai's Yamén. During the progress of the police a large crowd followed them, "hooting and yelling," and increasing constantly "in numbers and indignation, so that before their destination was reached, the four fellows who were in rear were in rather a dangerous position." Their guides led them, in the first place, to the District Magistrate's Yamén, where the detective actually was, but the party pushed on without stopping. Arrived at the Taotai's Yamén, they learned that SI-YUNG was at that of the District Magistrate, and "this," said one of the local journals, "was the first indication of the hanky-panky work by which the object of the expedition was defeated. * * * The game played by the Taotai seemed to be a 'dark trick,' and a direct insult to the Consuls, the Municipality, and to all foreigners alike." And yet the Taotai, in his despatch to the Consul General, had most carefully pointed out that SI-YUNG was at the Yamén of the District Magistrate, and had explained the law which required his detention there!

Much time was lost at the Taotai's Yamén in translating and writing despatches, the Yamén runners coming in, meanwhile, and reporting that there were indications of a serious disturbance outside the city gates. The party waiting in the court-yard of the

Yamén had nothing but tea and water to sustain them, and these they obliged the Chinese attendants to "sample" by way of precaution! At half-past one o'clock the Inspector came out. He reported that the Taotai, though willing to give up the detective, feared that an attack might be made on the foreign constables while escorting him through the streets at such an hour. So the party had to return empty handed, "defeated," as the paper from which we have quoted above declared, "by duplicity and false alarm." Yet the Taotai, in this instance, only allowed himself to be influenced by the same considerations which had prevented the Municipal Police from permitting SI-YUNG to attend the inquest at the reiterated request of two Chinese Magistrates. Moreover, he had not promised to give up the detective until the return of the District Magistrate, so that the expedition of the police could only have been successful by chance or special complacency on the part of the Chinese.

This happened on Thursday night, and on Friday evening the District Magistrate returned. The Taotai immediately notified the Senior Consul of the fact, and the latter requested the Austro-Hungarian Consul to receive the detective and act as assessor at his examination. Here another *contre-temps* occurred. It was understood that SI-YUNG would be brought out by the Little East Gate of the City, but after the Consul had waited there more than two hours, it was found that the District Magistrate and his prisoner had already reached the Mixed Court, having gone out by the North Gate. This change of programme seems to have given the Austro-Hungarian Consul much umbrage. What followed is thus described by a local journal:—"When Mr. HAAS came on the bench along with Mr. CHEN, he was enraged at the insult which had been given to him, and to the Senior Consul as well, by the breach of faith on the part of the Taotai and Che'sien. Mr. HAAS called on the armed police to take their stand in the arena of the Court, and then he demanded the immediate production of SI-YUNG. The unfortunate detective was soon dragged into Court by two of the Che'sien's men, one of them holding him by the chain which was round his neck, and the other pushing behind him. Mr. HAAS, with a sternness that made old CHEN shiver like an aspen leaf, gave the order, 'Police, take off the chain, and bring the man on with me!' Detective MACK caught hold of the chain, while two of the Che'sien's men were holding on to it, and they made a slight show of resistance, but only for a moment, as Mr. HAAS spoke to them

in Chinese in a tone that made every Chinaman in the room tremble, and the armed police surrounded SI-YUNG. CHEN came down from the bench and round to the door of the Court-room; here he placed his hand on the arm of one of the Foreigners, and he was shaking with excitement."

The detective was then carried off to the office of the Senior Consul, but it turned out that that gentleman had gone to the Mixed Court expecting to find the trial in progress, so there was nothing for it, but to take SI-YUNG back again. During the course of these proceedings the Austro-Hungarian Consul seems to have purposely ignored the Chinese Magistrates. If the newspaper report be correct, he did not even vouchsafe to offer his native colleague of the Mixed Court a word of explanation. It was doubtless quite in order that the chain should be removed from the prisoner's neck, and that his transfer to Consular protection should be completed before the trial commenced. But the singular and significant part of the matter is that the District Magistrate's desire to put a childish and purposeless insult upon a Foreign Consul should have been taken for granted, and that a Foreign Official, acting in an official capacity, should have resented the insult in a violent and public manner without pausing to make any enquiries. The District Magistrate, when consulted with regard to the change of programme which had been the means of detaining the Austro-Hungarian Consul more than two hours at the East Gate, was able to offer an entirely satisfactory explanation, but not to alter the conditions illustrated by the incidents, namely—readiness on the foreign side to credit the Chinese authorities with offensive purposes; proneness to take offence, and promptness to resent it without regard to place or circumstance. It is worth noting here, as a further illustration of the temper prevailing in Shanghai, that a band of young men, variously estimated at from thirty to fifty, paid a visit one evening during the course of the proceedings to the residences of the Austro-Hungarian and American Consuls, and gave three lusty cheers for those officials, followed by three groans for the British Assessor. Midnight demonstrations of this sort are, perhaps, less remarkable for the feeling that prompts them than for the feeling they create. It is pleasant to find that, two days before receiving this ovation, the United States Consul had written to the Taotai in the following terms:—"I have again to thank you most cordially for the promptness and good

faith in which Your Excellency has acted with me in the conduct of this difficult and unfortunate business."

In noting these events it has not been our purpose to criticise them, but rather to submit them in sequence to our readers as a significant phase of Chinese and foreign relations. Our concern with the matter virtually ends here, but as a certain vicarious interest attaches to the fate of the detective, SI-YUNG, we may mention that up to the date of the latest advices, his case had been examined by the Mixed Court at two sittings. Two witnesses were produced to prove that the deceased had been carried home in a jinrikisha on Friday evening in a disabled condition: that he had charged the detective with inflicting his injuries, and that he had presumably died from the effects of them on the following day; while a third witness deposed to having seen SI-YUNG assault WANG, and double him up with a kick in the stomach. Between all these witnesses and the prisoner a cross-fire of innuendo and recrimination was carried on, each charging the other with bribery, conspiracy, and collusion. Singularly enough no testimony was offered as to the real cause of the man's death, though it was surely before all things important to ascertain whether he died of cholera or of injuries violently inflicted. Medical evidence upon this point ought to have been furnished at the inquest. Such testimony was virtually inaccessible a fortnight after the event, and this difficulty gives further salience to the unfortunate absence of coöperation between the Chinese Authorities and the Municipality. The solicitude displayed by the latter on behalf of their *employé* became practically useless in consequence of their refusal to assist the ends of justice at the inquest. Strange to say, too, no evidence whatsoever was produced for the defence. So much prominence had been given to the affair, that those who might have spoken in SI-YUNG'S behalf took care to be absent. The Municipal Council had officially declared that they considered the charge unfounded, and that the detective had only acted in discharge of his duty, yet they failed to produce a tittle of evidence in support of this view. Possibly their failure could be satisfactorily explained, but the only explanation they offered was that the witnesses were afraid to come forward. If this were true of a trial conducted at the Mixed Court, the unfortunate detective's chances of obtaining justice in the city seem small indeed. In the absence, then, of any defence, the Magistrate of the Mixed Court declared himself satisfied that

the evidence was sufficient to justify sending the case forward for trial by the City Authorities, and in the propriety of this course—clearly defined as it was by the Regulations of the Court—the Foreign Assessor was apparently compelled to acquiesce, though he withheld his formal consent until after consultation with the Senior Consul. Ultimately SI-YUNG was again handed over to the District Magistrate, who, it is to be hoped, will employ some efficient means of obtaining testimony not entirely one-sided.

ITALIAN FINANCE.

SUFFICIENT time has now elapsed to justify a confident verdict upon the issue of the scheme adopted by Italian financiers for the resumption of specie payments. It will be remembered that the operation commenced on the first of April, and three months' experience have made it quite plain that unless some violent monetary crisis occurs—a contingency of which there is no apparent peril whatsoever—the suppression of the forced currency may be regarded as an accomplished fact. Yet for the bulk of the Italian public, no perceptible change has taken place. It is true, indeed, that the banks are called upon to pass over their counters a certain amount of gold, but it seems to be equally true that scarcely one piece of that metal has found its way into ordinary circulation. Subsidiary silver coins are said to be more abundant than they were before the period of resumption, but a use is still found for one, and two franc notes. Something of this result is doubtless attributable to the fact that the Treasury does not pay out any gold except on demand. All the disbursements on account of Governmental expenses, salaries, etc., are made in paper and subsidiary coin. The recipients of this money are not likely to concern themselves much about its form, unless they have payments to make abroad, and even then they probably prefer to purchase foreign paper at once. The fears that were entertained of an unfavorable balance of trade and a consequent efflux of the precious metals—for there are in Italy persons who still regard such conjunctures with apprehension—these fears, we say, have not been realized. On the contrary, the very opposite is reported both from Naples and from Rome. Exports have received an impetus and the metallic reserves at the Treasury are actually increasing. The *New York Nation* will doubtless say that under these circumstances Italy is on the fair route to ruin, since she is giving away more than she

receives—an amusing method of calculation which commends itself to some arithmeticians, but which, if it be true at all, means that a man is always doing himself an injury when he sells, and can only be growing rich when he buys. Italy, however, without troubling herself about these abstract problems, is conscious of a desire to see her newly-acquired gold pass into circulation among her own people, so that she may be able to feel confident of having finally escaped the evils of a fiat currency. She has her wish, and Mr. MAGLIANI is to be sincerely congratulated. He has made one of the most brilliant financial *coups* of the century, or indeed of any century. He has resumed specie payments without resuming; or, in other words, he has re-established the circulation of gold, and has, at the same time, kept in the Treasury vaults the gold he borrowed to effect the operation. It sounds as if there was not quite so much truth as people suppose in the old proverb about not being able to have one's cake and eat it. We sincerely hope that Japan may be in a position ere long to follow Italy's example. If everything we are told be true—though we confess that we are exceedingly sceptical—her former financiers contemplated a scheme which virtually amounted to repudiation—for the redemption of Government paper at current rates of depreciation means nothing more or less than repudiation. That danger, if it ever existed, exists no longer. The nation is steadily progressing towards final escape from the intolerable evils of an unsound currency, and if the Government pursues its present path, it will be able to declare resumption when the fitting time comes without resort to expedients which, if not absolutely dishonest, would certainly be dishonourable.

A CHAPTER OF YOKOHAMA HISTORY.

Yokohama itself has no reason to complain of fortune's want of benevolence. A place where twenty-five years ago seven men would have lost caste in sane society by building themselves tabernacles, it now numbers seventy thousand inhabitants, and the limits of its growth seem not less elastic than ever. But its opportunities have not kept pace with its development. The commerce it commands has been divided and subdivided, until the share remaining to each individual is only large enough to invite, without rewarding, enterprise and ability. Thus, if this peninsula of exile and poverty, with its muddy isthmus and muddier morals, be remarkable for the piping times its ever augmenting population and ever widening environs seem to attest, it is

not less remarkable for the game of see-saw which fate has amused herself in playing with the fortunes of its residents. The pastime has not been impartial. The foreign end of the beam has generally been the lower of the two, and occasionally its downward bumps have been disastrous to those seated on it. A few have leaped off in good time. Others, while themselves escaping at a fairly auspicious moment, left partners to ride in their seats, and had to come back again to mingle the fragments of their shattered fortunes with those of their fallen representatives. But these are old stories. To-day it is not a question of making a triumphant exit, but of holding on by tooth and nail, so as haply to avoid the fall that smashes. There are no more golden dreams now nor airy reveries, but only

the toll
Of dropping buckets into empty wells,
And growing old in drawing nothing up.

The better part has fallen to the lot of the Japanese. Their luck, too, has oscillated, but on the whole its mean level has always shown an upward tendency. They have not overgrown their opportunity, for though their aggregate has increased from cipher to something like sixty-five thousand, the majority of that number are mere parasites who subsist by gathering up the fragments of the feast. Those that sit at the board have managed to keep the table entirely to themselves, and have thus fared more and more sumptuously year by year. Hard times come, to be sure, but while they seem to have the effect of adding fresh fuel to foreign competition until their hardship becomes doubtfully accentuated for foreigners, they promote, on the Japanese side, a spirit of combination which, if it may not wholly annul, certainly goes far towards blunting, their evils.

Among the Japanese who benefited most easily and largely by Yokohama's growth, the first place must unquestionably be given to landowners. Twenty-five years ago, half an acre of land in the neighbourhood of Bente-dori would scarcely have fetched a hundred *yen*: to-day, it is worth fifty thousand. Veracity directs us to place one of these lucky individuals in the frontispiece of this chapter of history. For reasons which will hereafter explain themselves, an approximation to his name must suffice. Let us call him Ginjiro. Another reason, which our readers will doubtless divine, prevents us from setting down the exact sum of which he found himself possessed one fine morning, when a speculator bought his hitherto valueless patch of barren land for a lofty pile of silver. It was, at all events, a pile high enough to raise him from actual poverty into the vicinity of virtual opulence. But it did not bring him "that jewel which no Indian mine can buy." When, indeed, has the sudden acquisition of unexpected wealth been accompanied by contentment? Ginjiro's case was only another proof of the principle, so successfully urged against democratic and socialistic dogmas—the principle that the desire for inequality is as incapable of satisfaction as it is universal, and that without it there could be no civilized production. Having become

rich, he wanted to become richer, and after casting about for means of accomplishing his desire, he arrived at a remarkable conclusion. Our readers have probably observed an impression which prevails almost universally among the Japanese, that the household deities of the Occident are Bacchus and Venus. These good people imagine that, in the presence of Westerns, the acme of conviviality is inebriation, and the essence of wit, libertinism. It does not say much for our civilization that these are the two aspects under which it has presented itself most vividly to Eastern eyes. There is the fact, however, explain it how we may. Ginjiro recognised it, and moulded his speculations accordingly. He purchased himself a house, and having fitted it up with all the appurtenances his wealth justified, he added to it a wine tavern. At first sight, the locality he had selected did not seem specially convenient. Retired, so far as to be almost invisible, from the main road, it was sandwiched between a precipitous hill and a row of second-hand furniture stores, emporiums for cast-off garments, and hand-to-mouth looking tenements of all varieties. The so-called, "main road" itself was a miserable jagged causeway, bordering a canal which, having ruined its projectors, had now lapsed into a water way to some Kerosene godowns and a receptacle of Cholera Hospital refuse. But Ginjiro did not court publicity. The precipitous hill, too, was a feature of special attraction in his programme. Reached by a flight of steps, to climb which was in itself an entertaining feat, its summit commanded a prospect too beautiful to be profaned by description. Seldom has nature painted a picture with background so lovely as Fuji-san, and foreground more becoming than the wide expanse of billowing woods and golden rice valleys that stretch down to the blue waters of Yedo Bay. It is true that nothing of this prospect was visible from our Vintner's dwelling. If he looked for customers among lovers of scenery, he should have moved his house higher up, but, as has been already observed, "a city that is set on a hill" is objectionable under certain circumstances. To utilize the hill and at the same time avoid a superfluity of sunlight, Ginjiro called into request the services of his sisters. He had two, whose names we shall call Tada and Gin. The former, a married lady, neither very young nor very old, took up her abode in a pretty little house on the top of the hill, opening, at the same time, a stall where way-farers might refresh themselves with modest beverages and admire the incomparable prospect. This villa was connected, with Ginjiro's more pretentious residence by a telephone. Thus, if it chanced that visitors to either place showed themselves not mere wine-bibbers or view-gazers, but disciples of that principle which, as Disraeli tells us in *Sybil*, is "the principle of existence and its only end," the telephone was put into requisition, and Mrs. O-Tada either bespoke the services of Ginjiro's household to make the necessary arrangements,

or was herself summoned from above to undertake their conduct. It is scarcely necessary to descant upon the facilities offered by this dual disposition of forces. They enabled respectability to be as disrespectful as it pleased without risk of exposure, and they conferred on their designer the reward of all astute villany, signal success.

We have spoken of Yokohama morals as muddy. The term is weak if only the half of what rumour asserts be true. Here, however, we have nothing to do with rumour. Our concern is entirely with facts, and that the ancient landowner prospered in his new trade of vintner with *et ceteras*, is a fact beyond all question. It is a fact, too, that in the days when his prosperity was at its zenith, the moral reputation of Yokohama was at its nadir. Let men's creeds be never so steadfast, their practice varies more or less with opportunity and circumstance. Thus, a regiment coming to Yokohama with a wonderfully fair record has been known to fill its defaulters' book to overflowing in a twelvemonth. Some theorists hold that Japanese air breaks down foreign brain tissue slowly and surely; others that it loosens the muscles and unstrings the nerves; but the keenest observers of all say that its first effect is to decompose the moral fibre. Whether one symptom of this last malady be not a species of wanton desire to incapacitate the law, is a question we have often considered uneasily. The Japanese, whom their foreign friends call bad governors, are here required to govern under conditions which might puzzle a Solon or a Lycurgus. They have to govern strangers of twelve or fourteen different nationalities, all of whom consider it the special privilege of their birthright not to obey any laws save those of their own making, nor to endure any control save that of their own authorities; and many are imbued with an idea that to maintain the position of superiority which they arrogate, it is essential not to cease sneering at and disparaging Orientals in general and Japanese in particular. It is true that this last is a vulgar trait, characteristic of the rowdy class alone; but rowdies are precisely the persons who stand most in need of restraint. In the matter of Municipal Government, Yokohama resembles a school where discipline has to be preserved by ushers whose powers are reduced almost to a cipher, and who must needs submit to being publicly flouted and ridiculed as incapables by every vicious boy ambitious of notoriety. The result is not quite satisfactory to lovers of peace and order, and the Japanese have been quick to discover what a pleasant asylum the place offers for law-breakers of all descriptions. The escaped felon can be sure of finding there an unmolested retreat, for every foreign resident's compound is forbidden ground to the police, and its Japanese inmates can harbour or hide whom or what they please. A story is told of a thief whose whereabouts was traced, and a search warrant obtained from the Consul of the firm on whose premises he was concealed. But the search proved fruitless; the culprit was *non*

inventus. The police, of course, had blundered and were suitably laughed at. But the police again traced the man to the same place; again procured a warrant—this time with much difficulty—and were again unsuccessful. Yet a third time the episode was repeated, ending in the total discomfiture of the guardians of the law, who only found out when it was too late to utilize the discovery, that the duties of a servant who lived on the compound in question lay partly in the Consulate, and that he had been able to give his friend warning so soon as ever the warrant was applied for. Perhaps occurrences of this nature do not impair the efficiency of the police in Japan. They would impair it anywhere else, however; and certainly, even in Japan, they have the effect of inducing all the dregs of the surrounding provinces' population to gravitate to Yokohama. Among these dregs, our hero, Mr. Ginjiro, and his partner, Mrs. O-Tada, found all the materials they required to minister to the fancies of their patrons, and their trade prospered amazingly.

There came a time, however, when the Augean condition into which affairs had drifted began to scandalize respectable foreigners and shock respectable Japanese. A new Prefect of Kanagawa having been appointed, his first step was to demand an increased police force. Up to July, 1883, the number of constables available for duty in the Foreign Settlement and on the Bluff had been 70 only. From that date it was raised to 250. The earliest effect of the more minute supervision thus made possible was that a great many errand ladies found their opportunities inconveniently circumscribed. It became perilous to practice gentle affability to wayfarers of the opposite sex. Yet courtesy and geniality had become so habitual with these Delilahs that they got perpetually run in for being too polite. Not unfrequently their arrest led to interesting scenes, illustrating some peculiar features of the lower strata of Yokohama society. For example. The police magistrate has scarcely commenced his examination of the prisoner when a foreigner tumbles into the station crying out:—"Kore, ikemasen. Watakushi okamisan arimas. Nase omaye?" The new-comer's evidence appearing more or less relevant, an attempt to unravel it is in process, when the proceedings are again interrupted. This time the intruder is a gentleman in shirt sleeves with a Sarah-Gamp breath. He has not had time to complete his toilette, and plunges at once into facts:—"Nani Baka! Watakushi okamisan." The Magistrate looks perplexed. "Your wife too?" he enquires. "Two!" the shirt-sleeved hero shouts. "You think I'm a h-y bigamist. Here! No more of this b-y nonsense. Watakushi okamisan, I tell you. Omaye bonkots shinjo, watakushi shinimas." And with that the gallant worthy crosses over to Delilah's side, tucks her hand under his arm, and begins to drag her off. The first witness, not at all offended by this claim of common property in the alleged partner of his bosom, cheers his new associate on, but the Magistrate addresses a caution to the accused and she

declines to be "spirited" away. Then the philanthropic gentlemen are asked to state their case through an interpreter, and while they are doing so, lo! another rescuer hastily arrives. Again the cry is "*Watakushi okamisan. Naze omaye,*" and again the Magistrate looks to see these three claimants start in to strew the place with one another. But no. The last seems to have as valid a title as the first. "Come on Mac" or "Pippins" is the fashion of welcome; "bear a hand here to save O-ikky," and so in the end the Magistrate imposes a fine almost nominal which is at once paid by the stout humanitarians, and the four adjourn to anathematise the eyes of the police and denounce Japanese tyranny over a bottle of square-face.

If incidents of this nature had occasionally the effect of perplexing the police, a compensatory influence was exercised in another direction. Among the highly inflammable foreign material accumulated in Yokohama, always ready to burst into flame when any spark is blown towards it by an anti-Japanese wind, there is an official squib which goes off easily and makes a good noisy report. In the autumn of 1882, somebody conceived a notion that a certain approach to the Bluff presented objectionable features. He therefore struck a spark. To be sure, the good folks on the Bluff, who had used this particular approach for years without finding themselves shocked by anything they saw there, were puzzled when they heard the noise of the fire which the spark kindled. But they were not so ungrateful as to undervalue the good offices of an occasional visitor whose eyes had proved so much clearer than their own. Presently the squib went off. It shot a message of smoky censure towards the Local Authorities, and a declaration that the Inspector of Police ought to be severely and speedily punished for allowing the approach in question to witness improprieties. This kept the police up to the mark. It was a difficult matter, indeed, to exercise any control over the inmates of private houses, and the difficulty was enhanced by the extreme reluctance of the constables themselves to carry on the necessary supervision. But a broad rule was enacted that no interference was demanded except in cases of conduct amounting to a public scandal. The constables were directed simply to contrive that the inhabitants of the various wine-shops and other semi-public domiciles on the Bluff approaches and round the new road should feel themselves under a reasonable amount of surveillance. This was not a very sweeping measure, but to those most concerned it made all the difference between virtual license and unavoidable circumspection. Of course the irksomeness of the thing was felt very keenly by the foreign patrons of these various establishments. Whenever the shadow of a policeman darkened the revels of these worthies, their indignation bubbled over, and they longed greedily for a day when they might catch these spoil-sports on the hip and "feed fat the ancient grudge" they bore them.

Our history at this stage brings us back to its principal characters. This time we find them

on the sea shore. Not the ex-landowner himself, not yet his worthy sister, Mrs. O-Tada, but the younger blossom, O-Gin, is now to occupy our attention. She has a pretty little cottage near a sandy cove, where the fishes chase each other among the shadows of a forest of pines and camellias, and the air is full of the music of rustling leaves and rippling waters. O-Gin, the mistress of this pleasant retreat, has numbered some four or five and twenty summers. She is not beautiful, but she is charming, with a sympathetic heart and a temper as peaceful as the scenes she lives among. She can boast quite a large circle of acquaintances among foreigners, and for their convenience she has caused two planks to be stretched from the back of her premises into the sandy cove, so that on hot summer evenings her friends may come and disport themselves, like the fishes, among the shadows. Her kindness does not stop here. She causes the towels, bathing garments, &c., of her visitors to be looked after, and their general comforts ministered to, by a number of plump damsels not too prudish to be bad company for gentlemen *en naturel*. "What!" says the reader, "Are there *et ceteras* to this establishment also?" Well, never mind for the moment! There is one *et cetera*, at all events, and that is Mrs. O-Tada. "Naturally," the reader again exclaims. "She comes to visit her good little sister, and perhaps to dilute with pure sea air the odors of that abominable canal you told us of." Naturally, but her part in the play is more than that of a causal comer. She is co-proprietress of the cottage, and she does at least as much business there as at View Villa on the hill. The telephone, however, does not reach to Cove Cottage, and so she has to come there pretty well every evening "to make arrangements." Last year the sisters, like all their neighbours, began to find themselves sadly hampered by official activity, and being shrewd persons, they saw that their turn to get into trouble could not be for ever postponed. So they adopted a precaution. It was a bold conception and easily worked out. They took steps to let the police learn that any interference with the business of Cove Cottage would be the signal for an appeal to the foreign friends of that establishment, amongst whom were included the most influential men of Yokohama. Probably the police were alarmed. At any rate the Cottage escaped, though the adjoining bathing house was less fortunate. Of the latter, too, curious facts are on record. Its owner was a gentleman who had distinguished himself in connection with a bath-house in San Francisco, where he dressed a Chinese girl in Japanese clothes and exhibited her as a native of Japan. Obligated to come home in consequence of this escapade, he rented a house beside Cove Cottage, and placed there six waitresses of comely mein. But he lacked finesse. Everybody knew that the chief business of his new house lay in *et ceteras*. The police made it too hot for him. Profits fell off, and he was fain to take service in a sugar refinery at six *yen* a month. He did not abandon his interest in the sea-shore com-

merce, however, but retained the place while surrendering the management.

We are brought thus to the summer of 1883. The police were now happy in the consciousness of success. During the last six months of 1882, quite a considerable portion of their duties had been of the "*Watakushi okamisan*" nature. One hundred and thirty Phrynes had been fined, and sundry other repressive measures adopted, so that the evil was at length well in hand. The first half of 1883 showed only thirty-two cases; and a fair amount of decorum marked the proceedings of the various establishments in the neighbourhood of the Bluff. In short, everything looked *couleur de rose*. The police were triumphant, but being men of letters they remembered the phrase *yudan taiteki*, and refrained from hollering before they were out of the wood. For the future it would be sufficient, the Head Inspector said, to despatch a constable once a fortnight, at uncertain times, with instructions to let himself be seen and to take note of anything scandalous at the various houses which had black marks against them in the records. Sad, but not strange to say, Cove Cottage and its neighbour were among those thus distinguished; and still sadder, the former was the first to demand something more than surveillance. It happened on a Sunday in the early summer. The constable, whose beat took him alternately up the road and down the beach, became cognizant, as he paced along the sands of a concatenation of suspicious circumstances. In such a conjuncture his instructions were plain. Going round to the front of the Cottage, he was received by Mrs. O-Tada, who heard his complaint and promised that the offending young lady should be given up, but pleaded for a few minutes to attire her becomingly. The myrmidon of the law was nothing loath. He would have welcomed any reasonable excuse to escape the necessity of further action, and so he offered no remonstrance, though the "few minutes" stretched into a few hours. At length, after long delay, an old man appeared. He was the young lady's father, he said, and he lost no time in asserting his parental authority by rating her soundly. What did she mean by disgracing her people and herself? Had he not told her over and over again that if she visited such places as Cove Cottage there could be only one issue? and so following. Apparently, then, nobody had any excuse to offer. The fair culprit was marched off to the station. Elsewhere she would have been locked up for the night, but in Japan such cases are disposed of speedily. Half an hour later she was confronted by the Magistrate. The method of preliminary examination is simple and uniform throughout the country. Beside the Magistrate sits the recording clerk—in the majority of petty cases the Magistrate himself records—and before him, at a little distance, is a bar behind which the prisoner stands. No one else is present. The formula of examination is also uniform. Name, age, place of residence, rank, and occupation—these are the subjects embodied in the first question. Then the alleged offence is recited and admission

or denial asked for. There is no violence; no bluster; no reiteration or pressing of questions. It is simply a quiet conversation. If the prisoner pleads "not guilty," in spite of strong evidence, he or she is removed to a cell to await another examination later on. If the plea is accompanied by a satisfactory explanation, release immediately follows. In the instance of which we write, the denial was stout enough, but the testimony of the policeman presented some awkward features. So there was a remand for two hours and then a re-examination. This time the young lady essayed a diversion. She maintained her innocence of the charge immediately under consideration, but confessed to a previous sin. It was a common story enough. Her parents were miserably poor, and Miss O-Gin, of Cove Cottage, had spoken of several *yen* to be gained quickly and easily. There was some preliminary consultation, and then a steamer, a gentleman of African complexion, and two journeys by boat with the temptress completed the tableau. In the case of these and similar illicit proceedings the law provides penalties of from three to ten *yen* for the perpetrators five to fifteen *yen* for the conciliatrix, and five to twenty *yen* for the proprietors of the house where the offence takes place. The sinner of Cove Cottage was accordingly mulcted to the tune of five *yen*,—about one-fifth of the amount she had gained by the transgression—O-Gin had to pay seven *yen*, and the Captain of the steamer was inaccessible. Cove Cottage, too, was warned that it must be more circumspect. If these improper practices were to be persisted in, greater secrecy was necessary or the law would know the reason why. It was a bad business altogether for Cove Cottage, but chiefly bad because, for the moment, there was no recourse. The long threatened appeal to influential foreign sympathy could not come off this time. But what a *yowai mushi* this wretched girl had shown herself! Who was to know anything about her fire-worshipping patron if she had chosen to hold her tongue? But a confession! *Domo, komatta koto!* However, their time would come. They'd get even with those staff-bearing gentry yet. Only, happen what might, let there be no confessions. This was the *ultimatum* delivered to their inmates by Cove Cottage and its neighbour.

So the summer wore on. The ex-landowner found that though the receipts from his *el cateras* had fallen off, their monthly total was still a respectable figure, the telephone was still tolerably active, and the communication between View Villa and Cove Cottage more assiduous than ever. It fares best with vintners and such folk when suns are hottest, and of course the attractions of an evening roll in the limpid waves grew greater as the dog days multiplied. The majority of those that patronized the spring-boards at the Cove were men of high morality; but who will undertake to define the limits of the subtle charm exercised by such an *entourage* as Miss O-Gin and her neighbour had provided? Even Merlin's blood was capable of assuming opal tints under certain

circumstances, and Merlins do not infest Yokohama. The sensuous old Romans, the sybarites of Pompeii, understood how to introduce into their bath-houses a *souffron* of the rosy atmosphere that circulates in the neighbourhood of veiled sin. The Japanese gentleman of San Francisco understood this, too, else would he not have dressed his Chinese doll in *kimono* and *obi*, and though capricious fate had banished him temporarily to a sugar refinery, his talents found able exponents at the Cove. Always, however, that one little cloud, no bigger than a man's hand, was visible on the horizon. Once a fortnight a gentleman with a stick under his arm appeared, uninvited, on the outskirts of the entertainment, and took observations. He is at it now, this Sunday evening in July, and he seems considerably struck by what he sees and hears. This time the "jinks" are under weigh in the neighbour's house. There is one little Peri getting hoisted up by a circle of playful philanthropists and affectionately caressed as she descends, while another is sitting on the knee of a humanitarian and making a tippet of the arms of a sympathetic Adonis. The constable steps back and ponders. Here is a public scandal if ever such existed. The scene of the jinks cannot boast even the flimsy privacy of a bamboo rail, and the noise is enough to attract all the neighbourhood. He makes his way to the house, prefers his complaint and requires the attendance of the two damsels at the police station. A long delay and earnest confabulation ensue, but at last the culprits are led away and magisterial investigation commences. This time the ladies are obdurate. It is not their fault, they say, if foreign gentlemen choose to pull them about. Why don't they resist? So they would, but they must live. Things have to be made pleasant for the gentlemen who come to bathe or else custom would be ruined. They meant no harm, but what could two weak girls do among half a dozen strong foreigners? The magistrate cannot gainsay this. He resolves to discharge the girls, but, by way of admonition, asks them if their business is so very valuable that they prefer it to their reputation. The girls protest. Valuable indeed! Far from it! They only get their food and the barest pittance from their employers. As for the foreign gentlemen, they never give the waitresses a *sen*. How does it happen then, the Magistrate enquires, that they are so richly dressed—crape *jiban*, satin *obi*, and silk *kimono*? There is a moment's hesitation, and then one of the ladies says that they borrowed money from a Japanese gentleman and purchased clothes with it at such and such a shop. She declines to mention the name of the gentleman, and so, with a word of caution, the pair are discharged. But the magistrate is not satisfied. He causes enquiries to be made at the shop in question, and behold! such articles of female attire are not, and never were, sold there. The attendance of the ladies is again requested, and correct information required. But they either cannot or will not furnish it. They are there-

fore detained for three days, at the end of which time, nothing definite having been elicited, they are again released, their employers, however, being held responsible to produce them at any moment if necessary.

Meanwhile, those employers have not been idle. This is just the chance they were waiting for. Unless something be done now, all their past threats will go for nothing. Accordingly, a strong appeal is made to the sympathies of their foreign patrons. It is not a time to stick at trifles. The crime of the poor girls is represented as sitting on a gentleman's knee, while of the treatment meted out to them by the police imagination furnishes a vivid picture. Slapping of cheeks, twisting of arms, and other cruelties are charged against the myrmidons of the law, and eager ears drink in the whole fiction. There is another ignition of combustible material, though the spark, on this occasion, comes from a diametrically opposite direction to that of the preceding autumn. But a fig for consistency! only keep the ball rolling. Very soon the official squib goes off with a sudden puff. "Lucky for you contemptible ruffians of police!" it cries, "that I was able to restrain myself from exploding in your faces. But I require that your inspector be summarily and severely punished. By what right does he allow these poor girls to be interfered with? Six months ago—perhaps. But now—out upon your sneaking curs of constables!" Phew! There never was such a crackling and a phizzing. The local press reflects the flashes, and is eagerly and gladly spelled over at the vintner's and in the sugar refinery. What clever girls they are, to be sure, Miss O-Gin and Mrs. O-Tada! They said they would do it, and they've done it with a vengeance. Depend upon it the police will think twice before they come spying round our places again. "I really think I'll resign my situation at the sugar refinery, and assume personal direction of the business at the Cove," says the San Francisco Lothario. And "Truly, O-Tada, I'm not sure but it would pay to lay a telephone all the way to O-Gin's place," cries the jubilant vintner, while the ladies smile and perk. They are beginning to grow a little uneasy, to be sure, lest their romance about the cheek-slapping and arm-twisting should get them into trouble, but then, there is always the resource of flat denial; and the foreigners cannot be questioned by the police. So there is valid cause to chuckle. Who knows but the good old days of profitable license may revisit Yokohama. They will certainly come again, if only the squib can be induced to puff often enough and angrily enough.

Without the gift of prophesy this history cannot be carried any further. Moreover, our readers will now be able to follow the thread themselves, if they have leisure and inclination. For our own part we take leave here of the vintner, the sugar refiner, and the two enterprising ladies, whose knowledge of human nature and their ability to make capital out of its weaknesses command our warm admiration. We can even sympathise with the combustible material and the squib, to whom, however, we may be permitted to repeat the Persian Sage's saw:—

Foiled thou must be, though wisest of the wise!
Then be the fool of virtue, not of vice!

FAREWELL ENTERTAINMENT TO SIR H. S. PARKES.

Last evening the foreign community of Yokohama and Tokiyo met in the Bluff Gardens to bid farewell to the honored British Minister, Sir Harry Parkes, who leaves this scene of his long labors for the more important office of British Representative at Peking. At nine o'clock the guests had assembled. Sir Harry Parkes, accompanied by the two Misses Parkes, arrived and was escorted by the Reception Committee to a pavilion specially provided in the lower part of the Gardens, where the guest of the evening was presented with the following address:—

TO SIR HARRY SMITH PARKES,
KNIGHT COMMANDER OF THE MOST HONOURABLE ORDER OF THE BATH, AND KNIGHT GRAND CROSS OF THE MOST DISTINGUISHED ORDER OF ST. MICHAEL AND ST. GEORGE, HER BRITANNIC MAJESTY'S ENVOY EXTRAORDINARY AND MINISTER PLENIPOTENTIARY AND CONSUL GENERAL IN JAPAN.

We have sought this opportunity of bidding you a united and public farewell, because we feel that it will be some alleviation of our sorrow to know that you accept this manifestation of the high esteem in which we hold you.

We come from various lands, we speak in various tongues,—but to-day we have but one voice. During eighteen years you have been amongst us:—some of us have resided here for the whole of this period, many for some considerable portion of it; and these eighteen years, as they have passed on, have served only to strengthen the feelings of respect and esteem with which we have always regarded you.

But the closeness of the ties which have so long bound us together has now to be broken. Changing and changeable as this community always is, it does not often occur that so long a period of mutual acquaintance,—and we may say, of friendship,—is permitted to run its course. For us, it is matter of congratulation that we have so long had you in our midst:—for you, it is but fitting that you should pass on to a higher sphere of labour.

You came amongst us already freighted with honours, and famous for distinguished services;—and full well have you here sustained the fame of former years. There have not been wanting occasions which have called forth an exhibition of the same courage and intrepidity as of yore, but not less have you won high and solid distinction in the quieter paths of patient labour.

For us, your memorials lie around us, and meet us on every hand. Those of us who are your own countrymen would desire to take this last opportunity to ask you to accept, as their Minister, this acknowledgment of their high appreciation of all the services you have rendered to them,—of the willingness you have ever shown to receive and attend to all their representations, and of your unsparing exertions in guarding their interests. And all of us equally feel a debt of gratitude for the much you have done to promote the well-being of this Settlement, and of the sister Settlements in Japan.

With its recreations, with its graver pursuits, with its benevolences, scarcely less than with its commercial interests, you have been always identified in a way which will leave behind you a blank not easy to fill.

There is much more we might say,—much more we would say, were this the time and the place. All we desire is that you would accept this much as the evidence of the unfeigned regret we feel at your leaving us.

And now we would bid yourself and your family circle God-speed. Believe us, your memory will remain green with us, and though gone from us we shall follow you with the pleasantest of recollections. May you spend a long career in health, happiness, and success, and increasing honour, and then enjoy with your family around you and growing up into years and prosperity, the meed of a gallant, honourable, and distinguished career, handing down to your children the heritage of a brilliant reputation.

And we trust that sometimes amidst the cares of the important office to which you have been called, or the repose of later years, may come back to you pleasant memories of the friends you leave in Japan.

A copy of the address, suitably mounted, was handed to His Excellency, who read the following reply:—

MR. WILKIN AND GENTLEMEN,

It is very difficult for me to find words to reply to an address expressive of such warm attachment not only on the part of my own countrymen but on that of the foreign residents in general.

The period of years which I have passed in Japan forms no small portion of life's span, and it would have been to my discredit, during that time, if I had not become intimately associated with most of the members of this united community. But I feel that you refer in far too generous terms to the services which you consider I have rendered you. I am myself only conscious of having endeavoured not to neglect the opportunities afforded me of fulfilling my trust, and if I have succeeded to your satisfaction, I am sensible that that result is in no small measure attributable to the cordial support I have derived from my countrymen, and also to the kind assistance which I have received from the members of other nationalities. I have always found this community ready to place a favourable construction upon my action; to make allowance for difficulties which were beyond my control; and, when little was accomplished, to give me credit for honest effort. This indulgent appreciation will go far to compensate me for the pain of separation, and will always cause me to look back with pleasure on my long residence in this country.

The proximity of the post to which I am now transferred will enable me to retain a deep interest in your affairs and also in the future of this nation. I have received much kindness from the Sovereign, the authorities, and the people of Japan; and in endeavouring, as it was my first duty to do, to advance the welfare of my own countrymen, I have always felt that the interests of foreigners in this country were inseparable from those of the people, and I have therefore only advocated measures and pursued a policy which I believe to be conducive to the benefit of both. I have also always considered—and it is only due to the foreign residents to say that this feeling is a reflection of their own—that the Government of Japan is entitled to our best sympathy in the trials and difficulties with which it has to contend in passing through the period of transition and in entering on the wide stage of reform which our advent may be said to have occasioned. But

when the changes which have been so rapidly initiated affected the position and interests of foreigners in Japan, I then maintained, as it was both my right and my duty to do, that they should be proceeded with deliberately, and that each step should be based upon mature reflection.

My earnest desire, which I am satisfied is shared by every one here present, is, that in following out reform, the attention of this nation may be seriously occupied not only with political movement but also with substantial economic and industrial progress, and that the well being of the people may be materially advanced by the removal of those obstacles which now impede the development of their national wealth and resources. We also trust that Japan will soon gain for herself a reputation for commercial intelligence and liberality equal to that which she has already acquired in regard to education and religious toleration, and that it may not long be said that the privileges which she gives to foreigners, in return for that free welcome which her people universally receive in Western States, are inferior to those which have been granted in the country to which I am now about to proceed.

Permit me to say to all those who have so kindly taken part in this entertainment, that I and my daughters are greatly touched by its cordial and spontaneous character, and by its being joined in by so many of the foreign residents upon whom we have no claim. In the presence of such a large concourse of ladies I see a graceful and to me a most acceptable acknowledgement of the fulfilment of those social duties to which your address alludes, but in which I myself have taken only a minor share. Believe me that my daughters and myself most heartily reciprocate your kind farewell, and earnestly wish for you greater prosperity than that which has been attained in our day.

And to my countrymen I would add that as you have so generously rung out your old Minister, so I am satisfied you will ring in, with as loyal a welcome, my successor, who is so favourably known to us all. It is no light satisfaction to me to resign your interests into his able charge, and also to feel that they will be most carefully guarded in the interval which will transpire before he arrives.

Sir Harry Parkes and his party left the Gardens at eleven o'clock, but many visitors remained, and dancing was kept up till midnight.

THE TOKIO DAI-GAKU.

We have received the Calendar for the year 2542-43, a date which our Christian chronology calls 1882-83, of the Department of Law, Science, and Literature of the University of Tokiyo. It is published by Messrs. Z. P. Maruya & Co., 2543 (1883), and is very creditably got up and printed. Its subject matter is closely similar to that of other Public School and University Calendars, rather dry in detail and "caviare to the general public," but the historical summary, which occupies the first nine or ten pages of the little brochure cannot fail to be of interest. In April of the tenth year of Meiji, the Tokio Kaisai Gakko was united to Tokio I-gakko (Medical College), to form the Tokio Dai-gaku (University of Tokio), which was divided into the four Departments of Law, Science, Medicine, and Literature. The Departments of Law, Science, and Literature were established in the former Kaisai Gakko, and the Department of Medicine in the former I-gakko. The Tokio Yeigo Gakko (Tokio English Language School) was made the Tokio Dai-

gaku Yobimon (Preparatory School to the University of Tokio), and put under the control of the Departments of Law, Science, and Literature. Mr. Hiroyuki Kato, *Sori* of the former Kaisai Gakko, was appointed *Sori* (President) of the Departments of Law, Science, and Literature, in Tokio Dai-gaku; Mr. Arata Hamao, Vice-Director of the former Kaisai-Gakko, was appointed *Sori-Ho* (Vice-President) of the same Departments of Law, Science, and Literature, and in addition to his duties as Vice-President was made *Shukan* (Principal) of Tokio Dai-gaku Yobimon. Mr. Ichizo Hattori, Director of the former Yeigo Gakko, was appointed *Shukan* of Tokio Dai-gaku Yobimon; and immediately after, the office of *Sori-Ho* of the Departments of Law, Science, and Literature, was assigned to him in addition to his duties as *Shukan*. All instructors in the former Kaisai Gakko and Yeigo Gakko became, respectively, professors in the Departments of Law, Science, and Literature, and teachers in the Yobimon.

So the record goes on, telling of the gradual but steady progress of the institution until we come to the 10th of July, 1879, which witnessed the first occasion of conferring degrees. Fifty-five students who had finished their respective courses received them, and the ceremony was more elaborate than had been customary in giving certificates.

The degree of *Hogakushi* was conferred upon fifteen, and that of *Rigakushi* upon forty. On this occasion, General Grant, Ex-President of the United States of America, who was then visiting this country, was present by invitation. A year later, on the 10th of July, 1880, degrees were granted with appropriate ceremony to thirty-eight students who had completed their respective courses. *Hogakushi* numbered six, *Rigakushi* twenty-four, and *Bungakushi* eight. Among the *Rigakushi* were eight students who had completed the course of Physics in the French language. This course was established for the students of the polytechnic course in French, when the latter was abolished in August of the 8th year of Meiji. The French course in Physics was also abolished on the graduation of the eight remaining students above mentioned. A month or so later, at the suggestion of Professor Mendenhall, in order to measure the velocity of sound under different conditions, an application was made to the government for permission to use at specified times the noon-day cannon in the castle grounds. This permission was granted on the 25th of December. These experiments were conducted in the following year. Meanwhile promising pupils in various departments were sent to France, Germany, and England to complete their curriculum.

In September, 1881, the regulation concerning the study of French and German was modified. Students in the Departments of Science and Literature are accordingly required to study German instead of choosing between French and German. This change has been made in order to enable students to pursue their studies or professions in future to the best advantage, since it is believed that Germany is the country where the sciences have reached the highest comparative development. The students in these departments, however, together with the Law students, may study French if they have sufficient time to do so. The course of Mathematics, Physics, and Astronomy, in the Department of Science, has been divided into three distinct courses; and the course of Philosophy, Political Philosophy, and Political Economy, in the Department of Literature, has been divided, with some modifications, into two

courses, viz., that of Philosophy, and that of Political Science and Economy.

At the end of October, last year, degrees were granted to sixty-six students who had completed their respective courses in the last Academic year. *Hogakushi* numbered eight, *Rigakushi* twenty, *Igakushi* twenty-nine, *Seiyakushi* five, and *Bungakushi* four. On this occasion the Ministers of the several Departments of the Government and other officials and gentlemen, including foreigners, were present. The Korean Ambassadors, who were then visiting this country, were also present. The ceremony which is usually held on the 10th of July was postponed to the above mentioned date, on account of the prevalence of cholera during the summer.

The organization of the University is as follows:—The Departments of Law, Science, and Literature, with the Department of Medicine, form the Tokio Dai-gaku, or University of Tokio, and provide special courses of instruction in Law, in the Department of Law; in Mathematics, Physics, Chemistry, Biology, Astronomy, Engineering, Geology, and Mining and Metallurgy, in the Department of Science; and in Philosophy, Political Science, and Political Economy, and Japanese and Chinese Literature, in the Department of Literature. Besides the above courses, there is *Koten Koshu Kua* (course in Japanese Classics, including Old Japanese Laws, History, Literature, etc.), belonging to the Department of Literature, the object of which course is to instruct the students in the historical facts of the country, in the history of old laws, in the development of the Japanese language, etc. The Tokio Dai-gaku Yobimon Honko, which belongs to the Tokio Dai-gaku and is under the control of the Departments of Law, Science, and Literature, is designed to provide a general course of education and to serve as a Preparatory School to the Departments. All the courses in the Departments of Law, Science, and Literature extend through four years, and there are four corresponding grades of students. In the Department of Law, the students all pursue the same course. In the Department of Science, eight courses have been established, and in the Department of Literature, three courses, with *Koten Koshu Kua*. The students in the Department of Literature and Science pursue one course respectively which they may elect. The intention is ultimately to use the Japanese language in all the Departments, but, for the present, instruction is given in the English language. The students are also taught the French language in the Department of Law, and the German language in the Departments of Science and Literature, except the students of Japanese and Chinese Literature. The little volume before us, with its lists of classes and courses of study, will be of interest to all those who desire to record or admire the marvellous progress made by Japan in the last decade in her adaptation of Occidental methods and sciences.

NOTIFICATION No. 29 OF THE PRIVY COUNCIL.

It was promulgated by Notification No. 7 in July of the 15th year of Meiji (1882) that a railway would be constructed between Kawaguchi, in the prefecture of Saitama, and Mayebashi in the prefecture of Gumbu. Hereby another Notification is issued to the effect that the Kawaguchi line will be extended to Shinagawa, through Itabashi, Shinjuku, and Meguro within the jurisdiction of the Tokiyo Fu, so that it may be connected at Shinagawa with the Tokiyo-Yokohama railway.

August 24th, 10th year of Meiji, (1883.)

(Signed) SANJO SAN'YOSHI,
First Minister of State.

(Signed) SASAKI TAKATSURA,
Minister of Public Works.

SPECIAL COURT, TOKIYO.

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 15TH, 1883.

Before Mr. Justice TAMANO, and Messrs. HAYASHI, KAWADA, and NAGAOKA, Assessors.

THE PROSECUTION OF THE FUKUSHIMA SUSPECTS.

The Court opened at 8.30 a.m., when Judge Tamano directed prisoner No. 4, Tamano, to speak for himself.

Prisoner—The argument of the prosecution is too extensive for me to go into thoroughly, so I will reply to such portions of it as have a direct bearing upon my case. The prosecution is endeavoring to establish our culpability by the letter I sent to Mumei Kan, wherein I mentioned that the Government is resorting to measures of extreme oppression, etc. This remark had reference to the local administration of Fukushima, and I wrote it under the impulse of the occasion. Had we really intended to revolt, I should not have sent that letter by post. It concerns nobody but myself. It is unjust to incriminate the whole party for a letter for which I am exclusively responsible. Suppose that a shareholder in a company did wrong, would it be reasonable to hold the whole company responsible? Certainly not. This is an exact analogy to the case of myself and my letter. The suspicion that we lied in concert respecting the destruction of the covenant is the result of ignorance of the state of affairs. We were always busy going round the province delivering political lectures. In fact, we were constantly absent from home and never met together; so that we could not make any final arrangement to cancel our covenant. If the prosecution will inquire into this matter, it will find that our statement is correct.

Mr. Oi (Counsel for Tamano)—The prosecution insists that *tem-puku* must involve physical violence; but it has failed to show what was the cause and what the effect of this so-called conspiracy. Action is the result of will or intention. Without volition there can be no performance. The covenant in question was drawn up; but the accused never displayed any intention of carrying it into effect. Hence, there was no danger of the Government being overthrown by the accused so long as they had no intention to upset it. Therefore, there is no reason for punishing them. (Here the Speaker pointed out at great length the inaccuracy of the prosecution's interpretation of French terms). If the authorities had determined to punish every one who used the word *tem-puku*, few would get off scot-free. The contention of the prosecution that the scheme of political improvement devised by the accused did not extend to the whole world, and that the Government of this country was the object of its attack, is the result of ignorance of the prisoners' motives. Take the case of those sages who have founded schemes of logic in the various difficult departments of knowledge. Their work, if not immediately beneficent at the moment of its performance, has had an enduring effect upon human society. Appreciation of this fact impelled the accused to their praiseworthy undertaking. They deserve our gratitude for their endeavours, which reflect honor upon Japan.

Prisoner No. 4, Kono, recapitulated his previous statements and emphatically denied the accusation that the covenant was drawn up for the purpose of upsetting the Government of Japan.

Mr. Hoshi (Counsel for Kono)—I beg to ask the Court to allow me to address it at the conclusion of the proceedings.

Prosecutor—We shall avoid confusion by keeping to the present order of conducting the case.

Judge—There can be no inconvenience whatever in allowing Mr. Hoshi to speak last, provided that course is to the advantage of the accused.

Prisoner No. 5, Aizawa, was next ordered to reply to the accusation. He asserted that the words "bureaucratic Government" in the covenant, did not refer to the Government of Japan, inasmuch as Japan is about to have a national assembly in the 23rd year of Meiji.

Mr. Kitata, Counsel for Aizawa, said that he would address the Court at its next sitting, as there would not be time for him to finish his pleading that morning.

The Court rose at 11 a.m.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 16TH, 1883.

The Court opened at 8 a.m., when Judge Tamano requested Mr. Kitata to commence his argument.

Mr. Kitata—I will refer to the three points upon which the Prosecution's contention is based. Emphatically will I refer to one thing. The ideas of one individual should not be taken to represent that of a collective body. Monsieur Boissonade defining an "idea," says that it is a thought and that the human faculty is originally of the weakest description. When "idea" has developed, it is known by the name of volition. But this is not the last stage of its development. That is determination, and is an individual attribute. The idea of an association, is the determination of many individuals to achieve the consummation of a certain object. Thus, the idea of one individual must not be looked upon as identical with a plot contemplated by many. And this faculty (or idea) is liable to undergo many changes before it merges into determination. The law does not take cognizance of it in the case of common offences; but it is punishable in cases of high treason, because its nature is then very grave, and because after it is carried into effect its punishment is of no avail. I will now proceed to restate the charges put forward by the prosecution. They may be divided into three points;—(1) The words "bureaucratic Government of Japan;" (2) The words "overthrow the Government" suggests attempts to raise an insurrection; and (3) the statement that the covenant was cancelled, is untrue. The first and second points concern the general facts of the case; and the third point, the argument now under our consideration. The prosecution insists that the expression "bureaucratic Government" meant the Government of this country. In support of this contention, they produced the letter written by Tamano and the evidence of Hiroshima and Hanaka. This is all but the result of illusion. The letters and evidence were simply the sketch of each individual's own idea and not the deliberate determination of the lot. Hiroshima and Hanaka have proved that the evidence in question is inaccurate; and Tamano has deposed that he wrote the epistle under the pressure of the occasion. He has declared that his writing concerns nobody but himself, and that he is solely responsible for it. All the accused have established that the programme of their political work embraced the whole of human society. They are guiltless and cannot be punished. The words "bureaucratic government" might be applicable to such a government as that which existed under Louis XIV. and Louis XVI. But it cannot be applied to the Government of Japan, which is about to establish a liberal constitution. That the covenant was cancelled cannot be doubted. Speaking from

a legal standpoint, if the covenant had been an agreement between a debtor and creditor, it could not be broken otherwise than through mutual consent; but it happened to be of a totally different nature, and might be cancelled at the will of its deviser, provided he announced his intention to two or three of his companions. Subsequently, no matter though there existed a copy of the covenant, it was virtually extinct. Therefore, the contention as to the covenant is untrue, and because of difference in dates mentioned, is valueless. The argument that *tem-puku* necessitates physical violence, is ridiculous, since there are two ways of overthrowing a Government—peacefully and violently. Sometimes a thing may be overthrown by its own weight or by an accident. In the present case, the word *tem-puku* is used in its peaceful sense, and means improvement in the administrative organization. Suppose an edict was issued prohibiting travel to Kiyoto by sea; and a man journeyed there overland, would it be reasonable on the part of the police to arrest and punish him? Certainly not. Though the voyage there by sea was prohibited, the man was quite justified in going overland. This is an exact analogy of the circumstances of the prisoners. On consideration of the state of affairs when the accused drew up the covenant, we must be convinced that their scheme was of a peaceful nature. There is no reason why they should be punished.

Prisoner No. 6, Sawata, was next ordered to reply to the accusation, when he complained of being incriminated by the confessions extorted from others in the Fukushima Police-station and the Wakamatsu Court. He said that he had been arrested in Tokijo and had no part in the preliminary examination of his fellow prisoners. He asserted that the political work of his party was meant to extend to foreign countries—namely, Korea and China. The people of those two nations, he held, do not enjoy the gifts of liberty; and in view of the recent introduction into Japan of civilization from Occidental nations, it was the duty of Japan to introduce it to these two nations.

Mr. Uyeki (Counsel for Sawata) briefly addressed the Bench, pointing out that, in deciding this case, it would be necessary to find out what was the object of the accused in drawing up the covenant and what measures they were going to take to consummate it. Their object was, said Mr. Uyeki, to establish a liberal constitution—an object which could not be punished by law; and they had resorted to peaceful measures to attain that end.

Mr. Hoshi—Prior to proceeding with my argument, I should like to ascertain whether the Prosecution is influenced by a belief that the Government of Japan is bureaucratic, and in accordance with that belief refuses to credit the declarations made by the accused that the Government is not bureaucratic; or, whether the Government itself, regarding itself as bureaucratic, has instructed the Prosecution to institute this case.

Judge Tamano—I cannot tell whether the Prosecution would care to reply to your question. Will you (addressing the Prosecutor) answer it?

Prosecutor—It is a very strange question to put. It would be absurd for us to call the Government bureaucratic, oppressive, or by any other such name. It is quite useless to ask such a question. The only matter we have to consider, is whether or no the accused had the intention to overthrow the Government. We cannot reply to any such irrelevant question as that put by Mr. Hoshi.

The learned Counsel for the defence then esti-

mated that he would conclude his address on the following morning.

The Court rose at noon.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 17TH, 1883.

The Court opened at 8.20 a.m., when Judge Tamano requested Mr. Hoshi to commence his argument.

Mr. Hoshi—I must request the Court to read me the reports of Hiroshima's trial dated the 1st of February and 2nd of April this year. (Reports read. The learned Counsel indicated a few points in the reports in support of his contention.) He then said:—The two questions, as to what is the true definition of the word "insurrection" as described in the Criminal Code, and whether the evidence produced by the Prosecution is sufficient to prove the culpability of the accused, are of the first importance in this case. The four points* to which I referred yesterday are of only secondary moment. The second question has the principal bearing upon the matter, and I will deal with it first. The contention of the Prosecution can be divided into three heads:—(1) the words "bureaucratic Government" in the covenant meant the Government of Japan; (2) The words *seifu tem-puku* (to overthrow the Government) suggest an attempt to raise an insurrection; and (3) that the covenant was cancelled, is false. Beginning with the first point, I find that the Prosecution regards the Government of Japan as bureaucratic; for, whilst the accused said that the Government of Japan is excluded from the category of bureaucratic governments, they insist in their defence that it included the existing authorities in it. This partakes somewhat of the marvellous. I put therefore a question yesterday to ascertain the opinion of the Prosecution on this point, but the Prosecution gave me an equivocal reply. In the report of Hanaka's examination and that of Hiroshima, a statement occurs that they said that the words in question represented the existing Government of Japan. As the accused have already clearly shown that the report is full of gross errors, the statement in question cannot be believed. The two witnesses, Kamada and Sasaki, testified that they saw no such word as Japan in the covenant. Hence, it is evident that the accused did not refer to the Government of Japan. Had they meant the Government of Japan they would have written in the covenant to that effect. But it was well known that Japan is to have a liberal constitution in the 23rd year of Meiji (1890), and there was no reason why it should be called a bureaucratic Government. If, therefore, anyone designates the Government of Japan as bureaucratic, he must assign a reason for so doing. That the accused did not do so is owing to the fact that they referred to all the bureaucratic Governments of the world. With reference to the letter written by Tamano, I must contend that it concerns nobody but the author himself, and has nothing whatever to do with other prisoners. The Prosecution has insisted that the political reforms contemplated by the accused could not be extended to foreign countries. This is a matter of opinion, and in my contention a wrong view. There is no question that such reforms can be effected. (Here the Speaker took some pains to show the possibility of the work being executed by referring to the spread of Buddhism and Christianity). That the covenant was cancelled and that the words *seifu tem-puku* (overthrow the bureaucratic government) were changed to "improve the administrative system," are true, and cannot be disputed. Let us return to the first point. Before proceeding, however, I want to call the attention of the Court to the fact that there is a contradiction in the argument of the Prosecution. I will return to this point anon, and discuss it fully. At a former sitting, I said that the Japanese word *nairan* (domestic disorder or insurrection) is equivalent to the French term *guerre civile*. The Prosecution disputed this—that is, the correctness of my version,—and said that the French equivalent for *nairan*, is *crime contre la sûreté de l'état*. This is wrong. The French term

* The *Chojo Shimbun*, from which this report is translated, did not contain the argument of Mr. Hoshi on the said four points which had reference to the intellectual and moral condition of the accused prior and subsequent to the covenant being drawn up.

in question means in English, a crime against the safety of the State. The English equivalent for *naiwan* is civil war. There is a great difference between the English and French terms. Under the heading "*crime: contre la sûreté de l'État*," one finds two distinct clauses—crime against the Imperial family and the crime of civil war. The Prosecution got mixed in dealing with these two phrases. They insist that *guerre civile* means war among the people. But this is probably due to a misinterpretation of the word *civile*, which is derived from the Latin word *civis*, and means pertaining to a city, but after Rome established herself in all her splendour, it was used to represent State. The Prosecution, probably, did not understand this, and the consequence is their mistake. The contention of the Prosecution that Article 87 of the French Criminal Code corresponds with Article 121 of our Criminal Code, is wrong, because Article 121 embodies Articles 87 and 91 of our Criminal Code. The foregoing will, I believe, prove the correctness of my assertion. (Here Mr. Hoshi quoted from the English authority, Stephens, and the American authority Bishop, in support of his definition of the word insurrection, the equivalent of the Japanese word *naiwan*.) I wish to remind the Prosecution of an incident which is looked upon to the present day as a disgrace to the history of the English judiciary. In the reign of Charles I., a man was convicted for merely writing the words "I overthrow the government" on the margin of a letter, and was sentenced to death! I hope that the Court will not suffer the reproduction of such a shameful sentence.

Mr. Kitata rose and requested the Prosecution to thoroughly digest Article 146 of the Code of Criminal Procedure.

Judge Tamano—Will you (addressing the Prosecution) speak to the argument of the defence?

Prosecutor—We had previously to deal *seriatim* with the defence of each of the accused and with the arguments of their Counsel. This method has given rise to so much confusion that it is impossible to get at the bottom of the argument, and as we cannot take any other course than that adopted, we are compelled to a certain extent to stick to the same system. As our previous argument was apparently too much for obtuse individuals, we will explain it once more very plainly. The defence has often complained of the judgment being founded on presumption. The Prosecutor then went on to explain that Article 146 of the Code of Criminal Procedure does not concern the Judge, and that its spirit is to prevent the participation of the legislative officers in judicial matters. He said that criminal law was operative in the intellectual sphere, that is to say, that criminal intention was punishable by law.

The Court rose at 11.30 a.m.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 18TH, 1883.

The Court opened at 8.20 a.m., when the Prosecutor, in continuation of his speech, said that the argument of prisoner No. 1, Hanaka, and his Counsel, Mr. Yamada, can be arranged under five heads:—(1) the report of the accused's trial at the Fukushima police station is valueless; (2) the possibility of political reform being effected throughout the Orient; (3) the statement that the covenant was cancelled, is true; (4) the word "overthrow the Government" were changed to "improve the administrative system;" and (5) the so-called intention to overthrow the Government, does not come within the scope of what is meant by an "insurrection." With reference to the first point, he said that the prisoner had every opportunity to correct the report in the Special Court, but he admitted that the words "overthrow the Government" referred to the existing Government of Japan, as recorded in the report of the preliminary examination, and the proof was therefore conclusive that the accused meant "to overthrow" the present Government. As regards the second point, the Prosecutor said that such an universal political reform as was said to be contemplated by the prisoners, is quite impossible, and therefore a false plea. The third

point that the covenant was cancelled, is sheer invention, since the prisoners mentioned nothing of it on the occasions of previous hearings, till Kono spoke of it later on. The fourth point is of the same nature. The accused never even mooted it in previous hearings. The fifth point is untenable, since the covenant bore bloody signatures. People only sign in that fashion when they have thrown their life into the balance against the execution of their designs. Coming to the case of prisoner No. 2, Hiroshima, the speaker remarked that prisoner's defence consisted of three points:—(1) the words "bureaucratic Government" did not refer to the existing Government; (2) the asserted attempt to overthrow of the Government, is not insurrection; (3) the covenant was cancelled. All these conditions Counsel endeavoured to dispose of exactly in the same way as in his previous pleading. He then went on to say that the words *seifu tem-puku* were and are used in a sense of taking violent measures to attain an end, and thus convey a dangerous impression. He remarked that the rise and decline of Christianity and Buddhism had nothing to do with the case, and that (referring to the quotation of Hiroshima from Mencius) to overthrow morality, no physical power is required, but to overthrow the Government, bodily exertion is necessary. Therefore the prisoner's classical reference is inapplicable in this case, since the covenant speaks of "overthrowing the Government," not upsetting an abstract virtue. Replying to the Counsel for Hiroshima, Mr. Nakashima, the Prosecutor, divided his argument into four headings:—(1) an attempt to overthrow the Government, is not insurrection; (2) the proposed scheme of political reform did not embrace Japan; (3) the words "overthrow the Government" were altered to "improve the administrative system;" and (4) the covenant was cancelled. Counsel said:—The first point having been already gone into, it demands no fresh refutation. As regards the second point we contend that the work proposed could not have been extended to foreign lands. That idea is simply preposterous. Hanaka and Hiroshima said for the first time in this Court that the wording in question was altered, but they said nothing of the kind at the time of the preliminary examinations at Fukushima and Wakamatsu. After careful consideration we are convinced that they meant the existing Government of this realm. The third point is that of intention, as we have already indicated it. The accused and their Counsel insist that their scheme was to overthrow the Government by the force of their rhetoric. In support of this plea they sought an analogous case in the work of Rai Sanyo, who contributed toward the downfall of the Tokugawa usurpation. But the Prosecutor reminded the defence of the fact that the very nature of their argument was criminal. The overthrow of a Government may be effected by rhetoric, not directly, but indirectly. There are two methods whereby to attain the end. One is instigation, the other is the actual rising of people against their Government through their believing in the word of others. Instigators to rebellion are punishable criminally; and among them must be included political lecturers who, even unintentionally, speak in such a manner as to incite the people to oppose the Government. In such an instance, the orators are punishable under the Regulations for the Control of Public Meetings. Mr. Nakashima contends that, unless ammunition, provisions, and money have been obtained, a so-called insurrection is not an insurrection at all. But in law the preparation (*yobu*) with determination to raise a rebellion, is punishable as coming within the scope of secret plotting (*inbo*). Of the statement of prisoner No. 3, Tamano, that it is unreasonable to hold a company responsible for the wrong-doing of one of its shareholders, and that there is an analogy between such a case and himself and his letter, the Prosecutor held that his illustration was utterly inappropriate. The letter was produced in substantiation of the charge against Tamano and not as sole testimony.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 18TH, 1883.

The continuation of the Prosecutor's speech is as follows:—The contention of Mr. Oi, Counsel for prisoner No. 3, Tamano, can be divided into three parts:—(1) because the Prosecution bases the culpability of the accused on the wording in the covenant it is unreasonable to punish them for a

mere expression of opinion; (2) it is not difficult to overthrow all the Governments of the universe; (3) the argument of the Prosecution is of no value. With reference to the first point, the Speaker said that the crime of insurrection is not punishable in intention, and never until after committed. The second point, he said, had already been gone into, and required no fresh refutation. The third point was the ignorance of Mr. Oi of the meaning of the French terms cited by the Prosecution. (Here the Prosecution requested prisoner No. 4, Kono, to recapitulate his argument.) This done, the Prosecutor briefly discussed Mr. Kono's statement and said he would reply to it at the close of the case, or before the prisoner's Counsel, Mr. Hoshi spoke, to avoid confusion.

The Court rose at 11.30 a.m.

MONDAY, AUGUST 20TH, 1883.

On the opening of the Court, the Prosecutor resumed his argument. He said that the defence of prisoner No. 5, Aizawa, consisted of three points. The first—namely, that, as Japan was to have a National Assembly in the 23rd year of Meiji, the existing Government is excluded from the category of "bureaucratic governments"—has nothing to do with the case, and therefore requires no refutation. The second point—that the "overthrow" of the Government by physical force would require the combined efforts of many thousands of men, and that as the six prisoners could not overthrow the government they cannot be guilty of insurrection—is a worthless plea. Third, there was no evidence forthcoming that the accused had no intention to raise an insurrection. As for the argument of Mr. Kitata, Counsel for Aizawa, the Prosecutor remarked that it might be dealt with in four sections:—(1) the words "bureaucratic government" did not refer to the existing Government of Japan; (2) the covenant was cancelled; (3) the word *tem-puku* (overthrowing) does not signify insurrection; (4) the argument of the Prosecution is valueless. With regard to the first point, the speaker said that Aizawa evidently understood its meaning, as the report of his preliminary examinations and the letter written by Tamano clearly indicated. The second point, that the covenant was cancelled, is untenable, since no evidence has been produced to corroborate the statement. As regards the third point, the Prosecutor said, that the illustration of the incongruity in the accusation adduced by Mr. Kitata was inapplicable. In contradiction of the hypothesis that although a man were prohibited from going to Kiyoto by sea, he might be justified in going thither overland, the Speaker said that, in this case, the criminal intention of the accused was as clearly proved as that of a man who pretends to go to America overland while he can only go thither by sea. They had only one way of consummating this object—physical violence. The signature in blood is the most substantial proof that the accused plotted, and were fully conscious of the possible consequences of their action. As regard the fourth point, the Prosecutor remarked that the argument of the prisoner's Counsel was preposterous.

Mr. Kitata rose and begged to be allowed to reply to the Prosecution. (Allowed.) He said:—Article 146 of the Code of Criminal Procedure, is devised to prevent Judges from deciding on mere assumption. If such a course were tolerated, great dangers would arise. The learned Counsel emphatically protested that the Prosecution had confounded fact with intention.

Referring to the argument of prisoner No. 6, Sawata, the Prosecutor said that the alleged threats and deceit of the Fukushima police did not shake the accusation as no evidence was forthcoming to prove it. He then rapidly reviewed the argument of Mr. Uyeiki, Counsel for Sawata, and said that his theme demanded no refutation.

MONDAY, AUGUST 20TH, 1883.

Reviewing Mr. Hoshi's argument on behalf of Prisoner No. 4, Kono, the Prosecutor said that it might be dealt with under four headings, to wit:—(1) that, as there is no "bureaucratic" Government in the country, any plot to overthrow such an institution could not apply to the Government of this country. This plea is illogical, since attempts to upset a government do not take abstract account of whether the authorities are bureaucratic or con-

*Article 146.—The law forms no presumption of culpability deduced from the circumstances of the case. The confession of the accused, the declarations, the condemnatory evidence, the testimony of third parties, the reports of experts and indications of every kind are left to the discretion of the judges.

stitutional. They mean the overthrow of a certain government because it is opposed politically to the party that seeks its abolition and the establishment in power of its own adherents. The accused admitted their intention to overthrow all governments that are the foci of liberalism. Prisoner No. 1, Hanaka, categorically admitted that the idea of "bureaucracy" in his mind was exemplified in the Government of Japan. (2) The assertion that the words in question were altered to "improve the administration" is unsupported by any evidence, and is therefore of no value. (3) The statement of Sakai and Kanada that they had seen the correction cannot be received with any confidence, since, not only were they implicated in the same crime, but as the servants of Hiroshima they were likely to give evidence partial to him. (4) The theory that a secret plot (*inbo*) is not punishable, unless recourse is had, as a consequence of it, to physical violence, is untenable. Granted that no active measures of revolt had been resorted to by the prisoners; but they had plotted, and were indicted with the crime of *inbo*—conspiracy to raise an insurrection. Mr. Hoshi's attempted analogy of some serious error in a judgment delivered in an English Court is wholly irrelevant. The English judge delivered judgment according to the force of expressions used, whereas in this instance there is substantial evidence that the prisoner intended to overthrow the Government. (Here the speaker pointed out the incorrectness of Mr. Hoshi's interpreting of the French legal terms, and remarked that the counsel's quotations from English and American authorities were useless.) I have refuted the arguments of each of the accused and their Counsel. In consequence my argument is likely to become rather confused, to avoid this I will briefly recapitulate my argument. It consists of three sections:—First the statement of the accused, that the covenant was drawn up for the purpose of spreading liberal ideas, is false, for the document bore signatures in blood. This is only done when men throw their lives in the balance against the execution of their designs. The contention that the proposal for the publication of a newspaper shows that they had combined to effect a political improvement by peaceful means, is an invention. The second point requires no recapitulation. The third point, is that the accused is criminally punishable, since they were guilty of a secret plot (*inbo*) to raise an insurrection which action has been proved by the covenant.

Mr. Hoshi asked whether the Prosecution had finally concluded their argument.

The Prosecutor, in reply, remarked that should anything take place that required him to speak, he should do so without hesitation.

The Court rose at 11.30 a.m.

THE LAUNCH OF THE "TENRIU KAN."

According to announcement H.I.J.M.S. *Tenriu Kan* was launched on Saturday afternoon. From an early hour the people of the vicinity thronged to Yokosuka Dockyard; and visitors from Tokyo and Yokohama were so numerous that all the boats plying between this port and the arsenal were crowded thither with sightseers. The weather was delightful, and the bay as smooth as glass—falsely as usual; but the edge of the gale which has been raging South of us had not reached this harbor, nor did it, until after the visitors to the launch had returned to their respective homes. H.M. the Emperor was prevented from being present; but he was well represented at what was indeed a brilliant spectacle. The many Japanese men-of-war in harbor had dressed ship for the occasion, while the folks ashore were as joyous as Japanese alone can be. Among the distinguished personages present were their Imperial Highnesses Aru-gawa-no-Miya, Komatsu-no-Miya, Fu-himi-no-Miya, and Na-hime-no-Miya; their Excellencies Sanjo, Ito, Oki, Yamada, Yamagata, Matsukara, Sasaki and Fukuoka; Generals Saigo and Kuroda; Admirals Kawamura, Nakamura, and Nirei; Captains Aiura and Kurooka. The party was conveyed by steamer to and from Yokosuka, and in the evening on return was entertained at supper in the Eastern Admiralty Office. There was also present a large number of distinguished civil and military officers.

The *Tenriu* was designed by Rear-Admiral Akamatsu, on a mixed English and Russian model, and was constructed by Messrs. Shido (superintendent of the dockyard), Hamaguchi (vice-superintendent), and Akamine (chief engineer). The work was commenced in February, 1878, and completed last month. The *Tenriu Kan* is a vessel of the third-class. Her dimensions are: length 63.74 metres; breadth 11 metres; draught 4.8 metres (foreward) and 5.7 metres (aft). She is barque-rigged; her speed is 12 knots an hour; tonnage register 925; and displacement 1,372 tons. Her armament consists of one 15 and one 17 centimetre Krupp gun and four 12 centimetre Krupp. She has compound surface-condensing engine, and the steam pressure is one cubic inch of 65 pounds; horse-power, indicated, 1,250; nominal, 250.

LATEST TELEGRAMS.

[REUTER "SPECIAL" TO "JAPAN MAIL."]

London, August 19th.

STRIKE OF COTTON SPINNERS.

The cotton spinners of Ashton-under-Lyne have turned out on strike.

PRINCE NICHOLAS.

Prince Nicholas of Montenegro has arrived at Constantinople, where he was received with great distinction.

London, August 17th.

CETEWAYO ALIVE.

The *Standard* publishes a telegram to the effect that Cetewayo's troops have defeated those of Usibepu, and that Cetewayo is alive and recovering from his wounds.

London, August 18th.

MORE CHINESE IRONCLADS.

The Chinese Government have ordered two more corvettes to be built at Kiel.

INCREASE OF CHOLERA.

Cholera is still increasing in Egypt.

London, August 20th.

SLIGO ELECTION.

Lynch, the Home Rule candidate for Sligo, has been elected, defeating his opponent by a large majority.

DECREASE OF CHOLERA IN EGYPT.

Cholera has nearly disappeared from Cairo, and is reported to be rapidly decreasing in Alexandria and the provinces.

London, August 21st.

MADAGASCAR.

Sir Stafford Northcote, in the House of Commons, complained of the alarming reticence of the Government with regard to affairs in Madagascar. Mr. Gladstone, in reply, said nothing had occurred in Madagascar to disturb the friendly alliance that existed between France and England.

FRANCE AND SWITZERLAND.

It is reported that Franco-Swiss relations are not satisfactory.

London, August 22nd.

THE LOCAL SELF-GOVERNMENT (SCOTLAND) BILL.

The House of Lords, on the second reading, has thrown out the Bill for Local Self-Government in Scotland.

GERMANY AND FRANCE.

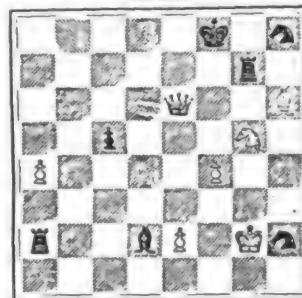
The *North German Gazette* publishes an article alluding to French attacks. Germany denounces France as being the sole element of danger to the peace of Europe.

CHESS.

By S. LOYD.

From American Chess Nuts.

BLACK.



WHITE.

White to play and mate in 3 moves.

Solution to Chess Problem of 18th August, by W. B. MASON, Nagasaki.

White.

Black.

- | | |
|--------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1.—Kt. to Q. B. 4. | 1.—K. takes R. |
| 2.—Q. to K. R. sq. mate. | if 1.—B. takes R. |
| 2.—Q. to K. Kt. 8 mate. | if 1.—P. to Q. 3. |
| 2.—Q. to Q. R. 8 mate. | if 1.—B. or Kt. moves |
| | Q. mates accordingly. |

Correct solution received from "TESA."

MAIL STEAMERS.

THE NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From Hongkong, per P. & O. Co. Sunday, August 26th.*
 From Europe, via Hongkong, per O. & O. Co. Sunday, August 26th.†
 From Shanghai, Nagasaki, & Kobe, per M. B. Co. Thursday, August 30th.‡
 From America, per P. M. Co. Friday, September 7th.§

* *Zemai* left Nagasaki on August 23rd. † *Oceanic* left Hongkong on August 24th. ‡ Left Shanghai on August 23rd. § *City of Tokio* left San Francisco on August 18th.

THE NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For Shanghai, Kobe, and Nagasaki, per M. B. Co. Saturday, August 25th.
 For Hongkong, per P. M. Co. Sunday, August 26th.
 For Europe, via Hongkong, per M. M. Co. Sunday, August 26th.
 For Hakodate, per M. B. Co. Sunday, August 26th.
 For America, per O. & O. Co. Thursday, August 30th.

The arrival and departure of mails by the Occidental and Oriental, the Pacific Mail, and the Peninsular and Oriental Companies, are approximate only.

UYENO-KUMAGAI RAILWAY.

The Trains leave UYENO at 6 a.m. and 1.30 p.m., and KUMAGAI at 9.30 a.m. and 4.30 p.m.
 The Fares are:—Special-class (Separate Compartment), yen 2; First-class, yen 1.20; Third-class, yen 60. The distance from Uyeno to Kumagai is 38 miles.

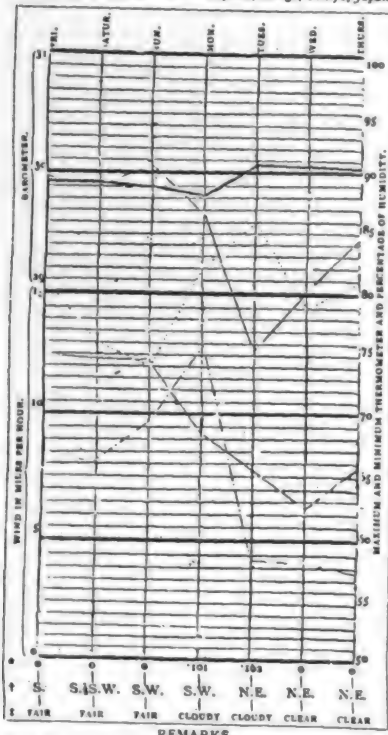
SUNDAY CHURCH SERVICES.

Christ Church: 11 a.m. and 5.30 p.m.
 Union Church: 11 a.m. and 8 p.m.
 Roman Catholic Church: 8 and 9.30 a.m.
 English Church, No. 12, Sakaicho, Shiba, Tokiyo: 11 a.m.

METEOROLOGICAL REPORT.

FOR WEEK BEGINNING FRIDAY, AUGUST 17TH, 1883.

Observatory of Daigaku, Noto-Fujicho, Hongō, Tokiyo, Japan.



REMARKS.

Heavy line represents barometer.
Light continuous line—maximum and minimum thermometers.
represents velocity of wind.
percentage of humidity.

The barometer is reduced to the freezing point and to the level of the sea.

• Rain in inches. † Direction of Wind. ‡ Weather.

Maximum velocity of wind 32.3 miles per hour on Sunday at 3 p.m.

The highest reading of the barometer for the week was 30.115 inches on Tuesday at 9.57 p.m., and the lowest was 29.778 inches on Monday at 2 p.m.

The highest temperature for the week was 80.4 on Monday, and the lowest was 63.2 on Wednesday. The maximum and minimum for the corresponding week of last year were 80.0 and 63.4 respectively.

The total amount of rain for the week was .363 inches against .433 inches for the corresponding week of last year.

LATEST SHIPPING.

FREIGHTS.

At present in port the steamship *Oxfordshire* still occupies the berth for New York. For San Francisco the berth is divided between the *St. David*, advertised to sail on the 28th, and the *Mary Winkelman*. In local business, the bark *Wandering Minstrel* and the brig *Minerva* have been taken up to load wheat at this port. The French bark *Louise* left this for Nagasaki, and the German bark *Galveston* is now ready to leave for the same port in ballast. The British bark *Stillwater* is also ready to depart for Hakodate to load for San Francisco. The *Merionethshire* and *Galley of Lorne* are discharging cargo; the latter vessel is advertised for New York, via Suez Canal, with dispatch. The British 3-masted schooner *Guam*, from Takao with sugar was towed into port on Thursday morning by the steamship *Galley of Lorne*, having been dismantled on the 17th in a hurricane lat. 31 N., long. 132 E.

ARRIVALS.

Wakanoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,342, A. F. Christensen, 19th August,—Kobe, 17th August, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S. S. Co.

Toyoshima Maru, Japanese steamer, 946, Thomas, 20th August,—Hakodate, 17th August, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S. S. Co.

Kworio Maru, Japanese steamer, 482, G. Withers, 21st August,—Yokkaichi 20th August, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S. S. Co.

Merionethshire, British steamer, 1,245, D. Williams, 21st August,—London via Hongkong, General.—Adamson, Bell & Co.

Tsuruga Maru, Japanese steamer, 850, Dithleisen, 22nd August,—Kobe 20th August, Mails and General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S. S. Co.

Niigata Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,091, Hubbard, 23rd August,—Hakodate, Mails and General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S. S. Co.

Galley of Lorne, British steamer, 1,389, Pomeroy, 23rd August,—London via Hongkong 15th August, General.—Smith, Baker & Co.

Guam, British 3-masted schooner, 294, Marns, 23rd August,—Takao 2nd August, Sugar.—Master.

Tokio Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,146, R. Swain, 23rd August,—Shanghai and ports, Mails and General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S. S. Co.

City of Rio de Janeiro, American steamer, 3,548, W. B. Seabury, 23rd August,—San Francisco 4th August, Mails and General.—P. M. S. S. Co.

Taganoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 447, Matsu-moto, 24th August,—Yokkaichi, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S. S. Co.

DEPARTURES.

Kashgar, British steamer, 1,515, W. J. Webber, 18th August,—Hongkong via Kobe and Nagasaki,—Mails and General.—P. & O. S. N. Co.

Seirio Maru, Japanese steamer, 329, 20th August,—Yokkaichi, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S. S. Co.

Hiogo Maru, Japanese steamer, 896, R. N. Walker, 20th August,—Hakodate, Mails and General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S. S. Co.

Tokai Maru, Japanese steamer, 652, Carrow, 20th August,—Kobe, Mails and General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S. S. Co.

Wakanoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,343, A. F. Christensen, 20th August,—Kobe, Mails and General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S. S. Co.

Nanima Maru, Japanese steamer, 383, 21st August,—Kobe, Mails and General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S. S. Co.

Louise, French bark, 300, Lemoine, 22nd August,—Nagasaki, Ballast.—P. M. S. S. Co.

Kworio Maru, Japanese steamer, 776, G. Withers, 22nd August,—Yokkaichi, Mails and General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S. S. Co.

Kosuge Maru, Japanese steamer, 776, 23rd August,—Hakodate, General.—Kiyodo Unyu Kwaisha.

Tsuruga Maru, Japanese steamer, 517, P. Dithleisen, 23rd August,—Kobe, Mails and General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S. S. Co.

Taganoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 448, Matsu-moto, 24th August,—Yokkaichi, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S. S. Co.

Stillwater, British bark, 1,090, Gaudy, 25th August,—Hakodate, Ballast.—Smith, Baker & Co.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per Japanese steamer *Wakanoura Maru*, from Kobe:—Rev. C. F. Warrenson, Messrs. J. Mill, W. C. Mitchell, and J. Roberts in cabin and 99 Japanese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Toyoshima Maru*, from Hakodate:—5 Japanese in cabin; and 55 Japanese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Kworio Maru*, from Yokkaichi:—123 Japanese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Tsuruga Maru*, from Kobe:—2 Japanese in cabin; and 30 Japanese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Tokio Maru*, from Shanghai and ports:—H. H. Duke of Mecklenberg.

Baron Frill Winckler, Count Seiertorff, Lieutenant Mason, U.S.N., Dr. Salter, Messrs. Robins, F. Cochard, Bing, Ahrens, Bowen, Mini, Yoneda, Hojio, Atsumi, and Hitotsuyamaga in cabin; and Mr. D. McCarthy, U.S.N. and 64 Europeans, 1 Chinese, and 168 Japanese in steerage.

Per American steamer *City of Rio de Janeiro*, from San Francisco:—Rev. and Mrs. W. E. Walz, Vicomte Henry de Baré de Comongne, Secrétaire de Legation de S. M. le Roi des Belges, Dr. T. Harada, Messrs. F. J. Higgins, U.S.N., L. D. de Fontenague, August Kappler, J. T. Darling, W. K. Seelz, Jas. Orr, R. Davidson, A. H. Hogeman, and H. B. Tritsall in cabin. For Shanghai: Miss E. Reifenyder, M.D., Rev. and Mrs. Chas. Leaman and 2 children, and Dr. J. Lurhsen in cabin. For Nagasaki: Mr. and Mrs. W. Kasbevaroff and 3 children in cabin.

DEPARTED.

Per British steamer *Arabic*, for San Francisco:—Mrs. Thomas in cabin; and 6 Europeans, 5 Koreans, and 227 Chinese in steerage. For New York: H. E. Ming Yong Ik-Konar, Minister, H. E. Hong Yeng Sik, Vice-Minister, Wo Ho Lang, Korean Embassy, Lo Kuon Bom, Secretary, Embassy, Percival Lovell, and J. Murata and servant in cabin. For Liverpool: Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Hudson, Messrs. H. G. James, R. McGregor Grant, T. Craven, and D. Marcus in cabin. For London: Messrs. J. J. Enslie, and M. Beazeley in cabin. For Paris: Mr. Louis Simon in cabin.

REPORTS.

The Japanese steamer *Toyoshima Maru*, Captain Thomas, reports leaving Hakodate on the 17th instant, at 5 p.m. with light variable winds and fine weather to Kinkasan; thence to port fresh south and S.S.W. winds with a heavy southerly swell.

The Japanese steamer *Kworio Maru*, Captain G. Withers, reports having experienced at Yokkaichi on the 20th instant light breeze and cloudy weather; at 4 p.m. moderate breeze and cloudy weather attended by light showers; at 7 p.m. left Yokkaichi with moderate N.E. winds and heavy lightning to eastward; at midnight; coast of Yenshiu, calm and cloudy weather; on the 21st at 4 a.m., off Omayesaki Lighthouse, fresh northerly breeze and cloudy weather; at noon strong N.E. winds and clear weather; at 4 p.m. fresh breeze and cloudy weather with inclination of rain; at 8 p.m. moderate breeze and clear weather off Sagami Lighthouse; and at 11 p.m. anchored at Yokohama.

The Japanese steamer *Tsuruga Maru*, Captain Dithleisen, reports leaving Kobe on the 20th inst., at 6 p.m., with strong easterly winds and very heavy southerly swell; thence to Rock Islands strong E. to N.E. winds and heavy head sea; and thence to port fine weather.

The British steamer *Galley of Lorne*, Captain Pomeroy, reports having picked up the British 3-masted schooner *Guam* in lat. 31° N., long. 132° E., asking assistance.

The British 3-masted schooner *Guam*, Captain Marns, reports having experienced light winds and calm for the first four days after leaving the port. On the 6th instant had a heavy S.W. gale; afterwards light winds until the 16th, and on the 17th experienced a hurricane from the E.N.E. in which lost fore mast, bowsprit and main top-mast with various other damage to hull and decks. During the gale Captain Marns had his feet and hands severely injured. The *Galley of Lorne* took the vessel in tow on the 20th instant; had previously been in tow of the bark *Helena*, but the thawser having broken the bark went on her way.

The American steamer *City of Rio de Janeiro*, Captain W. B. Seabury, reports leaving San Francisco on the 4th August, at 12 o'clock, with the fine weather throughout the entire passage in excepting a short but sharp gale from the southward on the 18th August.

MEN-OF-WAR.

Essex, American gun-vessel, 619, Captain A. H. McCormack, 11th August,—Honolulu 8th July.

Kongo Kan, Japanese corvette, 13 guns, 1,341, Captain Aiura, 22nd May.—Yokosuka.

Richmond, American flagship, 14 guns, 300 men, 2,700, Captain J. S. Skerrett, U.S.N., 9th July,—Nagasaki 5th July.

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

Since our last report, there has been but a very small business in Yarns, while there has been rather more doing in Shirtings in small lots at a time. All round it has been a very quiet week, and there is nothing calling for any special comment. Woollens continue neglected, and the weather is too hot for working Metals.

COTTON YARNS.

| | PER PICUL. |
|----------------------------------|------------------|
| Nos. 16 to 24, Common to Medium- | \$25.00 to 28.50 |
| Nos. 16 to 24, Good to Best - | 29.25 to 30.50 |
| Nos. 20 to 24, Good to Best - | 35.50 to 38.25 |
| Nos. 28 to 32, Common to Medium- | 31.25 to 32.00 |
| Nos. 28 to 32, Good to Best - | 32.75 to 35.25 |
| Nos. 38 to 42 - | 35.00 to 37.25 |

COTTON PIECE GOODS.

| | PER PICUL. |
|------------------------------------------------|----------------|
| Grey Shirtings—2½, 3½ to 39 inches - | \$1.70 to 2.15 |
| Grey Shirtings—9½, 3½ to 45 inches - | 1.87½ to 2.40 |
| T. Cloth—7½, 24 yards, 32 inches - | 1.42½ to 1.52½ |
| Indigo Shirting—12 yards, 44 inches - | 1.55 to 1.67½ |
| Prints—Assorted, 24 yards, 30 inches - | 1.10 to 2.40 |
| Cotton—Italians and Sateens Black, 32 inches - | 0.07 to 0.09 |
| Turkey Reds—2 to 2½, 24 yards, 30 inches - | 1.15 to 1.35 |
| Turkey Reds—2½ to 3½, 24 yards, 30 inches - | 1.35 to 1.65 |
| Turkey Reds—3½, 24 yards, 30 inches - | 1.70 to 1.82½ |
| Velvets—Black, 32 yards, 22 inches - | 5.90 to 6.70 |
| Victoria Lanes, 12 yards, 42-3 inches - | 0.70 to 0.75 |
| Taffetas, 12 yards, 43 inches - | 1.75 to 2.07½ |

WOOLLENS.

| | PER PICUL. |
|----------------------------------------------------|----------------|
| Plain Orleans, 40-42 yards, 32 inches - | \$3.80 to 5.25 |
| Figured Orleans, 30-31 yards, 31 inches - | 3.25 to 4.00 |
| Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches - | 0.18 to 0.28 |
| Mousseline de Laine—Crape, 24 yards, 31 inches - | 0.15½ to 0.15½ |
| Mousseline de Laine—Itajime, 24 yards, 31 inches - | 0.18½ to 0.26 |
| Mousseline de Laine—Yusen, 24 yards, 31 inches - | 0.30 to 0.37½ |
| Clothes—Flots, 54 @ 56 inches - | 0.30 to 0.40 |
| Clothes—Presidents, 54 @ 56 inches - | 0.30 to 0.50 |
| Clothes—Union, 54 @ 56 inches - | 0.30 to 0.55 |
| Blankets—Scarlet and Green, 6 to 5½, per lb - | 0.35 to 0.40 |

IRON.

| | PER PICUL. |
|---------------------------------|----------------|
| Flat Bars, ½ inch - | \$2.50 to 2.90 |
| Flat Bars, ¾ inch - | 2.80 to 3.00 |
| Round and square up to ½ inch - | 2.80 to 3.00 |
| Nailrod, assorted - | 2.25 to 2.50 |
| Nailrod, small size - | 2.85 to 3.10 |

KEROSENE.

Sales during the week amount to 63,500 cases at quotations given below. Stock in first hands stands at 712,000 cases of sold and unsold Oil.

| | PER CASE. |
|----------|-----------|
| Devoe - | \$1.65 |
| Comet - | 1.60 |
| Stella - | 1.50 |

SUGAR.

Although prices have again declined, the Market continues very flat, and buyers are holding aloof. Several sales at auction this week have induced a further decrease in ordinary transactions, and a resumption of recent rates cannot be expected to take place for some time. Stocks are heavy and the commodity continues to arrive.

| | PER PICUL. |
|-----------------|----------------|
| White, No. 1 - | \$7.50 to 8.00 |
| White, No. 2 - | 7.00 to 7.50 |
| White, No. 3 - | 6.75 to 7.00 |
| White, No. 4 - | 6.00 to 6.50 |
| White, No. 5 - | 5.00 to 5.20 |
| Brown Formosa - | 4.35 to 4.47 |

EXPORTS.

SILK.

There is a good current business doing. Settlements for the week are fully 700 piculs, and all descriptions have had a share. We leave prices unchanged, but for good Silks they are decidedly in favor of sellers. Export to date is 3,193 bales, against 3,411 bales to same date last year, and the

Tanis has several hundred bales already engaged.

Hanks.—A fair quantity has found buyers, Shinshiu sorts at \$520, Omana \$505, Annaka \$495, and ordinary Mayebashi \$475. Larger arrivals of better class Hanks from Shinshiu and Joshiu provinces are now looked for.

Filatures.—Still some demand for the Medium qualities. Best kinds are scarce, and command full rates. Hida and Mino sorts grading down have been dealt in at \$580/590.

Re-reels are not much sought for at the moment. Last quotations were about \$610 for Matsushirosha (Shinshiu) and \$605 for Five Girl (Mayebashi).

Kakedas.—Something done on basis of \$610 for Chocho with \$550 to \$530 for Medium down.

Hamatsuki.—Still in demand at \$470 for best, tailing off to \$460 and \$450 according to quality.

QUOTATIONS.

| | |
|-----------------------------------|--------------|
| Hanks—No. 1½ - | \$530 to 530 |
| Hanks—No. 2 (Shinshiu) - | 515 to 525 |
| Hanks—No. 2 (Maibashi) - | 500 to 510 |
| Hanks—No. 2½ - | 480 to 490 |
| Hanks—No. 3 - | 460 to 470 |
| Hanks—No. 3½ - | 440 to 450 |
| Filatures—Extra - | 650 to 665 |
| Filatures—No. 1, 10/13 deniers - | 640 to 650 |
| Filatures—No. 1, 14/16 deniers - | 630 to 640 |
| Filatures—No. 1½, 14/17 deniers - | 610 to 620 |
| Filatures—No. 2, 10/15 deniers - | 600 to 620 |
| Filatures—No. 2, 14/18 deniers - | 600 to 610 |
| Re-reels—No. 1, 14/16 deniers - | 610 to 620 |
| Re-reels—No. 1½, 14/17 deniers - | 600 to 610 |
| Re-reels—No. 2, 14/18 deniers - | 580 to 590 |
| Kakedas—Extra - | 625 to 635 |
| Kakedas—No. 1 - | 600 to 610 |
| Kakedas—No. 2 - | 550 to 570 |
| Kakedas—No. 3 - | 520 to 530 |
| Hamatsuki—No. 1, 2 - | 460 to 470 |
| Hamatsuki—No. 3, 4 - | 440 to 450 |

TEA.

The demand for this product has decidedly fallen off. Settlements since date of last report only reached to 1,205 piculs, whilst arrivals have come in steadily; prices show no alteration so far, and the Market closes quiet but steady. The following are the shipments of Tea to the United States and Canada since last weekly issue:—The steamship *Kashgar*, sailed on the 18th instant, for transhipment to the *Ascalon* at Kobe took 108,612 lbs. for New York. The steamship *Arabie*, sailed on the 18th August, took 393,572 lbs. of Tea, viz.:—119,492 lbs. for New York, 87,328 lbs. for Chicago, 142,198 lbs. for California, 44,554 lbs. for Canada. The O. & O. steamships *Oceanic* and *Coptic* are on berth for San Francisco; the former is advertised to leave on the 30th instant, and the latter on the 9th proximo, both at 2 cents per lb. gross to the Eastern States and Canada, and \$9 per ton of 40 cubic feet.

QUOTATIONS.

| | |
|-------------------------|--------------|
| Common to Good Common - | \$13 & under |
| Medium - | 14 to 16 |
| Good Medium - | 17 to 19 |
| Fine - | 21 to 24 |
| Finest - | Nominal |
| Choice - | |
| Choicest - | |

EXCHANGE.

There has again been a fair amount of business doing in Private Paper, and rates close firm at the following quotations:—

| | |
|-------------------------------------------|------------|
| Sterling—Bank Bills on demand - | 3/7½ |
| Sterling—Bank 4 months' sight - | 3/5½ |
| Sterling—Private 4 months' sight - | 3/8½ |
| Sterling—Private 6 months' sight - | 3/8½ |
| On Paris—Bank sight - | 4.61 |
| On Paris—Private 6 months' sight - | 4.72 |
| On Hongkong—Bank sight - | Par |
| On Hongkong—Private 10 days' sight - | 4 o/o dis. |
| On Shanghai—Bank sight - | 72½ |
| On Shanghai—Private 10 days' sight - | 73½ |
| On New York—Bank Bills on demand - | 88½ |
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| On San Francisco—Bank Bills on demand - | 88½ |
| On San Francisco—Private 30 days' sight - | 89½ |

KINSATSU QUOTATIONS.

The following table shows the rate of the day, and the fluctuation during the past week:—

| | |
|---------------------------|------|
| Monday, August 20th - | 120 |
| Tue-day, August 21st - | 120½ |
| Wed-ne-day, August 22nd - | 120 |
| Thur-day, August 23rd - | 119 |
| Friday, August 24th - | 117½ |
| Saturday, August 25th - | 117½ |

IMPORTANT NOTICE.

SMALL CAPITALISTS, wishing to establish a business, should see if there is an opening for a Mineral Water Manufactory in their District. All information and recipes for the purpose of making Lemonade, Soda Water, &c., is given, previous knowledge is not necessary. The demand for these drinks is so much on the increase in all parts of the world, that the outlay for the machinery in all cases leads to a profitable and safe business. Catalogue forwarded free, on application to

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May 1st, 1883.

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The Patent Steam Boiler Company,

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Yokohama, May 1st, 1883.

NOTICE.

THE "JAPAN DAILY MAIL" is now the largest newspaper published in Japan. The paper is issued every morning and immediately delivered in the Settlement and Bluff.

A new rate of charges for Advertisements has been devised on a very moderate scale, and the Paper has a good and increasing circulation.

The "JAPAN DAILY MAIL" is the principal Morning Paper published in Yokohama in the English language, and is delivered at places of Business during Office Hours on the day of publication. Advertisers will therefore see that the "JAPAN DAILY MAIL" offers unusual facilities for public announcements.

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May 1st, 1883.

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a most fragrant Perfume distilled from the choicest Essences

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a very refreshing Wash which stimulates the skin to a healthy action and promotes the growth of the hair.

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a powerful Perfume distilled from the finest flowers.

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a new and indispensable Toilet accompaniment, and most refreshing Perfume for the Handkerchief.

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ESTABLISHED 1760.

Printed and Published for the PROPRIETOR, at 72, Main Street, Settlement, by JAMES ELLACOTT BEALE, of No. 106, Bluff, Yokohama.—SATURDAY, August 25, 1883.

THE Japan Weekly Mail,

A REVIEW OF
JAPANESE COMMERCE, POLITICS, LITERATURE, AND ART.

No. 18, Vol. I.]

YOKOHAMA, SEPTEMBER 1ST, 1883.

[\$24 PER ANNUM.]

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The Japan Weekly Mail.

"FAIS CE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL," must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith. It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 1ST, 1883.

BIRTH.

On the 27th instant, at Her Britannic Majesty's Naval Hospital, the wife of W. J. HOOPER of a Daughter.

DEATH.

Died on the 30th instant, at his Residence, No. 1208, Bluff, Dr. A. J. C. GEERTS, Director of the Imperial Japanese Government Laboratory, aged 40 years. The funeral will take place this afternoon, at half-past four o'clock, from the German Hospital.

WEEKLY NOTES.

THE typhoon which swept across Japan between the 17th and 20th instant, entering these islands at a point south-west of Kagoshima and leaving them about midway between Tokiyo and Nobiru, produced a sensible fall of temperature; and, though some sultry days subsequently visited us, the general character of the weather since then has been cool and pleasant. Little if any serious damage seems to have been caused by the storm, though the destruction of some telegraph wires prevented the transmission of valuable meteorological information at the very time when it would have been most useful. An interesting letter from

Professor Knipping, published in our correspondence columns, explains the track of the typhoon and furnishes other scientific data with regard to it. The writer points out that, had a certain shifting of wind and cloud, noticed at Kagoshima, been telegraphed without delay to Tokiyo, it would have been possible to know that the storm must certainly pass to the West of Kiushiu—knowledge which is, of course, invaluable in furnishing storm warnings. Such a signal instance of the inconveniences that may be caused by a system of one single meteorological telegram per diem, will probably have the effect of bringing about a more complete method. In one respect the storm was most beneficent. At all stations near its track—that it to say, throughout the length and breadth of Japan, with very few exceptions—copious rain fell, thus removing all apprehensions as to the possible effects of a drought of nearly two months. We may say at once, however, that these apprehensions were unfounded. It is difficult for the summer to be too dry in Japan. Among the farmers a common saying is that many dews make much plenty, or, in other words, that a rainless summer gives the best crops. The upland rice must of course suffer, more or less, from such an uninterrupted series of fine days as July and August brought us this season, but this injury is as nothing compared with the benefit conferred on the crop generally. At present the prospects are everything that can be desired. The recent rains came just in time to freshen the uplands, and were not heavy enough to cause any injury elsewhere. If the country is not visited by any violent winds during the first half of September, we may look for one of the most plentiful harvests that has been enjoyed for many a year.

SIR HARRY PARKES left Japan on Wednesday to enter upon his duties as Her Majesty's Representative at Peking. His departure was made the occasion for a demonstration such as Yokohama does not often witness. It was announced that at four o'clock in the afternoon he would receive his friends at the Consulate, and since every member of the foreign community has had more or less reason to count himself in that category, the whole Settlement responded to the invitation. After a most cordial leave-taking Sir Harry proceeded to the steamer, being conveyed on board by the American Admiral's barge. He was accompanied by their Excellencies Ito and Inouye, the United States Representative, Mr. Bingham, the Honorable P.

Le Poer French, now British *Chargé d'Affaires*, and several other friends. As the *Tokiyo Maru* steamed out of harbour she was met, at the Light Ship, by a procession of five boats from the Boat Club, and three ringing cheers concluded Yokohama's farewell to the most popular official in the East. It may truly be said of Sir Harry Parkes that he does not leave behind him one enemy which a man in so prominent a position could have avoided. Some there are indeed—and we frankly confess ourselves among the number—who would have been glad to see him adopt a policy more consistent with the character of his country, and worthier of the large interests he represented. But whether of those that differed from, or of those that endorsed, his views, there are none who have anything but the warmest admiration, respect, and, let us add, affection for the nobility of his character and the unflinching earnestness of his life.

On Thursday morning Dr. A. J. C. Geerts breathed his last at his residence on the Bluff. Dr. Geerts was but forty years of age. He had been in the service of the Japanese Government since 1868, and scarcely a fortnight before his decease the Emperor conferred on him the decoration of the Rising Sun. It was known for some time that the malady from which Dr. Geerts suffered was cancer in the stomach and that his recovery was quite hopeless. Nevertheless his death seemed at the last comparatively sudden. He leaves behind him a high reputation for scientific ability and industrious research. At the early age of 25 he was appointed to the chair of Chemistry at the School of Military Medicine in Utrecht, and having already distinguished himself by his love of Oriental research, he was offered the appointment of Professor of Chemistry and Natural Science at the Medical College in Nagasaki. This appointment he held for five years, when he was summoned to Tokiyo to perform the duties of adviser to the Department of Hygiene. Subsequently it became his duty to establish in Kiyoto as well as in Tokiyo laboratories of chemistry applied to medicine and hygiene, and on January 1st, 1877, the Government commissioned him to perform a similar service in Yokohama. Despite the arduous nature of his duties, and the assiduity with which he invariably performed them, Dr. Geerts found time to engage in extensive independent researches. He contributed numerous papers of great interest to the proceedings of the German and English Asiatic Societies of Tokiyo; was the author of a Japanese Pharma-

copzia, based upon the European method, a Guide to the Hot Springs of Japan, and a work of large scope and extensive research which, unfortunately, he did not live to complete—*Les Produits de la Nature Japonaise et Chinoise*. Always devoted to scientific pursuits, Dr. Geerts did not find leisure to cultivate a very extensive circle of acquaintances, but his rare qualities were highly esteemed by all those capable of appreciating them, and it is universally felt that the Japanese Government have lost services not easily replaced, and this community the society of a gentleman who contributed largely to the reputation of Westerns in Japan.

JAPAN has not failed to add her quota to the list of terrible accidents which sadden the record of the past twelvemonth. From the province of Sanuki comes news that a theatre has been destroyed by fire, and that, owing to faulty means of exit, about twenty adults and sixty children lost their lives. There is nothing surprising in the intelligence. We venture to say that throughout the length and breadth of Japan there is not so much as one theatre in which an alarm of fire could fail to bring about a cruel catastrophe. A Japanese play-house is a veritable fire-trap. In the first place, the entrance is so narrow that ingress or egress for more than one person at a time is inconvenient; and in the next, the gallery is only accessible by a steep ladder, to descend which at the best of times is no easy matter. Moreover, the majority of a Japanese theatrical audience consists of women and children. A child can scarcely be too young to go to the play, if only it is old enough to be capable of keeping quiet under persuasion. Thus anything like a panic in a Japanese theatre can only mean death or serious injury for a number of the spectators. The authorities seem to regard all this with the utmost indifference. Perhaps the accident in Sanuki may teach the public something, but that it will lead to practical measures of reform, we do not for a moment believe.

FRANCE has cut the Gordian knot in Annam by going to Hué itself and pounding it into submission. The latest news is that the Tu-duc has agreed to all the terms proposed by the invaders of his kingdom. It is difficult to see what else he could have done. From the moment when assistance from China became hopeless, there was nothing for it but to submit as speedily as possible. Perhaps in the interests of present peace this sharp, short, and decisive policy was the wisest that could have been adopted, but certainly it will not have the effect of improving China's mood towards foreigners. It will be ludicrous to speak to her any more of Western justice. Henceforth she cannot be blamed if she estimates international morality at a very low figure. It is said, indeed, that France has agreed to submit the differences between herself and the Middle Kingdom to arbitration, and that she has avowed her intention not to occupy Annam. But so long as M. Challe-

Lacour remains at the Foreign Office such professions will be regarded as empty fables. It may be consistent with the imperturbable gravity of Chinese *hauteur* to subside, at the eleventh hour, from bluster and menace into silence and indifference, but by no possibility can we reconcile the notion of a quiet retreat from Annam with the resolution France has displayed, the successes she has obtained and, the programme she has formulated. Moreover, it is to be sincerely trusted that having gone so far she will *not* retire. There is, to be sure, a great deal more to be done before her occupation of the delta of the Red River can become a profitable enterprise. The bombardment of Hué does not help to free the navigation of the river from the obstacles offered by the Black Flags. Their suppression will probably prove by far the most difficult part of the whole business; but on the other hand, nobody will have any sympathy with such piratical rascals. The sooner they are swept away the better. It may be said, then, that of France's self imposed task the portion which remains to be accomplished is perfectly legitimate. She has finished the arbitrarily aggressive part of the business, and the only atonement she can now make for the mistrust with which her conduct must inspire Oriental nations, is to stand her ground and do what she may to confer the benefits of civilized prosperity on the newly occupied regions. There is a great deal to be said against the first step which commits an European power to such a policy as France seems bent upon pursuing, but there is no excuse to be offered for looking back when once the hand has been put to the plough.

While we write news comes that the preliminaries of a new treaty between France and Annam were arranged at Hué on the 25th of August. The principal items of the treaty, as published by the *Echo du Japon*, are:—

- (1) Complete and entire recognition of a French protectorate over Annam and Tonkin.
- (2) Definitive annexation by France of the province of Binhthuan.
- (3) Permanent occupation of the line of Vain-khuia and the forts of Thuan-an.
- (4) The issue of orders to the Mandarins to return to their posts and confirmation of the nominations made by the French authorities.
- (5) The presence of a French Resident, assisted by sufficient forces, at the chief town of every province.
- (6) The placing in the hands of France of the customs of the whole Kingdom.
- (7) Erection of lines of telegraph between Saigon and Hanoi.
- (8) Permanent installation at Hué of a Resident possessing authority to obtain personal audiences with the King.
- (9) The establishment of French military posts along the Red River, and of fortifications wherever it may be deemed necessary.
- (10) Circulation of dollars and Cochinchinese currency throughout the Kingdom.
- (11) The details of the commercial régime, those of tariff and other points to be arranged at subsequent conferences held at Hué.

This Convention has been sent to Paris for ratification. It finally disposes of all question as to French intentions. One province only is openly annexed, but the difference between annexing and protecting, when two such powers as France and Annam are concerned, is more theoretical than real. It is difficult to approve of the policy which drove France to embark upon this adven-

ture, but there can be no second opinion about the admirably efficient and vigorous steps she has taken to carry it out. General Bouet and his forces deserve to be sincerely congratulated. The rapidity and thoroughness of the successes they have achieved will go far towards preventing the evils which might have attended such an arbitrary display of French enterprise. The Black Flags remain to be disposed of. They appear to have suffered a severe defeat at a place called Fuhai, in the neighbourhood of Hanoi. The forces under General Bouet's command at the latter town, to the number of two thousand, made a sortie on the 14th of August, and attacked the position of the Black Flags at Fuhai, about six miles from Hanoi. The enemy's force was estimated at 13,000, and after a stubborn resistance they abandoned their lines and fell back upon Son-tai, their headquarters. The French loss in this encounter was nine killed and thirty wounded. To-day (Sept. 1st) is fixed for an attack upon Son-tai, where results equally decisive will doubtless be obtained.

THE return to Japan of Mr. Mori, His Imperial Japanese Majesty's Representative at the Court of St. James's, is spoken of as likely to take place very shortly. It cannot be said that Mr. Mori has achieved signal success as a diplomatist. His talents seem to be rather of a literary order. Indeed, there are rumours that his reputation as a philosophical disputant is quite formidable at the Athenæum Club and that some of his theories have attracted considerable attention. Doubtless this is all very agreeable, but it is scarcely quite what Japan expects of her Minister in London. There are questions at issue which studies of Kant and Plato do not help to solve, and Mr. Mori would probably be more in his element at the Department of Education or the School of Moral Philosophy. Admiral Yenomoto is spoken of as his successor, but this rumour requires confirmation. We are inclined to think that Japan's interests would be best served by reducing the number of her representatives in Europe. One diplomatist of energy and ability, accredited, let us say, to Paris, London, and Berlin, might acquire and exercise an influence not possible under the present system.

It would appear that Prefect Mishima's scheme for the construction of roads in Fukushima Prefecture was by no means a capricious whim, as his enemies attempted to demonstrate. Our readers will remember that at the trial of the men charged with conspiring to overthrow the Government, one of the pleas for the defence was Mr. Mishima's oppressive proceedings, the chief count against him being, according to the *Hochi Shinbun*, that he wanted to compel everybody to work at road-making or to pay a fine. It is now stated that a sum of yen 16,500 has been granted by the Treasury towards the fund for the construction of roads in that Prefecture. At the rates of alternative fines fixed by Mr. Mishima, this sum represents the work of eleven hundred persons for a year, so that the expense to which

the people would have been subjected was not very terrible. At all events, by making this special appropriation, the Central Government lets it be seen that the Prefect's proposal was practically necessary. Sixteen or seventeen thousand *yen* will not go very far towards connecting Fukushima with Tokiyo and Niigata, but it will show the people that the measures of progress which their local officials propose and their local assemblies vote have the sympathy and support of the Central Government. It is almost amusing to observe that a Prefect attempts to impose a trivial tax upon the people for their own ultimate benefit are employed as a pretext by agitators for a Constitution. The benefits conferred by a constitutional Government in matters of taxation are very well illustrated by the case of Ireland, where, in the midst of penury and distress, every man, woman, and child has to contribute 26 shillings per annum to the Imperial treasury. Twenty-six shillings means something over six *yen*, which is more than three times the amount similarly levied per head of the population in Japan.

NOTES.

Our telegraphic information announces the prorogation of Parliament. The past session has been a remarkable one, and a great deal more work has been got through than was expected at the outset in consequence of the anticipated obstruction to business threatened by a section of the Irish members. The obstructionists at the time appeared as if they were in possession of the power to put an end to all chance of passing the much-needed measures before the House, but after a great waste of time in the early part of the session they were brought into something like order, and since then a large amount of work has been done. Notably affairs in Ireland have been adjusted to the extent that law has, at least temporarily, triumphed over disorder. With incalculable toil, the much abused Police Department has succeeded in detecting and bringing to justice the Phoenix Park murderers, and in breaking up a formidable, well organized, and eminently secret gang of terrorists and assassins. That the informer Carey should have been murdered by one who no doubt will prove to be a former associate is, in a good sense, a warning to traitors: it shows the futility of the best devised conspiracy in a bad cause, and how, when public law and justice have effectually vindicated themselves, private grudges complete their work. The fate of Carey will have as deterrent an effect upon public as upon private treason. Evidently, according to the synopsis of the Queen's speech, given in our telegraphic column, Parliament separated under unexpectedly favorable conditions to the Gladstone Cabinet. Passing by the platitudes about Egypt and the English occupation, we find that the trouble with France, arising out of the useless bombardment of Tamatave, is considered settled by the Sovereign and representatives of the nation. A separate despatch confirms this. "The

French Admiral in command at Madagascar has reinstated the Consuls at Tamatave," an inevitable result of course, but probably the last and unwilling act of Admiral Pierre before leaving his command on peremptory recall. That Zululand and the Transvaal are only in an "unsatisfactory" condition is as much as the present Government could expect, and a condition of affairs that the British nation may well rejoice at; but, after all, the conclusion of the message is the most satisfactory part of all:—the estimates for the revenue have been fully realised: agriculture, the backbone of the country, has improved in condition; and trade, which is Britain's limbs, and achieves and maintains her greatness, is in a sound and healthy state. In fine, the sky is cleared, though it is not free from clouds.

The *London and China Express* remarks that "it is as yet almost too premature to say much on the prospects of silk for the coming season. That the export from the Far East—China and Japan—will be below the average seems to be well assured, but advices from the Continent, which were at first positive for a small crop, are now rapidly bringing up the total, and the Italian crop is expected to be pretty well up to the average. It would have been just as well for all engaged in the silk trade—except, of course, the growers—certainly for merchants in this country, if the Continental crop had also been short. Some relief would have been afforded to those who have grown weary with watching the trade gradually leaving London while stocks here increased. However, half a loaf is better than no bread, and some are no doubt grateful for the recent little spurt here, although it may only have been small mercies." The *L. & C. Express* does not cite its authority for believing that the export from Japan will be below the average. Neither the vernacular nor the foreign local press, so far as we know, is "well assured" on this subject.

From daylight yesterday morning until far into the afternoon, the bosky slope at the angle of the roads close to the race-course, looked like a scene from Quintin Durward. There were the myrmidons of the law, a constantly varying crowd of gaping peasants, a stout elmsapling, and a body pendant from a bough. But it was not a case of summary execution, but a more prosaic one of ordinary suicide induced by poverty and want. A man, a Japanese laborer, had hanged himself in despair. This is the third suicide, including that of a foreigner, committed in this very spot in the course of the last few years. The body was discovered by a betto at daybreak, and the event was immediately reported to the police, but the corpse was not removed until about three o'clock p.m.

Referring to the Central Asian exploration of the Hungarian traveller, Arminius Vambéry, a correspondent of an American paper writing from Vienna, says:—"A Turkish officer who had seen much service in the Central Asian provinces, and who knew Vambéry, told

me that his famous expedition to Samarkand consisted simply in going out on the Samarkand route to where he could interview the pilgrims, returning, and in getting from them all the details of information of the Samarkand world possible; but that in fact he had never approached that city. This was curiously confirmed by his mistakes in description, which were such as ignorant people and those not accustomed to accurate observation are likely to make, as shown by the Russian descriptions when their expedition occupied the city. My Turkish friend told me the name of the locality where Vambéry camped, but this I have forgotten."

Four officers sitting in a bungalow in India were deep in a game of whist. Suddenly one of them turning deadly pale, made signs that no one should move or speak. In a hushed voice, he exclaimed, "Keep still, for God's sake! I feel a cobra crawling about my legs!" He knew that timidity was one of the strongest characteristics of this snake, and that if not disturbed or alarmed it would in due time depart of its own accord. All present were accustomed to the stealthy intruders, and did not, happily, lose their presence of mind. They very noiselessly bent down so as to take a survey beneath the table, when sure enough, there was the unwelcome visitor, a full-sized cobra, twining and gliding about the legs of their hapless friend! Literally death was at his feet. A movement, a noise, even an agitated tremble, might have been fatal. Luckily one of the four was acquainted with the milk-loving habit of the cobra, and rising from his seat with quiet and cautious movements, not daring to hasten, yet dreading delay, he managed to steal from the room while he signed the rest to remain motionless. Quickly he crept back with a saucer of milk in his hand, and still with noiseless movements set the saucer under the table as close to the terrible reptile as it was safe to venture. That fearful strain on their nerves was happily not of long duration, for presently they were relieved by seeing the creature gradually untwine itself and go to the milk. Never before did that officer leap from his seat as he did then, the moment he felt himself free from the coils of the cobra, and read in the faces of his comrades that he was saved. Short shrift, however, had Mr. Cobra, for sticks and whip-handles were freely used even before the saucer was reached."—*Curiosities of Serpent Life*.

We read in the *New York Nation* that Secretary Folger has disposed of the question of the trade dollar, so far as the executive relations of the present Administration to it are concerned, and indeed, in the absence of legislation on the subject by Congress, the matter may be regarded as finally dismissed. On the 6th of July, the *Evening Post* published a letter from Mr. James C. Hallock, Jun., of Brooklyn, reviewing the legislative history of the trade dollar, contending that it was entitled to as much monetary consideration as the standard silver dollar, which contains seven grains and a half less

bullion, and concluding that "the President of United States has ample authority" to direct the Treasurer and Assistant Treasurers "to receive the trade dollars the same as the standard silver dollars, and when so requested, to exchange them for silver certificates." Secretary Folger, in reply to Mr. Hallock, who forwarded to him a copy of the letter, directs his attention to a letter written by ex-Secretary Sherman, which is of interest, not because the facts and opinions which it presents are new or unfamiliar, but because it states very clearly the view of the trade dollar which has always prevailed in the Treasury and in Congress. Mr. Sherman shows that the coins at once went out of the country, and that it was never expected that they would go anywhere else; that when, upon the depreciation of silver, bullion dealers found it profitable to put trade dollars—which by classification with other silver coins had been made a legal tender to the amount of five dollars—in circulation on the Pacific coast, Mr. Randall introduced in the House of Representatives, and Mr. Cox afterward reported, a bill taking away the legal-tender quality, which was passed by both branches of Congress without any objection whatever; that up to this time the trade dollar had not circulated outside of the Pacific States, because it "cost more than a paper-currency dollar," but when upon the resumption of specie payments the paper dollars appreciated and the trade dollars depreciated relatively, the bullion dealers found profit in putting the latter in circulation in the Western States. Thus, clearly, the Government had washed its hands of the trade dollar; had thoroughly discredited it as lawful money; had given notice in every possible way that it was not among the legal coins of the United States, long before the embarrassment now complained of began to be felt.

On Friday evening at 8.30 p.m., a very luminous meteor passed through the air a little over the house-tops of Tsukiji, in the direction of West to East, and dropped in the Sumida-gawa opposite the U.S. Legation. It resembled in appearance a large sky-rocket, more especially at the moment of its descent to the earth. Judging from its appearance its density must have been inconsiderable, or both in its passage through the air and in its descent its velocity would have been much greater. It was visible over a minute and a half.

NIAGARA has always possessed a strange fascination for the adventurous. Not only professional seekers of notoriety, but many men of social and scientific distinction, have risked their reputation for caution and sobriety of habit, as well as their lives, in the endeavour to associate their names with some act of unusual daring amid the waters or beneath the massive walls of the great cataract. Professor Huxley, it may be remembered, was unable to resist the impulse of penetrating the cavern beneath the Canada Fall to a greater depth than had been reached by any other explorer,—not excepting the practiced guides. The Prince of Wales,

during his youthful tour in North America, was tempted by the weird allurements of the scene to a recklessness which called for remonstrance on the part of his responsible advisers. Agassiz, the king of naturalists, whose philosophic composure was his strongest characteristic, was wont to say that he never set foot on the islands of the upper American rapids without experiencing an almost uncontrollable desire to march boldly into the shallow, treacherous stream, and oppose his strength,—or, rather, feebleness,—to the irresistible current. A certain intoxication of hardihood is one of the commonest sensations of those who are brought within the influence of this giant phenomenon. There may be something not altogether ignoble in the ambition of a resolute, plucky spirit, to contend with, and possibly to conquer, the tremendous forces which manifest themselves in various forms throughout the abyss of Niagara. To this extent, perhaps, the late attempt of the unfortunate Captain Webb may be preserved from reproach. But it would seem that his purpose, like the exploits of those who preceded him as exhibitors of feats of intrepidity, was inspired by more or less commendable mercenary considerations. The navigation of the pleasure steamboat, *Maid of the Mist*, from the comparatively quiet pool at the foot of the falls, over the swift rapids at the Suspension Bridge, and through the foaming whirlpool at the bend of the river, down to a secure shelter at Lewiston, was no doubt a desperate deed, but at the same time was a carefully calculated business operation. The owners were poor men, and the opportunity was afforded them of disposing of their property to good advantage, if they could bring it to an available market. The risk was heavy, but they accepted it, and carried their vessel triumphantly through, losing only the smoke funnel in the headlong voyage. Probably the history of their achievement, with its evidence that the passage could by some means be effected, afforded confidence to the latest aspirant for renown; and indeed it is not incomprehensible that a swimmer of such superlative skill and power as Captain Webb should believe himself quite capable of making his way, unaided, through waters over which a rather fragile steamer had been piloted in safety. Considering the nerve and endurance of the man, his undertaking does not seem so willful a defiance of destiny as some earlier performances in the same locality, the chief actors in which escaped uninjured. Sam Patch repeatedly leaped from Table Rock, a huge slab which formerly projected from the Canadian bank, at the very crest of the fall,—into the turbulent basin one hundred and fifty feet beneath, without sustaining the least harm. He lost his life in a similar plunge at the Genesee Falls, near Rochester, although the descent in this instance was only seventy feet. Blondin's wild escapades over the rapids, five miles below the falls,—a spot which he chose simply because to drop from his aerial cord would have been certain death there, while at every other point escape would have been just possible, in case of accident,—unquestionably

showed a more complete indifference to deadly peril than has been voluntarily displayed by any other individual on record,—excepting, of course, those who have hazarded their lives in obedience to nobler demands than a rope-dancer would be likely to appreciate. So far as it is possible to make a comparison, the conditions of the recent venture being partially unknown, the experiment of Captain Webb presents nothing so appalling to the imagination as the dizzy flights of the French funambulist. Indeed, although the project of swimming past the whirlpool is one which excites dread at first contemplation, there is no reason to doubt that, with due care in preparation and proper preliminary precautions, it will ultimately be accomplished;—for, now that it has been fruitlessly essayed, it is one of the certainties of the future that the effort will be repeated over and again. Without detracting from the manifold terrors of the place, we may remember that these are magnified and multiplied out of all proportion to the truth by its awful aspect. The gloom of the chasm, from which the overhanging rocks shut out the light of day; the unparalleled velocity of the raging current, which lashes the banks as if it would tear away their granite foundations; the ceaseless roar of the whirlpit, where the waters, checked by the sharp turn of the ravine, seem bent on forcing a way into the bowels of the earth rather than be diverted from their forward course; the tongue of foam which shoots upwards a hundred feet from the rocky jaws of the half submerged island in the centre of the torrent,—all these invest the scene with more frightful apparent attributes than a close investigation has proved to exist. It does not appear that Captain Webb made any of the tentative trials which might have enabled him to shape his course securely in the actual struggle. Possibly he wished for no diminution of the dangers, in order that the splendor of his victory might be the more brilliant. In his famous passage across the Channel he was not so rash; being accompanied by boats which would have rescued him at any moment, if the task had exhausted him. The sacrifice of so sturdy and robust a life is much to be regretted;—a wanton and needless sacrifice, we should be disposed to term it, although there may be some who hold that useful lessons are taught by these endeavours to extend the limits of man's capacity in battling with the elementary powers. The effect of the failure will certainly not be deterrent. Instead of serving as a warning to the foolhardy, Captain Webb's attempt will be taken as an example to be imitated, and by many who probably possess few or none of his extraordinary physical endowments. The whirlpool of the Niagara will engulf new victims, as a consequence of his ill-starred and extravagant enterprise.

FRIENDLY observers of Korean progress, while noting with interest the increase of her store of foreign luxuries, may be allowed to hope that her avidity in this respect will not become excessive. Admonition by apologue is an innocent, if not always an effective, method of exerting in-

fluence, and it may not be considered intrusive if we invoke from the regions of dramatic fable the well known presence of Mrs. Toodles, whose matchless instinct for "bargains" made her the queen of auction-rooms and the protecting genius of second-hand traffic. The extent and variety of this lady's purchases were beyond the power of human calculation. What she did not buy, in the course of her acquisitive passage through life, would have constituted a very small list in comparison with the vast aggregate of what she did accumulate. Her invariable reason for this interminable multiplication of odds and ends was, that in case they ever should be wanted, it would be "so handy to have them in the house." Watch-boxes, coffins, wheelbarrows, and a thousand other incongruities, filled her premises, from cellar depths to garret heights. In one fine frenzy of inspiration, she captured and bore home a brass door-plate, with the patronymic of Thompson inscribed thereon;—vindicating the outlay by the plea that she and her spouse might have a daughter, who might grow to maturity, and might marry a man by the name of Thompson,—in which climax of events, nothing could be more convenient than the possession of that useful article of exterior furniture. What Mr. Toodles thought, and how the neighbours regarded her proceedings, we all know; but she never was awed from the career of her humour, and persisted in surrounding herself with property of no immediate value, but of possible future utility, to the end of her days. Far be it from us to hint that a spirit similar to that of this provident matron of British comedy has descended upon the governing body of the newly awakened kingdom. It is only in one or two details that we detect a resemblance between its recent political and commercial acquirements and the prescient investments of Mrs. Toodles; and even these must be set down as pleasantly suggestive, rather than as affording grounds for adverse criticism. In common with others, we have watched with attention the organization of that experienced foreign corps of custom house officials, which, conjured into existence before it was definitely known whether a treaty with any Western nation would ever be ratified, now stands in an attitude of ripe fruition, ready to administer the imposts with a regularity, an energy, and a disciplined ardor not to be surpassed in the revenue service of the most advanced nations. It may be true that there are as yet no commercial imposts to be administered, and that the dawn of external trade has only just begun to irradiate the long darkened shores; but no one will deny that mercantile enterprise may in time enfold the peninsular kingdom in its embrace, nor that there may hereafter be an outlet for the activity of all the inspectors, tide-waiters, clerks and accountants which a far-seeing policy has gathered together. And then—how handy it will be to have them in the house. Again like others, we have read of the determination to institute a training school of diplomacy in the Korean capital, which in due season shall turn out ambassadors, envoys, secretaries and all the varied personnel required

for the formalities of international association. In the mind's eye, we can already see them, "piled up" as it were, like General Caproni's accretions of lumber on the Ishikari River,—classified, labelled and ready for use, on call. Up to this moment, Korea has treaty relations with only two States, in one of which she desires no permanent legation, while her delegates are now on their way to the other. When she will contract additional Western alliances, no man can yet say; but it is indisputable that if she does negotiate treaties; if those treaties are ratified; if the establishment of embassies, consulates, etc., in distant countries becomes essential, and the several ministers, attachés and agents are needed, it will be—so handy to have them in the house. We might be led into parallel avenues of speculation by the reports concerning the foundation of steamship companies by Korean capitalists, to compete for the coming transportation from port to port; by the stories of many-officered offices for the construction of machinery of foreign type; by the rumoured glimmer of military preparation, and kindred signs of material accession which those who think the expenditure of a nation should be regulated by its actual needs are bound to consider premature,—but for the present we leave these avenues unvisited. Korea has a fair right to use her resources, while they last, in the manner she likes best. After all, she has not fallen into vicious extravagance, and we may cherish the hope that, as her experience is enlarged, she may discover other objects as truly worthy of imitation as the formation of a staff for the collection of duties or the endowment of diplomatic scholarships. Perhaps the minds of her rulers will be turned toward a system of popular instruction, the basis of which might advantageously be copied from this country. If they have funds to spare, they could not apply them to a purpose more certain to win respect from foreigners than the building of primary schools throughout the land,—not for boys alone, but also for the sex which cannot be pronounced unworthy of educational privileges, since it claims one of the cleverest and most intelligent personages in the Kingdom. Everybody would be gratified to know, in process of time, that the Queen of Korea fulfils one of the duties of her station—a duty never lost sight of by the lady who shares the throne of this empire—by stimulating the diffusion of knowledge among the women of her realm.

There is one attribute of a high civilization with which Korea cannot long remain unprovided. It would not, indeed, surprise us to learn that she has already been supplied with it, although her people and her Government may languish in ignorance of the fact. At any rate, the time is not far distant when we shall assuredly be called upon to listen to the Korean National Anthem. This is a piece of property which, in the estimation of musicians, kingdoms cannot get along without. Some nations are born with national hymns, others achieve national hymns, and others—especially in the East,—

have national hymns thrust upon them. Japan has been fitted out with at least half a dozen of these tuneful symbols of enlightened progress. For many years no composer of the slightest pretensions came hither without seeking thus to identify himself with the empire's æsthetic future. The Japanese populace did not want a national air, never listened to one, and would not have known what it was if they had listened; but this did not prevent the flow of foreign inspiration nor diminish the endeavours to supply an utterly hypothetical demand. Possibly a flash of the same prophetic vision possessed by Mrs. Toodles, before mentioned, may have illumined the labors of the successive lyrists. They may have understood, though they certainly never said so, that the fifth wheel of a coach, or the subsidiary tail of a dog, was an object of primary indispensability compared with a patriotic anthem of the European pattern in an Oriental community; and, understanding this, they may have projected their fancies forward to the period when it might be handy to have a hymn in the house,—or a dozen, to choose from. Whatever their ideas may have been, the results of their labours are now shrouded in oblivion. They came, composed, and departed, and unless they kept copies of their effusions, the world will probably hear no more of them. Why they all failed, even in a musical sense, apart from the absence of any call for their productions,—we might easily explain, if the matter were thought to require demonstration. Now it is Korea's turn. Years hence she may have military bands as skilful as those which Japan now enjoys; but in the meanwhile she will be visited by all sorts of wandering minstrels, good, bad, and indifferent, each one of whom will leave traces of his sojourn in the form of a popular or patriotic song. Fortunately the Koreans will not be obliged to pay for these souvenirs. They will cost nothing but a little exercise of patience and self control on the part of those who are required to hear them. It would be a blessing if all foreign inoculations could be taken as easily or as inexpensively. Korea will go through her course of anthems much as if they were a light form of epidemic, and not one in a million of the people will know anything about it. The outside world will be told, periodically, that Korea has a national patriotic hymn, and there will be the end of it.

A COMMENDABLE feature in the theatrical representations of this country is the accuracy with which costumes of various ages are reproduced. The historical drama, which constitutes the most attractive entertainment of the play-houses, is in this particular a valuable aid to study and investigation. Tradition has preserved, among the actors, the means of satisfying almost every requirement of correctness and fidelity. Historic art, in Japan, is often transmitted from father to son, through many generations; and the present exponent of characters renowned in earlier days may look backward, in his own family, to performers who were contemporary with the heroes he is now called upon to im-

personate. In many instances, the dresses actually worn one or two hundred years ago are still kept ready for use, and it seldom happens that any deviation from exactitude, either as regards substance, form, or ornamentation, can be detected on the stage of any of the leading theatres. In the wardrobe department, if in no other, indifference to expense appears to be a standing rule. The silks, satins, crapes and velvets of the mimic scene are in every way as rich and costly as the materials possessed by the original wearers in real life. Visitors to the Asakusa houses, during the season which has just closed, have had opportunities of testing the care and attention given to this branch of the business. Dramas illustrative of divers periods, ranging from the time of Yoritomo to the last fifty years, have been produced with strict observance, in each case, of the laws of apparel. An example of the earnestness with which precision is sought for, even in matters seemingly unimportant, is related in connection with a recent characterization of the popular tragedian, Ichikawa Danjiuro. Having been cast for the rôle of a personage who flourished half a century ago, he found no difficulty in collecting the required garments, with the exception of the foot gear, which was known to be peculiar to the individual in question, who had invented a species of *geta* for his exclusive use. To ascertain in what the singularity consisted was now, in Danjiuro's estimation, a prime necessity; but although his inquiries were prosecuted in all directions, he was unable to obtain the desired information until close upon the time fixed for the performance, when he accidentally discovered that an aged relation of one of his students had been an humble servant,—with duties equivalent to those of shoe-black,—in the household of the officer about to be represented. This was sufficient authority, and from the description furnished by the old retainer, the clogs were straightway manufactured. Of the spectators who witnessed the play, very few, perhaps hardly any, were competent to decide whether the *geta* were properly or improperly constructed; but the anxiety of the actor was appeased and his mind was at rest. This is quite on a parallel with the anecdote of Mélingue, the French actor, who would not play Benvenuto Cellini without being surrounded by articles of the great Florentine's workmanship. In fact, it is only in the best French theatres that we find the same rigid adherence to harmonies of costume that is practised here. The English stage is reprehensibly disregarding of this point of duty, and, since the era of burlesque set in, has rather developed a tendency to dispense with costume of any kind than to be watchful of the clothes which are worn. A play of Shakespeare is more likely to be properly dressed at the Comédie Française than at any London establishment,—possibly excepting Irving's Lyceum. But the foremost French theatres are government institutions, and have facilities, as well as encouragements, which are not accorded in England. The Théâtre Français aims at accuracy not only in things French, but all the world

over. One hundred and fifty years ago, it devoted what was then considered a vast amount of enterprise to the "mounting" of a Chinese tragedy,—by Voltaire, if we remember aright. It will be a long time, we fear, before a Japanese manager becomes enthusiastic over the accessories of an European or American drama. The sense of responsibility extends only to subjects of Japanese origin; and excepting with respect to attire, little zeal is manifested. The costumes are admirable. The acting is often of great merit, even if judged by the severest standard. But in scenic appointments, mechanical appliances, and all that contributes to spectacular illusion, the Japanese stage is far from being what its foreign supporters, at least, would be glad to see it.

THE chief danger which the Orleans princes have to guard against for the moment seems to be the counsel of false friends, who seek to persuade them that some demonstration is absolutely inevitable in the position. Any demonstration would be compromising, and anything compromising would at once be converted into an excuse for the issue of a decree of exile. Thus when the physicians announced that all hopes of the Comte de Chambord's recovery were at an end, a proposal was immediately made to transport the remains of the chief of the Bourbons into France and bury them in the old domain of Chambord. This would assuredly have been converted into the occasion for a great and solemn manifestation, at which the Comte de Paris could not have failed to assist in his rôle of heir to the French Crown. Some word or act capable of being construed, or misconstrued, unfavourably, would assuredly have resulted, and then, farewell to Orleans for the present. The Comte de Chambord, however, seems to have foreseen this trap. His last testament, it is said, contains a clause desiring that his body shall rest, until better times, beside the bodies of his grandfather, Charles X., and of his uncle and aunt, the Duke and Duchess of Angoulême, who are entombed at Goritz. Henry of Bourbon will thus be followed to the grave by only a limited number of sure and faithful friends, and his obsequies, taking place abroad, will offer no opportunity for another exercise of that *rabies republicana* which, while professing to guarantee equal rights to all without distinction of person, refuses to live under the same heavens with men whose blood happens to be tainted with the poison of royalty.

A FEW days ago a foreigner sent his servant to buy some magnesia. The man returned with a quantity of what appeared to be roughly ground chalk. Although his master had told him to go to a foreign chemist's to make the purchase, the scamp had bought it at a native drug-store in Honchodori, in order to get a squeeze. On his master proceeding with him to the store and taking a survey of its contents, he was astonished to notice spurious drugs of all descriptions. Even patent medicines are being counterfeited. There were numerous boxes of

pills, labelled "Halleway's Pills," which are sold at 10 *sen* a box as Holloway's pills. The get-up of the outside wrapper is a very good imitation, and if it were not for the orthography and the low charge, the boxes might easily be palmed off on foreigners. When drugs of any description are sold in labelled boxes or bottles it is very easy for foreigners to detect the fraud, but when sold otherwise it is often difficult to do so. One cannot, therefore, lay too much stress on the precautions which should be taken when dealing with native druggists, and, in fact, we would caution foreigners from dealing at all except with tradesmen of established honesty.

L'Italie tells a charming little anecdote of Tourgueneff, the Great Russian novelist. It appears that the fashionable author possesses in Russia a noble estate where he loves to play the host with all the magnificent hospitality for which his countrymen are famous. As for his tenants, they adore him, and he treats them like a veritable father. Among them is a young Servian, twenty years of age. She is a blonde, of that blondness peculiar to the Servian women, a sort of pallid gold, like the rays of their melancholy sun. Tourgueneff had never observed this young-woman, but one day when on the eve of setting out for Saint Petersburg, he assembled his tenants, as was his custom, and enquired whether they had not some commission for the capital. Thereupon the young Servian with the pale gold locks stepped timidly forward and said:—"I have, master." "You wish me to bring you something from Saint Petersburg, my child?" "Yes, master." "Speak." "I pray you to buy me a piece of soap." Astonished, the author gazed silently at the young girl. Men whose business is to study hearts and brains are not fond of asking questions. They prefer guessing. Tourgueneff couldn't guess, however. He came back a month later as wise as when he set out. Sending for the golden haired young Servian, he handed her the soap and said:—"There, my child. There is what you asked me for." "Thanks, master." "Now, perhaps, you will allow me to ask you a question." "Speak, master." "Why did you wish me to bring you a piece of soap from the capital when you can get as much as you want in the shops here? What was the motive of this strange desire?" The golden haired girl became as red as a strawberry, and hung down her head. "You don't wish to reply, my child?" resumed Tourgueneff. "Master, it was because you entertain here many beautiful ladies who come from Petersburg." "Yes, and what then?" "You often kiss their hands. I wanted to wash my cheeks with Petersburg soap, and I hoped that you would do to my face what you do to their hands."

ALTHOUGH the indecencies which frequently disfigure the newspapers of Japan are severely condemned by the better class of citizens, there seems to be a general disposition to overlook the offences, on the ground that no serious injury to the empire's reputation is to be feared, the mis-

deeds of the press being known only to the circle of subscribers and readers. Supposing this to be a sufficient reason—which it certainly is not—for condoning these outrages upon morality, the impression that only Japanese, or residents in Japan, are aware of them, is entirely unfounded. They are detected and reprobated in every country where Japanese journalism has been heard of. We have before us an extract from an American publication, the *Paper World*, in which the periodical literature of this nation is thus criticized:—"The journals of largest circulation strike the lowest level of sensationalism, and border on looseness of morals; the restrictive press laws take no trouble about indecencies, but apply only to expressions as to Governmental affairs." This statement is afterward modified, to some extent, by the following observation:—"The code of 1878 does provide for a fine of five to one hundred yen for publication of anything offending against good morals and decency, but these terms are rather vaguely defined in Japan." Here is plain evidence that the good name of Japan abroad is tarnished by the unseemly practices of those who ought properly to represent the nation's best enlightenment. The newspapers, which should lead the way in progress and civilization, degrade themselves and disgrace their country by persisting in a grossness which would not be tolerated in any Western community. If it be true that a statute applicable to this nuisance exists, it should be brought into operation without delay. The theatres have long been subjected to the restraints of propriety, and the sale of obscene pictures by shop-keepers is prohibited. Why the press should be permitted to celebrate vice and to disseminate impurities which cannot otherwise be set before the public eye, it would be difficult for the most ingenious of sophists to explain. If the editors, as a body, were sensible of the dignity of their profession, they would at once put an end to the abomination. As it is, we shall be glad to see the first step taken by authority to call the offenders to account. So soon as it is found that the printing of a shameful anecdote or a foul jest entails a good, round penalty, the decent public may reckon upon a speedy abatement of the evil. It is quite time that the journalists of Japan should be made to assume the virtue of cleanliness, whether they have it or not.

THE work of uniting the new railway from Kumagai to the capital with the line to Yokohama is now in preparation. That the two roads should be joined is necessary for the complete utilization of the more recently constructed route. Some delay in arranging the preliminaries has been caused by differences of opinion as to whether the connecting rails should be laid, as directly as possible, from Ueno to Shinbashi, or should pass outside the limits of Tokiyo. The former plan would secure a saving of time in the transit, with perhaps other conveniences; but it would also involve great expense, owing to the high cost of land within the city. It has been decided, we understand,

that the track shall extend from Shinagawa to Kawaguchi, the latter station being somewhat farther from the Ueno terminus than the former is from Shinbashi. Through freight, therefore, need not enter Tokiyo, from either direction. The cross route will have the advantage of bringing into railway communication several suburban villages which can now be reached only by jinriki or other animal power.

A NOVEL kind of purse was found on the Bluff. A gentleman, while walking along, struck with his cane a match-box which was lying on the road and which he supposed to be empty. To his surprise, however, a metallic sound issued therefrom. On picking it up he found therein a gold coin and several silver ones. The owner may obtain it by applying at the office of this paper and mentioning the value of the coins. We are inclined to think that it must have belonged to a Japanese, for foreigners generally carry their money about in different kinds of receptacles.

BETWEEN 10 and 11 a.m. on the 30th ult. a fatal accident occurred on board the U.S. flagship *Richmond*. Mr. Noyes, a lieutenant, while putting some of the crew through spar-drill, was struck on the head by the fore-top-gallant mast which gave way and came down by the run, and knocked him down. He lingered in a state of unconsciousness for about an hour and then expired. The deceased officer was greatly respected on board and was a general favourite with the crew.

THE *Mainichi Shimbun* publishes some intelligence said to have been received in the capital from Pusan, Korea, on the 22nd ultimo. The natives in the neighbourhood of the port ascribe the arrival of Europeans to Japanese influence. They have therefore resolved to expel the Japanese from the country. With this view the inhabitants of Chhun-chhông-do, Chôl-la-do, and Kyông-sang-do, have united and agreed to disperse in case of the threatened failure of the crops through the drought now prevalent in the above three divisions of the country; if, however, the harvest is abundant, they will take plenty of provisions and rise in arms for the expulsion of the Japanese. As there was no rain until July 10th (old calendar), the plotters retired to their respective provinces. The *Mainichi* professes not to place much confidence in the report of this confederacy, yet, as it is freely referred to by natives of all classes, the rumor may mean that some disturbance is projected.—Measures are being taken by Japanese merchants to organize a company in which Koreans shall be shareholders.—Information from Wôn-san, received on the 19th ultimo, announces that the Japanese Lieutenant Kaitsu, who started from Pusan in June last with the intention of travelling from Gishiu to Sôul, was expected to return in a few days.—The weather has been exceedingly hot this year, the thermometer frequently registering one hundred degrees at noon.—A scheme to hold a religious service in memory of

the death of the Japanese murdered in Sôul last year, has been relinquished on account of the stagnation of trade.—Korean jugglers who have lately exhibited in the settlement were much admired.—Here, unlike the neighbourhood of Pusan, the crops are expected to be abundant, as much rain has fallen. The report of imports and exports for the first half of this year, compiled by the Chamber of Commerce, is as follows:—Imports of Japanese products, value yen 31,330; foreign, yen 330,063; of articles of daily use, yen 32,196; export of Korean products, yen 537,177; import of Japanese products from Wôn-san, yen 39,430; foreign, yen 39,270; Korean, yen 16,731; export of Japanese products to Wôn-san, yen 3,355; foreign, yen 70,240; of Korean, yen 8,995; import of Japanese product from In-chhôn, none; foreign, yen 4,980; Korean, yen 5,650; export of Japanese products to In-chhôn, yen 44,907; foreign, yen 50,894; Korean, yen 11,814.

We learn that Mr. T. R. H. McClatchie has been appointed Registrar of Her Majesty's Court in Yokohama. Mr. McClatchie's friends will be glad to hear that his health is now nearly restored, and that he will probably be able to return to duty before long.

"VILLANOUS saltpetre," even in its gunpowder development and its worst abuses, is as nothing in strength to the mixture of nitro-glycerine and mud which has some to be known as "dynamite." Not content with employing it to blow up palaces and murder kings, its devotees are now, with reckless thoughtlessness using it to exterminate the living treasures of the Ocean. In this context the *Daily Press* of Hongkong writes:—"A little knowledge is well known to be a dangerous thing, and so it proves to be in the amount of knowledge which Chinese have acquired of dynamite. They know that small cartridges of this powerful explosive will often provide a bigger haul of fish than they can obtain by hours of fishing, but they are probably not aware of what mischief they may cause by the unskilful use of this inexpensive but very dangerous aid in fishing operations. The danger attending the use of the cartridges by unskilful hands is well recognised by the authorities, who prohibit their use within the precincts of the harbour, but there is much to fear that the prohibition is often disregarded. When it is found that not only are cartridges exploded within the precincts of the harbour, but absolutely within a few yards of the Praya Central, or a public wharf, during the busy part of the day, by Chinese, this discovery is rather a startling one. This is what has recently been discovered in the following way:—Messrs. Douglas Lapraik & Co. learned that some person was using these cartridges close to, or under, their wharf, the charges being sunk to the bottom, and the foundations of the wharf were shaken by the explosion. How long this practice may have been going on it is hard to say, but it might have continued for an indefinite period undiscovered, as there would not be much to attract attention when the

cartridges were well sunk. A complaint was made to the police, who at once set about investigating the matter, and it was not long before the dynamite was discovered in the person of an old man, the master of a cargo boat. On his craft was a cartridge with fuse attached fastened to a piece of granite to sink it, and the proprietor was taken into custody. It would seem that this dangerous explosive is somewhat too easily obtainable."

THE *China Mail* of the 23rd ult., says:—Mr. Colquhoun, representing *The Times*, Mr. Cameron representing the *Standard*, and Mr. Gilder, representing the *New York Herald*, returned from Tonquin yesterday evening in the steamer *Saltee*. They regard the affair at Hanoi, of which we published particulars last night, practically as a repulse of the French troops, and assert that when the columns under General Bonet retired, the enemy followed them up to within a short distance of Hanoi. The enemy encountered—the Black Flags—are said to have been largely armed with Remington rifles and to have fought exceedingly well. The bullet wounds received by the French soldiers were chiefly in the lower parts, showing that the "Black Flags" understand the importance of firing low. They are far more formidable foes than the badly-armed Tonquinese rabble encountered at Nam-dinh. It is extremely doubtful if the French have, even now, sufficient troops in Tonquin to effect the subjection of the country, and if the programme laid down for them is to be carried out fully, it is more than probable that additional reinforcements will have to be sent for from Europe. Some absurdly-exaggerated reports of the sorties from Nam-dinh are circulating among the Chinese. The following account of them was handed in at our office this afternoon and purported to come from "a Chinese merchant who had returned to Hongkong from Haiphong in the *Saltee*." Not satisfied with killing hundreds of Frenchmen, he kills a large number of their horses while they are *en voyage* from Hongkong to Haiphong:—"On the 15th, the French came out from Nam-dinh to attack the Black Flags, but were repulsed with a loss of more than 400 men. On the 16th the battle was resumed and the French were again defeated with more than 700 killed. On the 19th there was more fighting, the French losing over 300 killed. During the last day it rained very hard. If there had been no rain the French would have been annihilated. This is the only information the merchant can give. Seventy per cent. of the horses which were taken by steamer from Hongkong to Haiphong died owing to the injuries they received through the rough sea on the voyage." Had all this slaughter taken place, the three special newspaper correspondents who came here direct from Hanoi and Haiphong last night must have heard something about it, but the account was as surprising to them as to us. There is no truth in the statement that 70 per cent. of the ponies died on their way down to Haiphong; they were all

landed alive, and, from anything we know to the contrary, in sound condition. Nam-dinh is distinctly stated in this Chinese account as the place where all this fighting took place, but had Hanoi been the locality given, the account would have been equally absurd.

IN connection with the matter of fish-food we observe in the London *Daily News* an interesting note. Professor Rice, of Brooklyn, has been investigating the food of those fishes which are the food of man. The subject does not seem very mysterious, except in the case of salmon. What salmon eat in fresh water no man knows, and perhaps no man ever will know. They appear (from post-mortem examinations) to take a swim on an empty stomach while they are in the rivers. They take the fly of course, but then the fly they take resembles nothing, except perhaps a big humming-bird, and in no condition can the salmon have lived on humming-birds. The salmon is supposed to rise at the fly out of mere curiosity. The salmon will also take a spinning minnow, which again resembles nothing in nature; and he does not disdain worms; yet worms are not found, any more than other articles of food, in his interior. Most big fish are cannibals. Trout eat small trout; and the bigger they grow the more they prefer to live on their own kindred. A Tweed trout is said to have bitten the hind leg off a rabbit; and Mr. Colquhoun knew a salmon which fed on young swallows when they fell out of their nest into the river. A pike will eat anything it can get outside of; and one pike is known to have swallowed a brown paper parcel full of sandwiches without even taking the trouble to undo the string. Trout are very fond of liver, which, if served out to them in proper quantities, fattens them amazingly. Flies are the most succulent and natural food of trout. Trout are also supposed to eat the very minute crustaceans which inhabit certain lakes. But on the whole fish are omnivorous, and it is traditionally reported that a perch was once caught on a hook baited with his own eye.

THE latest news from the Straits of Sunda make it particularly dangerous for vessels to attempt its navigation, and this condition of affairs must necessarily continue for some time. After a succession of volcanic eruptions had taken place, there has been a great earthquake, which, together with an enormous tidal wave, have demolished the lighthouse. The extent of the phenomenon can be judged when the strength of such erections are considered.

WE understand that several cases of partial "fish-poisoning" have occurred recently among foreigners in the settlement and Japanese outside it. The physical fact is that Nature, like Time, has her own revenges, and that this is not the season for lavish indulgence in fish—especially shell-fish.

A VERY judicious measure, in the furtherance of trade interests, has been recently taken by the

French Government. A Department of "Commercial Intelligence" has been established. Its duty will be to collect and publish for the use of French merchants and manufacturers information which may be of service to them. The main sources from which the intelligence is to be drawn are the French and foreign official documents and commercial or economical publications of all kinds, including consular and embassy reports. To this will be added contributions from special agents and correspondents. The whole will be published fortnightly in an official journal. The Minister of Commerce, in announcing this new departure, has invited the co-operation of the French Chambers of Commerce.

A RECENT telegram to *The Times* from Copenhagen gives an explanation of a fire still forgotten in London. It says:—A prisoner, named Jens Nielsen, who on Sunday and Monday last set fire to five farmhouses, near Copenhagen, has confessed that in February, 1881, he caused the terrible fire in the Victoria Docks, with the object of obtaining plunder. He only found, however, three dresses and two bonnets. Two days afterwards he set fire to a warehouse near London-bridge. On the same afternoon he was arrested for stealing; and the next day was sentenced at Bow-street to two months' imprisonment.

WE learn from private advices that the Japanese steamship *Ise Maru*, belonging to the Kiodo Uyu Kwaisha, which left London for this port on the 22nd June, encountered a severe storm in the Red Sea on the 17th July, in which she was unfortunate enough to have her foremast carried away. At the date of our information the *Ise Maru* was at Aden, undergoing necessary repairs, and she will probably not reach Japan until near the end of next month. The *Ise Maru* is quite a new steamer, and before hoisting the Japanese flag was called the *Craigmount*.

AN appalling calamity is reported from Sanuki. A theatre, thronged with sight-seers, in Katamoto-mura, Yamada-gori took fire, and a panic ensued. The flames rapidly spread through the flimsy building; and in the confusion and fright fifteen grown persons and sixty children were crushed or burned to death; and upwards of one hundred people are reported seriously injured.

ANOTHER large forest fire is reported to be burning in Hokkaido. A storm has swept over the villages in the vale of Usui, Gumba Ken, hail stones falling of a size, and with a velocity of descent, sufficient to smash the tiles of the houses.

THE senior Annamite member of the Saigon Colonial Council has been placed under arrest on suspicion of conspiring against French dominion; and the Hongkong *Daily Press* makes this event the occasion of an argument which appears to mean that even British-born Chinese should not be appointed members of an English Colonial Council. The line of reasoning taken is not convincing—not even strong.

THE ADDRESS TO SIR HARRY PARKES.

THE valedictory address presented by the community of Yokohama to Sir HARRY PARKES on Friday evening is a document any public man might be gratified to receive. It is couched in terms that leave no doubt as to the hearty sincerity of its signatories. One can easily see that its composers did not set themselves the task of attaining any high oratorical standard. What they wrote was written spontaneously, and the spirit that permeates it is that of men who would have been glad to exchange the restraints of formal language for a fashion of farewell more consonant with the strong feelings that swayed them. It is not wonderful that this should be so. During the eighteen years he has lived in Japan, the untiring industry and earnestness of Sir HARRY PARKES' career have been, if possible, less remarkable than the genial kindliness of his nature. He has been every man's friend. It does not often happen that a politician whose idiosyncrasy is to allow himself no leisure, possesses the ability of dissociating his mind at a moment's notice from the cares of office, and bringing the whole strength of an exceptionally strong sympathy to bear upon the troubles of every applicant, however humble. Yet this was an essential trait of Sir HARRY'S intercourse with his fellow residents. To carry a complaint to the British Legation was to be assured of finding, not the mere co-operation of a conscientious official, but the assistance of an unwearied friend. Such broad-shouldered good-nature, ready to bear a share of everyone's burdens, is not common. Still more uncommon is its complete survival of influences that surround the occupants of high office, and we cannot wonder that the language of Yokohama's valedictory address was that of men who bid farewell to a tried friend rather than of men associated to take leave of a distinguished official.

This is the second time within eighteen months that Sir HARRY PARKES has been called on to reply to an address of congratulation. The first occasion was that of his return to his functions in the spring of 1882. The sentiments with which he was then received were not inspired wholly by the pleasure of welcoming back to his post an official who had won the confidence and friendship of all his nationals. There was another cause which helped appreciably to increase the warmth of the greeting accorded to him. Persistent attempts had been made to throw discredit on his official conduct, and the natural resentment of his

friends, added to certain international prejudices excited by the controversy, imparted to his reception in Yokohama the character of a vindication quite as much as of a welcome. This was natural, and might have been harmless. But it happened that unwarranted and reckless essays had been made to associate the Japanese Government with these attacks, and that Sir HARRY PARKES had been depicted by the rowdy element among his admirers as the only Foreign Representative capable of safeguarding Western interests against Oriental treachery and finesse. In common with all rational men, Sir HARRY must have understood that to accept the rôle thus thrust upon him would have been to fatally mar his prospects of usefulness and influence in Japan. He could afford to leave unnoticed the assaults of his enemies, but when his avowed friends came forward, and, in their clumsy anxiety to belaud, did not hesitate to accredit him with the very sentiments his opponents condemned, he seemed to be in the position of a man who could not repel the accusations of his assailants without rejecting, at the same time, the encomiums of his advocates. It need scarcely be said that the better classes, in other words the majority, of the foreign residents recognised and deplored this dilemma, for the creation of which they were not responsible. But they trusted that Sir HARRY PARKES would see his way to rescue himself and them from so mischievous and invidious a position, and they were not mistaken. In replying to the address of welcome, Her Majesty's Representative, while dissociating the situation, as far as possible, from any political element, made use of it to declare that he regarded the interests of Japan as one and the same with the interests of the country he represented. He had not come back to threaten, to extort, or to suspect, but to treat Japan with confidence and friendship, believing these to be the best means of advancing the cause he had in hand.

On this, the second occasion of replying to a laudatory address from his own, and other, nationals, Sir HARRY PARKES was less careful to avoid political themes. On the contrary, he did not hesitate to give a succinct *résumé* of the motives that have guided his official conduct as well as of the conditions that appear to exist in Japan. There will be differences of opinion with regard to the wisdom of this frankness. Many persons will doubtless hold that a garden party is scarcely a fitting opportunity for Her Majesty's Representative to enter into such explanations, and some may

think that international politics gain nothing by being discussed on such a platform. But the circumstance does not allow itself to be disposed of in this summary fashion. It cannot be forgotten that Sir HARRY PARKES has always preserved the most intimate relations with this community, and it may be inferred that he has fully weighed the advantages of the intelligent sympathy and advice offered by the better classes against the danger of having his policy mistaken for a mere reflection of local sentiment. The danger would be insignificant did that sentiment find genuine and temperate expression, but such is by no means the case, and in electing to identify himself so closely with a community so perniciously championed, Her Majesty's Minister must often have been obliged to sacrifice his judgment to his associations. Under these circumstances, Sir HARRY PARKES could scarcely have been expected to avoid all political allusions when saying farewell to the men who for years had enjoyed his confidence, who had earnestly shared his hopes and intelligently seconded his efforts for the promotion of Japan's prosperity and, reciprocally, of their own. It is plain, too, from the substance of what he permitted himself to say, that his object was far-sighted:—

I have received much kindness from the Sovereign, the authorities, and the people of Japan; and in endeavouring, as it was my first duty to do, to advance the welfare of my own countrymen, I have always felt that the interests of foreigners in this country were inseparable from those of the people, and I have therefore only advocated measures and pursued a policy which I believe to be conducive to the benefit of both. I have also always considered—and it is only due to the foreign residents to say that this feeling is a reflection of their own—that the Government of Japan is entitled to our best sympathy in the trials and difficulties with which it has to contend in passing through the period of transition and in entering on the wide stage of reform which our advent may be said to have occasioned.

Here, again, we have a reiterated assurance that the interests of foreigners in Japan are inseparable from those of the people, and that Sir HARRY PARKES has advocated only measures which he believed to be mutually beneficial. But he goes farther than this. He undertakes to enunciate the sentiment of the foreign community, that the Government of Japan "is entitled to our best sympathy in the trials and difficulties with which it has to contend in passing through the period of transition and in entering on the wide stage of reform which the advent of foreigners may be said to have occasioned." We have always endeavoured in the columns of this journal to maintain the wide distinction which exists between the real feeling of the foreign residents and the false interpretation it receives at the hands of its turbulent champions. Sir HARRY PARKES could scarcely have done anything more useful than to

emphasize that distinction. He must know, as every rational man knows, that the difficulties of a British Minister in Japan and the disabilities of his nationals are immensely augmented by the peculiar conditions under which the function of representing British sentiments and championing British interests has been successfully arrogated by persons whose only title to be heard is the violence of their effrontery. Possessing more than an average amount of educated intelligence, and at least an average sense of justice, this community is made to appear not alone incompetent, but also unwilling, to be either clear-sighted, generous, or impartial. It was well that, even at the eleventh hour, Sir HARRY PARKES should endeavour publicly to dispel this delusion. We find it very difficult to believe that his influence might not have been usefully exercised in the same direction long ago. It was surely within his competence,—and it would certainly have benefited in no small degree the cause for which he has always laboured so earnestly,—to impose some check on the disgraceful abuse of Japanese officials which has disfigured the columns of the local English press for the past two years; on the cowardly calumnies uttered against the Government, its administration, its motives, and its integrity; on the base attempts made to stir up sedition among the people and to embroil Japan with foreign countries. However insignificant the utterers of these libels and the agents of this mischief may have appeared, we cannot think that the license they have been suffered to enjoy is consistent with the professed character of our relations with this country, and most assuredly it has been highly injurious to English influence and English reputation.

Sir HARRY PARKES then proceeds to say:—

My earnest desire, which I am satisfied is shared by every one here present, is that, in following out reform, the attention of this nation may be seriously occupied not only with political movement, but also with substantial economic and industrial progress, and that the well-being of the people may be materially advanced by the removal of those obstacles which now impede the development of their national wealth and resources. We also trust that Japan will soon gain for herself a reputation for commercial intelligence and liberality equal to that which she has already acquired in regard to education and religious toleration, and that it may not long be said that the privileges which she gives to foreigners, in return for that free welcome which her people universally receive in Western States, are inferior to those which have been granted in the country to which I am now about to proceed.

Sir HARRY PARKES here forgot to be just. That no rapid development of national wealth and resources is possible in a country where foreign intercourse and commerce are subject to such restrictions and impediments as exist in Japan, is a proposition which cannot be gainsaid.

But why do those restrictions exist? Is it because the people of this country mistrust themselves? Or because they mistrust us? Or because we mistrust them? The truth is that we have changed positions with the Japanese. Twenty-five years ago they either mistrusted us or mistrusted their own ability to associate with us, and therefore declined anything beyond a partial intercourse. To-day, it is we who, on the ground of mistrusting them, refuse to extend that intercourse. Arrangements for throwing the whole country open would be willingly undertaken on their side to-morrow did we consent to concede them just so much jurisdiction as is necessary to the preservation of peace and good order. But we will concede nothing—absolutely nothing. After all these years of effort, to the success and earnestness of which Sir HARRY PARKES has now borne unequivocal testimony, Japan is treated precisely as we treat China, whose sullen obstinacy and exclusiveness are by-words. Allusion is made to the superior privileges which the latter empire has given to foreigners. Granted that, from a commercial standpoint, she has been more liberal than Japan, does that prove anything? Does it prove that China is right in sacrificing a Government's first duty—the duty of protecting the lives and properties of its subjects—to the chances of increased mercantile profits? Suppose that Japan were to allow foreign trade and travel in the interior under existing conditions of jurisdiction, could she guarantee justice to her people in the event of any trouble with their foreign visitors? Here is no question of reliance on the integrity of foreign tribunals. The point is that, whatever the nature of the wrong he had suffered, a Japanese subject would have no resource but to carry his case, it might be half a dozen days' journey, and lay it before a foreign tribunal at an open port, whereas the foreigner could appeal immediately to a local court. We cannot expect the Government of this country to consent to any such arrangement, neither have we any right to adduce Chinese acquiescence as a precedent. The Chinese have their own idea about law and order: Japan has hers.

Equally unjust is it to speak of "the free welcome which Japanese universally receive in Western States." The conditions are quite different. Nobody will maintain, we presume, that England would allow Orientals to trade and travel within her territory, were they subject only to the jurisdiction of their own Courts, established at two or three places on the sea-coast.

No parallel can be fairly drawn until all the conditions are assimilated. When we consent to occupy in Japan the same legal status which the Japanese occupy among ourselves, then, and not till then, shall we be in a position to censure their want of reciprocity. These one-sided arguments aptly illustrate the impracticable nature of the policy we have been pursuing towards Japan—a policy which has completely checked the growth of her foreign intercourse and threatens to render our residence here both unprofitable and unpleasant. Nearly three years have passed since these facts were first pointed out in this journal. Can anybody say that we are so much as one day nearer the desired consummation? Can anybody pretend to think that the inelastic policy pursued up to the present is likely to prove more successful in other hands than it has proved in the hands of the indefatigable and able diplomatist whose single-hearted energy and unrelenting perseverance men of every nationality are constrained to admire to-day? The fashion of the moment is to ignore the truth, but the time will inevitably come when we shall recognise that, to be successful, that policy demands recourse to measures which no civilized nation is any longer disposed to adopt.

FRANCE AND ANNAM.

AN armed invasion of Oriental or other comparatively feeble states by the powerful nations of the West means almost invariably the permanent occupation or annexation, under one form or other, of the former. The career of British conquest in India is the most notable instance of this historic truth. When the more powerful nation having achieved its main object "marches back again," to quote Sir S. BAKER, either a former state of anarchy is restored, or the country subdued becomes in some other way all the worse for the probably well-meant, but certainly worse than useless, interference of its protector. An example may be found in the present condition of the Transvaal and Zululand, neither of which territories have benefited much by Great Britain's half-hearted and inconsistent interference. But we need not confine our view in this matter to our own policy. Latest despatches from Tonquin tell of complete Annamite submission to French authority, and the establishment of a French protectorate. No other *finale* to the affair could have been expected when once the French Government had embarked upon its recent eastern voyage. That the result will be advantageous to the

Republic itself we do not believe. On the contrary the influence of France in Europe will probably be weakened. None the less, however, must she adopt the motto of her last military President:—"J'y suis: j'y reste!" A month ago some of the profoundest of French thinkers recognized this and proclaimed it, either deprecating or applauding the policy which was leading up to the recent crisis. M. CHALLEMEL-LACOUR, the present exponent of colonially aggressive Republican France, said in the Chamber:—"Our commissioner to Tonquin will be charged with organizing the condition of the country; and, as soon as he can, will negotiate with Annam . . . he is ordered to teach the populations that France does not intend to conquer Annam . . . We will only occupy the delta of the Songkoi to the sea;" and so forth. Mr. LEROY BEAULIEU, whose usually bright political vision is obscured by the lens through which he beholds his country's future greatness in other lands than Europe, was not satisfied with these explanations. The best that he could find in them was that they were vague: that they represented mere floating velleities and not engagements. He held that it would be superfluous to tell the populations that France would not conquer Annam, inasmuch as she would be obliged to subdue it or at least its capital. It was premature to say that France would occupy only the delta of the Songkoi, because it was certain that she would have to occupy Hué at least, and probably one or two posts in the mountains of Tonquin. A "delta" can only be defended by some such process. The events of the last few days have proved—those of the next few weeks will further prove—how correct were his forecasts.

With the question as to the wisdom of the policy of colonization adopted by France we will not now deal: she is committed to it, and with or against her will, must pursue an inevitable course. How has it been with her in Tunis? In spite of declarations and promises, which we believe were absolutely sincere, she has been compelled by the mere force of events to occupy and to keep Tunis, Susa, Sfax, Gabes, Khernan and Bizerta. So it will be in Tonquin, where Hué, and at least three or four posts according to military exigences, will have to be held. Hence it would have been more prudent for the Government of the Republic to have despatched a large force earlier. The affair of Hanoi would then have been avoided, and the lives of the accomplished Rivière and his gallant comrades, would have been saved. The tactics employed by the Curiatii against

the surviving Horatius do not suit French, any more than they are favourable to English, aggression.

It is only another repetition of history. Take the case of Austria in Bosnia and Herzegovina. The great central European power entered these provinces with bright and probably liberal ideas. It found, like so many other theorists have found, that it had to fight for them—to fertilize its projects with the blood of its soldiers. The Austrians have thus made the territories in question their own. It is hard to see, now, how they could relinquish their possession. Take the case of England in Egypt, and here at least the French writer is just to his neighbours. He finds no difficulty in believing that GLADSTONE, at least, had no intention last year of keeping the British forces indefinitely in the region of the Nile; and that even to-day sundry radical members of the Cabinet would be content to abandon Egypt for good or for evil to her own devices. But, he asks pertinently, "how could this be done?" and answers his own question. "Every step backward made by Great Britain would cause her to lose the fruits of her labor; and the land she left behind her would fall into a worse state of anarchy than that which provoked the British expedition."

But let us go back half a century, giving the France of 1830, as we give the France of 1883, credit for the best intentions. When, as a consequence of an incident of ridiculously small importance and quite unforeseen, a mere blow with a fan, the French army landed at Sidi Ferruch, who could have foreseen what fifty years would produce in Algeria? Most probably neither CHARLES X. nor his Government, both on the verge of ruin, had any idea of the permanent conquest of a large territory because a monarch had so far forgotten his dignity as to strike an impertinent Consul in the face. Generals and journalists of that day would have been alike astonished had they been told that, five short decades later, a French garrison would be established at Laghwat, two hundred and forty miles from the coast: that French authority would extend at least one hundred and fifty miles further South into the dark continent: that a railway would be made and trains would ply to and from Kralfallah far beyond the region of the Shotts; and that one of their sons, a French Colonel, at the head of an official expedition, would meet his death at the Asiu Wells, near the 21st degree of North latitude, twelve hundred miles South of the Mediterranean littoral on the very confines of the mysterious mountain land of Asben.

Decidedly all these developments of the Dey of Algiers' intemperate fan blow did not enter within the vision of French diplomacy, which, it is only fair to say, has constantly made strenuous efforts to limit the occupation of Algeria. At first France was only to keep a few maritime posts; but with the best intentions she could not succeed. There was—and still exists—such a state document as the treaty of Tafna, which has shared the fate of all treaties. It provided for the suzerainty (or sovereignty) we forget which, of France, but recognized the right of the glorious Emir ABD EL KADIR over sundry provinces with the exception of a few trumpery towns and ports. The high-minded chieftain, under a sense of cruel wrong, broke the Tafna convention; and France had no alternative but to conquer the whole of Algeria.

Other facts are with the argument of the French economical authority, when he maintains that a "limited occupation" is a "*naïveté*." Only two kinds of colonial policy are possible—abstention and action, either one of which must be complete. There is no middle course. Gallant and loyal as ABD EL KADIR was, respected as he was by his Gallic foes and allies, he could not live as a joint sovereign or tributary, could not resist the temptation to endeavor to get rid of friends whose presence galled him, and whose very moderation he mistook for weakness. He failed, of course; and all attempts made by the Empire to establish a European colony side by side with an Arab kingdom were doomed to equally egregious failure. If we want another instance we can find it nearer here, in the recent history of Netherlands India. When the Dutch settled in Java and some of the isles of Sunda they little dreamed of the occupation of the whole region or their long protracted war in Acheen. When a few English merchants founded factories on the coast of Hindustan, they little imagined that they were dooming their descendants to effect the conquest of the giant peninsula and its dependences from Point de Galle to the scientific frontier of Afghanistan. To a similar policy France seems fated in Tonquin. That she can achieve like results is as improbable as it is certain that the circumstances are wholly unlike. It may almost be predicted that her present spasmodic, nay frantic, thirst for colonization will soon burn itself out, and that its attainments will share the fate of the French colonial schemes and ventures of the eighteenth century. However, be that as it may, she has entered a path upon which there is no repose, a road on which a nation entering must either advance in conquest, or retreat in disappointment and, perhaps, defeat.

THE ANNAMITE ARMY.

MR. PIERRE PONS D'ANTY, of the *Bibliothèque Nationale*, Paris, contributes to the *Progrès français* an article headed "The Annamite Army." He premises that, of recent days, there is not a journal which has not furnished its readers with an *exposé*, more or less exact of the military and naval forces of the Chinese empire, while not one has had a word to say about those of Annam. And, nevertheless, the writer thinks that it is hardly possible for China to interfere openly and arms in hand in this French business, whereas it is certain that France is engaged in a serious conflict with the troops of the TUDUC. It is true that the Annamite soldiery in Tonquin barely numbers two thousand men. At present the real adversaries of the French are the Chinese bandits known as the Black Flags; but the theatre of war might well be extended beyond the limits which bound it to-day. Mr. D'ANTY foresees the possibility that France may have to occupy the whole of Cochin China, in which case she would find herself face to face with the Annamite army, from which her soldiers would experience a fire belching from weapons which she has herself generously presented to her enemy, while her ironclads would be knocking to pieces the whilom French vessels which now constitute the main strength of the fleet of Annam.

First, as regards the land forces. During the reign of MINH MANG, about 1820, the Annamite army comprised about 200,000 well organized troops, armed in European style, and drilled by French officers in the service of the Emperor of ANNAM. This imposing military force no longer exists except upon paper. The strongest garrison, that of Hué, does not contain 6,000 men, and there are not more than 2,000 in the other posts of the province of which Hué is the capital. "Admitting," says Mr. DUTREUIL DE RHINS, "that all the other provinces of the realm have, each one, a garrison of half that strength, we shall arrive at a total of 88,000 men."

Mr. D'ANTY boldly divides these figures by half, and thinks he is not far from the truth when he opines that the Annamite army is never on ordinary occasions more than fifty thousand strong of all arms. The equipment and material are well worthy the *personnel*, which Mr. DUPUIS has seen, and which he describes as follows:—"Their manœuvres are executed with much posturing. It is worth while to watch them frisking about, running, dancing, and cutting heads off with extreme dexterity; but does

the least peril arise, all these doughty jugglers are swiftly in flight." We must not forget that in Annam, as in China, the profession of arms is but lightly esteemed. The officers are by one degree of rank inferior to civil mandarins of the same class, and more often than not the high commands are bestowed upon mere *littérati*, who know absolutely nothing of the science of war. Notwithstanding the liberal administration of "stick" to the rank and file by the non-commissioned officers, discipline is very lax. Desertion is common. If a deserter is recaptured he expiates his offence with the receipt of a moderate welting: if he cannot be found, his village is held to supply a substitute.

The term of military service is ten years; and it is furnished on the old feudal system of "bans." Generally two bans are enrolled at a time; in order that each may rest for three months alternately, while one is under arms. When all the bans are called out the period of intermittent leave and service is six months.

There are, in all, three different armies, to wit *Vê* (the Guard), *Cô* (the Provincial Army), and *Liu Suan Shan* or (Urban Militia).

The troops of the Guard are, as a rule stationed in the provinces of Binh Dinh and Nghe An, the birth place of the reigning dynasty. This *Vê* army consists of eighty battalions of five hundred men each, mobilized in companies of fifty and squads of ten. At the head of a battalion is a colonel, assisted by an adjutant: each company is commanded by a captain, while the squads are led by non-commissioned officers corresponding in status and service to our own sergeants and corporals. Ten battalions constitute a division, commanded by a general, assisted by his brigadiers. The number of the soldiers of the regiments of the Provincial Army is proportionate to the number of the inhabitants of the particular province. Otherwise the organization is identical with that of the Guard. The higher officers are all selected from the latter branch of the service. Each province has to provide and equip two companies of artillery, who are under the control of the commanders of the forts, all old officers of the Guard. Lastly the Urban Militia is furnished by the chief towns of the provinces. According to the relative importance of the town this local militia may contain one or many companies. The soldiers (Urban Guards) act as police, and are amenable to the authority of the military commandant in the provincial capital.

A General-in-Chief (Marshal of the

Centre) commands the entire army. The present incumbent of this important post is HOANG KE VIEN, a bitter enemy of the French and foreigners. The Staff is composed of four other marshals of lower rank, who reside at Hué; a military Governor-general, in each province: a major-general aided by brigadiers is placed under the orders of each Governor-General. The officer who comes immediately next in rank to the brigadiers is the General of Division, commanding five thousand men.

Let us turn now to the sea-service. The Annamite Navy is composed (1) of seven sailing corvettes, manned, according to their class, by from 120 to 200 sailors, and armed each with twenty guns, more or less: (2) some three hundred war-junks, small and great, with from two to six pieces and about forty men each: (3) three steamers recently purchased in Hongkong: (4) four or five vessels given by France. This makes a total of, say, for the Navy, 314 boats, 16,000 men, and 1,400 pieces of marine artillery. "But," exclaims Mr. D'ANTY, "Such men! such boats! such guns!" Mr. DUTREUIL DE RHINS, for his part, says that the "sailors get more cane than coopecks"—the proverbial "monkey's allowance." Hence they steal and sell anything whereon they can lay their hands on board; and, sooth to say, in this they only follow on a small scale the worthy example set them by their superiors of all ranks. "After one winter season," writes Mr. POSTEL, formerly a magistrate at Saigon, and author of a very interesting work entitled *L'Extrême Orient*, "the rigging of His Annamese Majesty's ships is simplified in a most fantastic manner."

The staff of officers of each ship is composed of (1) a literate: (2) of officers of the navy, artillery, and infantry detailed for special service. After all, the only individual on board who possesses the least trace of naval science is the *Cai*, a warrant officer designated to the charge of the helm on board sailing vessels—the engines in steamers.

Such, as described by Mr. D'ANTY, are the Annamite forces which France expects to see arrayed against her. Of the naval force, as we mentioned above, she has herself furnished the most formidable contingent. Article 7 of the treaty signed on the 15th of March, 1874, between Rear-Admiral DUPERRÉ and the Annamite plenipotentiaries, stipulated that "France should cede to the Annamite Government five steam vessels of war, having a total horse-power of 500, and thoroughly found; one hundred cannon, each provided with two hundred charges; and one thousand repeating rifles

with five hundred thousand cartridges." One can understand the soreness of some French writers in criticising a policy which has thus placed war-ships and arms at the disposal of an enemy; though one would think they might find consolation in the certainty that, should a serious war ensue between the European and the Asiatic powers, both vessels and arms must be recovered by the former, who may thus be held to have lent them only for a time.

REVIEW.

Eight Years in Japan, 1873-1881: Work, Travel, and Recreation. By E. G. HOLTHAM, M.I.C.E. London: Kegan Paul, French, & Co., 1883.

We have seldom read a book that gave us greater pleasure than this latest addition to Anglo-Japanese literature. Yet as we close the volume and ponder quietly over the impressions its perusal has conveyed, we are conscious that the most prominent among them are referable less to the author's skill than to his disposition. From cover to cover there is not one ill-natured remark, and every sentence has a ring of sincerity which makes one feel that did one meet the writer to-morrow, the mere ceremony of shaking hands would suffice to transform him into an old and trusted friend. It must be confessed that this is a delightful experience. Not alone is it pleasant to escape from the pert plagiarisms of a Griffis, the flippant puerilities of a Crow, and the ineffable snobisms of a Dresser, but it is a solid gain to feel assured that what one reads is the honest conviction of an honest man set down with only just so much reserve as is dictated by a nature too kindly to be critical. To this latter cause, perhaps, may be attributed a certain sentiment of disappointment which the book inspires. One feels that, as a record of eight years' professional experience, it might easily take us a little deeper below the surface. Nothing, perhaps, stands in more urgent need of reform in Japan than the fashions which govern the conduct of public works. The weight of expert testimony upon this point is not to be gainsaid. We do not mean to assert that things are worse here than they were among ourselves before improved systems of scrutiny and wider competition deposed "Nunkey" from his position of virtually irresponsible paymaster. But they certainly are not much better, and when the publication of Mr. Holtham's book was announced, we hoped that it would be found to embody a critical *resumé* of these evils and their causes. But the author avoids this part of his subject altogether. Possibly he lacked data. Everybody is familiar with the complaint so often urged by technical experts in the service of the Japanese Government that they are never permitted to look behind the scenes, and thus their conceptions of the economical systems which obtain here are based upon what they are forbidden, rather than upon what they are allowed, to know. If this were so in Mr. Holtham's case, we venture to think that he might have done good service by placing the fact on record, instead of leaving us to conjecture the cause of his singular silence upon many points of paramount interest to the earnest enquirer.

The discretion which induced him to restrain his pen in these matters, is in a measure compensated by his frankness in other directions. Arriving in

Japan towards the close of 1873, he was able to inspect the works on the Tokiyo-Yokohama Railway before they had undergone any of the alterations or improvements that brought them to their present condition. He does not tell us very much about them, but what he does tell is highly suggestive. "I will not venture to say that what we saw commanded our entire approval; but it is futile now to criticise in detail the works of this first railway in Japan, as it became necessary within a very few years to undertake operations that almost amounted to re-making the whole line from one end to the other." Proceeding almost immediately afterwards to Kobe, he compared notes, with the following result:—

The idea we had formed from our observations in the neighbourhood of Yokohama, namely, that railway engineering in Japan was not as railway engineering elsewhere within our knowledge, was strengthened by what we saw at Kobe. The permanent buildings for the station and workshops were of iron, and had been designed upon the assumption that all the columns would be most suitably supported upon screw-piles; but when it came to erecting them, the screw-piles proved to be not quite long enough to reach the ground when the columns were fixed with reference to the intended rail level. So the structure was propped up in the air on temporary supports, while the ground was elevated, by means of concrete in blocks and sand filling, until the screws at the lower ends of the piles were reached and imbedded. Hard by we found one of the engineering staff despairing of pangs intended to denote the centre line of railway, on a curve, because his theodolite was marked the wrong way round, as he said; but his resources were not by any means at an end, for in our presence he instructed his foreman to set the rails right, as near as he could, by eye alone, that he might get his centre line by measuring from them, and thus have no mistake as to the proper position of his future platforms! We had tiffin afterwards with this good fellow—as he really was—and I don't think he ever knew the real cause of our suddenly losing our gravity when he mentioned for our information that the railway had many quite unnecessary curves in it.

Other funny things did we see that day and the next, and presently learned to keep our countenances under proper discipline; and, moreover, ceased to wonder at the alleged delay in completing the line. For it appeared that the only known way of passing a stream of water eighteen inches wide under the line, was to build a couple of walls that would have served for the abutments of a fifty-foot bridge, a foot and a half apart, and span the yawning gulf between them by means of beams sixteen inches square, of expensive timber, of sufficient length to have about a dozen feet at each end buried in the embankment behind the masonry. The walls were of finely worked granite, and must have cost a mint of money; but a structure of this description was to be found nearly every hundred yards.

Then we came upon two tunnels under rivers, justified by the peculiarity of the situation, but remarkable as being constructed for a single line only, while a third tunnel, a little further on, was made wide enough for a double line—the difference being explained by the statement that it had always been intended that the tunnels should be for a double line, but it was not found out while the two first were being constructed that they were not so.

We found, at any rate, that our Chief, who had not been long in the country, and who had at first to make the best use he could of a staff constituted on the basis of taking any one to be an engineer who said he was an engineer, and who was rapidly bringing order out of chaos, had some justification for thinking that a few men selected in London would perhaps leave the whole lump so as to render his task in the future somewhat easier, establish a healthier constitution in his department, and secure for the Japanese good value for their money.

The author here illustrates a fact which has exercised a potent influence on Japan's conduct towards her foreign *employés*. There was a time—several years ago, indeed—when the most implicit confidence marked her attitude. Advice was no sooner tendered than it was received, and services performed in the ordinary routine of duty elicited expressions of gratitude as agreeable as they were unexpected. Perhaps it might be too much to assert that these pleasant traits would have proved permanent had their preservation depended upon the Japanese alone, but it is certain that they were first marred by foreign incompetence. The too facile trustfulness which "took any one to be an engineer who said he was an engineer," influenced a majority of the appointments made by the Government in those early years, and was followed ere long by a reaction which, though natural and necessary, was not always sufficiently discriminating. To the

same cause may be traced something of the illiberality that renders it almost hopeless to apply for leave of absence now. In nine cases out of ten a man has to choose between severing all his home ties or resigning his appointment. That there are occasional exceptions renders the general rule all the more irksome, and we are sometimes disposed to think that there is not very much to choose between the indiscretion which once saddled the service with a host of incapables and loafers and the ill-advised strictness which now withholds from all alike a reasonable indulgence. It is when speaking on this subject that Mr. Holtham allows himself to be betrayed into the only expression which contrasts unpleasantly with his uniform good-humor. The Principal Engineer in Tokiyo, who died there in 1876, "had been granted," writes our author, "six months leave, after seven years' service, when it was known that he could not possibly live to enjoy it; in accordance with the principles of the department." This is an ugly sentence, quite at variance with the writer's general good taste. Very different is the following, which, though not entirely free from traces of bias, contains some truths well worthy of note:—

I have before stated my belief that the measures taken by the government (that is the Council of State advising the Sovereign) to reduce or commute pensions and relieve the agricultural classes of a part of their imposts; were, in spite of some drawbacks and attendant evils, politically wise and beneficial to the nation as a whole, and I am inclined to think it probable that the continued existence of the government in its present form is due to that policy. But for the relief thus afforded to the great bulk of the producing but backward classes, Japan must, it seems to me, have succumbed to the organic troubles attending her conversion to modern ideas. It is, however, rarely that one hears this act of statesmanship referred to in terms at all adequate to express the approval that should be accorded to it by all thoughtful minds. Sometimes we find the permanence of the bureaucracy, the virtual form of government, in the *personnel* of which scarcely any Japanese professes to put any faith or confidence, wondered at by those who do not see that the cry of progress to which the nation once responded, is for the time in abeyance, and that the cry now is rightly for time to make good the drain caused by the progress so far effected—which cry and the necessity that evoked it, the government of the Mikado has not failed to recognize.

Like a youth who has been growing too fast, the nation has a period of delicacy to work through before the full vigour of its maturity can be developed; and the power that has said, "Do not trouble to equal or rival your fellows just now: lay in a stock of strength, and grow out to your stature first," is the most beneficent of future effort.

But it is open to any one to allege, as I do, that in a great number of cases the appearance has been taken for the reality of the required relief, and a false economy has been put in the place of judicious maintenance of effective power. I believe it may be said that there are only two remunerative undertakings that have been worked out by national funds—the railways and the telegraphs. Manufacturing and commercial concerns, having the command of Government money, have sprung up in all directions and resulted only in the transfer of public funds to private pockets; and it is only lately that the folly of continuing in such a course has been recognized and an attempt made to realize something out of the partnerships between the various departments and the promoters of the many concerns that have been parasitically fastened upon them. The utter worthlessness of the vast majority of these concerns was at once proved upon inquiry, and the taxpayers have at last awakened to the consciousness that they have been robbed under specious pretences, such as assisting commercial progress, establishing manufactures that might obviate the necessity of imports, and demonstrating the genius and ability of Japanese men of business.

This, however, is only a late phase. For years the government have been hoodwinked by the reports of subordinates, that great economy had been effected here, there, and everywhere, by the simple process of dispensing with the services of foreigners, and every Japanese commissioner, professor, cadet, or foreman who could represent himself as competent to supersede the foreigner, has been applauded for his energy and hailed as deserving well of his country, without due examination or check. That a continuous process of substitution of Japanese for foreigners is entirely justifiable by the gradual and efficient attainment by the former of technical knowledge and sense of responsibility, is not to be denied—at any rate by one who has for years been personally concerned in the conduct of an important undertaking in which such a process has been kept in view and put in action almost from the first; but it is undeniable that the credit of the proceeding, and of its happy results economically, has been appropriated by those who have always been trying to do too much, and denied to those who have done all that was possible.

So that after years of faithful service, and ungrudging co-operation in all that could promote efficiency and

economy, a time comes when the conscientious foreign civil servant, who has deserved at least a share in the credit his department has won by its success before the government and the public, retires amid a general round of congratulations, awarded to each other by his Japanese colleagues and successors, who can choose what report shall be made to their departmental or ministerial superiors of the circumstances under which his continued service has been rendered impossible. They are secure of approval, who have so dealt with "one of the least of these;" and the departing "hired person," who has probably acquired a certain amount of cynicism, and if he has been wise, has made provision for a rainy day, trolls out Ingoldsby's rhyme—

"And still on these words of the bard keep a fixed eye,
Ingratam si dixeris, omnia dixi!"

In my own case, I may confess the working, long after the event, of what seemed an occurrence round and self-contained enough in all conscience, that was the misfortune that befell me in the early part of the year 1880, by the loss of all my goods and chattels with the destruction of the house I occupied. During the remaining two years of my stay in Japan I was never settled down in any way, and, in fact, was less comfortable even, than when in my first two years I was up country on surveying duty. Between February, 1880, and April of the following year, I had four different places in succession, wherein to lay my head; and when I did get down to Kobe, such elements of uncertainty surrounded me as rendered it unadvisable to make arrangements that might constitute first a tie and then a loss. Thus successive removals added to my first bereavement; and at last, when my few odds and ends were sent to the hammer, to bring me in something less than half what they cost me, and my renewed library was simply shipped home again, so that outside my hat and boots I had only the wide world and Providence to trouble me, it was a positive relief, as I anticipated it would be. A man's lines must indeed be cast in pleasant places if after eight years' absence his thoughts do not turn homeward; and as the Japanese service knows no such thing as furlough or privilege leave, such thoughts are fatal.

Even more interesting than these reflections are the author's professional comments on the engineering works which came under his observation. Indeed, it may be said that these constitute the back-bone of the book, for though the descriptions of travels in the interior of the country are excellently written and often very entertaining, they have had too many predecessors to possess any novelty. The following account of quarrying in Japan is not encouraging from a practical point of view:—

At one time the Railway Department had imported a professed quarryman with a view to get systematically to work and supply good uniform stone for their buildings; but owing to some reasons not clearly stated, the man was never put to his proper work. What the Japanese call a quarry is in general a rough hill-side where they scratch for boulders big enough to split up with wedges into the sizes required; and when they get an order for a large stone the whole strength of the quarrying gang are sometimes scratching around for weeks in search of the required boulder; and if that is high up on the hill-side, when it is moved off its bed and rolled down, it may gambol away into a ravine or river, where it is so difficult to get at afterwards that a fresh hunt after another is instituted and all begins *de capo*.

Our own experience tells us that these failures to utilize the services of foreign experts, despite the most urgent occasion, are almost invariably referrible to rational causes, unless—as has not unfrequently been the case—some obstructiveness on the part of the *employé* himself is at fault. This, however, by the way. It does not affect Mr. Holtham's facts about stone-quarrying in Japan. Pleasant reading is his account of the conduct of a railway survey with the assistance of subordinate ignorant alike of technicalities and of English:—

Our native staff afforded us considerable amusement. With some addition to the force, by whom James had been accompanied up country, we had now two interpreters, three cadets, and two paymasters—the latter being by far the most important men of the expedition, and reputed, as we found, afterwards, to be the real railway makers, so many coolies and foreigners being employed in the rough outdoor work of the job under their orders. Tom and I had of course no knowledge of the native tongue to start with, though we soon picked up enough to enable us to get along every well with those of our men who did not happen to know any English. They were all wonderfully quick at seizing the idea of any operation that had to be carried out, and a mere hint, conveyed, perhaps, in the one intelligible word of a halting sentence, set them off, with eager, childlike *placé*, to cut down trees, set up poles, and manoeuvre with chains and staves. They kept their sharp black eyes fixed upon us with breathless interest, as we sat sometimes on the sunny side of a bank, making calculations that resulted in the circumventing of physical obstacles, and resumption of the right path beyond; and

when from some commanding elevation we could look back over the way we had come, and prove our work right, a general board grin of satisfaction and chorus of "Naruhodo!" showed their sympathy and admiration. The great difficulty we found in the language, was the proper use of verbs; but here an undoubted assistance was found in the auxiliary polite termination "mas," which should not, in strict propriety, be used in giving orders to persons of decidedly inferior class, and no doubt accounted for many contemptuous smiles on the generally impassive countenances of those superior persons, the interpreters, when we happened to dispense with their intervention. The use of the said "mas," however, had the great advantage of enabling the men to distinguish when we meant to use a verb, which, of course, implied that something was to be done, nine times out of ten; in fact, we generally made the verb, of which we were none too certain, as indistinct as possible, and brought in the termination, "mas!" with great aplomb, whereupon the two or three most intelligent and enterprising men started off to do as many different things, actuated by guesses at what was required; and the unsuccessful guessers had a good laugh at their own discomfiture, and united in "chaffing" the men who had hit the right nail on the head.

For instance, if we wanted a small tree cut down, or a pole brought a little nearer, or a small quantity of paint applied to the top of a stake, three ideas of "small" that should properly be expressed by altogether different words in Japanese—the usual formula was, "Hoi! chisai! pronounced (cheese-eye) mumble-mumble-hum-hum-mas!" and a wave of the hand, or a glance of the eye, or a preliminary handling of an instrument, gave an additional hint, in considerably less time than it would have taken to explain in English to an interpreter what was wanted, and get him to pass it on, with all his own misconceptions, to one of the men. Oh, those verbs! how we used to sweat at them, to use a schoolboy term; and how persistently we found ourselves telling people to go when we wanted some one to come, and to run when standing still like grim death was required! In my young days I used to flatter myself that I was quick at languages; the result, however, of talking up a Japanese grammar or vocabulary was generally prompt slumber; and in the hot season I used to invoke nature's sweet restorer, otherwise a stranger, by this simple process, and might have been discovered at the proper time and in the proper place, by any one who should intrude upon my privacy, under a mosquito net, with a book on the floor beside me, and a heavenly smile upon my countenance, murmuring in grateful dreams the names of Satow or Aston, beloved while yet unknown in the flesh.

We may fully supplement this testimony to the intelligence of the untrained classes by the following verdict on the trained Japanese staff:—

At the same time, I must acknowledge that by this means, as I suppose by this means only it could have been brought about, I came to know the native staff so well, and the gradual progress of their powers so intimately, that the anxiety I felt in the first days of substituting Japanese for foreign foremen at critical points became greatly limited, and I could confidently entrust to some of my native assistants, after a time, work that I should have thought it most rash to place in their hands earlier. On the whole, it may be said that, as regards the actual execution of work, the trained Japanese workmen and foremen are both intelligent and conscientious; and I had every reason, before leaving Tokyo, to be satisfied with the progress made by the native staff generally. It is no slight matter to their credit, that from the time when I first had to employ them without any intermediate supervision, until the renewals and doubling of the line were completed, not a single case of detention to the ordinary traffic, and but three cases of obstruction, so slight as only to merit remembrance because they were but three, occurred to be charged against the native staff. One of these was the placing of a block of stone temporarily, in process of shifting it, too near the open line, so that it was actually struck by the step of a passing engine, and the other two were failures to secure temporary erections so as to withstand unexpected gusts of wind that blew them over towards the railway and fouled the trains: in no case was any damage done that a few pence would not cover.

These are comfortable assurances, coming, as they do, from a skilled engineer. It is pleasant, too, to find that Mr. Holtham's estimate of the Japanese student's future is somewhat different from that of those captious persons who profess to be very desponding about the utility of the Engineering College and similar institutions because they have not yet supplied the country with a stock of ready-made experts. Here is what our author says:—

The best students of the Tokyo Engineering College have been sent, after obtaining the degree of Master in Engineering, to Glasgow to start again with a fresh education there. When they have done with Glasgow they will probably return to their native land and become professors in the college they started from, and the production of engineers will come in a later generation; or the second flight of passed pupils may be driven by stress of circumstances to qualify for that less showy calling.

It is characteristic of the Japanese that they pay so much attention to things done by their teachers, rather than to things antecedent, that a Japanese student becomes an

imitation of his teacher, so far as lies in his power. It is a natural result that the pupil of professors tends to become a professor, while the pupil of executive engineers tends to become an executive engineer. The one develops into a mathematician, a chemist, or a physical experimenter; the other into a calculator, a manufacturer, or a responsible director of works. It is an old controversy that, as to the comparative value of theoretical and practical instruction; and it cannot be denied that either term, if used as limiting the character of the instruction, may involve more than a suggestion of serious deficiency. The ridiculous pretensions of some ignorant men who call themselves "practical," as if it were to their credit to be without any theoretical command of principle, have tended to obscure the real value of experience in the conduct of special operations that repeat themselves, in slightly different forms, throughout the whole domain of applied mechanics; and, on the other hand, clever scholars who could sit down at any moment and write you off a chapter from Rankine are sometimes amusingly non-plussed at finding that, for all practical purposes, the theorems they have studied may be reduced to a few words bearing a strong resemblance to the ancient doctrines that two and two make four, and that every top must have a bottom; stated in terms specially applicable but with comprehensive significance. So far as we in the Railway Department had the opportunity of observing the work done, in producing results in concrete form, by past pupils of the Engineering College, it may be said that there is promise of a full justification of the pains taken by their teachers, to be hereafter shown by the practical usefulness of those taught; and that the cadets who have been actually educated upon work in progress will have to produce the result of private theoretical study in order to compete with them. So far as my observation, which has extended now over a sufficient period and field to enable me to state conclusions with some confidence, has led me to a knowledge of men and of work, this is just what we see everywhere producing in the aggregate the happiest results. The real value of the studies to which the pupils of the Engineering College have been introduced during their six years' course, will probably appear in due time; it would be premature to expect academical triumphs to be immediately continued in the field of actual work.

But space forbids us to follow Mr. Holtham any further. We have selected the above extracts entirely from the portion which he designates "Work," though by the general public other sections of the volume will doubtless be found more entertaining. On the whole the author's forecast of Japan's technical career is decidedly favorable. His book may possibly carry less weight than its merits warrant because of the somewhat jocose style of the writing. But it is essentially the work of an earnest man and the product of a mind above all things free from superficiality. We could wish, indeed, that Mr. Holtham had not "put himself outside" quite so much meat and drink; that he had not lived in quite such a perpetual atmosphere of tobacco smoke; that his usually clear judgment had not been warped whenever it encountered a mission or a missionary, and that he had refrained from inventing a Japanese phrase and then mis-translating it. But these are petty blemishes. Every word he has written is imbued with the spirit of work. That was the absorbing principle of his eight years' life in Japan. The steady, unwearying engineer looks out at us from behind every graceful picture of gaiety and frolic, and whether the man is battling with head and hand against the furious onset of an autumn flood, or "breakfasting off succulent steak, with a tree stump for a seat and a kitchen chair for a table" beside the smoking ruins of his house, you cannot fail to recognise that under this jovial *débonnaire* exterior lurks a more than common share of those qualities which have made Englishmen what they think they are. We cannot take a more fitting leave of Mr. Holtham and his delightful book than by quoting his verdict on the works of two brother professionals:—

The art works and Imperial reception-rooms were in a permanent building designed by an English architect, Josiah Conder, whose residence of some years in the capital and observation of Japanese requirements and possibilities enabled him to produce a work worthy of the purpose and the situation. A nobly proportioned and simply graceful front, crowned by dome and minaret, and indicating by the spacing of its windows and arcades the purpose that called it into being, stands in a clearing flanked by fine trees, and approached through a park that is one of the prizes of Tokyo. This is probably the most successful of the modern buildings of the city, which, however, can now boast some fine examples of architecture, chiefly works of the above-named gentleman and of M. de Boinville, who was for several years architect to the Public Works Department. There are also buildings, copies more or less of foreign examples, which, by their mass and in their several sites, add dignity to the capital and contrast admirably with the "packing-case" and "cheap toy" styles of earlier efforts, so prevalent in Japanese cities since the age of progress commenced.

CORRESPONDENCE.

[Our readers must distinctly understand that we are in no sense responsible for the sentiments or opinions of our Correspondents, for the accuracy of their assertions, or for the deductions they may choose to draw therefrom.]

THE STORM OF AUGUST 17TH TO 20TH, 1883.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—On the 5th and 6th instant, Shanghai was visited by a storm, which came up apparently from the Liukiu Islands on a north-westerly course. Its outer limits extended to Kiushiu on the 2nd and 3rd, as the Japanese weather maps show. At the time of its development and during its progress, the barometer ranged high in southern and eastern Japan, lowest in western Kiushiu, this distribution of pressure causing, during the whole period from August 1st to the 10th, much easterly winds and cooler weather.

From the 10th to the 16th, the barometrical changes over Japan were slight, as they usually are in the summer months, but on the 16th a change was preparing. It ushered in a second storm, coming from about the same quarter as the first, viz., the Liukiu Islands.

On the morning of Friday, 17th, an area of high barometer was forming over south-eastern Nippon, with rising pressure east of the line, joining Sakai in the southern sea of Japan with Wakayama, in Kii; while to the south-westward of this line, a gradually increasing fall was noticed towards Kagoshima, our south-western most station, owing to an area of low barometer advancing from the south-west or south.

The centre of this depression could not yet be located, but about its approach there appeared to be no doubt, and the south-west coast was warned.

At 10 a.m., on Friday, it was blowing already hard at Kagoshima. At 2 p.m., a violent gale was raging with falling barometer, and the whole south-west coast experienced strong winds.

From this time, until its disappearance in the Pacific on Monday, 20th, the storm can be easily tracked by the weather maps, which are constructed daily for 6 a.m., 2 p.m., and 10 p.m.

The centre must have been, on Friday, 17th, 6 a.m., about south-west of Kagoshima, west-south-west of Sata no Misaki; Saturday, 18th, 6 a.m., it bore about south-west from Nagasaki, probably pretty near the coast; Sunday 19th, 6 a.m., it was in Korea Strait, advancing leisurely at about the same rate till Sunday night at 10 p.m., having spent already its greatest force. From then till Monday 21st at 2 p.m. the centre took a long quick sweep over the Sea of Japan (being at 6 a.m. to the north-eastward of Oki Islands and to the westward of Noto) and continued in its rapid progress across Nippon, leaving it on the east coast about midway between Tokiyo and Nobiru. Part of the original depression remained in Korea Strait, gradually disappearing, while the main body went over to the Pacific.

The track of the storm may be approximately plotted on any small scale map by a circular arc, taking as radius 400 nautical miles and as centre the point of intersection of the parallel of Sata no Misaki with the meridian of Kanazawa (or of the western Gulf of Owari) as centre, commencing the arc to the south-westward of Kagoshima, carrying it up the west coast of Kiushiu, through Korea Strait, between Noto and Sado, and finishing just outside of Toyama on the east coast of Nippon.

The depression travelled until Sunday night, 19th at the rate of about 4 nautical miles per hour,

but about 35 n. m. p. h. across the sea of Japan and Nippon. It blew hardest at Kagoshima, Nagasaki, and Miyasaki, serious damage being caused at the first-named place; three buildings were blown down and telegraphic communication was interrupted.

The breaking down of telegraph lines, always likely to happen just at critical times, when reports of the weather are most needed, is one of many objections against the system of one single meteorological telegram a day, given up as insufficient in all other countries, even such as are far more favorably situated than Japan. In this instance no report was received from Kagoshima on Saturday, nor on Sunday morning, the Central Office thus being deprived of most valuable information as will be seen from the following observations:—

Kagoshima, Friday, August 17th, 2 p.m. Wind E. violent, lower clouds from E. rapid;
Kagoshima, Friday, August 17th, 10 p.m. Wind S.E. violent, lower clouds from S.E. rapid;
Kagoshima, Saturday, August 18th, 6 a.m. Wind S. violent, lower clouds from S. rapid.

The shifting of wind and cloud from E. to S.E., if known in time, would have shown as early as Friday night, that the storm would certainly pass west of Kiushiu, not east of it, a point which is plainly of the utmost importance in storm warnings.

With regular telegraphic reports three times a day the chances of delay in the receipt of valuable information are reduced to a minimum. Such regular reports can never be replaced by the makeshift of special telegrams.

The barometer was lowest at Kagoshima on Friday, 17th August, 10 p.m., (748 mm.), at Nagasaki on Saturday, 18th, 6 a.m. (747 mm.)

Copious rain fell at all stations near the track, no doubt a welcome gift to the farming population after a prolonged and general drought of about five weeks. The amount of rain for three consecutive days was for:—

| | | |
|------------------|--------------------|------------------|
| Kochi 225 mm. | Kagoshima 85 mm. | Kanagawa 56 mm. |
| Akita 116 mm. | Shimonoseki 79 mm. | Hiroshima 48 mm. |
| Nagasaki 107 mm. | Aomori 77 mm. | Sakai 36 mm. |
| Miyako 80 mm. | Niigata 75 mm. | |

At all other stations less than 25 mm. fell in 3 days.

The area of high pressure mentioned before in Southern Nippon, played an important part with regard to the track, keeping its place with the centre near Hamamatsu, from the commencement of the storm till the end of it. On the night of the 18th, and morning of the 19th, when pressure was diminishing over Nippon in the latitude of Niigata approximately, this area of high barometer in the South formed, so to speak, with another similar area in Hokkaido, two river banks, ready for the air current and whirl to pass through, with plenty of rain between the banks, but hardly any upon them.

It is thus important to watch not only the weather in the immediate vicinity of the depressions, but also everything that is going on at a greater distance, as this may often give a clue to the direction in which the storm will probably move.

E. KNIPPING.

Tokiyo, August 22nd, 1883.

THE TRADITIONAL PRIVILEGES OF FOREIGNERS IN CHINA AND JAPAN.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—In common, I think I may say, with the majority of the British residents present on the occasion, I listened with considerable attention to the words which fell from the lips of Her Britannic Majesty's Minister to China, on the evening of Friday last, in the Public Gardens. Although Sir

Harry Parkes' reply to the address presented to him was generally clear and lucid enough, there was one point which I failed to comprehend at the time of its enunciation, nor have I since, when thinking the matter over, arrived at a conclusion at all satisfactory to myself: further, I find on comparing notes with other listeners, that I am not singular in being unable to determine with certainty the meaning of a sentence made use of by Sir Harry Parkes on the occasion referred to and reproduced in the local papers on the following day. I thought when I saw yesterday that the *Japan Mail's* leading article was on the subject of the address and the reply, I should find a solution of the problem, but you entirely fail in that article to grasp the point, and although you quote the very words I wish to draw attention to, they appear to have presented themselves to you in altogether a different light—that is to say, in your comment on them, the range of your view is confined to Japan. Sir Harry Parkes said:—

We also trust that Japan will soon gain for herself a reputation for commercial intelligence and liberality equal to that which she has already acquired in regard to education and religious toleration, and that it may not long be said that the privileges which she has given to foreigners, in return for that free welcome which her people universally receive in Western States, are inferior to those which have been granted in the country to which I am now about to proceed.

It is quite true that the privileges of foreigners in this country could not well be smaller than they are under existing circumstances, but what I want to be informed about is—in what way they are "inferior to those which have been granted in the country" (China) to which His Excellency is about to proceed?

Your comment upon the above extract of the speech is as follows:—

Sir Harry Parkes here forgot to be just. That no rapid development of national wealth and resources is possible in a country where foreign intercourse and commerce are subject to such restrictions and impediments as exist in Japan, is a proposition which cannot be gainsaid.

Your article then, in a series of interrogatories, goes into the why and the wherefore of your allegation quoted immediately above. But what I want to know is—where to look for "privileges" in China to foreigners which do not exist in Japan. Of course, the "privileges" referred to by His Excellency are commercial "privileges." This being taken for granted, I can only say that, after many years of close observation of the commercial status of foreigners in the two countries, I fail to perceive the greater "privileges" accorded by the Chinese Government. It may be said of the two countries, that China is large and rich—Japan small and poor by comparison; and the condition of the foreign merchants and commerce in a great measure is a reflection of the comparative state of the two countries. China affords foreigners residence and traffic at Treaty Ports—Japan does the same. China, like Japan, has a Custom House and an *ad valorem* import duty, and the duty on exports and imports in both countries shows no "privilege" on one side or the other. But, if I am right in my conjecture, when Sir Harry Parkes spoke of "privileges" in China, he referred to the fact that foreigners in Japan cannot go into the interior to trade. Well, what is the condition of affairs in China with regard to this matter direct trade in the interior? In 1876 it was agreed, in that extraordinary document known as the Chefoo Convention, that four Chinese ports should be opened to trade in the following year, namely, Ichang, Wuhu, Wenchow, and Pakhoi, and that a British Consular officer should be permitted to reside at Chung-kiang to report upon the facilities of that place with a view

to its being made an open port for the province of Zechuen if sufficient inducement offered on a future day. The opening of these ports was the outcome of pressure brought to bear on Sir Thomas Wade by British merchants, who averred that these places were peculiarly suited as depôts for the distribution of imports, and that the transit pass system, which according to treaty was supposed to be so clearly defined, was absolutely a dead letter in the neighbourhood of the existing Treaty Ports, on account of the charges being suddenly and arbitrarily doubled and trebled by the provincial authorities, over whom there seemed to be no control, and from whose decisions there was no appeal. It was stated by sanguine persons that the new ports would become great centres of trade, and that the *lekin* certificate system having failed to work well at any single place at which it had been attempted, would flourish at the four new ports for the reason that there was a profitable *nei-ti* (inland) trade to be done from these points, valuable products existing for collection and export and British manufactures being held in high repute. Moreover the Chefoo Convention contained provisions intended to put an end to the tricks of rapacious officials, whose barefaced *lekin* barrier charges had squeezed the last cent of profit out of the unfortunate foreigner whose energy and enterprise had induced him to embark in an attempt to traffic with the interior on the transit pass system. The four new ports have been open now six years, and with what result? This: that at the four ports there are not, in the total, four merchants, the foreigners resident there being British Consular officials, missionaries, and the staff of the Chinese Imperial Maritime Customs. And this condition of affairs is not for want of enterprise on the part of the British merchant. Over and over again have attempts been made to establish an inland trade, but the indomitable energy displayed has met with a steady and persistent check by greedy mandarins, who know that, so long as they keep foreigners away from the interior, so long will the profits of the trade carried on go into the pouches of their own nationals, who will submit to squeezing to the extent that foreign methods of conducting business will not admit of.

As I can find no "privilege" to foreigners granted by the Chinese Government, and not by the Japanese, but this leave to traffic in the interior—which, being a dead letter, becomes practically, through the serious losses that have occurred worse than entire exclusion—I am yet afraid that, I have not hit the right nail, and that it will take some one wiser than I am to discover the meaning of Sir Harry Parkes' expression when, referring to trade privileges in Japan enjoyed by foreigners, he described them as "inferior to those which have been granted in the country" to which he is about to proceed.

Yours, &c., SAN-TAU.
Yokohama, August 29th, 1883.

NOTIFICATION NO. 55 OF THE FINANCE DEPARTMENT.

The following Notification has been issued by the Minister of Finance, under date August 29th, 1883:—

TO THE NATIONAL BANKS.

You are hereby notified that the value of the various Public Bonds deposited by you with the Government as security has been determined on the scale subjoined. Application for redemption

of the whole or part of such security on the tariff mentioned should be made before the 31st of October next. Banks desirous of leaving their deposits as they are at present should give the Bank of Japan notice to that effect, before the same date.

| | |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------|
| Ten per Cent. Pension Bonds | Par. |
| Seven per Cent. Pension Bonds | yen 82 per cent. |
| Six per Cent. Pension Bonds | yen 74 per cent. |
| Five per Cent. Pension Bonds | yen 66 per cent. |
| Special Pension Bonds | yen 90 per cent. |
| Industrial Loan Bonds | yen 77 per cent. |
| Capitalized Pension Bonds | yen 100 per cent. |
| Bonds in Exchange for Paper-money | yen 100 per cent. |
| New Loan Bonds | yen 63 per cent. |

TRANSLATIONS FROM NATIVE JOURNALS.

HALF-YEARLY REPORT OF THE BANK OF JAPAN.

(Translated from the *Official Gazette*.)

The following is the report of the business transacted in the Bank during the first half of the 16th year of Meiji (1883), from January to June:—

GENERAL MEETING OF SHAREHOLDERS.

On the 17th of February in the 16th year of Meiji, a regular general meeting of shareholders was held at the head office, Mr. Yoshihara Shigetoshi in the Chair. That gentleman submitted the report of the general working of the Bank for the second half of the preceding year to Mr. Kato, Vice-Secretary of the Finance Department, who represents the Minister of Finance, and to the shareholders.

According to Article 50 of the regulations for the conduct of public business, the election of new directors was proceeded with, and resulted in the election of Messrs. Koyasu Shun, Kitaoka Mombei, Morimura Ichitaro; and Konishi Shinyemon, who was delegated to the branch at Osaka.

BUSINESS.

On the 25th of January, the Minister of Finance granted a Charter, conferring upon the Bank the privilege of receiving fixed deposits from the Finance Department. Accordingly, the Bank forwarded a letter of acceptance.

The report of matters to be discussed at the first general meeting of the shareholders was submitted to the Minister of Finance for his approval; and the requisite permission granted on the 24th of January. This was notified to every shareholder.

On the 17th of January application was made to the Minister of Finance, asking that the Bank should be allowed to communicate with all the offices of the Finance Department to obtain information concerning the statistics of commodities and financial affairs, and that two copies of all the notifications to be issued by the Department should be granted to the Bank. Permission granted on the 12th of February.

On the 26th of January an agreement was entered into with the Nippon Railway Company, according to which the receiving of funds, arising from the sale of shares and payment of interest on the subsidy were entrusted to the Bank. The first, second, third, and thirty-third, National Banks and Mitsui Bank were made agencies of the Bank. Beside the above banks, seventy-two agencies have been established in the provinces.

On the 27th of January the Minister of Finance sent a memorandum to the Bank, stating that the exchange business for the national treasury should gradually be entrusted of the Bank.

On the same day, the Minister of Finance again issued instructions to the Bank to the effect that as the exchange business of the National Treasury will be handed over to the Bank as other contracts with various national banks expire, the necessary arrangements must be made beforehand.

With a view to the expansion of the circulation of commercial documents it was decided to issue promissory notes and bills of exchange to be used in transactions between the Government factories and the people and to discount them. Application was made to the Minister of Finance on the 1st of February and permission was granted on the 14th of March, when operations were instantly commenced.

On the 14th of March, the National Banks sent an application to the Finance Department, asking that any sums of money due by them to the Treasury should be made payable by cheques issued by the Bank. On the 22nd of the month, the Head of the Accountant's Bureau sent an intimation to the Bank, that, as payment of revenue might be made in all kinds of bills issued by the Bank of Japan, a facsimile of the stamps to be affixed to such bills should be presented to the Bureau. Bills of the same kind were to be issued by the branch at Osaka, under the same system.

The inaugural ceremony of the Bank took place on the 26th of April, when the chief officers of the Finance Department were present.

On the 27th of April the Minister of Finance, according to Article 30 of the Charter, issued an order that the Treasury money should be put under the care of the Bank. A letter of acceptance was returned.

On the 28th of April the Minister of Finance approved the appointment of Ida Sen as adviser to the Bank, and on the 4th of May appointed him Chief of the Treasury Bureau.

On the 30th of April the Treasury Bureau was attached to the Bank, next to the Compilation Bureau in rank. The Ministers of Finance sanctioned the rules for the conduct of business in the Treasury Bureau on the 4th of May.

On the 4th of May the Minister of Finance issued instructions as to the method wherewith to receive revenue in various localities after July of this year.

On the 11th of May the Minister of Finance issued an order to the Bank to conclude the redemption of bank-notes within the prescribed time according to article 112 of the Banking regulations. A letter of acknowledgment was, accordingly, sent.

On the 16th of May the rules for the management of funds belonging to the Treasury were presented to the Minister of Finance for his approval. Sanction was granted on the 29th of May.

On the same day a draft of the agreement between the Bank and the National Banks for appointing them agents to deal with the Treasury money was presented to the Minister of Finance and sanctioned by him.

On the 18th of May the agreement with regard to the correspondence to be entered into between the Bank and other banks was drawn up and submitted for the consideration of the Minister of Finance, who was asked, at the same time, for permission to report such alterations and additions as had been made in the agreement. Sanction was granted on the 29th of May.

On the 21st of May the Minister of Finance was asked whether or no the Bank should take over, on receipt of sufficient explanation as to the financial working of the banks, the whole of their reserve funds at once, instead of by two instalments.

Reply was made on the 29th of May, leaving the matter to the discretion of the Bank.

On the 29th of May the Minister of Finance issued written instructions to the Bank to arrange the payment of ready coin for gold and silver bars imported by Japanese and foreigners into the Mint at Osaka for coinage. A letter of acknowledgment was accordingly sent.

On the 1st of June an order was issued, under cover dated 28th May, to the effect that twenty-eight agencies for the management of Treasury money should be established in Tokiyo. The description of securities to be deposited with the Bank by such agencies, was forwarded to the Minister of Finance together with a draft of agreement to be made between the Bank and the said agencies. On the 12th of June, approval was given, and instructions were issued to the effect that no agreement with any agency in the prefecture of Shiga should be entered into until further notice. Agreements were concluded with twenty-six agencies on the 28th of June.

On the 12th of June an application was made to the Minister of Finance, asking that the reserve funds of the National Banks, which are to be received in two instalments this year in the branch of the Bank at Osaka, and 2½ per cent of profit of the National Banks, to be hereafter deposited yearly with the Bank, shall be paid by draft at the branch of the Accountant's Bureau at Osaka. Permission was granted on the 13th of June.

On the 7th of June a draft of agreement to be made between the Bank and the National Banks, according to Article 19 of the regulations for redemption of paper currency, was made and submitted for the approval of the Minister of Finance. Permission was granted on the 12th of June, and the agreement was concluded on the 28th of June.

On the 11th of June an alteration in Article 90 of the present regulations of the Bank was proposed and carried. It received the sanction of the Minister of Finance on the 14th of June.

On the 14th of June, the Minister of Finance issued instructions to establish agencies in Sakai and Yatsuwo under the jurisdiction of Osaka-fu, and to commence business on the 1st of July. The agreement was made and agencies were established.

On the 16th of June the Minister of Finance issued a notice that the reserve funds and 2½ per cent. profit of the National Banks should be paid into the Bank and its branch at Osaka.

On the 20th of June, application was made to the Minister of Finance to provide police escort for Treasury money in transit from place to place. Permission was granted on the 27th of the same month.

The First and Third National Banks have made arrangements to have temporary deposits lodged with the Bank.

The second instalment of yen 300,000 of subscription to the share of the Bank, was payable from the 15th of May, to the 30th of the same month. During the period, yen 999,800 were paid up in Tokiyo and Osaka, the deficiency, yen 200, being caused by the failure of Mr. Kobayashi Shosaku of Takamiya-mura, Inugami-gori, in the prefecture of Shiga, to pay a part of his subscription for twenty shares.

Business at the Head Office was commenced on the 10th of October, and at the Branch at Osaka on the 18th of December.

The inaugural ceremony in Tokiyo took place on the 28th of April, in the presence of H.E. Matsukata, Minister of Finance, Mr. Kato, Chief of the Banking Bureau, and others; whilst that of the

branch took place on the 28th of June. Mr. Yoshihara Shigetoshi, President, and Messrs. Yasuda Zenzaburo (director) and Kitaoka Mombei (adviser) were deputed thither from Tokiyo. H.E. Matsukata happened to be staying in Osaka on the occasion and presided at the ceremony.

SUMMARY.

To state briefly the conditions of business for the period under review:—All affairs have been gradually pushed toward adjustment since business was commenced in October. The most important events of the year were placing the Treasury money under the management of the Bank; payment of ready coin for bars of gold and silver; the proposed redemption of paper currency; placing of the subscription to the Nippon Railway Company under the Bank's care; and the establishment of correspondence between the Bank and over twenty National Banks. During the period business was chiefly confined to receiving deposits, discounting bills and the purchase of public loan bonds.

The Bank carried on business for one hundred and forty-nine days, exclusive of holidays, and the following tables show the accounts of the Bank:—

RECEIPTS AND OUTLAYS.—MAIN OFFICE.

| RECEIPTS. | OUTLAYS. | DAIICU AVERAGE DAILY AVERAGE OF RECEIPTS. AGE OF OUTLAYS. |
|----------------|---------------|-----------------------------------------------------------|
| YEN. | YEN. | YEN. |
| 10,415,331.766 | 8,499,313.823 | 69,903.831 |

OSAKA BRANCH.

| | | |
|----------------|----------------|-------------|
| 4,798,607.439 | 4,663,903.495 | 33,305.956 |
| 15,214,309.305 | 13,174,216.318 | 103,108.797 |

GOVERNMENTAL FIXED DEPOSITS.—MAIN OFFICE.

| YEN. | YEN. |
|----------------------|--------------------|
| Received 700,000.000 | Repaid 700,000.000 |

(Brought from previous year.)

FIXED DEPOSITS BY THE PUBLIC.

| | |
|--------------------|------------------|
| Received 6,022.500 | Repaid 3,000.000 |
|--------------------|------------------|

(Balance 3,022.500)

TEMPORARY DEPOSITS BY THE PUBLIC.

| | |
|----------------------|----------------------|
| Received 253,740.680 | Repaid 2,143,385.939 |
|----------------------|----------------------|

Received 1,967,587.511 (Balance 77,942.252)

Total 2,221,328.000

TEMPORARY DEPOSITS BY THE PUBLIC BEARING INTEREST.

| | |
|----------------------|--------------------|
| Received 622,277.680 | Repaid 455,000.000 |
|----------------------|--------------------|

(Balance 167,277.680)

SPECIAL DEPOSITS.

| | |
|------------------------|--------------------|
| Received 2,558,610.000 | Repaid 455,000.000 |
|------------------------|--------------------|

(Balance 2,558,610.000)

(OSAKA BRANCH.)

| | |
|------------------|-------------------------------|
| Received 500.000 | (Brought from previous year.) |
|------------------|-------------------------------|

Total 2,559,110.000

BILLS OF EXCHANGE.—MAIN OFFICE.

| | |
|---------------------|------------------|
| Received 51,872.000 | Paid 743,567.616 |
|---------------------|------------------|

Received 691,605.616 (Brought from previous year.)

Total 743,567.000

OSAKA BRANCH.

| | |
|----------------------|------------------|
| Received 120,000.000 | Paid 120,000.000 |
|----------------------|------------------|

DEPOSITS OF THE ACCOUNTANT'S BUREAU.

| | |
|----------------------|-------------------------------|
| Received 476,500.000 | (Brought from previous year.) |
|----------------------|-------------------------------|

OSAKA BRANCH.

| | |
|----------------------|----------------------|
| Received 100,000.000 | Repaid 1,865,000.000 |
|----------------------|----------------------|

Received 1,865,300.000

Total 2,441,500.000

(Balance 576,500.000)

FIXED LOANS.—MAIN OFFICE.

| | |
|----------------------|--------------------|
| Received 438,300.000 | Repaid 797,470.000 |
|----------------------|--------------------|

Received 1,005,550.000 (Brought from previous year.)

OSAKA BRANCH.

| | |
|---------------------|--------------------|
| Received 39,000.000 | Repaid 629,000.000 |
|---------------------|--------------------|

Received 878,700.000 Repaid 1,426,470.000

Total 2,361,550.000

Balance 935,080.000

PURCHASE AND SALE OF PUBLIC LOAN BONDS.—

MAIN OFFICE.

| ACTUAL VALUE. | FACE VALUE. |
|-------------------------|-------------|
| YEN. | YEN. |
| Purchase..... 1,007,525 | 1,366,700 |
| Purchase..... 660,802 | 870,000 |

(Brought from previous year.)

OSAKA BRANCH.

| ACTUAL VALUE. | FACE VALUE. |
|-----------------------|-------------|
| YEN. | YEN. |
| Purchase..... 157,190 | 200,000 |

Total 1,825,517 2,436,700

MAIN OFFICE.

| ACTUAL VALUE. | FACE VALUE. |
|---------------------|-------------|
| YEN. | YEN. |
| Sales 157,190 | 200,000 |
| (Balance) | 1,668,327 |

PROPERTY OF THE BANK.

| PREMIUM. | CHATELAIN. | TOTAL. |
|------------------------------|------------|--------|
| YEN. | YEN. | YEN. |
| Main Office 21,247.191 | 5,253.241 | 26,500 |
| Osaka Branch | 1,586.140 | — |

Grand total... 21,247.191 6,839.381

Subjoined are the Accounts of returns and expenditure for the year under review:—

MAIN OFFICE.

YEN.

Returns:—

Interest 20,658.136

Interest on Public Loan

Bonds 71,274.500

Fees 273.250

Discount 4,619.210

Sundries 9.760

Total 96,844.856

Expenditure:—

Salaries 13,691.300

Travelling expenses 800.800

Sundries 3,446.430

Repairs 81.168

Total 18,019.911

Balance... .. 78,825.545

OSAKA BRANCH.

Returns:—

Interest 13,204.500

Interest on public loan-

bonds 7,000.000

Fees 286.000

Discount... .. 3,395.050

Sundries 2,065.000

Total 23,887.615

Expenditure:—

Salaries 2,801.100

Travelling expenses 203.000

Sundries 891.821

Repairs 109.380

Compensation to officers

of the Bank... .. 155.000

Rent 120.000

Total 4,281.201

Balance 19,606.414

Grand total...

98,431.959

Brought forward from previous year... 18,838.548

117,270.507

Expenses for starting the

business 3,500.000

Balance (net profit)... .. 113,770.507

DISTRIBUTION OF PROFITS.

YEN.

Dividends on the Govern-

ment Share at 6 o/o

interest 32,500.000

Dividends on private

shares at 8 o/o interest. 43,333.334

One tenth of last year's

profits added to Re-

serve Fund... .. 3,800.000

One tenth, Extra Com-

ensation to Bank of-

ficers 3,400.000

Two per cent extra divi-

dends to private share-

holders 10,833.334

Total 93,866.968

Balance 19,903.839

THE TSURUGA RAILWAY.

(Translated from the *Bukka Shimpō*.)

The railway constructed between Tsuruga and Nagahama has a branch line to Sekigahara. The length of these two lines is together forty-one miles. Although a tunnel at Yanagase, midway between Tsuruga and Nagahama, has not yet been completed, it is generally believed, that on the whole, the work which has taken only a little more than ten months since it was first commenced, is of a most satisfactory character, and that it is the best piece of work of the kind hitherto constructed in the Empire. When the trains arrive at Nagoya, passengers and merchandise to be conveyed to Otsu are taken in the steamships on service on the Lake Biwa. These vessels are provided by the great Lake Steamship Company, organized by Mr. Fujita Denzaburo, of Osaka, and a few others, who have obtained permission to take charge of transportation across the Lake under special contract with the Railway Bureau. The traject to Otsu takes three hours. Then travellers and cargo take trains running between Kiyoto, Osaka, and Kobe—a distance of fifty-eight miles. It will be seen that should the present work be completed, the railway begins in Yechizen, and traversing Mino, joins the lines in Omi, Yamashiro, and Settsu, so that Hokkaido may be commercially connected with these provinces. As the plan is evidently a good one the people appear to expect prompt success in the construction of the Yanagase tunnel. It is quite reasonable that the editor of the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* should regard the railway between Tsuruga and Nagoya as conducive to changes in the general condition of the people. If this line is opened for traffic, merchandise from Uzen, Ugo, Hokurokudo, must necessarily be stored at Tsuruga, whence it will be transported to Nagahama or to Kobe or Osaka through Otsu by train and across Lake Biwa by steamer. Transport can thus be easy throughout Sanriku, Tokai, Goki, and Nankai. It will no longer be necessary to follow a round-about route through Shimonoseki or across the isthmus of Mimmaya as heretofore. Great facilities for traffic must ensue.

Such is the general outlook with regard to the construction of a railway from Tsuruga. Of all the conveniences to be afforded the most remarkable lies in the opening of a pathway for commercial communication with Hokkaido. The railway between Tsuruga and Nagahama should never fail to afford due facilities. Otherwise it would be useless to construct the line. Now, as far as actual facts are concerned, the conveniences referred to have no existence, and the anticipations of the public will not fructify, as we will endeavor to prove. What merchandise occupies the most prominent position among the products of Hokkaido? Obviously none other than manure. Where is that most needed in the interior? Clearly in the counties in Goki, Sanyodo, and Nankaido. Awa and Sanuki alone require an abundant supply. Now manure must be shipped in the northern island and landed at Tsuruga whence it will be conveyed to Nagahama by train. At Nagahama it is shipped and thence transported to Otsu, where it must again be removed to a traif, and taken to Osaka or Kobe for transportation to the localities to which it is consigned; namely, Awa and Sanuki. Not only are time and labor thus wasted in constant loading and discharging, but also the cost of the merchandise is proportionately increased; for

the total of carriage reaches a considerable sum, while the freight is liable to deteriorate through such processes of transportation. Hence arises great inconvenience to commerce. If the conveyance of the products of the Hokkaido can only be effected by the usual methods, and if there be no other means available, we must necessarily resort to the several lines of railway already mentioned. But this is not the case. The products of Hokkaido may be carried by sea direct to the localities where they are in demand, or at least to adjacent ports, economising labor and reducing freight. The marine distance of some ports of the northern island from Tsuruga is not at all considerable, being 436 miles from Nemuro; while Shimonoseki and Kobe are distant 691 miles and 829 miles respectively from Hakodate; 1,006 miles and 792 miles from Otaru, and 981 miles and 945 miles from Nemuro. A vessel steaming at the rate of ten knots per hour can go between Tsuruga and these northern ports in about forty-three, fifty-two, and seventy-two, hours respectively; while it will take for a voyage to Shimonoseki about sixty-nine, a hundred, and ninety-eight, hours respectively, and to Kobe about eighty-two, seventy-nine, and ninety-four, hours respectively. It is true that transport by rail from Tsuruga to Kobe should take only eight or nine hours, including the time of the passage of steamships across Lake Biwa. This, added to the time necessary for the voyage from Hokkaido to Tsuruga, will hardly exceed fifty-two, or sixty-one, or eighty-one hours. But as some extra time must be allowed for shipping and discharging cargo; and as some time must reasonably be allowed for difference in the arrival or departure of trains, we may logically assume that in point of time there can be no great difference between the two systems of transport. This argument is not only applicable to manure from Hokkaido, but also to any other productions which are to be conveyed to Saikaido, Nankaido, and Sanyodo. It is plain that of the two systems in question, one must be far better than the other. And we maintain that the public view is an erroneous one.

From the foregoing statements it will be seen that the Tsuruga line is not only useful for the transport of the productions of Hokkaido to the provinces of Omi and Yamashiro, but also is available for the conveyance of passengers as well as merchandise to be supplied to Kiyoto, Osaka, Kaga, Noto, Yetchiu, and Yechizen. But these passengers and merchandise are generally transported from Tsuruga in small steamers along the coast of Hokurokudo, and since such traffic has to be suspended from the beginning of winter to the next spring, the railway authorities must follow a similar system. Thus we see that the line offers very limited facilities, as the trains can ply only for a short space of time each year. Is it then justifiable to say that the Tsuruga railway should not be constructed? Certainly not. Yet the line must be extended east and west so as to connect with other lines. It is absolutely necessary for the present either to extend the Sekigahara line to Yokkaichi through Ogaki and Kuwana, or to contrive to transport merchandise to Kuwana and Yokkaichi by small steamboats down the river Ibi, limiting the proposed extension to Ozaki. Should either of these two plans be adopted, Hokkaido can not only establish commercial relations with the Tokaido, where manure is most needed, especially in Owari, Mikawa, and Ise, but communication also becomes practicable between the centre of the Tokaido and Goki, or the Five Provinces—Yamashiro, Yamato, Kawachi, Idzumi,

and Settsu. Unless extensions are to be made for the augmentation of facilities in such a manner as we have just suggested, the usefulness of the proposed railway can hardly be recognized. Yet it appears that the projectors hesitate to adopt our scheme, saying, "Why should it be necessary to extend the Sekigahara line?" A mere glance at an ordinary map will show that the distance between Ogaki and Sekigahara does not exceed seven miles and a half, but that the road is of the worst description. From Ogaki to Kuwana are twenty-five miles, with the river Ibi intervening; When the water is low, it is impossible to cross the river in ferry-boats, while the pathway along the bank is almost impracticable even for jinrikisha. In fact, we may say that there is really no road between the two places. In these conditions the Government has conceived the utility of a railway between Ogaki and Sekigahara. But we have not heard of any such extension being proposed. Do the authorities intend to dredge the River Ibi and provide numerous small steamers with a view to facilitate communication between Kuwana and Yokkaichi? If so, the people must congratulate themselves upon enjoying a great convenience. Suppose, for instance, that a man who intends to go to Kiyoto starts from Yokohama in a steamer at six o'clock in the afternoon. He arrives at Yokkaichi at 6 p.m. next day, and after passing a few minutes there is taken to Ogaki in a small steamer plying on the River Ibi, arriving early on the morning of the third day. If he takes the first train running to Kiyoto, he will be in that city at noon. Such a short trip, however, can only be accomplished by availing oneself of river steamboats. Should there be none such, an undertaking as the extension of the Sekigahara line to Ogaki is not likely to increase the facilities of traffic. According to the statements of the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*, it seems probable that the River Ibi, being shallow, can be of no great use unless it is dredged; that although the dredging may be effected with considerable expense, the transportation of merchandise direct to Yokkaichi by small steamships on the river is likely to be attended with disaster; and that therefore the goods must be transhipped to seaworthy vessels, with considerable inconvenience. From this we gather that the idea of resorting to the stream must be relinquished, and that steps must be taken to extend the Ogaki line direct to Kuwana and Yokkaichi.

We are already informed that the authorities have resolved to carry the Sekigahara line to Ogaki, but nothing has transpired as to when it is to be extended to Kuwana and Yokkaichi. There should be no difficulty in extending the line to Sekigahara, if the steamship service is not to be established on the River Ibi, and a railway is not to be constructed to communicate with Kuwana and Yokkaichi. The Sekigahara line may have no immediate effect upon travellers from the eastern and western provinces; and these in their turn appear to regard the scheme as unserviceable to them. They say that those who wish to visit Yokkaichi, or Kiyoto, or Osaka, may start from Yokohama one evening and arrive at Yokkaichi on the afternoon of the ensuing day. Here they pass a night and take *jinrikishas* to Otsu on the next morning—that is, on the third day. Thence the train will carry them to Kiyoto or Osaka in a very short time. It is not at all necessary to resort to the Ogaki line unless one has some particular business thereon. For this reason, unless the Sekigahara line is to be extended to Ogaki so as to communicate with Yokkaichi by a railway or by the river, the facilities for transport can hardly be augmented. Advancing a step further, we would say that the line referred to can by no means perform its legitimate functions, and therefore cannot promote the interest of our commonwealth. I maintain that the Tsuruga line is destined to produce great results. It is worthy of notice that the port of Tsuruga lies in the western extremity of Yechizen and is surrounded by mountains except at its entrance to the North-west. The harbour can perform no other service than to receive the productions of Hokkaido, and the railway, which is to be constructed may facilitate communication with Omi and Yechizen, but not with other provinces. If all circumstances are taken into consideration, it will be very easy to perceive how the proposed line may be made most serviceable to our purposes.

SPECIAL COURT, TOKIO.

TUESDAY, AUGUST 21ST, 1883.

Before Mr. Justice TAMANO, and Messrs. HAYASHI, KAWADA, and NAGAOKA, Assessors.

THE PROSECUTION OF THE FUKUSHIMA SUSPECTS.

The Court opened at 8.15 a.m., when Judge Tamano directed the accused to reply to the arguments of the Prosecutor in their respective order.

Prisoner No. 1, Hanaka, went over the same ground as previously, namely, that the Prosecutor's contention is too vague and only based upon a presumption, consequently the accused are placed in a false and dangerous position. He said that he suspected the Prosecutor was a relative or intimate friend of Mr. Mishima, the Governor of Fukushima, on account of the extraordinary exertions he had made to defend the Governor against the charges made against him by the accused. (This speech created great excitement in Court.)

Mr. Yamada, Counsel for Hanaka, confined himself to saying that the arguments of the Prosecution were so vague that he could not understand their object.

The Prosecutor replied that counsel's contention was not in order, and that he had failed to adduce facts to counterweigh the arguments of the Prosecution.

Prisoner No. 2, Hiroshima, remarked that the report of the examinations at the Fukushima Police Court is valueless, as the confession was extorted from him by threats.

Mr. Nakashima, Counsel for Hiroshima, insisted that intentions are not punishable, until after they have been carried out. The accused had resorted to peaceful measures to effect a political reform, therefore the actions of the accused do not come within the scope of insurrection.

Prisoner No. 3, Tamano, denounced the argument of the Prosecutor as being vague and unsatisfactory. He said it demanded no refutation.

Mr. Oi, Counsel for the prisoner, said that the word "government" in the expression "bureaucratic government," which occurs in the first article of the Covenant is a common noun and does not define any particular government. It means all bureaucratic governments. If it were accompanied by such words as "of Japan," it would refer to the existing government of the land. The evidence of the Fukushima police is valueless, because the confessions were extorted by threats. The accused wished to effect a political reform by peaceful means, which cannot be called insurrection. The words *niyu tem-paku* indicate the recourse to peaceful measures. The accused are not guilty and must be acquitted.

The Court rose at 11.50 a.m.

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 22ND 1883.

The Court opened at 8.30 a.m., when Judge Tamano directed Mr. Hoshi to speak on behalf of prisoner No. 4, Kona, who had himself said that he had nothing further to say.

Mr. Hoshi briefly addressed the Bench, taking the same ground as before—namely, that the accused had combined to carry out the programme of political reform by peaceful measures, and the force of public opinion. The learned Counsel insisted that, as the covenant had been cancelled, there was no ground for the prosecution.

Prisoner No. 5, Aizawa, was next directed to speak. He replied that he had nothing to say.

Mr. Kitata, Counsel for Aizawa, contended that the report of the prisoner's examination at Fukushima and Wakamatsu, was a tissue of deceit and cruelty, and, consequently, of no legal value. He said that, if the accused's action had come within the scope of *yobi* (preparation) to raise an insurrection, some evidence must be forthcoming such as the purchase of arms and munition. In view of the want of any such evidence the accusation was groundless.

Prisoner No. 6, Sawata, spoke at some length, protesting that he was not guilty.

Mr. Uyeki, Counsel for this prisoner, adopted a line of argument similar to that adopted by Mr. Hoshi.

Mr. Yamada then (with permission of the Court) resumed his unfinished argument. His speech was only a repetition of the arguments of the other Counsel.

The Court rose at 11.30 a.m.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 23RD.

On the opening of the Court, the Prosecutor said:—The contention of the accused and their Counsel is nothing but a repetition of the same thing over and over again. Not only is it troublesome to deal *seriatim* with each of their arguments, it would be useless. We prefer to deal with them at once and together. The gist of the defence is this: that the accused combined to improve the administration by force of public opinion. But in our opinion, this plea is mere invention, because the accused signed the covenant with their blood, which is a most substantial proof that their aim was something more than peaceful political reform. The action of the accused comes within the scope of *yobi* (preparation), although no arms were procured; for they secretly combined in a plot against the Government. In short, their scheme was in the earliest stage of hatching; and, unfortunately for the conspirators, that was discovered. The action of the prisoners, therefore, was illegal.

The Court here announced that the trial would be suspended for two days.

The Court rose at 11.30 a.m.

MONDAY, AUGUST 27TH.

The Court opened at 8.30 a.m., when, as usual, Judge Tamano intimated to the accused that they might speak if they wished to do so.

The prisoners and their Counsel reiterated their former statements, which are of no interest to reproduce.

The Court rose at 11.40 a.m.

TUESDAY, AUGUST 28TH, 1883.

The Court opened at 8.50 a.m., when Judge Tamano directed prisoner No. 6, Sawata, to speak. The Prisoner had nothing to say.

Mr. Uyeki, Counsel for this prisoner, then addressed the Court. He said that his learned colleagues had left little for him to say. He would, however, venture to impress upon the Bench that the words "overthrow the government," in the original covenant, had been cancelled, and that substantial proof had been adduced to that effect. The case against the accused was childish. Had they really proposed to raise an insurrection they would not have subscribed to a covenant which was to involve them in their present difficulties. They drafted it on mere impulse. Nothing whatever had been adduced to prove any actual culpability on their part. One of the most notable features of the progress made by the nation since the Restoration was the promise of the illustrious reigning Sovereign that a National Assembly should be established. The people were already in full enjoyment of peace and prosperity. Why then should the accused conspire to overthrow the Government? The Court must be convinced that the prisoners were so enthusiastic as to be all but fanatics; and that their enthusiasm had found vent in this covenant. He hoped that the Court would take this into serious consideration.

The Court addressing the prisoners, directly, asked if they had anything more to say.

Hanaka said that he had only been a temporary resident in Fukushima. His place of registration was Tokijo.

Sawata said that it was by accident he had first written the words "overthrow the government" instead of "improve the administrative system."

Mr. Justice Tamano announced that the trial was now closed, and asked the Public Prosecutor to say what penalties he desired to be imposed upon the accused.

The prosecuting Counsel, in reply, insisted that it was evident that the accused had been guilty of conspiracy to raise an insurrection, and therefore were amenable to punishment under Articles 125, 121, and 68 of the Penal Code. Thus, Article 125 says:—"If there have been only levies or enrolment of bands, supplying of arms, munitions of war or provisions, or other acts preliminary to the offences before mentioned, the penalties borne by article 121 shall be diminished by one degree. If there

have been only a conspiracy formed, not followed by preliminary acts, the penalty shall be diminished two degrees." Article 121 runs:—"All individuals guilty of having taken part in a civil war, in an insurrection or an armed sedition, having for its object either to overturn the Government of the country or to take away from the Imperial authorities any part whatsoever of the territory of Japan or its dependencies, or to diminish the rights and prerogatives of the Emperor in the Government of the country, shall, according to the nature of their participation, be punished as follows: 1.—with the penalty of death; those who have been the instigators of the crime and those who have been the ringleaders. 2.—With transportation for life, or, in circumstances less serious, with temporary transportation; those who have held command or exercised authority. 3.—With major or minor imprisonment; those who have furnished arms, munitions of war, money and provisions, and those who have held ordinary positions. 4.—With minor imprisonment for a period of from two to five years; those who, without exercising any function, have participated in insurrection or have been employed in different services, less important, during the insurrection." Article 68 says:—"Political criminal penalties are lowered or raised in the following order:—1.—Death. 2.—Penal servitude for life. 3.—Penal servitude for a time. 4.—Major imprisonment. 5.—Minor imprisonment." The prosecutor contended that, although the prisoners had not carried their plot into execution, yet they should be banished for a period of from twelve to fifteen years.

The presiding Judge asked the prisoners if they had anything to say in reply to this demand on the part of the prosecution.

Hanaka said that he would be glad to be convicted in such circumstances; but he had been told that there was nothing to prove guilt on the part of himself and his associates.

The other prisoners and their Counsel each protested against the infliction of such a sentence as that proposed by the Prosecution.

At 10.30 a.m. the Court rose. Judgment reserved.

HANDICAPPING AT LAWN TENNIS.

The following letter on the above subject appears in *The Field* of July 7th:—

In a letter which I wrote to *The Field* immediately after last year's championship, I promised a further letter on handicapping. Just about that time, however, it became apparent that the All-England system of handicapping was not popular; and it was further shown by D. J. A. Eveleigh and others in *The Field* that all systems then in vogue were faulty. It was decided to reconsider the matter of handicapping, whereupon I postponed my remarks.

It was eventually settled that the popular system, which admits the giving of half odds, and which ignores bisques given in diminution of other odds (e.g., 15 for a bisque), should be adhered to, subject to a correction which I shall presently explain. The system is fully described in "The Regulations for the Management of Lawn Tennis Prize-Meetings, 1883" (Field Office, 346, Strand). I have now had some experience as to how the amended system works. In my opinion it is highly satisfactory. I will proceed to examine its principles and some of its details.

In order to obtain a workable handicap on this system, it was necessary first to determine how many bisques in a set are equivalent to the odds of 15, i.e., one stroke given at the commencement of each game of a set. A bisque, I presume your readers know, is one stroke which may be claimed by the receiver of the odds of a bisque, at any time during a set. The question to be answered was this:—Would you rather give your adversary 15, or five or six or more bisques? It is clear that, as a set must consist of at least six games, the odds of 15 must be worth at least a stroke; but they are not therefore worth six bisques; a bisque is more valuable than a stroke, as the player who receives bisques can take them when he likes during the game; so, if he scores 40 or advantage in any game, he can win that game to a certainty

by taking his bisque. If he receives a stroke, it may be that he would have won the game without the odds, so that portion of the odds is comparatively useless to him. It is gone; whereas, had it been given in the form of a bisque, he could have reserved it.

The average number of games in a set (without advantage games) is between eight and nine; so fifteen must be worth less than nine bisques. "Taking one consideration with another," the conclusion arrived at was that 15 is worth between five and six bisques where advantage sets are not played. With advantage sets (which must be played in handicap matches on this system because of the half-odds, e.g., half-15 or half-30) the value of the odds of 15 approaches more nearly to six bisques. And as six (being an even number) is more convenient to deal with in apportioning bisques and half-odds than five (an odd number), it was finally resolved that 15 should be taken as equivalent to six bisques, and half-15 as equivalent to three bisques. Odds for a bisque (i.e., one or more bisques given to the better player in diminution of other odds) is a form of odds not in favour with the public; so, under the present system, they are entirely dispensed with, the competitors now being handicapped in classes by the committee appointed for the purpose as shown below:—

CLASS O (SCRATCH).

Class.

1 receives 1 bisque.
2 receives 1 bisque.
3 receives half-15.
4 receives half-15 and 1 bisque.
5 receives half-15 and 2 bisques.
6 receives 15.
7 receives 15 and 1 bisque.

Class.

8 receives 15 and 2 bisques.
9 receives half-30.
10 receives half-30 and 1 bisque.
11 receives half-30 and 2 bisques.
12 receives 30.
13 receives 30 and 1 bisque.
14 receives 30 and 2 bisques.

It was not considered advisable to carry the classes beyond 14; as, when half-30 is given, one mistake on the part of the giver of odds in the 40 games, loses him the game. His play is therefore cramped all through; he dare not go for a brilliant stroke, but must confine himself to very safe and cautious tactics. His being restricted to this style of game would, of course, disturb the handicap. When the best player entered can give the worst more than thirty and two bisques, owed odds are introduced. I shall advert to these presently.

One advantage of the mode of handicapping shown in the above table is its great simplicity. The competitors are classed, and they meet at the differences between their respective odds. Thus, if a player in Class 2 is drawn against a player in Class 7, he gives 15 and a bisque less than two bisques, i.e., these players meet at half-15 and two bisques. Fifteen being regarded as equivalent to six bisques, a simple subtraction sum handicaps any two players at once (e.g., Class 2 v. Class 7, odds in bisques are $7-2=5$, and 5 bisques= $\frac{1}{2}$ of 15 and 2 bisques).

If this were all, the scheme would be next to perfect. But it so happens that when players, other in Class O (scratch) and in Class 1, meet players in lower classes, the mere subtraction of the difference between the class odds does not invariably give the worse player his full proportion of odds.

The reason is this:—After the subtraction is made, the better player starts at love. If players in, say classes 6 and 12, started each game at 15—30, each player would get his true proportion of odds by mere subtraction. But they start at love—15. Hence a longer game has to be played; and in a longer game the better player has more chances of exercising his skill, consequently he ought to give more odds. It may be asked why not let classes 6 and 12 start at 15—30? The answer is that it is generally disliked, and that it makes some of the matches too short. Endurance is one of the elements in a hard match of the best of five sets, starting at love—all in each game. If two players in class 12 were drawn together, and began each game at 30—all, they would only play about half a match, and would not have their due share of fatigue. This may affect not only the match between these two, but the next match played by the winner.

It has therefore been found advisable to introduce differential odds, i.e., to add something to the difference between the respective odds, as obtained by mere subtraction, in certain cases. What this difference ought to be can be calculated mathematically. It has been calculated by your correspondent "D. J." Fractions of a bisque sometimes occur; and, when this is so, the nearest whole

number has been taken. The result of the calculations appears in the subjoined table:—

| | | RECEIVING. | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---------|--------|------------|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|----|----|----|----|----|
| GIVING. | CLASS. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 |
| | | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 |
| 1 | 1 | • | • | • | • | • | • | • | • | • | • | • | • | • | • |
| 2 | 2 | • | • | • | • | • | • | • | • | • | • | • | • | • | • |
| 3 | 3 | • | • | • | • | • | • | • | • | • | • | • | • | • | • |
| 4 | 4 | • | • | • | • | • | • | • | • | • | • | • | • | • | • |
| 5 | 5 | • | • | • | • | • | • | • | • | • | • | • | • | • | • |
| 6 | 6 | • | • | • | • | • | • | • | • | • | • | • | • | • | • |
| 7 | 7 | • | • | • | • | • | • | • | • | • | • | • | • | • | • |
| 8 | 8 | • | • | • | • | • | • | • | • | • | • | • | • | • | • |
| 9 | 9 | • | • | • | • | • | • | • | • | • | • | • | • | • | • |
| 10 | 10 | • | • | • | • | • | • | • | • | • | • | • | • | • | • |
| 11 | 11 | • | • | • | • | • | • | • | • | • | • | • | • | • | • |
| 12 | 12 | • | • | • | • | • | • | • | • | • | • | • | • | • | • |
| 13 | 13 | • | • | • | • | • | • | • | • | • | • | • | • | • | • |
| 14 | 14 | • | • | • | • | • | • | • | • | • | • | • | • | • | • |

The figures 1 and 2 in the table show the number of bisques to be added to the difference between the respective odds. For example:—Suppose a player in Class 3 is drawn against a player in Class 9. The difference between the respective odds is six bisques, that is 15. Now, by running the eye along the third horizontal band of the table (to which the thick-faced figure 3 is prefixed), until we come to the perpendicular column, above which stands the thick-faced figure 9, we find that Class 9 has to receive one differential bisque from Class 3. Hence, Class 3 has to give Class 9, 15 and a bisque.

It remains to consider what is to be done, in case the best player entered is handicapped to give more than 30 and two bisques to the worst. The plan recommended is to put the best player in a class above scratch—that is, that he should owe certain odds, not being bisques.

Owe half-15 is one stroke owed at the beginning of the first and of every subsequent alternate game of a set. That is, the first stroke won by the owner of odds in the first, third, etc., games causes his score in those games to be love. Owe fifteen is one stroke owed at the beginning of every game. Here the first stroke won by the owner of odds in each game causes his score to be love. Owe half-30 is two strokes owed at the beginning of the first game, one stroke at the beginning of the second game, and soon alternately throughout the set.

It will be observed that, when half odds are received, they are given in the second, fourth, &c., games, and that when half odds are owed, they are paid in the first, third, &c., games. The reason once pointed out, the absurdity of any other arrangement becomes manifest. Suppose a player has to owe half-30 and to give half-30, according to the present arrangement he has to owe 30 and give 15 in the first game; to owe 15 and give 30 in the second game. If the owing of the larger half of the strokes were not alternated with the giving the larger half of the strokes, the giver of odds in the first game would owe 15 and give 15; in the second game he would owe 30 and give 30. It is extremely probable that he would win all the 15 games with case; so the set would virtually be his as soon as his adversary made a sufficient number of mistakes to lose a 30 game.

The provision that the owner of odds shall not owe bisques is made to prevent the cancelling of bisques owed and bisques received. It is not a point of great moment, and could not always be carried out in practice if more than one player owed odds, and the players owing odds were not separated by three bisques or by a multiple of three bisques. The provision that bisques are not to be owed only occurs in a note, and it is more of a recommendation than a regulation. I should like to see the note reworded to the effect that owed odds should not be expressed in bisques if it can be avoided. Thus: if only one player owes odds, and he is handicapped to give half-15 and a bisque to the next best player, the owing of bisques could be avoided by making the odds owe half-15 and give a bisque putting the next best player in Class 1, and having no scratch class. I am aware

that owe half-15 and give a bisque is not so much odds as give half-15 and a bisque. If the handicappers are of opinion that owed odds do not sufficiently separate these two competitors, another bisque can be given, and the odds would be owe half-15 and give two bisques. In this case there would be no scratch class and no Class 1. But as it is advisable to handicap all the classes with relation to the scratch man, the handicappers should add an imaginary scratch man to the list of competitors, and remove him when the handicap is made.

Owed odds, it can be shown by calculation, do not require any differential adjustment. Hence, if there is more than one player in classes above scratch, and they are in different classes, they meet at the difference of their respective odds.

It is not considered advisable to make a class above scratch unless the odds to be given by the best player to the player in the lowest class exceed 30, or unless the difference between the best player entered and the next best is half-15 or more. In the latter case the institution of a class above scratch is left to the discretion of the handicapping committee.

In the practical working of this scheme the best plan is to fix on the best player and to put him at scratch. Then to search for the second best player, and to handicap him with reference to the scratch man. Next to search for the worst player and similarly to handicap him. If it now appears that the conditions exist, under which it is advisable to have a class above scratch, put the second best player at scratch, and handicap all players in lower classes with reference to him. The owe player will simply have to owe the scratch man and all the other players what he is handicapped to owe, in addition to the odds he would have to give if he were in class O (scratch); and so on, if there is more than one player in a class above scratch.

The reason advantage sets must be played in handicap matches on this system, throughout the ties, is that players receiving half odds, or players giving half owe odds (e.g., receiving or owing half-15 or half-30) would be at a disadvantage if a set were determined by one game at the score of five games all.

In four-handed handicaps the players should be classed individually, as for single handicaps; but the handicapper should bear in mind that players are not necessarily of the same strength in four-handed as in single games. Hence, if they take a single-handed handicap as a basis, they may have to modify their classification of some of the players for four-handed matches.

The strength of any pair is ascertained by dividing by two their united odds from scratch as expressed in bisques. Thus, a player in Class 1 is partner with a player in Class 5. Their united odds in bisques are $1+5=6$; consequently their strength as a pair is $6 \div 2=3$. They together are in Class 3, and they would receive half fifteen from two scratch players playing as partners.

If the addition of the odds of any pair results in an odd number of bisques, a bisque has to be added before dividing by two.

The pairs will then meet at the difference of their respective odds, as thus ascertained, with the addition of differential odds, if required, as already explained in the case of single-handed handicap matches.

For example:—Players in Class O and Class 1 (call them A. and B.) are partners against players in Class 3 and Class 4 (call them C. and D.). The united odds of A. and B. in bisques are $0+1=1$. This being an odd number, a bisque is added; the united odds of A. and B. with a bisque added= 2 , which divided by $2=1$. A. and B., partners, are therefore in Class 1. Similarly, the united odds of C. and D. are $3+4=7$. Add a bisque and divide by two; C. and D. partners, are in Class 4. The difference between Class 1 and Class 4 is three bisques= $\frac{1}{2}$ of 15. There are no differential odds. Therefore, AB. have to give CD. half-15.

Again:—C. (Class 3) and E. (Class 7) are drawn against F. (Class 4) and G. (Class 12). The united odds of CE., partners, are $3+7=10$, divided by two, CE., are in Class 5. The united odds of FG., partners, are $4+12=16$; divided by two, FG. are in Class 8. The difference between Class 5 and Class 8 is three bisques= $\frac{1}{2}$ of 15. By referring to the table of differential odds, it will be seen that Class 5 has to give Class 8 one bisque in addition to the difference between their respective odds. Consequently, CE. meet FG. in a four-handed match at the odds of half-15 and a bisque.

LATEST TELEGRAMS.

[REUTER "SPECIAL" TO "JAPAN MAIL"]

London, August 24th.

GERMANY AND FRANCE.

The article in the *North German Gazette* has been replied to by the Paris journals in strong terms, in which it is designated an unprovoked attack on France.

London, August 25th.

THE COMTE DE CHAMBORD.

The Comte de Chambord is dead.

MADAGASCAR.

The French Admiral in command in Madagascar has reinstated the Consuls at Tamatave.

PROROGATION OF PARLIAMENT.

Parliament has been prorogued.

THE QUEEN'S SPEECH.

The Queen's Speech stated that the aim of the occupation of Egypt was the reorganization and advancement of that country.

That negotiations were now being carried on with France with regard to late events at Tamatave, and that a favourable issue was expected.

Zululand and the Transvaal were referred to as in a disturbed and unsatisfactory condition, while affairs in Ireland were stated to be much improved.

The estimates for the Revenue of the past year had been fully realised, the condition of agricultural interests had undergone a marked improvement, and trade was in a sound and healthy state.

London, August 26th.

COURT-MARTIAL ON A MISSIONARY.

Mr. Shaw, a missionary in Madagascar, has been tried by a French court-martial at Tamatave and acquitted.

London, August 27th.

SUBMISSION OF ANNAM.

The *Temps* makes the announcement that the King of Annam has submitted to the French Commissioners.

The institution of a French protectorate is confirmed.

London, August 28th.

THE MONARCHY IN FRANCE.

Placards have been posted on the walls of the public places in Paris bearing a manifesto favouring the restoration of a monarchy under "Louis Philippe the Second."

MORE TROOPS FOR TONKIN.

An additional force of one thousand five hundred troops is on the eve of departure for Tonkin.

London, August 29th.

A circular has been issued, signed "Philippe, Comte de Paris," notifying European Sovereigns of the death of the Comte de Chambord.

UYENO-KUMAGAI RAILWAY.

The Trains leave UYENO at 6 a.m. and 1.30 p.m., and KUMAGAI at 9 a.m. and 4.30 p.m.

The Fares are:—Special-class (Separate Compartment), yen 2; First-class, yen 1.20; Third-class, yen 60. The distance from Ueno to Kumagai is 38 miles.

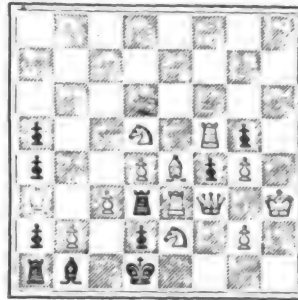
"Special" Trains leave UYENO at 7 a.m. and 12 m., and OJI at 7.30 a.m. and 12.30 and 6.30 p.m., in addition to the above.

CHESS.

By E. PRADIGNAT.

From the American Chess Journal.

BLACK.



WHITE.

White to play and mate in 3 moves.

Solution to Chess Problem of 25th August, by S. LOYD.

White.

1.—P. to K. 3.

2.—K. to K. R. 3.

3.—Kt. or Q. mates.

2.—K. takes Kt.

2.—K. takes Kt.

2.—K. to R. 3.

Black.

1.—B. takes P. dis.

ch.

2.—Anything.

if 1.—Kt. to K. B. 6.

if 1.—R. to Q. R. 6.

if 1.—R. to Q. R. 8.

Correct solution received from "TESA."

MAIL STEAMERS.

THE NEXT MAIL IS DUE.

From Shanghai, Nagasaki, & Kobe } per M. B. Co. Thursday, Sept. 6th.*
From America... per P. M. Co. Friday, September 7th.†

* Left Shanghai on August 29th. † City of Tokio left San Francisco on August 18th.

THE NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For Europe, via Hongkong... per P. & O. Co. Saturday, Sept. 1st.
For Hakodate... per M. B. Co. Saturday, Sept. 1st.
For Shanghai, Kobe, and Nagasaki... per M. B. Co. Wednesday, Sept. 8th.

The arrival and departure of mails by the Occidental and Oriental, the Pacific Mail, and the Peninsular and Oriental Companies, are approximate only.

TIME TABLES.

YOKOHAMA-TOKIO RAILWAY.

The Trains LEAVE YOKOHAMA Station at 6.45, 8.00, 8.50,* 9.45, and 11.00 a.m., and 12.15, 1.30, 2.45, 4.00, 4.45,* 6.00, 7.15, 8.30, 9.45, and 11.00† p.m.

The Trains LEAVE TOKIO (Shinbashi) at 6.45, 8.00, 9.15,* 9.45, and 11.00 a.m., and 12.15, 1.30, 2.45, 4.00, 4.45,* 6.00, 7.15, 8.30, 9.45, and 11.00† p.m.

Those marked with (*) run through without stopping at Tsurumi, Kawasaki, and Omori Stations. Those with (†) are the same as above with the exception of stopping at Kawasaki Station.

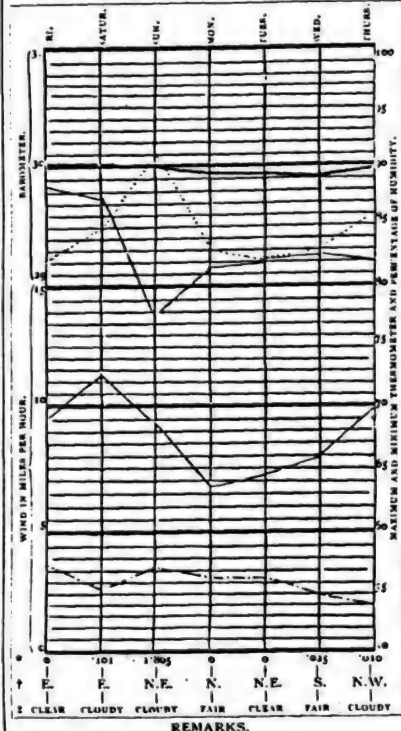
YOKOSUKA STEAMERS.

The Yokosuka steamers leave the English Hatoba daily at 8.15 and 10.45 a.m., and 12.40, 3.00, and 4.15 p.m.; and leave Yokosuka at 7.00 and 9.45 a.m., 12.15 m., and 2.00 and 4.00 p.m.

METEOROLOGICAL REPORT.

FOR WEEK BEGINNING FRIDAY, AUGUST 24TH, 1883.

Observatory of Daigaku, Moto-Fujicho, Hongō, Tokyō, Japan.



REMARKS.
Heavy line represents barometer.
Light continuous line—maximum and minimum thermometers.
Dotted line—represents velocity of wind.
The barometer is reduced to the freezing point and to the level of the sea.
† Direction of Wind. ‡ Weather.
* Rain in inches. † Maximum velocity of wind 9.6 miles per hour on Sunday at 4 a.m.
The highest reading of the barometer for the week was 30.036 inches on Saturday at 6 a.m., and the lowest was 29.864 inches on Wednesday at 3 p.m.
The highest temperature for the week was 88.3 on Friday, and the lowest was 63.4 on Wednesday. The maximum and minimum for the corresponding week of last year were 85.5 and 66.2 respectively.
The total amount of rain for the week was 8.00 inches, against .779 inches for the corresponding week of last year.

LATEST SHIPPING.

FREIGHTS.

Since our last report the berth for New York, via Suez Canal, is filled by the steamship *Oxfordshire* advertised for dispatch on or about the 1st September. The *Galley of Lorne*, to follow for the same port, left Kobe on the 30th ultimo, but in all probability will return to complete her loading. For San Francisco the *St. David* was dispatched on the 30th ultimo. The barks *Wandering Minstrel* and *Furness Abbey* left on the 28th and 29th respectively, the former chartered for Amoy with a cargo of wheat, and the latter in ballast for Hongkong. The German bark *Galveston*, also in ballast, departed for Nagasaki on the 27th ultimo. From New York the British steamer *Strathleven* arrived here on the 30th ultimo with kerosene oil and general cargo.

ARRIVALS.

Kworio Maru, Japanese steamer, 482, G. Withers, 25th August.—Yokkaichi, General.—Mitsubishi M. S. S. Co.

Wakanoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,342, A. F. Christensen, 26th August,—Kobe, 24th August, Mails and General.—Mitsui Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Oceanic, British steamer, 3,700, Davison, 27th August,—Hongkong 20th August, Mails and General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.

Taganoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 448, Matsumoto, 28th August,—Yokkaichi 27th August, General.—Mitsui Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Zambesi, British steamer, 1,540, L. H. Moule, 28th August,—Hongkong, 18th August via Nagasaki and Kobe, General.—P. & O. S. N. Co.

Taganoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 448, Matsumoto, 28th August,—Yokkaichi, General.—Mitsui Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Fuso Kan, Japanese ironclad, 12 guns, 1,340, Inouye, 28th August,—Yokosuka August 28th.

Hiogo Maru, Japanese steamer, 806, R. N. Walker, 28th August,—Hakodate 26th August, via Oginohama General.—Mitsui Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Tsuruga Maru, Japanese steamer, 850, Dithlefsen, 29th August,—Kobe 27th August, General.—Mitsui Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Kworio Maru, Japanese steamer, 481, G. Withers, 29th August,—Yokkaichi, General.—Mitsui Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Yechigo Maru, Japanese steamer, 751, E. Jones, 29th August,—Hakodate 27th August, General.—Kiyodo Unyu Kwaisha.

Nagoya Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,015, Wilson Walker, 30th August,—Shanghai and ports, Mails and General.—Mitsui Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Strathleven, British steamer, 1,588, C. W. Pearson, 30th August,—New York 25th June, Oil and General.—Adamson, Bell & Co.

Godavery, French steamer, 1,049, Du Temple, 31st August,—Hongkong 25th August, Mails and General.—Messageries Maritimes Co.

Taganoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 610, Matsumoto Matsugoro, 1st August,—Yokkaichi 30th August, General.—Mitsui Bishi M. S.S. Co.

DEPARTURES.

Essex, American gun-vessel, 6 guns, 190 men, 1,200, Captain A. H. McCormack, 25th August,—Kobe.

Genkai Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,084, G. W. Connor, 25th August,—Shanghai and ports, Mails and General.—Mitsui Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Akitushima Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,149, Frahm, 26th August,—Kobe, General.—Mitsui Bishi M. S.S. Co.

City of Rio de Janeiro, American steamer, 3,584, W. B. Seabury, 26th August,—Hongkong, Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.

Kworio Maru, Japanese steamer, 776, G. Withers, 26th August,—Yokkaichi, General.—Mitsui Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Niigata Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,096, Hubbard, 26th August,—Hakodate via Oginohama, Mails and General.—Mitsui Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Tanais, French steamer, 1,750, Vaquier, 26th August,—Hongkong, Mails and General.—Messageries Maritimes Co.

Toyoshima Maru, Japanese steamer, 946, Thomas, 26th August,—Hakodate, and northern ports General.—Mitsui Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Galveston, German bark, 619, Stunkel, 27th August,—Nagasaki, Ballast.—Boyes & Co.

Minerva, German brig, 319, Duhme, 27th August,—Amoy, Wheat.—Soon Hoo & Co.

Wakanoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,342, A. F. Christensen, 28th August,—Kobe, Mails and General.—Mitsui Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Wandering Minstrel, British bark, 363, Seivewright, 28th August,—Amoy, Wheat.—Chinese.

Furness Abbey, American bark, 1,040, G. T. Marcy, 29th August,—Hongkong, Ballast.—R. Isaacs.

Tokio Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,146, R. Swain, 23rd August,—Shanghai and ports, Mails and General.—Mitsui Bishi M. S.S. Co.

St. David, American ship, 1,335, W. Wallace Frost, 30th August,—San Francisco, Tea and Sundries.—J. D. Carroll & Co.

Galley of Lorne, British steamer, 1,389, Pomeroy, 30th August,—Kobe, General.—Smith, Baker & Co.

Kworio Maru, Japanese steamer, 776, G. Withers, 30th August,—Yokkaichi, General.—Mitsui Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Merionethshire, British steamer, 1,235, D. Williams, 30th August,—Kobe, General.—Adamson, Bell & Co.

Tsuruga Maru, Japanese steamer, 517, P. Dithlefsen, 30th August,—Kobe, Mails and General.—Mitsui Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Oceanic, British steamer, 2,350, Davison, 31st August,—San Francisco, Mails and General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per Japanese steamer *Wakanoura Maru*, from Kobe:—Messrs. G. Sale, McBryde, and 5 Japanese in cabin; and 140 Japanese in steerage.

Per British steamer *Oceanic*, from Hongkong:—1 European and 2 Chinese in steerage. For San Francisco: Mr. and Mrs. Cecil Holliday and Mr. Wm. Bell in cabin; and 79 Chinese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Taganoura Maru*, from Yokkaichi:—6 Japanese in cabin; and 162 Japanese in steerage.

Per British steamer *Zambesi*, from Hongkong via Nagasaki and Kobe:—Mr. and Mrs. Biggars, Dr. Clibborn, Messrs. Lagell, Sheppard, and Blanc in cabin; and 46 Japanese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Hiogo Maru*, from Hakodate:—6 Europeans, and 8 Japanese in cabin; and 150 Japanese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Tsuruga Maru*, from Kobe:—Miss Cooper and 3 brothers, Messrs. Cook and Falck, and 3 Japanese in cabin; and 139 Japanese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Kworio Maru*, from Yokkaichi:—148 Japanese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Nagoya Maru*, from Shanghai and ports:—Mrs. Arishima, Miss Tanabe, Miss T. Tanabe, Dr. J. Maffsen, Messrs. T. B. Glover and servant, Arthur Gultzow, D. Malte, T. Taylor, Samuels, Bailey, Mattel, J. H. Wong, K. Inouye, Date, Kuroda, Masuda, Akiyama, Hayaishi, Dan, Iwai, and Nakamura in cabin; and 1 European, 3 Chinese, and 400 Japanese in steerage.

Per French steamer *Godavery*, from Hongkong:—Madame de Podewils, Messrs. Masajiro, Ohashi, and Watanabe in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Taganoura Maru*, from Yokkaichi:—3 Japanese in cabin; and 110 Japanese in steerage.

DEPARTED.

Per Japanese steamer *Genkai Maru*, for Shanghai and ports:—Mr. and Mrs. Suyonobu, Mr. and Miss Atsumi, Mrs. Ellwood, Mrs. Ross, Miss Spencer, Miss Rietsnyder, Rev. C. Leamen, Rev. D. Peters, Dr. J. J. Monteith, Dr. J. W. Hall, Messrs. E. C. Kirby, C. Wiggins, E. D. Peters, C. Menzies, J. Knox Wight, A. N. Hogemann, H. Robertson, Sentance, R. H. Wigton, W. Barry, W. Hall, Goseki, Kobayashi, Hashimoto, Nishikawa, Takabayashi, Sonoda, Minekawa, Kikuchi, Kenrukan, Miyoshi, and Asano in cabin.

Per French steamer *Tanais*, for Hongkong:—Rev. Père Midon in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Tokio Maru*, for Shanghai and ports:—Sir Harry S. Parkes, K.C.B., G.C.M.G., Miss Parkes and European maid, Miss M. Parkes, Mr. and Mrs. Nakatani, Mrs. Prosper Gutheres, Major General Kurokawa, Colonel Hasegawa, Colonel Sugiyama, Colonel Katsuta, Dr. J. Luchsen, Dr. Little, Messrs. M. Robins, Yoshikawa, Ishii, Nakaoka, Katsura, and Tsuda in cabin.

Per American ship *St. David*, for San Francisco:—Mr. Gunther in cabin.

Per British steamer *Oceanic*, for San Francisco:—7 Europeans and 81 Chinese in steerage. For New York: Miss Lee, Messrs. John Taylor and S. Iwata in cabin. For London: Mr. H. J. Rustonjee in cabin. For Liverpool: Mr. and Mrs.

Cecil Holliday, Messrs. H. L. Johnson, and John McBryde in cabin. For Paris: Messrs. F. Clochard and A. Sennet in cabin.

CARGOES.

Per Japanese steamer *Wakanoura Maru*, from Kobe:—Treasure, \$80,000.

Per French steamer *Tanais*, for Hongkong:—Silk for France, 399 bales; for England, 79 bales; Total, 475 bales.

Per American ship *St. David*, for San Francisco:—Tea, 13,514 packages; Wax, 122 cases; Bamboos, 140 bundles (10,000); Curios, 25 cases; Fish oil, 10 cases.

Per British steamer *Oceanic*, for San Francisco:—

| | TEA. | | OTHER CITIES. | TOTAL. |
|----------|----------------|-----------|---------------|--------|
| | SAN FRANCISCO. | NEW YORK. | | |
| Hongkong | 729 | 45 | 241 | 1,015 |
| Shanghai | 737 | 662 | 1,871 | 3,260 |
| Nagasaki | 76 | 18 | — | 94 |
| Hiogo | 89 | 347 | 3,728 | 3,164 |
| Yokohama | 1,961 | 849 | 2,890 | 5,700 |
| Total | 3,582 | 1,921 | 7,730 | 13,233 |

| | SILK. | | OTHER CITIES. | TOTAL. |
|----------|----------------|-----------|---------------|--------|
| | SAN FRANCISCO. | NEW YORK. | | |
| Hongkong | — | 248 | — | 248 |
| Shanghai | — | 157 | — | 157 |
| Yokohama | — | 418 | — | 418 |
| Total | — | 793 | — | 793 |

REPORTS.

The Japanese steamer *Wakanoura Maru*, Captain A. F. Christensen, reports leaving Kobe on the 24th August, at 6.40 a.m. with light easterly winds to Rock Island; thence to port north-easterly winds and rain with thunder and lightning. Arrived in port on the 26th August, at 6.30 a.m.

The British steamer *Oceanic*, Captain Davison, reports leaving Hongkong on the 20th August, at 3.18 p.m. with fine weather and light easterly winds to the northern end of Formosa; on the afternoon of the 22nd, strong gale from northward and falling barometer; on the morning of the 23rd fresh gale from northward and barometer still falling—evidently typhoon to the eastward of us—working engines as slowly as possible to allow centre of typhoon to pass to the northward of us; at 5.30 p.m. barometer 28.804, wind veering round by west to S.S.W., drove ship in full speed; at 6 p.m. barometer rising, and at 8 p.m. barometer 29.100, blowing strong gale from S.S.W.; at midnight moderate gale from southward and fine weather, barometer 29.702: on the morning of the 25th passed Kuro-sima; thence to port light easterly winds and fine weather. Arrived at Yokohama on the 27th August, at 9.12 a.m.

The Japanese steamer *Taganoura Maru*, Captain Matsumoto, reports leaving Yokkaichi on the 27th August, at 6 a.m. with light variable winds to Rock Island; thence to port moderate winds.

The Japanese steamer *Hiogo Maru*, Captain R. N. Walker reports leaving Hakodate on the 26th August, at 5 a.m. with light northerly breeze fine weather throughout the passage.

The Japanese steamer *Tsuruga Maru*, Captain Dithlefsen, reports leaving Kobe on the 27th August, at 6 p.m. with fine weather throughout the entire passage; between Cape Sima and Omisaki on the 28th, at 5.20 p.m. passed the steamship *Wakanoura Maru* steering W.S.W., and at 6.05 p.m. on the same day passed a full-rigged brig—flying German flag—steering W.S.W. Arrived at Yokohama on the 29th August, at 9.45 a.m.

The Japanese steamer *Taganoura Maru*, Captain Matsumoto, reports leaving Yokkaichi on the 30th August, at 7 p.m. with light breeze throughout the passage.

MEN-OF-WAR.

Fuso Kan, Japanese ironclad, 12 guns, 1,340, Inouye, 28th August,—Yokosuka 28th August.

Kongo Kan, Japanese corvette, 13 guns, 1,341, Captain Aiura, 22nd May.—Yokosuka.

Richmond, American flagship, 14 guns, 300 men, 2,700, Captain J. S. Skerrett, U.S.N., 9th July,—Nagasaki 5th July.

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

We have had a very quiet week, transactions in both Yarns and Shirtings being confined to trifling sales at about previous prices, and in other Goods there has been but little doing. There has been rather more enquiry for Metals at low prices.

COTTON YARNS.

| | PER PICUL. |
|----------------------------------|------------------|
| Nos. 16 to 24, Common to Medium- | \$25.00 to 28.50 |
| Nos. 16 to 24, Good to Best - | 29.25 to 30.50 |
| Bombay, No. 20, Good to Best - | 25.50 to 28.25 |
| Nos. 28 to 32, Common to Medium- | 31.25 to 32.00 |
| Nos. 28 to 32, Good to Best - | 32.75 to 35.25 |
| Nos. 38 to 42 | 35.00 to 37.25 |

COTTON PIECE GOODS.

| | PER PIECE. |
|----------------------------------------------|----------------|
| Grey Shirtings—3½ lb, 38½ to 39 inches | 1.70 to 2.15 |
| Grey Shirtings—9½ lb, 38½ to 45 inches | 1.87½ to 2.40 |
| T. Cloth—7 lb, 24 yards, 32 inches | 1.42½ to 1.52½ |
| Indigo Shirting—12 yards, 44 inches | 1.55 to 1.70 |
| Prints—Assorted, 24 yards, 30 inches | 1.10 to 2.40 |
| Cotton—Italians and Sateens Black, 32 inches | 0.07 to 0.09 |
| Turkey Reds—2 to 2½ lb, 24 yards, 30 inches | PER PICUL. |
| Turkey Reds—2½ to 2½ lb, 24 yards, 30 inches | 1.15 to 1.35 |
| Turkey Reds—3½ lb, 24 yards, 30 inches | 1.35 to 1.65 |
| Velvets—Black, 35 yards, 22 inches | 5.90 to 6.70 |
| Victoria Lawns, 12 yards, 42-3 inches | 0.70 to 0.75 |
| Taffetas, 12 yards, 43 inches | 1.90 to 3.10 |

WOOLLENS.

| | |
|--------------------------------------------------|----------------|
| Plain Orleans, 40-42 yards, 32 inches | \$3.30 to 5.25 |
| Figured Orleans, 29-31 yards, 31 inches | 3.25 to 4.00 |
| Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches | 0.18 to 0.28 |
| Mousseline de Laine—Crape, 24 yards, 31 inches | 0.15½ to 0.16 |
| Mousseline de Laine—Itajime, 24 yards, 31 inches | 0.18½ to 0.26 |
| Mousseline de Laine—Vuzen, 24 yards, 31 inches | 0.30 to 0.37½ |
| Cloths—Pilots, 54 @ 56 inches | 0.30 to 0.40 |
| Cloths—Presidents, 54 @ 56 inches | 0.40 to 0.50 |
| Cloths—Union, 54 @ 56 inches | 0.30 to 0.55 |
| Blankets—Scarlet and Green, 6 to 5½ lb, per lb | 0.35 to 0.41 |

IRON.

| | PER PICUL. |
|-------------------------------|----------------|
| Flat Bars, ½ inch | \$2.50 to 2.90 |
| Flat Bars, 1 inch | 2.80 to 3.00 |
| Round and square up to ½ inch | 2.80 to 3.00 |
| Nailrod, assorted | 2.25 to 2.50 |
| Nailrod, small size | 2.25 to 3.10 |

KEROSENE.

Sales during the past week amount to 12,000 sound and 3,800 damaged cases. Deliveries have been 35,000 cases. The Stock of sold and unsold Oil in first hands now amounts to about 750,000 cases, including the cargoes per *Antelope* and steamship *Strathleven* lately arrived. The Market is weak at quotations.

| | PER CASE. |
|--------|-----------|
| Devos | \$1.62 |
| Comet | 1.60 |
| Stella | 1.52 |

SUGAR.

Quotations remain unaltered, and no transactions worth recording have taken place during the interval. At the numerous sales at auction of the damaged article, reported as having taken place at the end of last week, the prices realized exceed the general expectation.

| | PER PICUL. |
|----------------|----------------|
| White, No. 1 - | \$7.50 to 8.00 |
| White, No. 2 - | 7.00 to 7.50 |
| White, No. 3 - | 6.75 to 7.00 |
| White, No. 4 - | 6.00 to 6.50 |
| White, No. 5 - | 5.00 to 5.20 |
| Brown Formosa | 4.35 to 4.47 |

EXPORTS.

SILK.

During the early part of the week a good business was done, but during the last two or three days there has been less doing. Buyers have apparently been busy inspecting and shipping their previous purchases. Settlements since the 25th August may be set down as 500 piculs; in

some cases at advanced rates. Export to date (not including the P. & O. steamer *Zambesi* sailing to-day) is 4,386 bales against 4,375 bales to same date last year.

Hanks.—These have been in fair demand, and prices for all but the best are higher. At the close, however, things are not quite so strong and with an easier money market, sellers may perhaps be less difficult to deal with.

Filatures have been taken for the *Oceanic* at about previous rates. Native shipments by this steamer were again large. For Europe little is doing.

Re-reels have been dealt in for the United States on basis of \$610 for Five Girl (Maibash), a rather medium parcel going forward at this price.

Kakedas still taken rather freely at former rates, but the demand from the Continent hangs fire for this class.

Hamatsuki.—These are freely taken at a slight advance on last quotations, presumably to supply the deficiency in coarse Silks from North China.

QUOTATIONS.

| | |
|---------------------------------|--------------|
| Hanks—No. 1½ | \$320 to 330 |
| Hanks—No. 2 (Shinshu) | 515 to 525 |
| Hanks—No. 2 (Maibash) | 510 to 520 |
| Hanks—No. 2½ | 495 to 505 |
| Hanks—No. 3 | 470 to 480 |
| Hanks—No. 3½ | 430 to 450 |
| Filatures—Extra | 650 to 665 |
| Filatures—No. 1, 10/11 deniers | 640 to 650 |
| Filatures—No. 1, 14/16 deniers | 630 to 640 |
| Filatures—No. 1½, 14/17 deniers | 610 to 620 |
| Filatures—No. 2, 10/15 deniers | 600 to 620 |
| Filatures—No. 2, 14/18 deniers | 600 to 610 |
| Filatures—No. 3, 14/20 deniers | 570 to 580 |
| Re-reels—No. 1, 14/16 deniers | 610 to 620 |
| Re-reels—No. 1½, 14/17 deniers | 600 to 610 |
| Re-reels—No. 2, 14/18 deniers | 580 to 590 |
| Re-reels—No. 3, 14/20 deniers | 560 to 570 |
| Kakedas—Extra | 625 to 635 |
| Kakedas—No. 1 | 600 to 610 |
| Kakedas—No. 2 | 530 to 570 |
| Kakedas—No. 3 | 470 to 480 |
| Hamatsuki—No. 1, 2 | 470 to 480 |
| Hamatsuki—No. 3, 4 | 450 to 460 |

TEA.

The demand has continued on a fair scale. Settlements amounting to about 1,600 piculs, the bulk consisting of grades below Fine. Teas from \$12 to \$19 have attracted the most attention and a few sales of Fine upwards are reported at \$27 to \$30. Arrivals continue steady. Prices remain nominally unchanged. Settlements to date at Yokohama are 122,414 piculs, against 129,402 piculs at the same period in 1882. Settlements here and at Kobe are 194,924 piculs, against 205,752 piculs at the corresponding date last year.

QUOTATIONS.

| | |
|-------------|--------------|
| Common | \$10 & under |
| Good Common | 12 to 13 |
| Medium | 14 to 16 |
| Good Medium | 17 to 19 |
| Fine | 21 to 24 |
| Finest | Nominal |
| Choice | |
| Choicest | |

EXCHANGE.

There has been a moderate amount of Private Paper settled at slightly higher rates than those ruling at the date of our last report. Quotations are steady as follows:—

| | |
|-----------------------------------------|------|
| Sterling—Bank Bills on demand | 3/7½ |
| Sterling—Bank 4 months' sight | 3/8 |
| Sterling—Private 4 months' sight | 3/8½ |
| Sterling—Private 6 months' sight | 3/8½ |
| On Paris—Bank sight | 4/63 |
| On Paris—Private 6 months' sight | 4/73 |
| On Hongkong—Bank sight | 72½ |
| On Hongkong—Private 10 days' sight | 72½ |
| On Shanghai—Bank sight | 72½ |
| On Shanghai—Private 10 days' sight | 73½ |
| On New York—Bank Bills on demand | 88½ |
| On New York—Private 30 days' sight | 89½ |
| On San Francisco—Bank Bills on demand | 88½ |
| On San Francisco—Private 30 days' sight | 89½ |

KINSATSU QUOTATIONS.

The following table shows the rate of the day and the fluctuation during the past week:—

| | |
|-------------------------|------|
| Monday, August 27th | 117 |
| Tuesday, August 28th | 115 |
| Wednesday, August 29th | 116 |
| Thursday, August 30th | 116 |
| Friday, August 31st | 118 |
| Saturday, September 1st | 118½ |

IMPORTANT NOTICE.

SMALL CAPITALISTS, wishing to establish a business, should see if there is an opening for a Mineral Water Manufactory in their District. All information and recipes for the purpose of making Lemonade, Soda Water, &c., is given, previous knowledge is not necessary. The demand for these drinks is so much on the increase in all parts of the world, that the outlay for the machinery in all cases leads to a profitable and safe business. Catalogue forwarded free, on application to

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May 1st, 1883.

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Sold by all Chemists and Medicine Vendors throughout the World.

May 1st, 1883.

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For the excellence of our Manufactures, we have received following AWARDS:—

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May 1st, 1883.

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Apply to the *Japan Mail* Office.

Yokohama, May 2nd, 1883.

NOTICE.

THE "JAPAN DAILY MAIL" is now the largest newspaper published in Japan. The paper is issued every morning and immediately delivered in the Settlement and Bluff. A new rate of charges for Advertisements has been devised on a very moderate scale, and the Paper has a good and increasing circulation.

The "JAPAN DAILY MAIL" is the principal Morning Paper published in Yokohama in the English language, and is delivered at places of Business during Office Hours on the day of publication. Advertisers will therefore see that the "JAPAN DAILY MAIL" offers unusual facilities for public announcements.

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Yokohama, 1st May, 1883.

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| | | | |
|------------|-------------|------------|-----------------|
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JOSEPH GILLOTT'S STEEL PENS. Medal,
JOSEPH GILLOTT'S STEEL PENS. Paris,
JOSEPH GILLOTT'S STEEL PENS. 1878.
May 1st, 1883.

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TWO SILVER MEDALS AND "FIRST ORDER OF MERIT,"
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and other Specialities and general articles of Perfumery may be obtained of all dealers throughout the World, and of the manufacturers.

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ESTABLISHED 1799.

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THE Japan Weekly Mail,

A REVIEW OF
JAPANESE COMMERCE, POLITICS, LITERATURE, AND ART.

No. 19, VOL. I.]

YOKOHAMA, SEPTEMBER 8TH, 1883.

[£24 PER ANNUM.]

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The Japan Weekly Mail.

"FAIS CE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL," must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith. It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 8TH, 1883.

BIRTH.

On the 2nd inst., at No. 39, Yokohama, the wife of Dr. T. H. TRIPLER, M.D., of a Daughter.

MARRIAGE.

On the 5th instant, at H.B.M.'s Consulate, Yokohama, afterward at Christ Church, by the Rev. E. Champneys Irvine, M.A., CATHERINE, second daughter of Geo. Booth, of Yokohama, to ARTHUR HEARNE, of Yokohama.

WEEKLY NOTES.

THE infant Princess Shige expired on Friday afternoon at the age of two years. The Princess had been ailing for some time, and her disease finally took the character of water on the brain. It would seem that death was expected on Thursday night, for from 9 p.m. to 11 p.m. carriages were unceasingly arriving and departing at the Shita-ya Palace, in accordance with the Japanese custom which requires that all those related to the dying person should be present at the last moment. The nation will deeply commiserate with His Majesty the Emperor, who within the space of a few years is called on to mourn the

death of a third child. The little Princess Masu is also said to be suffering from the same malady as that which has just carried off her half sister. This mortality among the Imperial children is not, perhaps, to be regarded with much surprise. According to common report, all the details of their infant life are governed by a ceremony too exacting to be consistent with the healthy ease that nature prescribes. The idea that the children of an Emperor must be nurtured differently from those of any other human being will doubtless soon go to swell the number of discarded Japanese prejudices, and when that happy result is attained, the nation will less often have to mourn events so sad as that of last Friday.

It is reported from Shanghai that there has been concluded between Japan and Korea a tariff convention on a basis of 5 per cent. *ad valorem*, and that the document has been forwarded to Japan for ratification. The public will do well to receive this statement with extreme caution. We are not ourselves in a position to say anything definite on the subject, but many considerations render it unlikely that the news is accurate. The Shanghai journals have commented on it at some length, the gist of their views being that it will have the effect of ousting China from the monopoly she had hoped to secure of Korea's foreign trade, and that it will at once enable the Western Powers to obtain favourable terms from the Government at Seoul. The latter prediction seems reasonable, but the former looks somewhat hasty. The tariff arrangements that exist between China and Korea are not distinctly known. They are only inferred from the fact that goods entering the peninsula over-land are subject to a duty of 5 per cent. It is known, however, that the regulations bearing upon this point partake less of the nature of a convention between two Sovereign Powers than of a mandatory decree issued by a suzerain to his dependent. Such being the case, it is within China's competence to alter the terms of the regulations at will, nor can her supposed designs of monopoly be effectually defeated by anything short of absolute free trade for all. That she entertains any designs of the sort, however, we do not quite believe. The probability is that, but for the conditions under which Japan's trade with Korea were conducted, China would long ago have arranged with her tributary a tariff more consistent with what she desires to obtain for herself hereafter. *Mutatis mutandis* the same may be said of Japan; and, as for Korea, she could be "happy with either were t'other dear

charmer away." The probable upshot of these international jealousies will be to place Korea's foreign commerce on a basis favorable to all her treaty friends. Meanwhile, among the many curious things that have been written on the subject, we may note as most curious the assertion of a Shanghai journal that Japan has forced a five per cent tariff on Korea—in other words that Japan, possessing and exercising the right of importing goods free of duty into Korea, has forced the latter to levy a fine of five per cent. upon those goods in future. This would be a new chapter in the history of international diplomacy.

On the 5th instant there was tried in the United States Consular Court a case which upsets most of the generally accepted theories as to the scope of foreign jurisdiction in Japan. Mr. Daniel McCarthy, a seaman of the U.S.S. *Monocacy*, was brought up on a charge of sleeping in the street and being drunk and incapable. The accused did not deny the drunkenness or incapacity, but pleaded that when he was first arrested on the Bluff, he was not interfering with any one. As incapable men seldom do interfere seriously with their neighbours, this part of his story sounded reasonable enough. He went on, however, to explain that on his way from the Bluff Station under escort, about ten policemen set upon him and beat him with their clubs. Why this savage assault in force was organized he could not attempt to explain, but he was very positive that the constables had hammered him and jumped upon his back. Finally, when he asked to see the American Consul, the officials at the station consulted together, and then, "fired him out of the gate." The effect of his projection was to drive him again to the gin shop, where he had, "he thought" two drinks, after which he appears to have mounted a jinrikisha and driven off. The next episode in his career was his meeting with the Deputy Marshal of the U.S. Consular Court, whose testimony was that "the man was bleeding from his ears, and that his face was clotted with blood." Whether McCarthy received these injuries after or before he left the station, could not be distinctly ascertained. It seems strange that he should have taken two drinks with his head in such a condition, but sailors' tastes are a little unaccountable. The strangest part of the business, however, was the trial. The man was not punished. The Consul-General thought that an admonition would meet the ends of justice, and McCarthy was accordingly discharged. Here, one might naturally suppose the business would

have ended, so far as the jurisdiction of the U.S. Court was concerned. But no. The Consul-General announced his intention of investigating the affair further as to the beating the prisoner had received, and with that object he requested that the two policemen who had escorted the man from the Bluff Station to the Settlement should be sent up for examination. This step would have been intelligible enough had the evidence of the police been required in connection with the complaint against McCarthy. But McCarthy had been finally disposed of, and if any charge was to be preferred against the police, the Japanese authorities alone were competent to investigate it. In what capacity the United States' Consul undertook to examine these Japanese policemen we are at a loss to comprehend. He did examine them, however—for, incredible as it may seem, the Inspector of Police allowed them to attend at the Consular Court for that purpose. Their evidence did not elucidate matters much. There had been no trouble with McCarthy, they said, on the way down from the Bluff, and when they left him at the station in the Settlement he was not bleeding or injured in any way. If, then, he was beaten by the police at all, it must have been while he was in the station, whereas his own statement was that the assault was committed on the way from the Bluff. At the station his suffering amounted to being "fired out of the gate." Obviously there is a strange discrepancy somewhere. The only thing certain is that the United States Consulate has now assumed the role of investigating charges against Japanese in his own Court. It is a bold step, and the Consul-General is to be congratulated on its success. We trust, at all events, that he will be able to elucidate the question of the beating, for if the police have been guilty of any such brutality they deserve to be severely dealt with. It is impossible to conceive any conjuncture which would justify constables in subjecting a drunken man to such maltreatment as McCarthy seems to have suffered. It may be taken for granted that the instinct of foreign sailors is to resist arrest by Japanese police to the utmost of their ability. The police, on the other hand, are, for the most part, physically weaker than the sailors, and where the numbers on both sides are pretty nearly equal, recourse to clubs, however deplorable, is not unnatural. But in the case under consideration we have a man who, according to the evidence of the police themselves, was "drunk and incapable." If he was struck over the head with clubs while in that condition, the act is absolutely inexcusable. Having regard to the grave discrepancies displayed by the testimony, it would obviously be most unjust to admit the truth of the charge against the police, but in the interests of the public it is vitally important that the affair should be thoroughly investigated. The technical blunder that has been made at the outset, though unfortunate, is a mere bagatelle. In their own interests, as well as those of justice, the Japanese Authorities ought to determine the exact truth of the occurrence in such a way that no shadow of

doubt can continue to obscure public vision, and we sincerely trust that Consul-General Van Buren will spare no pains to bring about that result.

An important official correspondence is said to be passing. The Prefect of Kanagawa, on behalf of some of his nationals, is reported to have addressed the Board of Consuls asking that Japanese be allowed to rent land and tenements within the foreign settlement of Yokohama. The President of the Board of Consuls here has communicated with the Doyen of the Foreign Representatives (H.E. Mr. Bingham) in Tokiyo, reporting favourably on the proposition, or rather expressing willingness to consider individual applications for the privilege, but suggesting a certain reciprocity, to wit, that requests preferred by respectable foreigners to occupy houses and land in the Japanese portion of Yokohama, on the usual conditions, shall be impartially entertained by the Kencho authorities. We regard these proposals as a step which is highly to be commended. Everything tending to break down the barriers that separate foreigners and Japanese deserves hearty support. More than a year ago, when discussing the question of municipal reform, we advocated the abolition of the Foreign Settlement altogether, and pointed out the expediency of allowing foreigners and Japanese to live anywhere they pleased within the limits of Yokohama. There can be no doubt that our isolated position becomes every year more invidious in Japanese eyes, even as it is daily growing more irksome to ourselves. From a financial point of view, too, the proposed measure offers decided advantages. It would have the effect of largely increasing the value of the land in the Foreign Settlement, a consideration not to be despised in these bad times. Probably the reciprocal privilege would not at first be largely availed of by foreigners, but if Japanese are induced to live among us, we may fairly hope that many of the prejudices which now arise from mutual ignorance and seclusion will be gradually broken down.

The ravages of the rice insect, of which we heard so much in the beginning of the season, appear to have been chiefly felt in Takatsu and Hokkaido. The Agricultural Bureau has instituted precautions against the spread of the pest. Another species of insect is reported as having destroyed thirty-eight thousand trees in Hakodate. The mere statement that such and such a number of trees have suffered does not convey much information in this country, as everything from a sapling to a patriarch of the forest is counted a tree. Nevertheless, what with insects and conflagrations, the forests in the north of Japan have had a rough time this year.

From the provinces reports are gradually arriving of the injuries caused by the typhoon of last month. The vernacular press still exhibits a great lack of enterprise in its method of collecting news from the interior. This is very palpably shown in the present instance, as the

impression conveyed to a casual reader of the Tokiyo journals is that these islands have been visited by quite a series of violent storms, whereas the fact is that the typhoon which swept over Japan from the 17th to the 20th ultimo has been cropping up time after time in the reports sent in from various localities. The loss caused does not appear to have been serious. Kagoshima suffered most, several houses and plantations having been severely damaged in that province. The full force of the gale appears to have been felt at Pusan, in Korea, on the 17th instant. Twenty-eight junks were wrecked and buildings of all descriptions considerably injured. In Fukushima the typhoon seems to have assumed the form of an exceptionally violent hail-storm, some of the hail-stones being reported as an inch in diameter.

NOTES.

At half-past two on Saturday afternoon last the minute bell of Christ Church told the Settlement that the funeral of Lieutenant Noyes, whose sad death we have already had to record, was taking place. At 3 p.m. the military escort was received at the gate by the Rev. F. Champneys Irvine, M.A., who read the opening sentences of the Burial Service, commencing with the words, "I am the Resurrection and the Life." As the body was borne into the Church, Mr. Jno. T. Griffin extemporized solemn music suitable for the occasion, and a sacred song called "The Passing Bell," by Berthold Tours, was beautifully sung by Mrs. Center, at the request of Lieut. Noyes' brother officers. The Rev. Mr. Crawford then delivered an address, and the coffin was carried from the Church to the solemn strains of the "Dead March in Saul." After the chanting of the "Domine Refugium," one of the most ancient of all sacred dirges, the noble monologue of Paul upon the defeat of death was read. At this point the well-known hymn, "Nearer, my God, to Thee" was sung by the assembled congregation, many of whom had known and loved the deceased. The prayers of hope and comfort with which the service concludes were then said, vibrating through hearts deeply touched by a sudden and terrible loss. On reaching the American Naval Hospital the military salute was fired over the body of the departed, which will be sent home embalmed to his sorrowing relatives.

In the *Japan Mail* (Daily and Weekly) of the 23rd of June last appeared an interesting article, kindly communicated, on the official reception in Korea of the American Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary General L. H. Foote in the beginning of May. A New York journal received here by last mail contains an account of the same event and its surroundings, identical in purport but slightly more ample in detail. Among other trifles, accessories to the important part of the narrative, we learn that the reception-hall is rectangular in shape, open at the front, and with screens at the other three sides. The floor was covered with fine Korean

straw mats and Brussels carpet. Everything was simple, there being no attempt at decoration. The Queen was not present at the reception; but the correspondent says:—"I have no doubt she and other Court ladies were behind the screens, interested and curious spectators of the unwonted scene, as their presence was indicated by the rustling of garments and by unmistakable eyes appearing at small peep-holes through the screens." He adds that the ladies of Corea do not appear in public. When they venture out they are borne in closed sedan chairs, and rarely meet gentlemen who are not relatives.

The letter concludes with a description of Sôul, which, being from the pen of an eyewitness with exceptional and most recent facilities of forming an impartial comparative estimate of the condition of the capital, we append as follows:—

Sôul is surrounded by a high wall, which has four gates facing the cardinal points of the compass. The wall appears to be in a state of decay in many places and sadly in need of repairs. Wide streets crossing at right angles lead to the gates, and from the former leads a bewildering network of dirty streets or alleys, scarcely more than wide enough to permit the passage of sedan chairs. The houses are, as a rule, small structures of mud and stone, with roughly thatched straw roofs, dirt floors, and two or three small doors and windows. Some of the houses of the better class of people are substantially built, and have smooth hard-wood and stone floors, tiled roofs, and doors, windows, and partitions of strong white paper pasted over a light, but substantial and neat framework of wood, something upon the Japanese style, but stronger. The absence of fine temples and of conspicuous buildings of any kind is noticeable. The shops are small and insignificant, and the wares displayed for sale are generally cheap and of inferior quality. None of the finer and more valuable articles for the manufacture of which Japan and China are celebrated, such as silk, porcelain, &c., were exhibited for sale, nor was there any display indicative of the refinement in taste and art reached by Corea's nearest neighbors. The population of Sôul is estimated at figures ranging from 250,000 to 500,000. Of this number some 5,000, more or less, are said to be officials, who live in comparative ease and comfort; the remainder are poor, and struggle along as best they may, living upon scanty means in their wretched hovels. Small ponies and fine-looking cattle appear to be abundant, and are used as beasts of burden, except such of the former as are used by the gentry for riding purposes. Since the rebellion last summer, both China and Japan have maintained a force of soldiers at Sôul. The former country has at present some 1,200 troops there, and the latter about 500, as a safeguard against a sudden and unexpected outbreak of turbulent spirits who are opposed to foreigners. At present everything is quiet and no trouble is apprehended, but none was expected last summer. The rising was sudden, and directed alike against the Japanese and wealthy Coreans. No regular steam communication has yet been established with this part of Corea, but a monthly line of steamers will be put on in a short time. Steamers arrive from Japan and China occasionally, chartered for special purposes, and return with such cargoes as may be ready for shipment.

The *Choya Shimbun* publishes an interesting and very realistic article deprecating early marriages among Japanese. It is rather, or more than rather, Malthusian, but its moral is obvious and to the point. "Early marriages are the curse of States."

FATALISM. says Mr. Vienot of the *Saigon Indépendant*, appears to have taken full possession of the Tonquinese immediately after Commandant Badens' first successful operation. An additional cause of the French complete victory, we are happy to read, is to be found in the

moderation of the expeditionary force. The populations, protected by the lines of the invading army, were religiously exempted from the pillage and exaction to which those in the neighborhood of the Black Flags were exposed. Hence the country people found it better to be for, rather than against, the invaders. It is added that a feeling in favor of these latter had so far spread that a number of mandarins, even of high rank, had informed the Commissioner of the Republic that they were willing to retain their posts in the service of France.

The writer inclines to disbelieve this notion. He admits that the mandarins who swore fidelity to the deceased monarch, and who have not yet done the same by his successor, may with Oriental casuistry, which is in no respect inferior in quality to that of the Jesuits, consider themselves relieved from all previous engagements. So many high native officials have committed suicide sooner than survive a French achievement, that it appears difficult to admit an accentuated change of sentiment on the part of the high functionaries in favor of those whom they have hitherto regarded as their bitterest foes. Meanwhile, it is much to be desired that such a reaction should take place; and the Commissioner of the Republic would do well to make his best efforts to that end, and establish as promptly as possible the reign of permanent order under popular institutions.

We subjoin a translation of Dr. Harmand's (French Commissioner's) proclamation to the Tonquinese previous to the bombardment of Hué. It differs little from such documents usually addressed by an invading European power to an Asiatic or other barely civilized State which the invader proposes to conquer; but it is remarkable in that it offers to retain in their posts Annamite magistrates and officials, who will submit to French authority. It is headed "Tonquin," apparently without date, and addressed in Chinese Characters "to the People, Merchants, Literates, and Mandarins of Tonquin." This arrangement is eminently Republican. The document runs as follows:—

France is a great and powerful realm, whose name is feared and respected throughout the whole world. Possessed of forces that cannot be resisted, she is able without compromising her glory, without doing shame to her greatness, to show herself patient and generous. For these reasons she has employed toward Annam all possible methods of conciliation, and has put up with much ill-treatment. But everything has a limit; and the day of forbearance has passed. France has determined to show here as elsewhere that treaties with her are serious matters, and that, while she herself respects them, she intends that they shall be respected. Your territory has been ravaged for a long time by bands of brigands and ruffians that are a disgrace to all nations, and that no people could recognize as belonging to it. We are going to drive them out and deliver you from them, making them pay dearly the price of their crimes. We are going to restore in your midst that peace which gives birth to riches, and to take measures in order that it shall no more be troubled. Our desire is that each one of you shall peacefully enjoy the fruits of his labor. It is in no way our intention to conquer your country. France proposes only that the mandarins who rule you shall be just and upright men. We also intend that the taxes which you pay shall be employed to ameliorate the condition of your country, to augment the general well-being, to ensure the security

of persons and trade, which must be free in the interior of all your provinces. We will, therefore, leave in the exercise of their functions all those mandarins who will accept the new state of affairs, and furnish sufficient guarantee of their loyalty. We will protect them and give them occasion to rejoice at our presence. But as for others, who cherish in their hearts bad designs against us, we will hunt them down without pity; and if they venture to trouble us we will search for them even in the citadel of Hué, which will fall into the hands of our sailors and soldiers as easily as other fortresses have done. The fate reserved for them is enough to make one shudder. Fear not for the respect due to your customs and your creeds! Justice will be the same for all. Have confidence in us! France will no more abandon you; and you shall soon see Tonquin recover its ancient prosperity. Respect this!

A STORY reaches us of a most impudent scheme—unfortunately not altogether unsuccessful—to obtain money under false pretences, which was carried out in Yokohama the other day. A foreigner possessed of tolerably respectable appearance and address went the round of the principal club-houses and hotels in the Settlement and presented at each a copy of a telegram which he asserted he had just received from a scientific friend who resided in a town midway between Kobe and this port. The so-called telegram stated that a furious typhoon was raging at the place named, causing immense destruction to property and also considerable loss of life, and proceeded to say that the centre of the storm would pass over Yokohama within a few hours; the concoction winding up with a remark to the effect that the people of Yokohama had better prepare for the visitation. The person who distributed the telegram protested that his object in doing so was purely philanthropic, but his story invariably concluded with a hint that the club or hotel, as the case was, might think the information worth the amount which had been paid for the transmission of the telegram. This hint, we are sorry to know, was in some instances only too liberally responded to, and the clever rascal who conceived the idea has the satisfaction not only of having caused a good deal of alarm in the minds of some impressionable individuals, but of having been amply recompensed for his trouble. We hear, however, that there is some prospect of his receiving his dues in a very decided manner at the hands of the law, and we certainly wish him joy of the deserts he has so richly merited.

REVERTING to the oft-discussed and much disputed subject of the population of China, a correspondent of the *N.-C. Daily News* takes that paper to task for estimating the number of the inhabitants of the Middle Kingdom at 200,000,000 to 250,000,000 only, and speaking of the "immense exaggeration," with which an article in the *New York Sun* opens. The writer in the American paper calculates that the populations throughout China reaches a cypher of from three hundred million to four hundred million. "A.E.M.," the critic of the Shanghai newspaper, remarks that we are "hardly in a position to dogmatise as to the population" of the vast empire. He adds that a recent German estimate gives 456,000,000; another authority ventures on 240,000,000. Famine and pestilence, and

the great Rebellion 20 years ago undoubtedly reduced the population to a very large extent; but as the *N.-C. Daily News* itself admits "the wasted provinces are becoming populous again." The "area of *China Proper* is more than twelve times the area of Great Britain, and twelve times the population of Great Britain would give 423,000,000 or thereabout. The average population per square mile in *China Proper* is given as 236 in the "Statesman's Year Book, 1881," and this would give a total of 362,248,908. If therefore we take into account, as of course we are bound to do, the population of *China's* dependencies as well, the estimate of the *New York Sun* may after all prove to be not a very immense exaggeration."

The Editor of our North China contemporary holds to his opinion, in support of which he argues temperately as follows:—An estimate of the probable population of *China proper* is likely to be more correct if formed on the observation of recent travellers rather than on what the correspondent evidently considers authorities. Mr. Colquhoun, writing of Kwantung and Kwangsi, mentions the sparseness of the population and the slight evidences of recovery from the depopulation caused by the Taiping Rebellion which is apparent in the provinces; and the *N.-C. Daily News'* own correspondent's letters on his journey through Shanai and Shensi are to the same effect as regards the districts through which he has passed. In fact there is not a writer speaking from his own knowledge, recently acquired, who does not make the same remark. These things, with other evidence, have led many to the conviction that the population of *China* now is very much less than any official or authoritative statements have ever made it appear. The real fact about it cannot be ascertained. One must weigh such evidence as may be offered from trustworthy sources, and so try to arrive at something near the truth. The Editor points out to "A.E.M." that among the dependencies of *China*, which, he says, "we are bound to take into account," is *Corea*, the inhabitants of which have never been reckoned as *Chinese*. The same can be said of *Thibet*, another dependency. The statements of the population of *China* which are given in the "Statesman's Year Book," are such as are obtained from *Chinese* official sources; a portion of them were published a few years ago in the Customs Returns and correspond generally with the figures in the Year Book. How little dependence is to be placed on "authorities," may be seen in the fact that there is a difference of 14 millions between the population of *Szechuen* as given in the "Year Book" and in the "Encyclopædia Britannica." Regarding the figures quoted in the "Year Book," in the edition of 1882, the Editor says that they appear to be excessive, and that the great probability is that the present population of *China* does not exceed 300 millions.

SOME time since Secretary Chandler of the U.S. Navy Board issued an order which was, to

say the least, ungallant, through no doubt he imagined it called for by the exigencies of the service. Certainly it has been subject of regret in society in those ports where American men-of-war make any lengthened stay. Briefly, it intimates a disapproval on the part of the government at Washington of the custom of American Naval officers having the company of their better halves on foreign service. But there is, if we may believe a San Francisco journal, at least one lady concerned who does not intend to be separated from her husband by the famous mandate. She writes:—"No one but God or my husband has a right to separate me from my husband when there is a chance of our being together. I have followed him 18,000 miles in the last year, and I shall follow him 18,000 more if he is willing, in spite of Secretary Chandler or any one else." This is true female heroism, all the more heroic if it should lead to her consort's loss, or resignation, of his commission.

THE *Mainichi Shimbun* professes to have received intelligence from *Korea* to the effect that the King of that country has "banished Min Yong-ik, leader of the pro-Japanese party, to the province of Koshu, and has degraded Min Thai-ho, leader of the pro-Chinese party, to an office subordinate" to that which he had so far held. The reason assigned by our Japanese contemporary for these removals, is "to settle the differences between *China* and *Japan*." The expression is vague; but the idea ascribed to his Korean Majesty is a most felicitous one. Supposing, nevertheless, that any soreness does exist, as unhappily there is little reason to doubt (though it hardly arises from friction in the Korean matter), it is not likely to be assuaged by impartial ill-treatment of the kind alleged to have been prescribed by the Peninsular potentate.

THE *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* remarks that the number of foundlings in *Tokio* is on the increase. At present the poor of the capital and this district alike suffer grievously from lack of employment, owing to depression of business. The inevitable results are making themselves felt. It is to be hoped that an abundant harvest and cheap food may relieve the population from immediate want, and avert the imminence of a distressful winter.

STANLEY seems determined to become King of Congo. If successful he will furnish history with a new precedent—that of an ex-reporter on a throne. It is said that all men are capable of distinguishing themselves if fortune only consents to put them in a fitting place at an opportune moment with adequate resources. Stanley's resources are furnished by an association of geographers. These grave scientists may have had other intentions in supplying the enterprising journalist with funds, but they can scarcely complain if he adds another kingdom to the map of the world whether by violence or research. He is said to be a very violent individual, disposed to treat the negroes of the Upper Congo

like savage beasts, and persuaded that his "Zanzibarians" with repeating rifles are the most trustworthy agents he can employ. These are precisely the qualities that suit his position. His business is to make treaties, and he does it. He has already signed two with the dusky monarchs of the Congo banks. The part played by the monarchs is simple. Having forgotten how to write they scratch the margin of the parchment with their nails. Then the thing is done. The sovereignty of the "*Comité d'études du Haut-Congo*"—in other words, of Stanley—is recognized. The treaties are in French. They are countersigned by Stanley's lieutenant, Walk, and one of them, concluded with King Jonga of Selo, confers on the ex-reporter rights of trade and travel together with the right of exacting forced labour from the natives, in return for which concessions the ex-reporter promises to confer, in perpetuity, on the King of Selo and his descendants—two pieces of cloth. It will probably be necessary at some future date to pound these dusky signatories or their subjects into a fitting appreciation of treaty obligations. Their first impressions of civilized honour when they begin to comprehend the nature of the obligations they have assumed are not unlikely to be a trifle crude.

ONE of the most original statistical freaks of ancient or modern times was that of taking a census of all the barn-door fowl in France. The result is that there are at present in the Republic 45 millions of these bipeds, representing a total value of 25 million dollars. Hens are in the majority, of course. They number 34 millions, and hatch 100 millions of chickens every year, of which ten millions die as chicks, ten millions are preserved for breeding purposes, and 30 millions are eaten, their consumers paying from 26 to 27 million dollars for the luxury. Further, it is ascertained that the 34 million hens lay 90 eggs each per annum, and that these three thousand and sixty million eggs are worth forty million dollars. Thus the good people of France consume from sixty to seventy million dollars worth of eggs and chickens every year.

THE telegraphic news in this issue, giving the total returns of mortality through cholera in Egypt is not surprising, as it was generally suspected that the daily death-rate given at various places was not complete so far as the numbers went. It is to be hoped that the worst period of the epidemic is over, and that the sanitary measures now understood to be in perfect working order will have the effect of reducing the great mortality as given in our telegrams. September, in Egypt, however, is a hot and sickly month.

MESSRS. MORF & Co. on Wednesday evening, at half-past five o'clock, made trial, of a hand-fire engine for the sale of which they are agents. The machine is the patent of E. G. Baldrup of Chemnitz, and by its lightness and narrowness is admirably adapted for use in small streets such as many of those in this country. It requires only three

men to mount and dismount the apparatus, and can be made ready in 21 seconds. It appears a handy and compact as well as powerful engine. Under the charge of Mr. Feyerabend, and in the presence of the superintendent and members of the Fire Brigades, it was run out yesterday to the well opposite Messrs. Morf & Co.'s premises at No. 176, and swiftly brought into action. The handles were manned and a fine jet of water was thrown to a distance of fifty feet. In a few minutes the machine was thrown out of gear and returned to the yard.

THE telegraph announces another European disturbance. It must be serious, as martial-law has been proclaimed in the district where it has occurred, Croatia to wit. The origin of the evil is evidently the traditional hatred of the Croat and the Magyar. Croatia is a province of Southern Austria between the River Drave and the Adriatic. With the sister province of Slavonia it contains about 1,200,000 inhabitants. The Vienna authorities will, of course, succeed in suppressing the rising; but it may cost them considerably in blood and money as the Croats are a valiant and a sturdy race. The trouble is only a national one, and is not likely to disturb the peace of the continent, although diplomatists always shiver when they hear of outbreaks in the region of the petty principalities.

MIN THAI-HO, a prominent officer of the Korean Government, is said to have lately forwarded a lengthy memorial to his Monarch, urging the necessity of expelling Japanese from the peninsula. The purport of the petition is that the financial crisis, from which the Government of Korea grievously suffers at present, necessitates the suspension of all intercourse with foreign countries; and that the Japanese, having been the first to introduce aliens to the peninsula, should be expelled as a preliminary measure. Yet, as the memorialist considers this impossible to be effected by force, owing to the inferiority of Korea in the matter of warlike readiness, he suggests the engagement of a number of magicians, who, he believes, would be able to defeat all the armies and navies of Japan and all other foreign countries. The memorial concludes by stating that, if the plan recommended be not adopted, Korea will perish from pecuniary embarrassment.

EVERYBODY has read of the traveller who found himself in a country where men used to take themselves to pieces whenever it suited their convenience, handing their teeth to their valets to be cleaned or their stomachs to a waiter to be filled with viands. Bizarre as the idea seems, it finds a not very distant echo in the doings of modern doctors, who think no more of washing out a man's gastric regions than of cauterizing his tonsils. The process is very simple. A communication is opened with the digestive organs *via* the mouth, and water is poured in and out of the stomach until the liquid emerges perfectly clear. Pantagruel's device for getting

"Messer Gaster" put in trim was to swallow a pill with a few charmen in it. The parody does not appear as extravagant now as it seemed twenty years ago. As for the benefits of stomach-washing, we find them variously stated; some physicians holding that the process can produce only temporary results, while others accredit it with power to effect radical cures in cases of chronic gastritis. Who knows but that the day may not be far distant when beside every man's sponge, soap, tooth-brush, and odonto, there will be found an œsophagic pump destined to perform a regular function at the matutinal toilette? Public attention has been specially directed to this subject by the bulletins of the Comte de Chambord's physicians, who not only washed out the royal exile's gastric regions, but also devised an instrument by means of which they could examine the interior of his stomach at will. The instrument consisted, it is said, of a rigid tube having three channels, one of which contained two wires. The projecting ends of these wires formed a loop enclosed in crystal at the lower end of the tube, while the two other channels served for passing backwards and forwards a stream of water to keep the instrument cool. This gastroscope being introduced into the patient's stomach, an electric current was transmitted through the wires, and the loop becoming incandescent, enabled the physicians to examine the stomach thoroughly. Possibly the science of medicine may become a science after all.

CHOLERA is raging around Swatow, whither it has spread from a large fishing village in the neighbourhood. It is spreading inland. In Swatow the victims range from ten to twenty *per diem*. The mortality has been comparatively severe among sailors. The Chinese ashore are much alarmed in various towns, the killing of animals for food has been forbidden, and shops have been closed for short periods as a sort of penance. In some villages a quarantine has been established and approach forbidden from infected places. In one large town, where there has been a mortality of between one and two hundred, the disease is said to have been brought from Swatow by one who had nursed a cholera patient and returned home bringing a quantity of infected garments. An Ampo man has found out the real cause of the pestilence and propounds a certain method of shortening its duration. He says the year in itself is a most unlucky one. The way to get rid of it is to shorten it. He suggests that this miserable year, therefore, be terminated with the eighth Chinese moon, and that the New Year begin four months earlier than usual. Probably the fact that the cool weather sets in about the time he mentions may be for something in his vaticinations.

WE published on Wednesday a letter from Mr. F. Crosby, in reference to the note which appeared in our columns of the previous day exposing what we believed to be an attempt to obtain money by means of a scheme which had nothing but its originality to recommend it.

We were glad to receive Mr. Crosby's disclaimer of the motives imputed to him. From enquiries we took the precaution to make, however, we are assured that there was no typhoon in Boshu on Sunday, or on any other day, and that the news of the destruction of dwellings mentioned in Mr. Crosby's telegram were received with astonishment in the chief town of that province. We would recommend Mr. Crosby and, if necessary, the Japanese gentleman he refers to, as much in their own interest as in that of other people, to permit the public to form their own weather forecasts on the basis of the reports furnished by the Meteorological Office and published in these columns.

THE *Bombay Gazette* contains a statement which is worth the attention of cholera experts. The fumes of burning sulphur are said to have the effect of killing cholera-germs. "It is on record that by freely burning sulphur in the houses or streets of Indian villages, the spread of cholera has been promptly stopped, and, we believe, it is pretty well established that within a certain area around gas-works cases of cholera never occur, the sulphuric fumes being fatal to the germs of that disease. All that is necessary is to light a number of small fires throughout the area to be protected, and throw handfuls of sulphur from time to time on the hot embers."

THE *Daily News* learns that the people at the Kiangnan Arsenal have lately been very busy in preparing and sending all kinds of munitions of war to Canton. Torpedoes form a large portion of these, and one of the Foochow squadron of despatch-boats was being loaded chiefly with them last week. Troops are also being despatched to Canton in considerable numbers. The *Tak-sin* which left lately took some, and the *Fu-yew* will embark more at Woosung; besides arms and ammunition.

THE *Hochi Shimbun* mentions that Mr. Kim-ok-kyun, who visited Japan last year in the suite of the Korean Envoy, has recently returned to Tokiyo. It is said that he is commissioned by his Government to ask for aid from Japan in a scheme of reclaiming the island of Matsushima, lying in the waters of the peninsula, Korea being without the funds and methods necessary for the work. The island is said to be well stocked with game and wild beasts; and to be mountainous and thickly wooded with splendid timber. The idea of colonising it is supposed to have been suggested to the Korean authorities by Europeans.

HUE, the capital of Annam, whose capture seems to have cost the French so little effort, has hitherto been regarded as a place shrouded in mystery. Access to it has been almost impossible. Neither Garnier, Dupuis, Harmand, nor even Dutreuil de Rhins who was in the service of the Tu-duc, was able to examine the place thoroughly. From twenty-five to thirty foreigners, French or Spanish, visited the city during the past half century, but though some of them were

admitted into the citadel and received by the King, all were carefully prevented from conducting any investigations on their own account. One European only has ventured to describe it as an eye-witness—the son of M. Chaigneau, a French officer who served in the army of Gia-long at the beginning of the present century. According to this gentleman's account, Hué consists of two distinct parts—the city proper and the *faubourgs*. The former stands in the middle of a square island, separated from the latter on three sides by a river and on the fourth by a canal. It is defended by a fortified *enceinte*, six kilometres in circumference, constructed by French engineers after the system of Vauban, and having six large gates which are kept open from six in the morning till nine in the evening. Within this *enceinte* reside all the Government officials. With the exception of a few mandarins no private persons live there, and no trade of any sort is carried on, beyond the sale of tea and provisions to the troops or to the servants of the mandarins. Inside the outer *enceinte* is the citadel, similarly but less solidly fortified, and having eight, instead of six, gates. Between the citadel and the outer *enceinte* is the aristocratic quarter, with wide and perfectly straight streets bordered by palaces and handsome mansions. The six offices of the Ministry are in this quarter, as well as the Library, the Mandarins' College, the Courts of Justice, the Observatory, and numerous arsenals and barracks. Ingress to the citadel is strictly forbidden to every one who is not a member of the Court or the Government. Women, on the other hand, of all classes, are admitted, provided only that they are well dressed. All persons of the male sex who have the right of entry, are obliged to display upon their bosoms a little plate of gold, silver, ivory, or ebony, showing on one side the grade, on the other, the title of the bearer. On entering the second *enceinte* by the principal gate, one finds oneself in front of the palace of the Council of State, standing amid a host of other edifices all of an official character. Behind these buildings is a wall of brick, which traverses the citadel throughout, separating it completely into two parts. This wall, which encloses the royal palaces and harem, has three gates; that in the centre being in the form of a pagoda, gilt and adorned with beautiful carvings. It is required of every one who passes before this gate to bow his head in token of respect for the august personages that dwell beyond it. We have followed M. Chaigneau in speaking of palaces and mansions, but the fact is that the houses in Hué, however grand their designation, are little more than huts. They are scarcely high enough to admit a sufficiency of daylight, and the walls by which they are nearly all surrounded have the effect of hiding everything but the roofs. The King's palace is gay with many coloured tiles; he has two treasuries—one for gold, the other for silver—and a museum of curiosities. According to M. Dutreuil de Rhins, the population of the town does not exceed 30,000; that of the *faubourgs* is about 60,000. The ramparts are in a semi-

ruinous condition, and some of the ditches nearly filled up. There are about 330 guns in position—not 1,500, as we have lately been told—but the majority of them are of an obsolete pattern. It is obvious that the bombardment of such a place must entail firing upon the houses of peaceable citizens, and we shall not be surprised to learn that the conflagrations which are reported to have been produced by the French cannonade were confined chiefly to the *faubourgs*. As a set off to this, perhaps inevitable, cruelty, it is pleasant to learn that the invading army has abstained from the excesses which generally disgrace such campaigns.

If the Opportunists succeed in carrying the Bill which they have submitted to the Senate, French politicians will be furnished with a precedent that will add little to the dignity of party warfare. The plain object of the Bill, by whatever obscurities it is surrounded, is to get rid of a number of magistrates who, rightly or wrongly, are suspected of lacking sympathy for the Republic. In France magistrates are appointed by the executive—a system which ought not to have survived the birth of the Republic, but which seems to have been left unassailed simply because of the difficulties attending its reform. It has been judged easier and more expeditious to get rid of the obnoxious officials at one coup and to replace them by others more agreeable to the fancies of their nominators. But the Opportunists in proposing this measure seem to forget the old proverb:—*pater legem quam fecisti*. They have been five years in power and their term of office cannot be indefinitely prolonged. Some day or other their opponents will have an innings, and unless human nature changes between this and then, reprisals are pretty sure to be the order of the day. Thus, the French Republic will ultimately be disfigured by the same "spoils" system which prevails in America, and the world will begin to think that this is a characteristic feature of republics in general. It is not a commendable feature. Of all the body politic the magistracy ought to be farthest removed from the influence of party discord. That other officials should be subject to the caprice of those in power is bad enough, but incomparably more fatal is the abuse of submitting to every political oscillation those to whose immediate care are entrusted the life, liberty, and fortunes of the people.

THE *Official* recently published two tables which have created quite a sensation in financial circles, and especially on the Bourse, in France. The first showed that on comparing the estimated and actual amounts of the national revenue during the first six months of the current year, the former exceeded the latter by 28½ million francs; that second, that while France imported, during the same period, goods to the value of 1,172 million francs, she exported only 326 millions worth. One would imagine that at this time of day the latter fact ought not to give Frenchmen much uneasiness, but the former is more disquieting. The sequel of 1871 seems to have

inspired French financiers with such large ideas as to the elasticity of their country's resources that anything like economy has come to be regarded as a vulgar superfluity.

In the *Japan Daily Mail* of the 16th August appeared an account from *The Times* of the First Half-yearly Meeting of the British North Borneo Company, held at the Cannon Street Hotel on the 27th of June, 1883. We have now received the official report of the meeting, together with a report by Governor Treacher from 1st July to 31st December, 1882, on the general condition and resources of the territory. Evidently affairs are in an embryonic state, but the prospects of the colony are bright. We observe that the Board of Directors have recognized the principle of free-trade, having abolished an import duty at first imposed on ordinary articles of import. The revenue is derived from land-sales, quit-rents, opium-farm, sundry royalties, Government shares in some enterprises, house-tax, sale of copper coinage, and an import duty on articles of luxury such as beer, wines, spirits, and tobacco. There are already three thousand Chinese colonists: the European population is only about fifty. While North Borneo is not likely to prove the El Dorado which it was first believed to be, it has considerable resources, rather vegetable and animal than mineral. The Governor regrets that the prospecting so energetically undertaken by the late Mr. F. Hutton and Mr. Beveridge has not at present had any practical result. Specimens of native copper, and of copper pyrites have been discovered, but not in workable quantities. The same may be said as regards coal and mineral oil. Some specimens were obtained near Tamborukan which Mr. A. H. Everett, who had just returned from Sarawak, stated to exactly resemble in outward appearance and character the silver ore now successfully worked by the Borneo Company in that State. Specimens have been forwarded to London, but no report on them has yet been received. The natives persistently report gold on the East coast in the neighbourhood of the Segama river, and up the Kinabatangan river, and near Silam. Mr. Hutton was engaged in prospecting on the Sagama when a fatal accident befell him. The average annual rainfall appears to be from 128 to 130 inches: the mean temperature from 77 to 81 degrees Fahr., with lowest reading about 68 degrees, highest 95. One of Mr. Treacher's sections looks like a plagiarism from the famous chapter on "Snakes in Iceland." The present author's heading, "XII.—FORTS AND ARMAMENTS," is followed by these few brief words:—"There are no forts in the territory. Six brass howitzers, 12-pounders, are mounted at Kudat, 3 at Elopura, and 3 at Gaya for saluting purposes."

ONE of those scenes for which the French Parliament, more than most similar institutions, has acquired a not very enviable fame, occurred only the other day on the subject of the proposed increase of the national pension granted to the world renowned chemist and analyst, Pasteur, from fr.

12,000 to fr. 25,000. The augmentation was voted after an unseemly opposition on the part of Mr. Raspail, son of the eminent chemist of that name. The deputy intemperately claimed that his father had opened by his study of "parasites" a path upon which Pasteur had entered. Unhappily this exhibition of bad taste met with the support of other members, as though a legislative chamber were the place for the discussion of jealous comparisons. Raspail did certainly indicate, not a path to follow, but a forest to explore, and if Pasteur struck a rich tract which he has ever since been exploiting with marvellous assiduity and success, the fact that he had a precursor to a certain extent does not surely militate against his claim to his nation's, or the world's, practical gratitude. Mr. Raspail might go further and claim for his father the meed of praise earned by other scientists working in the same large region.

Has Mr. Raspail, for instance, any claim upon the discoveries of a Brazilian physician, Dr. Domingos Freize, who has published the result of some investigations into the existence and nature of yellow fever germs, which are an important contribution to medical knowledge? This gentleman has recognized in the blood of yellow fever patients a characteristic parasite, to which he gives the name of *Zanthogenicus*. It appears as minute points, or "cells with grayish or fringed margins, and bright, transparent centres," and occasionally as "granulations aggregated in a yellowish matter." Experiments tried upon rabbits and guinea-pigs resulted in the death of those animals in a short time after they had been inoculated with the germs, and upon examination their blood was found to be swarming with the parasites. But the most remarkable discovery was made by enclosing a guinea-pig in a box, into which had been put a quantity of earth from the grave of a person who had died of the fever. The animal soon died, and the microscope revealed the presence of the *Zanthogenicus* in its veins. From this experiment Dr. Freize deduces the conclusion that cemeteries are breeding-places of the terrible disease, and that cremation is the only proper disposition of the bodies of its victims. Surely this is Dr. Freize's discovery—not Mr. Raspail's.

STATISTICS recently published in England show that the value of the British Mercantile Marine in the United Kingdom alone is 200 millions sterling. The estimate is reached thus:—On the 1st of July, 1882, the number of English ships registered at Lloyd's was 14,685, with an aggregate tonnage of 10,497,766 tons. Valuing the steamers at £18 per ton, and the sailing vessels at £12, a total of 160 millions sterling is obtained. Ten millions are added for ships constructed in 1882-83, and thirty millions for ships not registered at Lloyd's. If the vessels sailing under the English flag but engaged wholly in colonial waters be included, the grand total amounts to 250 millions sterling, and as the net earnings of these vessels are estimated at 6 per cent, it follows that the revenue of the

nation is benefited to the extent of 15 millions annually by the mercantile marine. It is worthy of note that the number of English ships built wholly of steel or iron is now 784, with a total tonnage of one million tons. The use of steel is constantly increasing. In 1879 the number of steel ships was only 3 per cent of the metal fleet; in 1880, it was 7 per cent; in 1881, 10 per cent, and it now amounts to 20 per cent.

AN Indian paper, not unnaturally, looks North for an impulse to recent French Colonial enterprise. India has long been taught on which side to look for danger of all descriptions; and her alarm, as probably is the case of the exponent of this new theory, is sometimes vague but not always ill-founded. However, the idea is ingenious if not correct, and has not, so far as our reading goes, yet found expression in any English journal. The *Indian Mirror*, at the conclusion of an article, writes:—

But there is yet another side to the picture presented by the present *imbroglio*, and that is the sudden fury which has possessed the French Government for conquest wherever it can find a pretext, as though the people had not learnt from their past history that they are utterly unfit for colonisation, and when it is found that this fury has drawn the Republic into coming into the neighbourhood of Jersey, claiming some inconsiderable islets in its vicinity, one is inclined to think that here also are straws that show the direction of a wind not importing peace and quietness in respect of French relations with England. This leads to the enquiry, what can it all mean? We were told, the other day, that Russian diplomacy had failed with President Grévy; but is that telling to be believed, or the reverse? We incline to think the latter. In the German, Austrian, and Italian alliance, France, no doubt, sees danger to herself. She cannot count on England to help her; she, therefore, turns to Russia, and Russia looks to her for help against England. So be it. But we know that the "best-laid schemes of mice and men go agley," and so we may expect all these unholy alliances of the continental nations to end in the discomfiture of the plotters who have been so far allowed by an inscrutable Providence to be the disturbers of the peace of the world; but we may be sure that the cup of iniquity has only to overflow the brim, when the boiling lava may be expected to destroy those who have helped to fill the cup. As we find in the physical world and volcanic parts of the globe, subterranean fires break out into eruptions, so in the European continental world the elements of discord, strife, and rapacity that underlie their moral, or rather immoral, action, develop into eruptions that destroy those who, sowing the whirlwind, must perforce reap the storm.

AN extraordinary issue of the *Official Gazette* yesterday announces the death of the Princess Shige, which took place on the evening of the previous day. The usual notification with regard to closing of theatres, &c., for three days has been issued by the Council of State, and officials of the rank of *Chokunin* will repair to the Palace during the next three days to make calls of condolence.

AN interesting exposition of the condition of the agricultural population of India was given by Mr. John Bright at a recent meeting of the East India Association. The object of the meeting was to consider the expediency of establishing an agricultural banking system under which the needy ryots or peasants might be supplied with capital at a reasonable rate of interest. Mr. Bright said that the question to be considered was one of the greatest moment. Eighty out of every hundred of the whole population of India,

he said, were engaged more or less directly in agriculture. Out of every hundred persons connected with agriculture, only about twenty, it appears, are in a condition to carry on their operations as farmers without assistance from bankers or other persons who lend. About 30 per cent. of the agricultural population are so hopelessly poor that it is almost impossible for them to borrow, or borrowing, to be ever able to repay; while about 50 per cent. are in such a condition that it might be judicious under certain circumstances to lend them assisting capital with a fair chance that it would in a reasonable time be repaid. The question was whether anything could be done to assist the fifty out of one hundred to whom loans might be made with reasonable safety. The fact that 80 per cent. of the agricultural population are compelled to borrow is in itself, the speaker said, an astounding fact, but it is also true that those who succeed in borrowing from the native bankers of the district are obliged to pay rates of interest ranging from 12 to 35 per cent. Capital employed in agriculture in any country, Mr. Bright thought, must be absolutely unprofitable to the cultivator obliged to pay such enormous rates of interest. Considerations such as these rendered apparent the need of a change, and one interesting feature of the case was that the bankers who lent money at the extreme rates mentioned were sensible that it would be an advantage to them to have the rate of interest made lower and the security made better. They were even willing to contribute to a large extent to funds which should enable some banking system to be established which should give this great relief to the cultivating population of India.

THE Monthly Report of the Silk Association of America for July gives the following particulars:—Import of Silk Manufactures at the port of New York during that month:—1879, \$2,232,824; 1880, \$3,181,358; 1881, \$2,691,088; 1882, \$3,281,498; 1883, \$4,112,209. During the month of July, 1883, the statistics of Silk manufactures in New York were as follows:—Entered for consumption \$2,837,739; entered for warehouse \$1,274,470; total value landed in New York \$4,112,209; withdrawn from warehouse \$2,419,057; value placed on market \$5,256,796. The imports of the raw material into the ports of New York and San Francisco for the same period were:—Raw Silk, 1,008 bales, value \$669,522; Waste Silk and Pierced Cocoons, 83 packages, value \$37,535.

THE preparations for the forthcoming Exhibition at Calcutta are going on apace. Owing to the large demands which have been made for space, it has been found that the accommodation provided by the Museum and the annexes built contiguous to it are utterly inadequate. It has therefore been decided to provide extra space for British and Colonial and Continental exhibits near to Chowringhee. The Indian section and the machinery annexes will occupy the Maidan. The jewels of the Native

Princes and Rajahs, for the safe custody of which some twenty of Milner's safes have been ordered from England, will, according to present arrangements, be exhibited in the new Economic Museum. The buildings on the Maidan, which are being rapidly pushed forward under the supervision of Mr. Mills, C.E., of the Public Works Department, will be connected with the museum and the annexes by means of a bridge. Hydraulic lifts and other machinery requiring water power will be placed near a large tank, which is conveniently situated in the immediate neighbourhood. The machinery in motion will occupy a shed covering an area of some 20,000 square yards. A large ornamented building covering an area of 10,000 square feet has been ordered out from England, and no fear, it is stated, need be felt as to the "great building" being completed in time for the opening of the exhibition.

ONE of the leading trade journals of New York remarks that, as an indication of the drift of sentiment which is going on in a section once devotedly attached to protectionist ideas it is interesting to note the attitude of the *Boston Herald*, the leading journal of New England, toward the present tariff, and the scheme of distribution which the Pennsylvania protectionists are anxious to engraft upon it. In a late issue the journal referred to declares that the surplus which the Pennsylvania men propose to distribute arises from the perpetuation of the war tariff, and that 75 per cent. of the taxes imposed by that tariff are collected upon the necessities and comforts of the people and upon the essentials of manufactures. In support of its position the *Herald* prints a table prepared by the *Chicago Times* before the question of a distribution arose, showing that 71 per cent. of the revenue is paid by such articles as breadstuffs, chemicals, etc., cotton manufactures, earthenware and China, flax, grass, hemp, iron, steel, leather and manufactures thereof, potatoes, salt, sugar and molasses, tin, and wood and manufactures thereof, and raw and manufactured wool, all which, says the *Herald*, are among the classes of articles which "may fairly be classed as necessities." Certain articles which cannot be classed as luxuries are omitted from the above enumeration, and would go to increase the percentage. In view of these facts the *Herald* asks:—How do the people relish the proposition to perpetuate such a system of taxation, yielding \$300,000,000 of unnecessary revenue to become the sport and spoil of politicians in order that favored interests and monopolies may continue to enjoy "protection."

REFERRING to a telegram published in another column, we noted the fact of the interviews between Bismarck and Kaloky, remarking that the "object of their meeting did not transpire." The American papers received by the *City of Tokio* contain the following telegram from Vienna, dated August 4th, which fully explains the matter:—"A prominent journal announces that an interview is about to take place between

Count Kaloky, the Austro-Hungarian Minister of Foreign Affairs, and Prince Bismarck, for the purpose of deciding as to the prolongation of the treaty of alliance between Germany and Austro-Hungary."

THE *Choya Shimbun* says that a Tokiyo resident, named Shimidzu, has been fined ten yen for making purchases with counterfeit notes, knowing full well that the tokens were forgeries. His punishment, according to the *Choya*, was only a fine of ten yen!

A LARGE robbery of opium has been effected on board the P. & O. S. N. Co.'s steamer *Ancona*, in Shanghai, one hundred and sixty three balls of the drug being missed. The Customs officers searched the vessel, and discovered thirteen balls of opium between the side and the skin of the ship near to the bunk of one of the crew, who was immediately arrested.

MR. ROBERT BISHOP, formerly Registrar of H.B.M. Court in Japan, died recently in London.

THE *Tokiyo Trade Journal* says that increased accommodation for the storage of kerosene is being provided by the construction of new warehouses at Ishikawa.

ACCORDING to a Calcutta paper, the good people of Bangalore are complaining of diseased fish. "Worm-fish" is daily imported into the market, and whoever eats it is sure to get ill. Doctors are called into requisition to examine the fish coming into the market. Perhaps a useful hint may be conveyed here to the inspectors of Japanese markets, whence fish are sometimes sold, retail and wholesale, quite unfit for food.

THE *Allgemeine Zeitung* has been publishing a series of articles, entitled "India for the Indians" on the questions raised by the Ilbert Bill. The present race distinctions, which the Bill proposed to remove, are, the writer says, "an outrage and humiliation on the highest Native officials, and a dark blot on the administration." The writer goes on to say—"neither birth nor race, white nor brown skin, but personal capacity should be the touchstone." The *Allgemeine Zeitung* adds, "that the genuine John Bull has not the smallest scruple to being judged by a Maori, but will not suffer an Indian Mahomedan or a Hindu to" judge him.

BEER consumption, says the *Lancet*, in the hospitals of Paris seems to have increased to such an extent that the beverage had become a very serious charge upon the budget. Without warning, the medical staff found the supply suddenly cut off by the order of M. Quentin, the Director-General of the Assistance Publique. He, like many officials in other countries, assumed a knowledge that he did not possess, for he stated in his circular that beer was neither a food nor a medicine. Beer is now only to be got for patients by means of extraordinary

prescriptions from the medical officers under the surveillance of the central administration. Looking at the havoc done by typhoid fever in Paris, and believing in the water-carriage of this disease, the *Lancet* concludes, that the reason is very apparent why beer came into such general use that the Director-General thought fit to style its enormous use an abuse.

IN this age of adulteration even comparatively primitive Spain has not escaped. One Spanish magistrate has hit upon a highly original mode of dealing with this evil. His proclamation runs thus:—"All articles in the shape of wines, groceries, and provisions which, upon examination and analysis, are proved injurious to health will be confiscated forthwith, and distributed to the different charitable institutions." That man deserves to be promoted; but a diet adulterated throughout! Cast-iron patients could not stand it.

MESSES. MASKELYNE AND COOKE are trading upon the latest development of conjuring. Mr. Maskelyne has introduced an automatic thought-reader which attracts quite as much curiosity as Mr. Bishop himself. A bank-note is handed up from the audience to Mr. Maskelyne, who reads the number folds the note up, and conceals it. After about two minutes the hands of the automaton chalks up the number on the black-board. As Maskelyne does not approach the figure, and remains in full view of the audience, this trick must be pronounced one of the cleverest ever performed.

THE sinking of the ground on the Island of Ischia, says the *Alla*, is matched by the disappearance of Red Fish Lake, on the summit of the Sawtooth range of mountains in the Wood River region, Idaho. This lake had an area of several miles and was filled with fish. If the Idaho papers are not practising a deception, this lake has disappeared through a huge fissure which opened in its bed. The exact date of the occurrence of this marvellous phenomenon is unknown, as no one lived in the vicinity. All that is known about the matter is that the bed of the lake split and the waters were gulped down.

FOR several months it has been known that the remarkable object which has been visible on the surface of Jupiter for several years has been growing fainter, and late observers announce that it is now scarcely perceptible. The spot, which is nearly 30,000 miles long, and more than 8,000 wide, has not changed materially in size, but its red color has faded until the "great red spot" has become almost indistinguishable from the surrounding parts of the planet. From its permanency of form and size it is evident that this spot cannot be a cloud floating in Jupiter's atmosphere, although it drifts like a cloud across the planet's disc. Various theories have been suggested to account for the phenomenon, but none of them appear quite satisfactory.

THE KOREAN TARIFF.

A SHANGHAI Journal, which in a certain sense may be said to have distinguished itself by the attention it has bestowed on Korean affairs, assures us that, on the 25th of July, the Government of Seoul concluded with the Japanese Minister Resident a Convention embracing the establishment of trade regulations and a tariff on a basis of five per cent. *ad valorem*. The documents containing these conditions are said to have been forwarded to Japan for ratification on the 26th of the same month, and we are further told that the new tariff will come into force one hundred days after the conclusion of the Convention, that is to say, early in November. Our Shanghai contemporary attributes this liberality on Korea's part to the fact that she was "unbacked by any foreign power in making the negotiations," and hampered by her own failure to stipulate for any duties in drawing up the treaty of 1876 with Japan. The former reason is too obscure to discuss, and of the latter we may say at once that it has no foundation. Korea is well assured that in arranging a scale of duties with the Government of Japan, her title to consideration is in no way prejudiced by the silence of the original treaty upon this point. She is well assured that by this country no sort of restriction will be imposed upon her other than the obligation of treating all her foreign friends with equal liberality or illiberality, as the case may be. Whatever views Japan may hold on the subject of every independent nation's right to regulate its own tariff, it would obviously be madness on her part to consent to conditions which would virtually exclude her from all participation in Korea's foreign trade. That, however, would be the inevitable result if to China alone were accorded the privilege of supplying the peninsula with imported goods under a five per cent. tariff.

It is difficult to discuss these points with any assurance, seeing that the outer world is quite ignorant of the commercial position which Korea really occupies towards China. Judging from the only document that has come to light—LI HUNG-CHANG'S Trade Regulations of last year—the former is nothing more than an outlying province of the latter, and the King of KOREA ranks no higher than a Chinese Viceroy. If this be so, China is in a position to choose between two alternatives. She can either arrange Korea's tariff on whatever basis—within certain limits—seems most convenient as a precedent for future negotiations on her own behalf; or, by securing for herself

better terms than those accorded to others, she may seek to monopolize the whole of Korea's foreign trade, whatever it may be worth. Apart, however, from the collusion and finesse essential to the prosecution of the latter course, its success demands a very singular willingness to connive at their own disadvantage on the part of Korea's present and prospective treaty friends. That willingness Japan, at all events, does not find herself disposed to display, and it seems a reasonable hypothesis that, had not England and Germany withheld their consent to the ratifications of last year's treaties, China might have been compelled, ere now, to show her hand unequivocally, and Korea's foreign commerce would have been inaugurated on terms equally favorable to all.

We need scarcely say that these remarks are not in any sense intended to reflect invidiously upon China's action towards her tributary. It is her duty to give precedence to her own interests, and she doubtless believes that they are best consulted by an equivocal line of conduct. Where the commercial policy of each is equally self-seeking, recrimination is forbidden to all alike. Of Japan, too, it would be absurd to deny that her treatment of Korea shows something of a Short-and-Codlin disposition. She may recognise—ostensibly she does recognise—that circumstances alter cases, and that to demand from the Korea of 1883 a continuance of the privileges she obtained from the Korea of 1876, would be to follow the very lines which have led to her own dilemma. But the influence of these abstract considerations is probably supplemented by a desire to stand well with Korea; or, in plainer language, to inspire Korea with greater confidence in the sincerity of Japanese, than of Chinese, friendship. This is too natural to be doubtful, and, for the rest, may be dismissed as a point of no practical consequence.

To return then to the reported terms of the new tariff. It will be plain, from what we have said, that LI HUNG-CHANG'S Trade Regulations represent the limit of the concessions Japan can justly claim from Korea, while the SHUFELDT Treaty embodies the limits of the concessions she may be disposed to grant her. If our Shanghai contemporary's version be correct, the former limit has been at once attained, and in that event we may assume that Korea, having avowedly failed to obtain any better terms from China, has been constrained to adopt LI HUNG-CHANG'S Regulations as a basis of negotiations. But, on the other hand, it is known that Japan had officially

declared her willingness to conclude with Korea a tariff convention modelled on the proposals submitted by herself at the recent conferences on treaty revision. Her offer was, of course, conditional upon China's submission to similar terms, so that, however the negotiations have resulted, China, not Japan, is finally answerable for their issue.

We desire to emphasize this point, because in the journal to which we have referred above, the following comments occur:—

The provisional treaties with England and Germany, and the ratified treaty with the United States, allowed the Koreans to levy ten per cent. on articles of luxury. The Japanese, on the other hand, paid no duties at all. The general tariff has now been arranged at five per cent. *ad valorem*, or the same rate as is agreed on in the existing treaties between the Western Powers and China and Japan. As the treaties fixing this rate were imposed on China and Japan by the Western Powers by force, it is evident that it cannot be considered excessive. There was some fear that China and Japan would agree to Korea's levying a heavier duty than this, in order to use their consent as a lever when their own treaties with Western Powers came to be revised: fortunately Japan having now forced Korea to accept this moderate scale, cannot in the future with any grace demand a higher scale herself from the western powers.

These remarks seem strangely superficial. It is most unjust to say that Japan "has forced Korea to accept" a moderate scale of duties when, as a matter of fact, Japan offered Korea a very much higher scale. If the latter was unable to take advantage of the offer, she has only to thank China, whose refusal to modify the privileges arbitrarily assumed by herself places her tributary at a serious disadvantage *vis-à-vis* all other negotiators. No honest parallel can be drawn between Korea's case and Japan's. What the latter complains of is a combination of Powers to deprive her of any voice in the regulation of her own tariff: what the former has to contend against, is the reluctance of her so-called suzerain to recognise her treaty-making independence. International quixotism is a quality not yet proved to exist, and while international justice forbids, though it does not prevent, the extortion from a weaker power of privileges which would never be demanded of an equal, it does not require any country to place itself wittingly at a disadvantage as regards its neighbours.

More untenable, if possible, is the conclusion that "Japan cannot in the future with any grace demand a higher scale herself from the Western Powers." It is thoroughly consistent with the one-sided principles underlying Occidental policy in the Orient to require of Japan an obedience to precedent which we ourselves never accord. With what grace, it may be asked, did Great Britain combine with other Powers to "impose by force on China and Japan"—we quote our

Shanghai contemporary's words—tariff rates which her own colonies peremptorily decline to accept? With what grace did all those Powers, themselves virtually practising protection, combine to impose by force upon China and Japan tariff rates which fall little short of free trade? If grace has anything to do with this business, Western states had better begin by displaying it themselves. Firmly as we believe in the theoretical advantages of free trade, we cannot forget that it has but one practical disciple in the universe, whereas all nations are disciples of the faith that mutual justice and fair-dealing are synonyms for mutual happiness and prosperity.

THE PROPOSED "KANA" REFORM.

COMMENTING recently on the subject of *Kana* reform, we expressed unqualified approval of the programme announced by the *Kana no Tomo*, a society of gentlemen whose object is to substitute the forty-eight syllables of the Japanese *Kana* for the cumbrous and virtually innumerable ideographs of the Chinese language. We said then that the friends of the movement assert what is virtually an axiom, and that, were their scheme accomplished, "an impediment which has for centuries obstructed the dissemination of knowledge among the lower orders of the people would be swept away for ever." Against these propositions a correspondent, writing over the signature "Common Sense," enters a strong protest. He even undertakes to show that the "friends of the *Kana* are, in reality, the worst enemies of Japanese education, and that the adoption of the *Kana* (supposing such a thing possible) would mean the instant paralysis of every branch of thought and even of business."

Certainly it would be difficult to conceive a more thorough antagonism of opinion than that displayed by our correspondent's thesis and our own. Any attempt to reconcile the two seems almost hopeless. Yet we are by no means persuaded that the last word has been said on this subject, and its importance is so vast that no excuse appears necessary for resuming its discussion.

The gist of the arguments advanced by "Common Sense" is this:—that to discard the Chinese ideographs and substitute for them the forty-eight syllables of the *Kana* would be to expunge from the language a vast body of words whose gradual addition has converted it from "a poor and barbarous dialect capable only of expressing the simplest facts and emotions, into a

tongue where, in most branches of knowledge, every shade of idea evolved by the genius of China and Europe has its own and appropriate symbol."

Now we unequivocally admit that if this were really the result of the reform advocated by the *Kana no Tomo*, the question would be finally disposed of. But we assert, with equal confidence, that no such result is necessary. Whether or no it is contemplated, we are not in a position to determine. There may be in Japan, as there have been and are among ourselves, men whose conservatism is outraged by every fresh addition their language receives from a foreign source. But with such puerile pedants we have nothing to do. The function of a language is to express thought. The greater the fidelity of the expression, the better the performance of the function. If ancient or modern tongues, wherever and whenever used, supply any form of speech that can be appropriated to facilitate the phrasing of new-born ideas, to reject that form because it is foreign would be about as rational as if Englishmen were to close their halls to all music composed beyond the limits of the British empire, or their cellars to all wines not manufactured in the United Kingdom. If the associates of the *Kana no Tomo* propose to themselves any such senseless scheme as the elimination of Chinese derivatives simultaneously with Chinese ideographs, they deserve ridicule—not sympathy.

But the question at issue does not deal with the hypothetical and supplementary designs of the "Friends of the *Kana*"—among whom, we may observe *en passant*, are included many names of scholastic and social distinction. What we are asked to believe is that without the aid of ideographs all the Chinese derivatives now used in Japan would become practically unemployable. It is not necessary to discuss the incidental vagaries of the new Society, if any such there be. Our correspondent disposes of all these corollaries when he tells us that by exchanging their present mixed system for an exclusive use of the *Kana*, the Japanese "would be made, as it were, languageless—unable to express in writing any but elementary ideas."

Here at once we find ourselves on the horns of a dilemma. The written and spoken languages of Japan differ only in syntactical forms. With exceptions so rare as to be unworthy of note, both are made up of precisely the same words. Now our correspondent's proposition is that without ideographs the use of Chinese derivatives would be impossible. That is

to say—the sounds alone of Chinese derivatives do not convey their meaning sufficiently to render them employable: the aid of the eye must be invoked through the medium of ideographs. But if so, what becomes of the spoken language? Is the aid of the eye invoked there also? Do Japanese, as they converse with one another, using all the while innumerable words of Chinese origin, trace a series of ideographs with their fingers in the air? We have never seen them do so, nor in conversing with them, have we ever discovered any necessity for such an expedient. Of late years an excessive and somewhat pedantic recourse to Chinese sources of speech has become fashionable, but it has not involved any corresponding recourse to air-written ideographs. The spoken language of to-day, laden as it is with words of foreign origin to the almost total exclusion of the pure *Yamato Kotoba*, remains a terse, comprehensible, and expressive tongue. The sounds of which it is composed suffice to achieve all the essential functions of speech. Surely we are not required to believe that those sounds would be less intelligible when rendered by the *Kana* syllabary in writing than they are when rendered by the same syllabary in speaking? Our correspondent, indeed, is not unconscious of this dilemma. He explains that "in speaking the listener can be guided by the circumstances attending the conversation, by the frequent iterations everywhere characteristic of spoken speech, and, as a last resort, by the possibility of asking for an explanation." But it will surely be admitted that the context of a written expression is at least as good a guide as the circumstances attending a conversation; while as for iterations and explanations, we have yet to learn that in Japanese dialogue they are specially necessitated by ambiguity of sounds.

With regard to these homonyms, which our correspondent finds such a stumbling block, we cannot but think that he greatly overrates their importance. He tells us that their number is "enormous," but neither our own researches nor those of any Japanese scholar to whom we have referred justify the epithet. Indeed, it is doubtful whether accurate comparison of the English and Japanese languages, so far as this feature is concerned, would leave any considerable margin in the former's favour. On the other hand, in point of facilities for distinguishing homonyms, the advantage is unquestionably on the side of the Roman alphabet, and we readily admit that if it were a question of "fitting the

Japanese language with a new system of writing," there need be little perplexity in choosing between Western letters and Eastern syllabaries. But there is no question of "a new system." The "alarming sacrifice" which our correspondent condemns, consists simply in abolishing the compulsory use of a multitude of cumbrous and confusing ideographs, and substituting for them a small and compendious collection of simple syllables, with which the whole nation is already familiar and which have been employed for centuries to express their sounds. Our correspondent must be very well aware that large numbers of Japanese books and newspapers are published at present in mixed characters (*i.e.* ideographs and *Kana*), and that by the majority of their readers little if any reference is made to the ideographs of the text. The *Kana* suffices to convey the meaning easily and thoroughly. Granted that the occurrence of homonyms involves difficulties, we fail to see how any argument based upon that fact can be made to extend beyond the homonyms themselves. They are a finite quantity, and even if the *Kana* reform necessitated their total elimination, or the conservation of the ideographs that express them, the bulk, nay almost the whole, of the Chinese derivatives now in use could still be rendered by the new system, and the corresponding relief to the brains of the nation would be enormous.

Our correspondent thinks that the arguments of the *Kana no Tomo* have made us "more than friendly to them." We do not deny it, but unless we are much mistaken, these homonyms have inspired "Common Sense" himself with at least an equal affection for their ideographic representatives. Surely he plays the rôle of an advocate, not a judge. He says that with *Kana* alone the very names of all the sciences, of all books, newspapers, Government Offices, in fact of all things excepting such as are quite primary, become an unintelligible chaos." For what reason? Does he mean to assert that the names of Government Offices and sciences are an "unintelligible chaos" to every Japanese who is unable to express them ideographically? He might just as well maintain that such words as astronomy, geology, hydrography, and so forth are "unintelligible chaos" to every Englishman who cannot write down their Greek roots in Grecian letters. We do not know the name of even one Government Office or one science to which our correspon-

dent's remark is fairly applicable. Among the titles of books, indeed, he may find some arguments in his favour, but we are willing to leave him in undisturbed possession of that resource.

Frankly, of all the pleas advanced by "Common Sense" on behalf of these unwieldy ideographs, one only seems to deserve serious consideration. "The *Kana*," he says, "has been given a thousand year's trial and has failed;" and the reason of that failure, he tells us, is that "under the circumstances it is less practical than the Chinese system, cumbrous even as the latter may be deemed." He loses sight, here, of a vitally important point. The phonetic and ideographic systems have *not* been on trial for a thousand years. The supremacy of the latter was all the time asserted by conditions entirely distinct from its intrinsic merits as an orthography. The relations in which Japan stood to China; the fact that she derived from the latter her sciences, her arts, her philosophies, her principal religion, her literature, nay we may almost say, her language, naturally placed the Chinese characters on a pinnacle where they were entirely secured against the competition of a vulgar syllabary. To be educated was to be a Chinese scholar. Learning had no other aim; erudition, no other definition. But all this is changed now. The Chinese language has become a mere auxiliary. Its only use, as our correspondent himself admits, is to supply a vocabulary for the various sciences which Western civilization has brought Japan and which are definitively accepted by the Japanese as comprising all useful knowledge. Let Chinese be relegated, then, to the rank of an auxiliary. Let its study take the same place in Japanese schools as that occupied by foreign languages in our own at present. Thus, while still preserving "a common medium of intercourse with China," and a source from which terms to express new ideas may be derived, the people of Japan will be relieved of a burden which virtually handicaps them out of the intellectual race of their time. It would fare still better with them, no doubt, if they adopted the Roman alphabet instead of the *Kana*. That, however, would be too sweeping a reform to look for immediately. It will come in time, let us hope; but for the moment we are content to be "more than friendly" to the *Kana* scheme.

THE "CHA-NO-YU."

JAPAN'S condition just at present seems to illustrate the old theory that public opinion passes through cycles of action and reaction, Conservatism and Radicalism, always coming back to the old love when the new proves too capricious or too exacting. For a season her rate of progress was almost giddily rapid. People saw that she must pause to take breath sooner or later, and that when she did pause—when she allowed herself leisure to look back along the path she had travelled—some of the familiar scenes left behind would recover their old attractions. And so it has fallen out. After throwing everything overboard that the ship might be lighter and the speed greater, she is beginning to turn back and gather up some of the jetsam. In one direction this retrogressive movement—if we have any right to use such a term—is specially marked. The curious and beautiful philosophy of the *Cha-no-Yu* has reclaimed its devotees, and seems once more to exercise almost as wide an influence as in the days of SEN NO RIKIU, KOBORI MASAKADZ, or FUNAI DEWA and his dainty Duchess, SEIRAKUIN. It will perhaps look like "wisdom after the event" to say that this result was never wholly unlikely. Willing converts as the Japanese have shown themselves, to the principles of Western civilization, their household habits have remained, for the most part, entirely unaltered by contact with our social systems. True, that contact has been of a very partial nature. The bulk of the nation could scarcely have been conscious of the influence exercised by one or two communities of foreigners living in virtual ostracism within the narrow limits of isolated settlements. But after all, everything must have a beginning. Had the manners and customs of our daily life presented any permanently attractive feature to the people of this country, it cannot be doubted that their approval would have found much wider expression than is discernible to-day. It is true that, in many instances, the Japanese have discarded *geta* for boots and *kami-shimo* for swallow-tails, but the advantages of this election being of a concrete nature as well as of immediate attainment, were much more likely to appeal to the popular sentiment than the abstract benefits of sitting on chairs rather than on the floor, or eating with knives and forks instead of chopsticks. At all events, whatever be the cause, it is certain that even among those Japanese whose intercourse with foreigners has been

most intimate, and whose eagerness to follow foreign example in other directions has been most marked, the fashions of domestic life have undergone little if any change. In this respect the simplicity of old customs has preserved their popularity, and if houses of foreign construction have here and there taken the place of less enduring and more uncomfortable Japanese edifices, it may be safely asserted that in ninety-nine cases out of a hundred their inmates are as faithful as ever to the fashions of half a century ago. We do not venture to assert that they have not chosen the better part. Upon that point there will be many differences of opinion, and our present purpose is not to discuss it. We only desire to point out that the survival of Japanese domestic civilization could not fail ultimately to bring about a revival, in part at any rate, of the social subtleties which had been thrust aside for the moment by contact with more vigorous and seemingly more practical systems. Among those subtleties, the *Cha-no-Yu* occupies a prominent place. Seven or eight years ago it seemed to have been finally relegated to the limbo of forgotten fancies, and whatever homage its observances still received at the hands of stubborn old conservatives was at best a furtive, shame-faced sort of affair. Yet the *Cha-no-Yu* is essentially the household expression of that artistic refinement which, more than anything else, has won for Japan the sympathy and esteem of Western nations. It is even more than this. It is the embodiment of a system of ethics not less admirable than the atmosphere of graceful æstheticism in which its disciples endeavour to live. To see it gradually lose its place in the nation's regard was a matter of sincere regret to those who believe that the genius of every people has some distinctive features worthy of preservation. We do not deny that its observances are in many respects ill suited to the scrambling haste of modern existence. Men who are perpetually in pursuit of moments cannot afford to spend hours and days over the study of a complicated manual exercise of tea drinking and tea brewing. But even if the *Cha-no-Yu* were a mere science of ceremonies—which it is not—we doubt whether to condemn its frivolities is a proceeding entirely warranted by Occidental superiority. As devices for fruitlessly squandering time, some of our own social habits take precedence of any ceremonial conceived by the most deliberate dilettante of the tea-drinking school. In the whole range of Oriental conventionalities there is nothing that will bear com-

parison with the uncompromising and fruitless tyranny which, in the West, compels men to choose between sacrificing society altogether, or preserving their place in it at the cost of devoting so many hours a week to the discussion of vapid trivialities with unsympathetic companions over a repast which serves only to parade its giver's barbaric hospitality and to tax its recipients' patience. Judged by the time it absorbs, the *Cha-no-Yu* is not much better, perhaps, than "dining out" as practised at present among ourselves, but in all other respects it is a far more intellectual and much less superficial pastime. Its due pursuit involves a study of all the gentle arts, and the profession, at any rate, of a philosophy that would grace any civilization. Thus the recent revival has made itself felt in many directions. It has made itself felt in a reawakened taste for the products of the country's ancient art, in a renewed reverence for the motives that inspired that art, and in a deference, more or less thorough, to the canons of taste that formerly prevailed. From a scientific standpoint there may not be much excellence in the æsthetic treasures to which popular taste has been once more directed. Despite the verdict of enthusiastic connoisseurs, MOTONOBU and TANIU will always be placed on a much lower level than RUBENS and TITIAN. But, on the other hand, it will be no less generally admitted that the graces of the former sometimes rival the genius of the latter, and that either might borrow from the other with advantage. We leave these comparisons to other analysts, however, being ourselves content to abide by the verdict which Europe and America have passed upon the characteristic phases of Japanese civilization. Unless that verdict is strangely erroneous; unless the unprecedented influence which Japanese art has exercised upon the whole Western world be a mere passing vertigo—a reasonless and transient caprice—there is no avoiding the conclusion that Japan is to be sincerely congratulated on having escaped the peril of sacrificing what her foreign friends have thought worthy of imitation for the sake of imitating what they have been able to offer. We can understand and sympathise with the apprehensions inspired in certain quarters by this apparently retrogressive movement. The *Fiji Shimpō*, in a leading article, which we translate elsewhere, declares that Japan will not be able to hold her own if she ventures to indulge in the dilettanteism of old times, and complains that there are evidences of a disposition to revive the

educational systems and doctrines which prevailed under the TOKUGAWA rule. But to us the writer in the *Fiji Shimpō* seems possessed by the same spirit of unreasoning radicalism which has already impelled the nation to efforts scarcely within the safe compass of its strength. During the past twenty years there have often been times when it was difficult to be free from an apprehension that Japan lacked discernment, and that much of what she has doing would ultimately be found ill-adapted to her physical resources and ill-adapted to her moral condition. These misgivings are relieved rather than confirmed by the so-called retrogressive tendencies which our Tokiyo contemporary deplors. That Japan's taste is sufficiently conservative to revert, after a brief period of apostasy, to those features of her civilization which we ourselves have not hesitated to adopt, is a satisfactory proof that in yielding to an impulse of almost reckless radicalism she has not lost her touch of the national idiosyncracies to which reforms, to be permanent, must be adapted. It is a singular and significant fact that, side by side with this art renaissance, there is daily growing up among the leaders of Japanese thought a firmer faith in the benefits of Christian morality. That the two impulses are contemporaneous may be accidental, but their association ought to set at rest such doubts as those formulated by the *Fiji Shimpō*.

THE BLACK AND YELLOW FLAGS.

A RECENT writer in the French *Opinion* explains the constitution of the Black and Yellow Flag Bands, whose names have been lately so frequently mentioned in connection with recent French adventure in Tonquin. He says that the Black Flags are the irregular forces of the Annamite monarch: the Yellow Flags are guerrillas from the province of Yunnan.

The great Taiping Rebellion which originated in 1849 had gradually extended to the very heart of the empire. The insurgents had taken Nanking, and made that big town their capital in 1853. Thence they overran the central and eastern provinces of the empire, leaving everywhere behind them a track of ruin and desolation. One of their divisions, reaching Tientsin, menaced the capital, Peking, itself. Shortly, thanks to the aid of French and British officers, the Imperial forces overcame the rebels; their capital Nanking fell into the hands of TSENG in July, 1864, and the decimated and demoralised dregs of the insurrection vanished,

in July, 1863, into the mountain mists of Fokien, Kwangsi, and Kwangtung.

One of the surviving Taiping chieftains, U'TSONG, at the head of an army of three or four thousand men, penetrated as far as Tonquin, pillaging as he went, and reached the Songkoi opposite Hanoi. Then the Chinese sent a force of ten thousand braves against him and drove him into the mountain fastnesses on the border of Yunnan. U'TSONG died in 1867, leaving the command of his adherents divided between his two lieutenants, LUN-VIN-PHUC and HWANG-AN, who promptly laid siege to Laokai. Of this fortress Mr. DE KERGAREDEC says that it is only a "square enclosed by a wall of rough ashlar about fifteen inches thick. At its four corners are placed storied towers mounted with some small cannon." It is not saying much for the credit of the rebels when we record that it took them nearly two years to carry this place. However, the two associate commanders quarrelled, after the capture of Laokai in 1868, and separated. LUN-VIN-PHUC remained in the town. HWANG-AN descended the Yellow River and established his head-quarters at Ho-yong, upon the Clear River (*Tsin-ho*), a tributary of the Song-koi. The former friends, now become enemies, were bound thenceforward to be mortal foes and to wage a remorseless war. They assumed, then, the names of the colors of their banners: the "Black Flags" (Chinese *He-ki*), are the adherents of LUN-VIN-PHUC: "Yellow Flags" (*Hong-ki*) partisans of HWANG-AN.

Thus Laokai, which means in Chinese the "Old Market," became the capital of the "Black Flags." It is not, properly speaking, a town, but a big village containing some three hundred houses, all covered with thatch, with the exception of the principal buildings of the fortified enclosure, which are built of brick and roofed with tiles to lessen the chances of fire. The place lying on the official frontier of Annam and China, where the boundary line is drawn by the Nan-Sin-ho, a little tributary of the Red River, is of considerable importance as a Custom House Station. Situated just outside the Celestial Empire it is a favourite refuge for Chinese rebels; and as it is very remote from the centre of Annamese authority it renders scanty obedience to the orders of TU-DUC, or whoever may be the reigning monarch of the Kingdom. Thus it happens that Laokai is, as it were, a Chinese town in Annamite territory, but yet as foreign, if not more foreign, to the Chinese towns on the other side of the frontier, as it is to the other places of Annam. In effect, the natives of the Chi-

nese province of Yunnan speak a mandarin dialect which closely resembles that of Peking, and is not understood by the Laokaian, who come for the most part from Kwantung and Kwangsi. These special conditions of a town which is ostensibly dependent upon the King of the territory, while they render it *quasi* independent yet place it at the mercy of the first adventurer who is able to carry and occupy it. He can, then, make of it a sort of toll-gate at which he can levy such taxes as he pleases upon travellers passing between Chinese and Tonquin territory. Providing that Annam is converted simply into a French protectorate, Laokai would make an excellent Custom House, as the writer in *L'Opinion* suggests. In any circumstances, under the new order of things, situated at the confluence of two rivers easily navigable by specially-built craft, it seems destined to become the *entrepôt* for any trade that may be organized between the delta of the Song-koi and the province of Yunnan.

As regards the Yellow Flags, we know that DUPUIS was well received by them on the occasion of his last journey in 1873, when he was obliged to traverse the region which they call theirs. And, beyond, the Black Flags, perhaps being unable to act otherwise, in no manner interfered with the traveller in his enterprise. Some time after his visit, the Yellow Flags, who had made a futile attempt to seize Laokai, were in their turn assailed by the men of the darker ensign, whose road to Tonquin they barred. Three hundred of the Black Flags, having been cut off from their main forces, were obliged to descend the Song-koi to the advanced posts of the Annamite army, to whose commanders they offered their services, which were accepted and soon employed. FRANCIS GARNIER, with a handful of men, had just achieved his swift and marvellous conquest of the delta. The Commander-in-chief of the Annamites, HUINKEVIEM by name, brother-in-law of the King, and at present the only mandarin of the first rank in Tonquin, was then Governor-general of Son-tai, the real military capital of the country, and situated up-stream as regards Hanoi. He took the outlaws into his employ and launched them, with other forces, against the latter citadel then held by the French. It was at their hands that GARNIER met his death in the fatal sortie of December 21, 1873.

Ever since that time the Black Flag Brigands have been in the service of the Sovereign of ANNAM, and have on several occasions borne arms against the French. They it was who, only the other day, compassed the death of Commandant RIVIERE

and his comrades in circumstances similar to those in which they killed GARNIER. In 1877, M. DE KERGAREDEC, then a Lieutenant and Consul at Hanoi, now a Post-Captain charged with a special mission to Hué, explored the Tonquin river as far as Yunnan. He gathered, as he was passing the town of Laokai which he only saw from afar, some information respecting the redoubtable Black Flags. He estimated their strength at 800 men, though their leader, LUN-VIN-PHUC, said that he had 1,565 when he claimed his pay from the Annamite Government. The band was installed in three ill-fortified posts, which could easily be burned, but whence the garrison could quickly escape to the mountains. To-day, no doubt, their condition is somewhat different. The Annamite Government pays them at the same rate as its own soldiers, or rather hands their pay over to their chief, who maintains and salaries them as he pleases. The scale is for each married soldier ninety catties of rice a month: unmarried men fifty catties. A daily ration of pork, and oil to burn, is issued, as the equivalent of a monthly pay of about one tael. Every warrior receives two suits of clothes a year, and from time to time a little Yunnan opium and rice-wine, either to make him mad or to keep him in a good humour, as occasion may require. The actual value of the food, &c., drawn by LUN-VIN-PHUC is probably about three dollars a month per man for each name on his roster; so that it is evident he can fare sumptuously on his squeezes. The Chief-tain himself is described as a man of about fifty years of age, short and slight of stature, extremely cruel, suspicious, difficult of access to any but his immediate friends, and neither Captain KERGAREDEC nor Mr. DUPUIS had ever seen him. The latter gentleman transacted all his business through the second-in-command of the gang.

CORRESPONDENCE.

(Our readers must distinctly understand that we are in no sense responsible for the sentiments or opinions of our correspondents, for the accuracy of their assertions, or for the deductions they may choose to draw therefrom.)

KANA REFORM (SO-CALLED).

TO THE EDITOR "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—The object of the Japanese Society, called *Kana no Towa*, or "Friends of the Kana," is, as you pointed out in a recent article, to abolish the use of the Chinese written character in this country and to substitute for it the exclusive use of the native syllabary. This native syllabary has forty-eight signs. The Chinese ideographic system has more than forty-eight thousand. Hence the easily drawn conclusion that, civilization being in such matters identical with simplicity, the abolition of the Chinese characters in favour of the *Kana*

would be the most gigantic stride forwards ever taken by any nation eager to give its intellect free play by shaking off the shackles of an effete antiquity. The "Friends'" arguments would seem to have succeeded in making you more than friendly to them. Will you grant me space in your valuable columns to endeavour to convert you and your readers to the opposite way of thinking, by pointing out that sober reflection shows us that the result would be an altogether different one, that the "Friends of the *Kana*" are, in reality, the worst enemies of Japanese education, and that the adoption of the *Kana* (supposing such a thing possible) would mean the instant paralysis of every branch of thought and even of business?

To discuss the subject in all its aspects would require a treatise as long as a Scotch sermon. But the gist of the matter needs no elevantly and twelvethly to make it plain. It is not necessary to enter into all the *pros* and *cons* of the Chinese style. It is not necessary to imagine what the Modern Japanese language might have been had it been something different from what it is. Strictly speaking, it is scarcely even necessary to discuss the abstract merits of the syllabary,—or rather of the syllabaries, there being several,—known as the Japanese *Kana*. I would therefore, merely in passing, point out that the *Kana* is at once redundant, deficient, and misleading even as a medium for conveying the sounds of Modern Japanese itself. Of the caricature which results from its application to the words of other languages it is needless to speak.

But the root of the matter is not to be looked for here. Even were the *kana* a more imperfect system of writing than it is, it might be well to preserve it if it were already in common use, all change in such matters being accompanied by inconvenience. But it is not in common use. It has been given a thousand years' trial and has failed. Why has it failed? Because under the circumstances it is less practical than the Chinese system, cumbrous even as the latter may be deemed. The Japanese language has an enormous number of words derived from the Chinese. These words have penetrated into every branch of thought and of business; and the introduction of Western civilization, with its new ideas all demanding new terms to denote them, has had the effect of swelling the number of such Chinese words to an unprecedented extent. The result is that Archaic Japanese, which was a poor and barbarous dialect capable only of expressing the simplest facts and emotions, has now been developed into a tongue where, in most branches of knowledge, every shade of idea evolved by the genius of China and of Europe has its known and appropriate symbol. To think of expunging this vast body of words from the language is a pedant's dream. As well endeavour to expunge from English all words not of strictly Anglo-Saxon origin, and at the same time to carry on the business, the arts, and the sciences of modern life.

Now the peculiarity of the situation in Japan is this. The number of homonyms, that is of words sounded alike but differing in meaning, is enormous. This is a defect of the Chinese language which of course cleaves to its words when borrowed by the people of Japan. The inconvenience of this poverty of sounds combined with richness of vocabulary is felt occasionally even in speaking, where the listener can be guided by the circumstances attending the conversation, by the frequent iterations everywhere characteristic of spoken speech, and, as a last resort, by the possibility of asking for an explanation.

In writing, i.e. in phonetic writing, such as the *kana* purports to be, these helps fail. The very names of all the sciences, of all books, newspapers, government offices, in fact of all things excepting such as are quite primary, become an unintelligible chaos. Here the Chinese character steps in, and, by giving to each word its own particular ideographic symbol, makes the written language clearer than the spoken. The experience of the last thousand years has shown that this clearness of expression is worth obtaining even at the cost of laying a considerable burden on the memory. Indeed, what is the object of writing unless it be to make oneself understood?

This being so, how is it, it may be asked, that the "Friends of the *Kana*" manage to publish a magazine printed in *kana* alone? Simply thus: by not writing Modern Japanese at all, but by attempting to revive Ancient Japanese which they sprinkle with pseudo-ancient terms of their own invention. To such straits are people driven by pedantry mistaken for patriotism and divorced from common sense! Endeavour to imagine the English or American public being gravely requested to speak the language of Chaucer or to write exclusively in words of one syllable, and you have an idea of what the "Friends of the *Kana*" are agitating for in Japan.

If it were possible,—which it is not,—to change a language violently for the sake of fitting it in with a new system of writing, there is indeed a system which it would be well worth the while of the Japanese nation to make an "alarming sacrifice" to adopt. Need I say that I mean the Roman Alphabet? Even as a method of writing Japanese phonetically, the Roman alphabet is superior to the *kana*; and to be brought up to read and write their own language in the Roman alphabet would go half way to break down the intellectual barriers still existing between the Japanese and the nations of the West. On the other hand, to exchange their present mixed system for an exclusive use of the *kana* would only be to cut them off from what convenience there still may be in having a common medium of intercourse with China and Korea while leaving them as isolated as ever from Europe and America. At the same time they would be made, as it were, languageless,—unable to express in writing any but elementary ideas.

However, it is hardly worth while to discuss such a prospect seriously. Can it be believed that practical men,—administrators, men of business, workers in every branch of industry and science,—would allow themselves to be deprived for a single week of the power of expressing their thoughts clearly on paper? Even in Japan, where strange things happen, is the whole nation to be made the plaything of a few philologists, who, to judge from the last number of their periodical, believe ancient Japanese Grammar to be the most pressing question of the day, and opine that the writing of the syllable *i* with or without a silent *w* is a matter of the gravest importance?

I am, Sir, yours, &c.,

COMMON SENSE.

August 31st.

AN EXPLANATION.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—In reference to the paragraph which appeared in your issue of this morning regarding a foreigner who endeavored "to obtain money under false pretences," I beg to state that I am the person to whom you allude, and in justice to myself am compelled to contradict the statement

therein contained. Herewith is a copy of the telegram, or rather a translation of it, which was posted up in the "Grand Hotel" and the "Windsor":—

"A private telegram has just been received from the Governor of Boshu, stating that a typhoon is raging in that province. Over three hundred dwellings have been destroyed. The typhoon is travelling eastwards and probably will visit this Settlement. Residents are advised to take all necessary precautions."

The only error in my statement is that I interpreted *Yakunin* for Governor, whereas it signifies Government official.

I received the news from a Japanese gentleman who had just arrived from Tokio, and who is a native of that province. Had your office been open I would in all probability, have called and given you the information, but as it was a Sunday I deemed it proper for me to spread the report.

The whole amount which I received was \$2, and I considered myself justified in accepting the same for the trouble which I took and the jinrikisha expenses which I incurred while giving the information.

Trusting, Sir, that you will insert these few lines.

I am, yours most obediently,

F. CROSBY.

Yokohama, September 4th, 1883.

CONSULAR DECISIONS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—Upon reading this morning's issue of the *Japan Mail*, I observe that the British Consul has dismissed a charge of assault against a fireman on the Chief Engineer of the *Strathleven* on the ground that the assault was committed on the "high seas," and therefore out of his jurisdiction. I believe that this judgment is correct, according to the powers given to the Consul by the Order in Council, but it does not appear to me to be consistent with a recent Consular decision, in which the boatswain of the *F. C. Graham* was convicted and fined for an assault which he committed on the "high seas"—to wit, the Bay of Biscay.

Yours, &c.,

DAVY JONES.

Yokohama, September 4th, 1883.

KANEKO'S EXPLANATION.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—In the article entitled "a Chapter of Yokohama History," which appeared in your issues of the 24th and 25th August, there are several statements made which, although I suppose for the purpose of avoiding the risk of an action for libel, names and places are changed or suppressed, I think I am right in supposing that I am the person referred to as "the Japanese gentleman from San Francisco." My reason for thinking so is in consequence of the statement that the above-mentioned person lives next door to a bathing establishment owned by two Japanese women, who are given the names of Mrs. O Tada and her sister O Gin. My house which is at Honmoku, and is known by the name of Kaneko, is next door to a place of that description, the owners of which are, I believe, two women named Taka and Kin. This close resemblance of names, taken in conjunction with the numerous communications which have lately appeared in the local papers relative to the Honmoku bathing establishments is, I think, sufficient

to localize the place and warrant me in presuming that I am the person referred to under the above appellation. It is, therefore, not without feelings of regret that I am compelled to impeach the veracity of your interesting romance, which I have no doubt gave the author much trouble to write, and I suppose afforded considerable amusement to some of your readers, but I am compelled to do so, as it contains untruths about myself which it would ill become me to allow to remain unchallenged. I therefore trust that, as you have circulated the falsehood, you will have the candour to publish my denial.

After introducing the house, called in your paper "Cove Cottage," the writer continues as follows:—"At any rate the cottage escaped, though the adjoining bathing house was less fortunate. Of the latter, too, curious facts are on record. Its owner was a gentleman who had distinguished himself in connection with a bath-house in San Francisco, where he dressed a Chinese girl in Japanese clothes and exhibited her as a native of Japan. Obligated to come home in consequence of this escapade, he rented a house beside Cove Cottage, and placed there six waitresses of comely mien. But he lacked finesse. Every body knew that the chief business of his new house lay in *et ceteras*: the police made it too hot for him; profits fell off, and he was fain to take service in a sugar refinery at six *yen* a month. He did not abandon his interest in the sea-shore commerce, however, but retained the place while surrendering the management;" and again, further down:—"The Japanese gentleman of San Francisco, understood this too, else he would not have dressed his Chinese doll in kimono and obi, and though capricious fate had banished him temporarily to a sugar refinery, his talents found able exponents at the cove;" and, as a parting shot, "I really think I'll resign my situation of the business at the cove says the San Francisco Lothario."

Now all this, although very amusing, is incorrect. It is true that I was in America for nearly 13 years, but I deny that I was ever connected with a bath-house in that country or had anything whatever to do with a Chinese girl, and I can, if necessary, procure evidence of an unimpeachable nature to support my assertion. Again, the statement that on my return from America I rented a house beside "Cove Cottage" and placed there six waitresses, &c., is also incorrect. The house was rented by my wife, who was previously nurse to a European family in Yokohama, twelve months before my return to Japan, and two years before the other house was built, and there has never been at one time more than four females employed on the premises, and that only on busy days; the usual number being two; again, the assertion that I took service in a sugar refinery is an untruth. The only time that I have been absent from my wife's place at Honmoku was during a period of three months, when I assisted a friend to run a restaurant in Yokohama.

I remain, your obedient Servant,

KANEKO TOSABURO.

Honmoku, August 31st, 1883.

[If Mr. Kaneko desires confirmation of the facts contained in "A Chapter of Yokohama History," we beg to refer him to the records of the Kanagawa Police and the Consular archives of his country. He will find that the statements contained in the article to which he refers are neither untruths nor romances.—Ed. J.M.]

THE LATE DR. GEERTS.

On Friday last the remains of the late Dr. A. J. C. Geerts were interred in the Cemetery of Yokohama. The funeral was largely attended. At the grave the following address was delivered by His Excellency the Dutch Representative:—

GENTLEMEN,—We have to bid a last farewell to one of our oldest Dutch residents of Japan, to a man who has been a kind hearted friend to many of us,—a dutiful son who supported his old parents at home, a kind and careful father, who leaves six little children to mourn their heavy loss. Our late friend, Mr. Geerts, had distinguished himself at home both as Military Apothecary and as tutor of the Military School at Utrecht, and the cross for 15 years' Military Service in Holland decorated his breast. He arrived in Japan in 1869, and during 14 years rendered highly important and distinguished services to the Government of this realm in Nagasaki, Tokyō, Kiyoto, and Yokohama, for which the Sovereign of this Empire granted him the decoration of the Rising Sun. We all bear witness to the eminent services which our late friend rendered to the Central Board of Health when the most dreadful disease raged amongst us, and both the foreign Community and the Japanese people united in high appreciation of the untiring zeal and the great care displayed by our friend on that occasion. Mr. Geerts was a man of great learning and science, and several learned Societies were proud to count him amongst their members. Unfortunately illness prevented him of late from finishing his last and most elaborate work about the natural products of China and Japan, and death overtook him at the early age of 40 years. Let us now unite in rendering the last honour to our deceased friend. Farewell to him and peace be with his soul.

After this a Japanese official read the following, in the name of His Excellency Yamada, Minister for Home Affairs:—

[TRANSLATION.]

Mr. A. J. C. Geerts breathed his last at his residence in Yokohama on the 30th of August, 1883. From the time that he was invited, in 1869, to occupy the chair of Chemical Science at the Imperial Medical School in Nagasaki, he discharged his duties with the utmost conscientiousness and assiduity, to the great benefit and advantage of this country. Indeed, to enumerate all that he accomplished would be very difficult. He it was who helped to organize and establish our laboratories, supplying numerous plans and schemes for their working and direction: he it was who undertook the task of remodelling and improving our medical system, and in addition to these arduous labours he performed many others which time fails me to detail. In grateful recognition of these many services His Majesty the Emperor was pleased to confer on him the decoration of the Fourth Class of the Order of the Rising Sun.

In the month of May of this year Mr. Geerts fell sick, and after long suffering which, day by day, wasted his strength away, he was finally removed from among us. I can find no words to express my deep regret for this sad event. To-day his family and friends have assembled to pay the last tribute of respect to his memory, and to accompany him to his last resting place in the cemetery of Yokohama. May he rest in peace!

TRANSLATIONS FROM NATIVE JOURNALS.

IS NOT OUR CIVILIZATION RETROGRESSIVE?

(Translated from the *Fiji Shimpō*).

Meeting an old friend after a separation of two or three years, one is first struck by the change in his personal appearance. Especially is this the case with children, who are always in process of development, so much so that when we meet them after only half a year's absence or so they have grown into quite different persons. When we are living, as it were, in a family circle, we fail to see

the change that is constantly going on in our surroundings. Parents are to children what they were yesterday: so are the children to their parents. Days and months pass. One party observes no growth: the other witnesses no decay. One's guests remind one of the growth of one's infants and one's own decadence. Although our physical development is nothing short of marvellous, our constant ocular perception fails to recognize it. We resemble the hands of a watch—always travelling from one to twelve.

So of a nation's progress: its revolving signs are imperceptible. To know whether it has been going fast or slow, we must consult its past history, and consider its circumstances. The notable events accompanying the Restoration were, politically, the substitution of prefectures for *han*, reform in land taxation, the introduction of enlightened law, the restoration of administrative power to the proper Government, foreign intercourse. Commercially, the changes were:—The establishment of trade associations, manufactories, railways, telegraphs, steamers and the postal service; and as regards education, encouragement of the study of foreign sciences, and the publication of books and newspapers. Such have been the most potent factors in the work of destroying the barrier of old customs and in introducing Occidental civilization. Although these methods are still in a state of infancy, and perhaps unworthy of consideration, yet had it not been for the courage of our countrymen, it would have been impossible to effect what progress has been made. No sooner had our internal affairs been placed on a sound basis than the innate force of the nation expanded. An expedition was sent to Formosa, a treaty was concluded with Korea, and the Riu-kiu-han was abolished. Since then we have witnessed a formidable rebellion and a considerable change in our commercial dealings. Looking back at the past, we are convinced that the present era of progress had its climax in the 12th and 13th years of Meiji (1878-9). Reflection on the subsequent general state of affairs suggests a retrogressive tendency in all departments of civilization, notably in politics and education. One of the present vicissitudes of society, which we are at a loss to account for, is that men look upon each other with suspicion, and prefer conservatism to being made the object of scrutiny by advocating their own ideas. Even those who but till yesterday have only exerted themselves with ordinary ability, to-day assume the appearance of men of vast experience and moderation who hesitate at every step, under the pretence that the time is premature, and that they are careful and so forth. This policy is dictated by anxiety to restrict youths who thrust themselves into politics with headlong impetuosity. So far so good. But politics are not alone the basis of the frame of human society. On realizing the danger arising from political strife, men may have taken some trouble to mitigate it, and have succeeded in restricting its evils. Politics are confined to one class of men who make it a profession; and consequently do not improve the general condition of the community. They are often indeed productive of great injury. Turning to the commercial aspect of the matter we are struck with the present stagnation of business. Merchants and manufacturers have succumbed to the heart-rending consequences arising from the violent fluctuations in the value of the fiat currency. The National Banks have collapsed almost to the extent of extinction. The monetary channels have been closed. Traders with energy but no capital are at their

wits' end. Such of them as have abundant capital, confine themselves to the purchase of Public Loan Bonds. Many factories have been closed, and thousands of labourers have been thrown out of employment. These evils have been caused by an unsound system of finance. As regards education, the base of national enlightenment, we find difficulties are constantly cropping up and causing it to retrograde. Ever since, the Restoration, the study of foreign sciences has been encouraged; and graduates therein only made an appearance a few years since. They ought to increase gradually; but there is no field for the exercise of their professions. Such is the case with all professional men—engineers, chemists, economists, statesmen, and others. Or even though there were positions for all of them, they are mostly prevented from occupying them on account of their birthplace and political positions differing from those of the men in power. As for education itself, we find that the old system and doctrines which were in full vigour under the Tokugawa régime are being revived. The educators are striving to check the tendency toward that extreme temerity which presents itself under the guise of civilization. Formerly, it was the rule in every school to encourage the cultivation of European science rather than that of Chinese literature. At present, however, the contrary is the case. Teachers who understand European languages are being replaced by Confucianists. These are all signs of a retrogression in our civilization. Since our country's policy is to introduce European civilization, we regret to witness such a revival of the Chinese classics as hinders progress. The Confucianists may desire to "Chinese" this country; but we do not desire to see reproduced the injury and danger to which this nation was exposed some two or three decades ago. Look at the state of affairs obtaining at the time when the American squadron steamed into these peaceful waters in the era of Kayei. Had it not been then for the progressive career upon which we had entered we should not have been able to hold our own. But now, retrogression is the order of the day. Tea-ceremonies and other old arts have been revived. As far as æsthetic taste is concerned, the tea-ceremony and such like arts are exceedingly heightened; but in view of the modern civilization of practicality, they amount to less than nothing. For Japan to compete thus with Occidental activity is similar to attempting to extinguish a large conflagration without the aid of steam fire-engines. We have no leisure to expend in the cultivation of æsthetics. That retrogressive tendency which we have pointed out must be conspicuous to those returning from foreign countries. A Westerner in his letter to our office says that Japanese civilization having reached its climax, will go backward. We are exceedingly sorry to hear such a remark, and earnestly hope that the forecast will turn out incorrect.

THE ILL-EFFECTS OF PREMATURE MARRIAGE.

(Translated from the *Choya Shimbum*.)

All the animal creation is endowed with the impulse of sexual affection and the instinct of the propagation of their species. Bakan, one of the best of Japanese novelists, says:—"The sentiment of love is common alike to men and animals. None of them can escape it—from the stag that pursues the hind through the difficult forest to the cat that miauls for its mate on the treacherous

house-top. As surely as the peach-tree will bear fruit in the third year of its growth, so will the firstlings of love display themselves without fail in the lass of sixteen." Apart from the poetic aspects of the tender passion, man resembles the lower animals in that respect. The feeling indulged in prompts to early marriage, heedless of all injury that may result to the principal parties, their progeny, and, in the long run, the nation at large. The evil is more pronounced and frequent in semi-civilized than in advanced nations. It is caused by ignorance, and diminishes with the increase of knowledge. Unhappily the custom has prevailed in Japan from days of old, and obtains even in these modern times. Daily we see the marriage of boys and girls, long before either their intellectual or physical faculties have matured, encouraged by their parents and guardians. "A man is not a man before he has attained the age of twenty-five," is a familiar aphorism. His marriage, then, before that age, cannot fail to be injurious to the corporeal and mental powers of the next generation as well as hurtful to himself.

The following are the three principal evil results of too early marriages:—

1.—The community is composed of rich and poor, the latter in far larger proportion. It is a man's duty before marriage to provide sufficient resources for the maintenance of his wife and family. Does he neglect this precaution he cannot bestow the benefits of the commonest education upon his children, whose natural endowments, therefore, cannot enjoy proper culture. When arrived at maturity his offspring will be devoid of any accomplishments, and unable to earn an independent livelihood. Probably they will be reduced to poverty and misery, and driven to steal. Indigence is the mainspring of robbery; and most of the poverty prevailing has its origin in early marriages. On the other hand, children born of parents whose physical and intellectual faculties have, before union, been allowed to attain full development, will, if properly trained, grow up, in spite of obstacles, useful members of Society.

2.—In the event of frequent marriages the population multiplies with rapidity—a fact which at first glance would appear an element beneficial in increasing the resources of the nation. In reality, however, this is not so; for a country's prosperity is not in corresponding ratio to the increase of its inhabitants. The present wealth of European States is due to their numerous inventions, and foreign commerce, and the employment, in the right direction of the energies of their people. In their turn, these inventions and this well-applied force are the outcome of a perfection of mental and corporeal capacity. Evidently, opulence is not a result of mere increase of population. In domestic life we find that the feeble cannot constitute a comfortable home. They become swamped in squalor and misery. It is a law of nature that decay follows growth. A severe winter is followed by a summer correspondingly hot: long droughts are waited on by continuous rainfalls. Trees and herbs grow in Spring and Summer, and wither and die in Autumn and Winter. The amorous passion is vehement in youth, but gradually declines with advancing years. It may be, then, that a population may be increased by premature marriage; but a reaction will surely set in and the number will rapidly diminish—in the event, say, of epidemic, famine, and similar calamities. This is simply in accordance with natural laws of expansion and contraction. And, indeed, it is better that people of imperfect intellectual and physical

capacity should perish, than survive to assist in the spread of epidemics and like sources of misery.

3.—According to the theory of hereditary transmission, children acquire by birth the characteristics of their parents for good or evil. Leprosy and stomachic and other terrible diseases are bequeathed from generation to generation. So does an infant succeed to the literary and scientific tastes of its ancestors. Thus, parents of short stature beget offspring of like structure to themselves; and tall adults give to the world successors of similar proportions. Of course there are exceptions; but, the proverb, that "egg-fruit does not grow on a melon vine" is correct. As a broad rule, children inherit both the intellectual and physical attributes of their parents. And so we may remember here the careful farmer's rule to select good seed, as "with bad seed one ensures a bad crop." If the present custom of early marriage, now prevailing in Japan, be allowed to continue we shall deteriorate into a nation of pigmies.

The numbers of the American Indian tribes have diminished with the march forward of the white man. The Ainos are becoming gradually extinct as Japanese immigration into Hokkaido progresses. This is the effect of unequal conflict between the widely different capacities of the respective races. Especially in this day of universal intercourse, when the weak invariably succumbs to the strong, premature marriage should be promptly prohibited before it permanently weakens the nation. Recent investigations of this subject give interesting results. The passion that we call love is largely influenced by climate. As a rule those living in tropical, develop it sooner than those living in temperate and colder climates. Indian girls become women and marry, at a very early age. In Europe marriage is deferred till much later years. Thus, in France the average age for marriage is, for men 30 yrs. 1 mo., women 25 yrs. 8 mos.: England, men 27 yrs. 5 mos., women 25 yrs.: Holland and Belgium, men 31 yrs. 4 mos. women 28 yrs. 4 mos. [And so the author quotes of Denmark, Italy, and Switzerland, with marrying ages varying on the average from 30 to 38 years for men: 21 to 28 years for women. He resumes:] It is said that, even in the above-mentioned countries, young people sometimes marry young; but they do so very seldom before they are twenty years of age. And this wholesome restraint is not the effect of preventive laws, but rather of the intelligent application of practical observation, one of the highest attributes of Western civilization. In the absence of statistics we cannot state positively at what average age people marry in Japan; but we should say, from experience, men at twenty-two or twenty-three: girls at eighteen or nineteen. The expense of supporting a wife and family in Japan is comparatively trifling; and, consequently, people do not feel the burden as heavily as in other countries—a fact which of itself encourages the evil of premature marriages. The principal cause, however, is ignorance of the various ills arising from the practice. Our present population is all that can be desired in point of number; but the majority of its constituents lack energy, adaptability, and endurance; and these defects we do not hesitate to attribute to premature alliances.

Some may argue that to prohibit people from marrying when they please, is analogous to prohibiting them from taking food, and that it would be as difficult to put a stop to one custom as the other. They might as well contend that, if freedom of alliance were forbidden, men would necessarily indulge in debauchery, and ruin themselves in profligacy and disease-engendering vice. What we desire, however, is not the interdiction of marriage but exertion on the part of parents to put an end to an evil usage. We earnestly hope that the pernicious custom will soon be abolished.

JAPANESE STATISTICS.

CENSUS RETURN FOR 1882 (PREPARED ON THE 1ST JANUARY, 1883).

| CITIES AND PREFECTURES. | IMPERIAL FAMILIES | PRINCES | KNIGHTS (NOBILITY) | SHIROU (GENTRY) | HEIMIN (COMMONERS) | MALES. | FEMALES. | TOTAL OF THE TWO PROCEEDINGS. | PERSONS ABOVE 15 YEARS OF AGE. | PERSONS ABOVE 20 YEARS. | PERSONS ABOVE 30 YEARS. | PERSONS ABOVE 40 YEARS. | PERSONS ABOVE 50 YEARS. | PERSONS ABOVE 60 YEARS. | PERSONS ABOVE 70 YEARS. | PERSONS ABOVE 80 YEARS. | PERSONS ABOVE 90 YEARS. | PERSONS ABOVE 100 YEARS. | DEATHS. | REMOVED FROM THE CENSUS. | NUMBER OF FAMILIES (KOKO). |
|-------------------------|-------------------|---------|--------------------|-----------------|--------------------|------------|------------|-------------------------------|--------------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------|---------|--------------------------|----------------------------|
| Tokyo | 5 | 22 | 2,641 | 99,055 | 895,188 | 496,578 | 491,333 | 987,911 | 151,337 | 228,735 | 427,665 | 177,497 | 26,620 | 24,256 | 60 | 277,665 | | | | | |
| Kioio | — | 12 | 422 | 26,425 | 808,368 | 418,050 | 417,177 | 835,227 | 148,640 | 199,473 | 337,102 | 149,907 | 32,419 | 17,646 | 28 | 106,622 | | | | | |
| Osaka | — | 16 | 16 | 33,788 | 1,538,379 | 795,740 | 776,503 | 1,572,333 | 268,634 | 378,991 | 674,813 | 246,435 | 39,122 | 32,846 | 203 | 366,060 | | | | | |
| Kanagawa | — | — | — | 10,385 | 378,379 | 398,703 | 392,032 | 790,735 | 137,760 | 193,504 | 319,899 | 135,862 | 18,643 | 12,820 | 1 | 154,891 | | | | | |
| Higo | — | — | — | 40,640 | 1,378,772 | 721,997 | 697,424 | 1,419,421 | 234,546 | 297,266 | 499,507 | 225,070 | 34,426 | 25,831 | 25 | 319,910 | | | | | |
| Nagasaki | — | — | — | 159,814 | 1,044,635 | 609,092 | 595,357 | 1,204,449 | 183,124 | 270,862 | 453,984 | 225,070 | 36,908 | 27,203 | 57 | 257,915 | | | | | |
| Niigata | — | — | — | 37,067 | 1,544,101 | 789,576 | 791,592 | 1,581,168 | 270,862 | 386,257 | 642,307 | 280,237 | 36,908 | 27,203 | 93 | 305,989 | | | | | |
| Saitama | — | — | — | 11,230 | 951,487 | 478,659 | 484,058 | 962,717 | 176,613 | 232,254 | 385,065 | 164,232 | 23,288 | 18,484 | 62 | 174,491 | | | | | |
| Chiba | — | — | — | 20,254 | 1,097,442 | 565,772 | 551,094 | 1,117,866 | 177,724 | 253,388 | 430,916 | 218,984 | 23,288 | 18,484 | 6 | 205,267 | | | | | |
| Ibaraki | — | — | — | 31,999 | 884,740 | 452,077 | 452,077 | 904,154 | 176,739 | 253,388 | 430,916 | 218,984 | 23,288 | 18,484 | 232 | 166,148 | | | | | |
| Gumma | — | — | — | 19,170 | 585,012 | 302,486 | 301,666 | 604,152 | 114,852 | 142,220 | 240,041 | 103,865 | 19,848 | 12,738 | 1 | 134,064 | | | | | |
| Tochigi | — | — | — | 12,772 | 587,855 | 301,244 | 299,383 | 600,627 | 115,976 | 152,279 | 235,804 | 94,641 | 18,647 | 11,168 | 1 | 106,534 | | | | | |
| Aichi | — | — | — | 22,307 | 835,576 | 429,863 | 428,082 | 857,945 | 146,042 | 205,323 | 351,049 | 151,567 | 24,204 | 17,577 | 54 | 175,228 | | | | | |
| Shizuoka | — | — | — | 49,383 | 1,282,664 | 662,815 | 669,235 | 1,332,050 | 236,738 | 307,555 | 543,085 | 234,890 | 42,989 | 27,636 | 2 | 306,913 | | | | | |
| Yamanashi | — | — | — | 38,431 | 942,362 | 496,226 | 484,507 | 980,763 | 163,737 | 232,325 | 395,665 | 178,397 | 25,258 | 18,251 | 12 | 189,046 | | | | | |
| Shiga | — | — | — | 17,183 | 408,657 | 204,395 | 205,534 | 409,929 | 75,493 | 99,633 | 165,636 | 69,363 | 12,439 | 7,567 | 1 | 87,655 | | | | | |
| Gifu | — | — | — | 15,021 | 616,261 | 313,397 | 320,051 | 633,447 | 111,334 | 153,095 | 256,069 | 108,519 | 20,427 | 14,616 | 1 | 139,521 | | | | | |
| Nagano | — | — | — | 32,577 | 840,554 | 435,515 | 430,060 | 865,575 | 159,480 | 201,399 | 345,955 | 144,936 | 26,123 | 18,520 | 41 | 173,990 | | | | | |
| Miyagi | — | — | — | 35,528 | 593,758 | 324,772 | 324,772 | 649,544 | 91,895 | 126,112 | 216,924 | 90,634 | 26,787 | 18,106 | 131 | 213,897 | | | | | |
| Fukushima | — | — | — | 40,360 | 789,039 | 422,638 | 422,638 | 845,276 | 121,618 | 168,330 | 289,948 | 119,634 | 20,856 | 14,825 | 21 | 98,746 | | | | | |
| Iwate | — | — | — | 12,044 | 593,494 | 312,015 | 303,523 | 615,538 | 99,923 | 136,786 | 236,710 | 103,695 | 15,759 | 9,969 | 210 | 105,557 | | | | | |
| Awamori | — | — | — | 32,244 | 657,443 | 351,473 | 351,473 | 702,946 | 125,175 | 188,371 | 313,546 | 124,404 | 11,102 | 7,233 | 131 | 114,227 | | | | | |
| Yamagata | — | — | — | 36,286 | 637,065 | 352,855 | 340,505 | 693,360 | 125,175 | 188,371 | 313,546 | 124,404 | 11,102 | 7,233 | 42 | 114,227 | | | | | |
| Akita | — | — | — | 35,279 | 593,153 | 320,154 | 299,281 | 619,435 | 103,013 | 134,241 | 237,251 | 100,234 | 15,446 | 9,472 | 32 | 117,314 | | | | | |
| Iwaki | — | — | — | 26,534 | 551,183 | 288,686 | 288,686 | 577,371 | 103,013 | 134,241 | 237,251 | 100,234 | 15,446 | 9,472 | 42 | 114,227 | | | | | |
| Ishikawa | — | — | — | 68,621 | 1,344,181 | 712,070 | 700,722 | 1,412,802 | 252,576 | 348,020 | 596,866 | 226,934 | 40,360 | 28,077 | 558 | 282,250 | | | | | |
| Tottori | — | — | — | 24,719 | 356,196 | 194,912 | 186,093 | 380,915 | 52,545 | 86,953 | 150,943 | 70,975 | 7,615 | 6,068 | 97 | 88,317 | | | | | |
| Shimane | — | — | — | 22,207 | 647,172 | 343,380 | 326,030 | 669,410 | 100,772 | 152,387 | 277,166 | 133,872 | 1,622 | 1,4595 | 22 | 150,272 | | | | | |
| Okayama | — | — | — | 38,126 | 681,548 | 339,923 | 339,923 | 679,846 | 138,838 | 203,671 | 342,509 | 153,812 | 33,970 | 21,017 | 19 | 219,023 | | | | | |
| Hiroshima | — | — | — | 34,387 | 1,308,645 | 637,528 | 637,528 | 1,275,156 | 211,630 | 303,670 | 504,327 | 215,803 | 33,970 | 21,017 | 162 | 262,590 | | | | | |
| Yamaguchi | — | — | — | 69,748 | 1,818,692 | 453,545 | 453,545 | 907,090 | 145,434 | 214,246 | 368,279 | 166,279 | 25,168 | 19,997 | 278 | 174,421 | | | | | |
| Wakayama | — | — | — | 31,036 | 575,710 | 306,747 | 306,747 | 613,494 | 151,819 | 247,958 | 399,046 | 166,279 | 11,160 | 11,160 | 165 | 133,708 | | | | | |
| Tokushima | — | — | — | 38,284 | 603,888 | 325,417 | 316,755 | 642,172 | 87,739 | 155,816 | 266,344 | 127,146 | 15,640 | 11,426 | 286 | 131,888 | | | | | |
| Yehime | — | — | — | 61,790 | 1,419,890 | 724,264 | 718,416 | 1,442,680 | 228,891 | 373,041 | 616,310 | 246,995 | 42,496 | 26,244 | 401 | 316,212 | | | | | |
| Kochi | — | — | — | 41,134 | 505,508 | 288,160 | 288,160 | 576,320 | 104,472 | 129,485 | 225,743 | 115,354 | 11,984 | 11,321 | 2 | 118,035 | | | | | |
| Fukuoka | — | — | — | 78,280 | 1,040,370 | 567,897 | 559,755 | 1,127,652 | 192,472 | 280,121 | 452,683 | 188,872 | 36,805 | 23,204 | 27 | 220,742 | | | | | |
| Oita | — | — | — | 34,828 | 706,360 | 374,559 | 366,651 | 741,201 | 125,054 | 176,039 | 298,951 | 135,866 | 19,615 | 15,356 | 19 | 151,512 | | | | | |
| Kumamoto | — | — | — | 86,487 | 906,876 | 497,543 | 495,830 | 993,373 | 136,121 | 251,647 | 400,223 | 197,357 | 18,350 | 17,039 | 340 | 203,707 | | | | | |
| Kyogoshima | — | — | — | 287,075 | 1,003,206 | 656,503 | 633,778 | 1,290,281 | 189,758 | 335,768 | 511,761 | 244,516 | 21,889 | 17,404 | 840 | 313,815 | | | | | |
| Okunawa | — | — | — | 98,336 | 260,487 | 179,997 | 178,883 | 358,880 | 56,936 | 103,837 | 143,399 | 53,869 | 6,633 | 4,517 | 30 | 73,730 | | | | | |
| Hokkaido | — | — | — | 8,689 | 169,212 | 90,130 | 87,771 | 177,901 | 49,967 | 49,937 | 74,126 | 28,184 | 6,633 | 4,517 | 86 | 44,193 | | | | | |
| Total | 5 | 34 | 3,204 | 1,931,824 | 34,765,051 | 18,598,998 | 18,101,210 | 36,700,118 | 6,078,587 | 8,872,222 | 15,049,284 | 6,321,612 | 1,345 | 941,343 | 5,067 | 7,611,770 | | | | | |

* Emperor, Empress, Empress Dowager, and Imperial Princes.

RETURN OF AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS THROUGHOUT THE COUNTRY DURING SIX YEARS, ENDING IN 1879.

| YEARS. | GLUTINOUS RICE (Koku.) | BARLEY (Omugi.) | WHEAT (Kumugi.) | RYE (Hadaka-mugi.) | MILLET (Awa.) | SORGHUM (Kibi.) | YEARS. | (Hiye.) | BEANS (Daidzu.) | BUCK-WHEAT (Soba.) | BROOM CORN (Morokoshi.) | INDIAN CORN (Tomorokoshi.) | SWEET POTATOES (Ukashimao.) | POTATOES (Ukashimao.) |
|----------------|------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|--------------------|---------------|-----------------|----------------|-----------|-----------------|--------------------|-------------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------|
| 7th Year 1874 | 25,758,660 | 4,062,445 | 1,723,440 | 4,062,445 | 9,624,555 | 180,935 | 7th Year 1874 | 934,504 | 1,977,518 | 505,878 | 104,483 | 1,653,068 | 6,852,644,852 | 63,503,854 |
| 8th Year 1875 | 26,103,764 | 4,062,445 | 1,723,440 | 4,062,445 | 9,624,555 | 180,935 | 8th Year 1875 | 885,701 | 1,802,467 | 530,571 | 127,233 | 1,653,068 | 6,852,644,852 | 63,503,854 |
| 9th Year 1876 | 23,677,057 | 4,062,445 | 1,723,440 | 4,062,445 | 9,624,555 | 180,935 | 9th Year 1876 | 828,023 | 1,802,467 | 530,571 | 127,233 | 1,653,068 | 6,852,644,852 | 63,503,854 |
| 10th Year 1877 | 24,449,502 | 4,062,445 | 1,723,440 | 4,062,445 | 9,624,555 | 180,935 | 10th Year 1877 | 997,416 | 1,882,331 | 537,391 | 94,122 | 22,781,134 | 1,239,876,486 | 27,373,817 |
| 11th Year 1878 | 23,270,200 | 4,062,445 | 1,723,440 | 4,062,445 | 9,624,555 | 180,935 | 11th Year 1878 | 877,320 | 1,642,182 | 575,954 | 81,508 | 22,781,134 | 1,239,876,486 | 27,373,817 |
| 12th Year 1879 | 29,044,689 | 4,062,445 | 1,723,440 | 4,062,445 | 9,624,555 | 180,935 | 12th Year 1879 | 1,081,668 | 2,279,021 | 731,591 | 89,931 | 22,781,134 | 1,239,876,486 | 27,373,817 |
| Average Yield | 25,390,999 | 4,062,445 | 1,723,440 | 4,062,445 | 9,624,555 | 180,935 | Average Yield | 934,021 | 1,808,505 | 553,048 | 1,100,209 | 1,530,510 | 2,502,608,382 | 43,301,342 |

THE KOBE COMPETITIVE TEA EXHIBITION.

The following is translated from the pamphlet issued by the Commissioners, which has been forwarded to us for publication:—

The ceremony of opening the Competitive Tea Exhibition in Kobe took place on the 1st instant, in the presence of Mr. srs. Takei, Sekigawa, Wada, Secretaries of the Agricultural and Commercial Department; Morioka, Prefect of Hiogo; Kitagaki, Governor of Kyoto; Tateno, Governor of Osaka; Koteda, Prefect of Shiga; Yagimoto, Secretary of Hiogo Ken; and Ogawa, Superintendent of the Kobe Custom House. Besides Magistrates of the Urban Divisions, Members of the Hiogo Prefectural Assembly, and functionaries of the commercial and trading establishments.

At 9.30 a.m. on the above date, the Commissioners to the Exhibition, including Kanji (Directors), Committees from the various cities and prefectures, the judges, representatives of the exhibitors, as well as a special Committee appointed by the exhibitors for the arrangement of their exhibits, and several visitors, took their respective seats in order to prepare for the ceremony.

At 10 a.m. His Excellency Shinagawa, Vice-Minister of Agriculture and Commerce, arrived, accompanied by Mr. Katayama, Secretary of the Agricultural and Commercial Department, who represented Kanji. All the members present rose from their seats and paid their respects to the Minister. Mr. Katayama approached the Minister, and making a short speech about the condition of the Exhibition, presented him with a catalogue of the objects on view. His Excellency briefly responded; and his address was replied to by the representatives of the exhibitors. Next, the Superintendent of the Kobe Custom House and the representatives of the Trading Company each spoke in felicitation of the occasion. The ceremony was then concluded, and the meeting dispersed. The Minister then inspected the premises of the Exhibition under the guidance of the Kanji, and subsequently regaled the remaining guests with tea and cake. The Exhibition was opened to the public in the afternoon. The number of exhibits and exhibitors is more than 4,480 and 3,810 respectively. Of the former, 786 are from the prefecture of Saitama, 535 from Shiga, and more than 300 from Osaka and Miye; while Tokiyo, Kyoto, Kanagawa, Niigata, Chiba, Ibaraki, Gifu, Fukushima, Fukui, and Kumamoto—two cities and eight prefectures in all—exhibited less than 300 and more than 100. The exhibits from all other prefectures were less than 100 in number. In a special apartment, were exhibited several samples of teas from the Botanical Gardens and the Engineering Bureau of the Imperial Household Department; tables and books on the use of tea, as well as drawings of the tools employed in the tea plantations,—sent from the Commercial and Agricultural Bureau, the Industrial Sections of the various Prefectures, and by exhibitors from different localities.

The address delivered by His Excellency Shinagawa runs as follows:—

The origin of the growth of tea in our country can by no means be accurately ascertained, yet topographical investigation leads us to the conclusion that the staple has grown wild in the Empire from very remote periods. As to the method of its culture and production, we are also unable to obtain any precise knowledge. Referring

to the old annals, however, we remark that when the Emperor Saga proceeded to Kanzaki in Shiga, Omi, in the spring of the 6th year of Kojin—about 970 years ago—and took up a temporary lodging at the temple called Bonshakuji, the Abbot Yeichiu, of the temple Sōfukuji, prepared tea in person, and presented it to the Emperor and his younger brother. From these facts it may be inferred that the culture of tea as well as the method of preparing it for drinking purposes has had its origin in the knowledge acquired by Yeichiu when he travelled in China in the epoch of Yenryaku. However, the use of tea was temporarily abandoned, until, in the reign of the Emperor Toba II. during the years of Bunji, the priest Yeisei, founder of the temple Kenninji, who had previously been dispatched to So, in China, to study Chinese literature, returned with tea seeds and founded a plantation on the mountain called Seburiyama, in the province of Chikuzen. His produce was known by the name of Iwakami tea. Later he presented some plants to Hōye Shōnin, rector of the Toganowō temple, in the province of Yamashiro. This priest planted them in Uji, and thus the cultivation of tea has been in progress during more than 860 years. Therefore the reputation of the Uji tea is traceable to these facts.

The exportation of our tea to foreign countries is of recent date—after the opening of Nagasaki to foreign commerce. The quantity exported was then so insignificant as to be hardly worth recording. When Yokohama was opened to foreign trade in the 6th year of Ansei, some American merchants made purchases of tea, and this gave rise to extended exportation. Later on, the export of the staple increased year by year, to such an extent that one-fourth of the total value of our exports from the 1st year of Meiji to the 14th year (1868-1881) was contributed by tea.

I have heard that the American Government has lately prohibited the import of spurious teas. That America, our chief customer, has adopted such a measure, will serve to terrify cunning and fraudulent, and encourage upright, dealers. Both our tea cultivators and manufacturers must work candidly, taking legitimate measures for packing and transportation, so that they may be enabled to compete with rivals of other countries and maintain the reputation which our teas earned from Heaven more than one thousand years ago. This is the reason why the Second Competitive Exhibition of tea is opened, and why I call the attention of producers to the facts that I have mentioned above.

SPECIAL COURT, TOKIYO.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 1ST, 1883.

Before Mr. Justice TAMANO, and Messrs. HAYASHI, KAWADA, and NAGAOKA, Assessors.

THE PROSECUTION OF THE FUKUSHIMA SUSPECTS.

On Tuesday, the 28th instant, the case terminated, and the Court reserved decision. This morning it reassembled, and delivered the following judgment:—

Upon Kono Hironaka, aged 34 years 3 months; Tanomo Hideakira, 34 years 8 months; Aisawa Yasukata, 34 years 3 months; Hiroshima Matsuwo, 28 years 11 months; Hanaka Kiojiro, 27 years 2 months; and Sawada Seinosuke, 21 years one month, accused of having conspired together to subvert the existing Government, a trial has been held and judgment is hereby pronounced by the

Chief Judge of the High Court, in the presence of assessors, having regard to the opinions of the Public Prosecutor, the answers of the accused, the arguments of their counsel, as well as their own confessions, and all the documents handed in as evidence. Judgment is as follows:—

From the following summary of evidence it is inferred that the accused devised a plot at the *Mumeikwan*, in Fukushima, in July or August of the 15th year of Meiji (1883), with the express intention of subverting the Government.

On the 27th of January of the 15th year of Meiji (1883), Kono Hironaka made a statement at the Wakamatsu Court to the effect that on the 1st of August in the 15th year of Meiji (1882) he entered into a covenant at the *Mumeikwan*, with Hanaka, Aizawa, Tamono, Sawada, and Hiroshima. On being asked whether he remembered the items of the covenant, he took a pen of his own accord and wrote as follows:—

COVENANT.

1.—Our party must consider it its duty to overthrow a despotic Government which is the common enemy of liberalism, and to organize a system of democratic administration.

2.—In order to accomplish our ends, we must lay down our lives, abandon our property, and disregard all ties of affection should occasion require.

3.—Our party must conform to regulations framed in accordance with the decision of our meetings, and must act as thoroughly in concert as though we had but one mind and one body.

4.—Before our aims are accomplished we will not dissolve our party, whatever difficulties we may encounter, and whatever space of time may be required.

5.—Any member of our society who may reveal its secrets, or behave in contravention of our covenant, must immediately commit suicide.

The above five items must be observed at the risk of our lives.

Given under my hand before the Wakamatsu Court.

KONO HIRONAKA.

January 27th, 16th year of Meiji (1883).

On April 4th of the 16th year of Meiji (1883), this prisoner stated at his preliminary examination before the High Court that the phrase, "to overthrow the Government," in the covenant did not refer to the Japanese Government alone, but to all the governments of the world, and that although it might include the Japanese Government, its limitation to that institution did not correspond with the original intention of his party.

On the 17th of January of the same year, Hiroshima Matsuwo produced at the Fukushima Police Station a covenant, said to have been made by six of the prisoners. Its first article refers to the subversion of an oppressive government. On being asked whether he alluded to the Japanese government, he replied that the existing Government has a tendency to oppression, and that the article in question referred to all such governments. He was told that the meaning of "refers to all governments" was too wide, and therefore unintelligible; and when he was asked whether "tendency to oppression" meant that the Government is oppressive, he answered that he was impelled to enter into the covenant on account of the present oppressiveness of the authorities. To the question, "Does 'oppressive government' refer to the existing Japanese Government?" he replied "Yes."

On January 25th, he was examined by the Public Prosecutor at the Wakamatsu Court as to the truth of statements made by the accused on the 2nd, 3rd, 17th, and 24th of the same month, when trial was held at the Fukushima and Wakamatsu police stations. He replied that in the reports of the examination in Fukushima, one item regarding the

assemblage of rioters was erroneous, but that, as respects the covenant and other matters connected with it, there was no mistake. "You have only five coadjutors: where can you find others numerous enough to support your cause?" was another question put to him. He answered that each of his companions was to induce his intimate friends to subscribe to the covenant, signing their names with their blood.

When enquiry was made on the 25th of January at the Wakamatsu Court as to whether there were no mistakes in the record of the statements made by the accused on the 2nd, 3rd, and 17th of the same month, at the Fukushima Police Station, and on the 24th at the Wakamatsu Police Station, his reply was that the statements, as contained in the reports of the examination in Fukushima, which refer to the consultation with Kono about the convocation of rioters, were entirely wrong, but that the allegations with regard to the covenant and other matters were true.

On the 17th of January, Hanaka Kiojiro was examined at the Fukushima Police Station as to whether the original covenant contained the words "despotic government," and he answered that the word "despotic" may have been mistaken for "oppressive," and that the words below "in order to accomplish our ends" in the 2nd Article should be changed to "must disregard life and property as well as all ties of kindred." On being asked whether he alluded to the Government of Meiji by the words "despotic government," he replied "Oh, Yes!" The covenant as written by him under date of January 14th of the 16th year of Meiji (1883), runs as follows:—

1.—Our party, inhabiting Japan, must strive to overthrow an oppressive government and establish a democratic system instead.

2.—In order to attain the ends mentioned in the above article, we must sacrifice our lives and property.

3.—We must carry out all decisions arrived at after discussion in our meeting.

4.—Any member of our party who discloses our secrets will be punished with death.

5.—Until we accomplish the various objects prescribed in the foregoing Articles, we must not change motive or resolution, even though it may be necessary to spend in our achievement a considerable number of months and years.

The above covenant is the outcome of our convictions and the principles we cherish, and we are bound to observe it at the sacrifice of our life. We swear it.

I do not remember the exact wording of the articles of the covenant, but I believe that what I have given above was its purport.

HANAKA KIOJIRO.

January, 14th, 16th year of Meiji (1883).

A preliminary examination was held at the Wakamatsu branch of the Fukushima Court on the 3rd of February in the 16th year of Meiji (1883). There this prisoner was asked whether he found no mistakes in the record of his statements made at the Fukushima Police Station on the 17th of January in the same year. He replied that he did. When he was ordered to point out the errors, if there were any, he answered that the words "inhabiting Japan" were misrendered for "enemies of liberalism," and that the answer in the reports of the examination affirming that the allusion was to the Meiji Government, should be replaced by the clause, "All the despotisms of the world are referred to, and the Japanese Government is one of them." To the question, what other mistakes there were? he answered, "none." Next he was asked what he meant by "subverting the Government." He replied that his idea was to over-

turn it. On being asked again whether "overturning" was to carry the sense of rising in rebellion, he answered in the affirmative, saying that any sense might be given to the word "overturning" according to the choice of the judges.

When the preliminary examination was held at this special Court on the 2nd of May, in the 16th year of Meiji (1883), Kono Hironaka was asked on what day he entered into a covenant with two conspirators besides the four with whom he had consulted on the night of August 1st. He answered that he made the covenant with Aizawa about two or three days after that date, and with Hiroshima a day or two later.

When the copies of the covenant produced by Hiroshima Matsuwo, Hanaka Kiojiro, and Kono Hironaka, were read to Aizawa Yasukata at the preliminary examination in the Wakamatsu Court, on January 28th of the 16th year of Meiji (1883), and enquiry was made of him by the judge as to which of the three copies of the covenant was correct according to his recollection, he replied that Kono's was exact, he thought, with very slight difference, and that he would write a covenant from his own memory, although he dared not vouch for its perfect accuracy. He then wrote a copy of the covenant and handed it to the judge, who asked him how it happened that what he had written corresponded with Kono's copy without a tittle of difference. He answered that he had simply racked his memory, and that it was impossible for him to guarantee exactitude. Enquiry was then made of him as to the date when, and the place where, the covenant was concluded, as well as the number of associates. The rejoinder was that, in the beginning of August in the 15th year of Meiji (1882), a covenant was shown to him at the *Mumeikwan*, in Fukushima, by Kono, who, having stated that Hanaka, Tamono, and Sawada had already joined in the covenant and signed their names to it with their blood, had induced him to it follow their example.

Hanaka Kiojiro was subjected to a preliminary examination at the High Court on the 30th of April in the 16th year of Meiji, and there stated that the absence of Hiroshima from his house on the 1st of August might have been possible, but that as the covenant was drafted six or seven days before, namely about the 22nd or 23rd of July, he must have been present at the time when it was drafted, and that, notwithstanding his absence on August 1st, he must have been perfectly familiar with the circumstances connected with the conclusion of the covenant; otherwise his signature could not have been given. On being asked whether Hiroshima was present at the meeting held before the 1st of August, he answered in the affirmative. To the question, on what day was the covenant drafted? the reply was that it was about a week prior to the subscription of the covenant with blood signatures—namely about the 22nd or 23rd of July. As regards the number of persons with whom he had consulted, he mentioned Kono, Tamono, Sawada, and Hiroshima.

Tamono Hideaki was examined at the Wakamatsu Police Station on the 25th of January in the 16th year of Meiji (1883), as to whether he remembered that he had ever made an extraordinary covenant with Kono, Hiroshima, and Hanaka. He answered that he had made one about July of the 15th year of Meiji. As to the order and the number of his associates, he mentioned Kono, Sawada, and Hanaka, saying that he subsequently heard that Hiroshima had also entered into the covenant. On being asked whether he had

undertaken to fulfil the agreement, even with the sacrifice of his life, he answered resolutely in the affirmative. Then he was ordered to name the provisions of the covenant from memory, but refused on the ground that he did not remember them. The police authorities stated that he appeared to attempt to evade his obligation under the covenant on the plea of not remembering its provisions; and that, as they would show him copies of the covenant handed in by Hiroshima, and would inform him of the statements made by that person, he must give a decisive answer.

The documents were read to him. The covenant written by Hiroshima at the Fukushima Police Station, which was subjoined to the reports of the Wakamatsu Court, ran as follows:—

1.—Our party, inhabiting Japan, must strive to subvert the oppressive Government and organise in its place a system of democratic administration.

2.—In order to attain the ends prescribed in the above Article, we must be careless whether we live or die.

3.—Our party must relinquish all ties of relationship, our wives and children, and sacrifice even our properties if occasion requires.

4.—The decisions of our meetings must be strictly carried out.

5.—Revelation of the secrets of our party is punished by beheading.

The above conditions must be observed even with the sacrifice of our lives.

8 p.m. on the 14th of January, 16th year of Meiji (1883). (Signed) HIROSHIMA MATSUWO.

The police proceeded further:—"As you have alleged that you do not remember the provisions of the covenant, they have been read to you, and we believe that from the confessions thus made by your colleagues, you have perceived that you were equally concerned with them in the matter." The accused replied that, although he did not remember anything, yet the documents read to him were in fact the covenant. On being asked whether the words "to subvert the oppressive government," in the first article, referred to the Japanese Government, he answered that they did not merely allude to it, but to all oppressive governments in the world.

Again, at the preliminary examination at the High Court held on the 18th of June of the 16th year of Meiji (1882), he was asked on what day the covenant was concluded. He answered that it was at the end of July of the 15th year of Meiji (1882), and that, although he did not know what was the exact course of a conversation carried on by six companions in the *Mumeikwan*, the dialogue at last turned on the contemplation of a scheme to maintain the welfare of the society; and an attempt was made to draft a covenant. He also said that these six companions assembled again on the 1st of August, and sanctified the covenant with signatures in blood, and that therefore the proposal for the covenant was mooted five or six days prior to the assembly. On being asked who were present, he mentioned Hanaka, Hiroshima, Kono, Aizawa, and Sawada—six in all—stating that the covenant was signed by these companions who had met not purposely, but accidentally. He was then questioned whether none of them had suggested the necessity of altering some words in the covenant, when Sawada tried to write it out fair. He replied that opinions differed considerably with regard to the 1st and 2nd articles, and that therefore serious arguments ensued among them. Some asserted that "overthrowing" the Government as the enemy of liberalism might convey the idea of overturning it by means of arms, and that, in so far as they cherish the principles of liberalism, they ought to improve the Government

by means of discussion or the dissemination of literary works, and the harsh words employed in the covenant did not correspond with their real ideas. Others said that the words "oppressive government" made it necessary to insert the words "to overthrow," without which the composition would be inelegant, and that the resort to such terms could in no way be confined to the case of rising in arms. He continued to say that he did not remember exactly whether the harsh words in question were replaced by others conveying the sense of amendment, when the covenant was to be written fair after long discussions, but that it is certain that the original contained the words "to overthrow."

At the preliminary examination before the High Court held on the 2nd of March in the 16th year of Meiji (1883), Hanaka Kiojiro stated that, when the covenant was drafted, the words "to overthrow" were used in their legitimate meaning, but that on the occasion of signing it, a proposal was mooted as to the advisability of changing them to "to improve," on the ground that, as the meaning of overthrowing might be confined simply to overturning the Government, the words should be replaced by such as should convey the idea of improvement. On being asked whether his idea was to ameliorate the Government after subverting it, he gave a decisive answer in the affirmative. Sawada Seinosuke made the following statement at his preliminary examination before the High Court opened on the 30th of May in the 16th year of Meiji (1883):—"I have cherished the idea of improving an oppressive government, and so I remember that the first Article of the covenant contained the words "to improve" instead of "to overthrow." But as I was not present at the meeting of the other associates who had devised a covenant, and as the instrument in question was shown to me by Mr. Kono about twenty days after it was signed by them, I have forgotten what were its provisions. I may be allowed to say, however, that in which ever way the first article may have been phrased—namely to subvert the Government or to improve it—there is no difference in the idea, for improvement necessitates subversion, while on the other hand subversion necessitates improvement.

When, at the preliminary examination before the High Court held on the 30th May of the 16th year of Meiji (1883), Sawada Seinosuke was asked whether he had entered into a covenant with Kono and others at the *Mumseikwan* in or about July or August of the 15th year (1882), he replied that he did so on the 30th of August. Another enquiry having been made as to the place where the covenant was signed, he answered that it was at No. 25, Minami Uradori, Nichome, Fukushima-machi, where the offices of the *Fukushima Liberal Gazette* stand. On being asked whether it was not the *Mumseikwan*, he replied "Yes," adding that the street was formerly called Rokkencho. As to the number of persons present at the signature of the covenant, he remarked that as he was busy with his newspaper work, he did not remember well, but that he recognised the presence of three friends, namely, Tamono, Hanaka, and Kono.

Taking the above evidence into consideration—namely, the mutual agreement of liability to decapitation or suicide, and the oath taken to sacrifice their lives in the achievement of their schemes; their decision to persuade others to join in their covenant by means of lectures; their statements concerning the subversion of the Government in order to its amelioration; or the necessity of improving it after its subversion; the attempt made to give to the covenant the sense of amending after

overthrow; the affirmative answer to the question, whether the so-called improvement was to be effected after overthrowing the Government, and whether the subversion indicated rising in rebellion—it is hereby judged that there are sufficient reasons for declaring the accused guilty.

Although the accused have alleged that they have destroyed their blood-signed covenant, such allegation must be regarded as invalid, for want of evidence—although they have asserted that the copies of their covenant dictated from their memory contained the words "to overthrow," but that the original had a label showing the alterations of these words into "to improve," such assertions must also be denounced as unfounded, for the covenant signed with blood cannot be made invalid by any addenda: although they have declared that the words "to subvert the Government" contained in the covenant written from memory, do not necessarily allude to the subversion by violence but by discussion or newspaper agitation, such declarations are also untrustworthy, for the evidence given in the foregoing lines suffices to show that the accused refer to subversion by force, and that the subversion in question must be restricted to the object of creating domestic disturbance or committing tumultuous actions: although they insist upon the statement that they have never devised a plot, such must also be regarded as invalid, for while they have inserted the words "to overthrow the Government" in their covenant, and the phrase "to carry out their resolutions at the sacrifice of their lives," and moreover, have affirmed the question whether they meant rising in rebellion by the words "to overturn the Government," it is quite unreasonable to say that they have never attempted to create a riot or civil disturbance: although they have pretended that the words "to overturn the Government" mentioned in the covenant dictated from their memory, refer to a foreign government, and not to the Government of Japan, such pretences are also unjust, for it is clear from the foregoing evidence that the government adverted to by the accused must necessarily be regarded as the Japanese Government. Therefore, referring to the law for these offences, we find that Article 121 of the Penal Code provides that all individuals guilty of having taken part in a civil war, in an insurrection or an armed sedition, having for its object either to overthrow the Government, or to take away from the Imperial authority any part whatsoever of the territory of Japan or its dependencies, or to diminish the rights and prerogatives of the Emperor in the Government of the country, shall, according to the nature of their participation, be punished as follows:—

- 1.—With the penalty of death; those who have been the instigators of the crime, and those who have held the office of Commander-in-chief in the civil war, the insurrection, or the sedition.
- 2.—With transportation for life and, if the circumstances are less serious, with temporary transportation, those who have held any office in command, in employment, or function permitting authority.
- 3.—With imprisonment and hard labour and, if the circumstances are less serious, with imprisonment only, those who have furnished arms and munitions of war, and those who have exercised any function or employment less important.
- 4.—With simple imprisonment for a period of from two to five years, those who, without exercising any of the aforesaid employments have participated in the insurrection, or who have been employed in different services less important, during the insurrection.

Article 125 of the same Code says that, if there have been only levies or enrolment of bands, supplying of arms, munitions of war, or provisions, or other acts preliminary to the offences before mentioned, the penalties borne by Article 121 shall be diminished one degree.

If there has been only conspiracy formed, not followed by preliminary acts, the penalties shall be diminished two degrees:—

Article 104 provides that, when two or more individuals have taken a direct part in the execution of an offence, each of the individuals is considered as a perpetrator and punished with the ordinary penalty of the offence.

Article 68 provides that the political criminal penalties are lowered or raised in the following order:—1. Death. 2. Transportation for life. 3. Transportation for a time. 4. Major Detention. 5. Minor Detention.

For the above reasons, the penalties to be inflicted at the High Court upon Kono Hironaka, Tamano Hideaki, Aizawa Yasukata, Hiroshima Matsuwo, Hanaka Kiojiro, and Sawada Seinosuke, shall each be diminished two degrees in accordance with the 2nd clause of Article 125 and the 1st clause of Article 121 of the Penal Code, and they ought to be sentenced to temporary transportation; but as there are extenuating circumstances, the 1st clause of Article 89 of the Penal Code, which provides that extenuating circumstances may be admitted even when already there have been one or several legal excuses in his favour,—and Article 90—which provides that when the judges have admitted extenuating circumstances the penalty is lowered one degree at the least and two degrees at the most—, should have to be dealt with. Therefore, in accordance with the 2nd clause of Article 23 limiting the minor detention from six to eight years, Kono Hironaka is sentenced to seven years' minor detention, and Tamono Hideaki, Aizawa Yasukata, Hiroshima Matsuwo, Hanaka Kiojiro, and Sawada Seinosuke are each condemned to six years' minor detention.

September 1st, 16th year of Meiji (1883), at the High Court, in the presence of the Public Prosecutors, Watanabe, Takenouchi Hori-ta, and Sumikawa.

(Signed)

TAMANO SERI, Chief Judge of the High Court.
NAGAOKA MORIYOSHI, Judge of the High Court.
KAWADA KOJIRO, Judge of the High Court.
HAYASHI TOMOTYUKI, Judge of the High Court.
OKADA SHIGETOSHI, Judge of the High Court.
SERI TOSHITOMI, Judge of the High Court.
TAKAHISA SHOFU, Judge of the High Court.
TAKAHASHI MICHITADA, Judge of the High Court.
ARAKI RINCHO, Judge of the High Court.

LATEST TELEGRAMS.

[REUTER "SPECIAL" TO "JAPAN MAIL"]

London, September 1st.

FRANCE AND ANNAM.

The Treaty with Annam is confirmed.

London, September 2nd.

A CONSERVATIVE GAIN.

Mr. James Lowther, the Conservative candidate for Rutland, has been elected by a large majority.

MEETING OF BISMARCK AND KALOXY.

Bismarck and Kaloky have had protracted interviews at Salzburg.

THE CHOLERA IN EGYPT.

The cholera returns from Egypt to date give the total mortality as 27,350. The British troops have lost 140 men.

THE FUNERAL OF THE COUNTESS OF CHAMBORD.

The Countess of Chambord had decided that the nearest relative should be chief mourner at the funeral of her deceased husband; but the Count of Paris has declined.

London, September 4th.

FUNERAL OF THE COUNTESS OF CHAMBORD.

The funeral of the Countess of Chambord was a splendid affair. The Orleans Princes were absent.

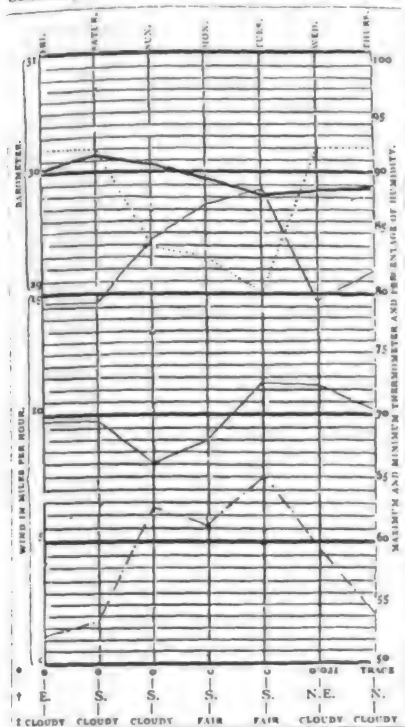
DISTURBANCES IN CROATIA.

Anti-Magyar disturbances have broken out in Croatia, and martial-law has been proclaimed. The military Commandant has instituted severe repressive measures.

METEOROLOGICAL REPORT.

FOR WEEK BEGINNING FRIDAY, AUGUST 31ST, 1883.

Observatory of Daigaku, Moto-Fujiicho, Hongo, Tokiyo, Japan.



REMARKS.
Heavy line represents barometer.
Light continuous line—maximum and minimum thermometers.
Dashed line—velocity of wind.
Percentage of humidity.
The barometer is reduced to the freezing point and to the level of the sea.
• Rain in inches. † Direction of Wind. ‡ Weather.
Maximum velocity of wind 18.6 miles per hour on Sunday at 1 p.m.
The highest reading of the barometer for the week was 30.130 inches on Saturday at 10 a.m., and the lowest was 29.759 inches on Tuesday at 6 p.m.
The highest temperature for the week was 88.4 on Tuesday, and the lowest was 66.0 on Sunday. The maximum and minimum for the corresponding week of last year were 87.0 and 65.8 respectively.
The total amount of rain for the week was 0.032 inches, against 1.070 inches for the corresponding week of last year.

SUNDAY CHURCH SERVICES.

Christ Church : 11 a.m. and 5.30 p.m.
Union Church : 11 a.m. and 8 p.m.
Roman Catholic Church : 8 and 9.30 a.m.
English Church, No. 12, Sakaicho, Shiba, Tokiyo : 11 a.m.

TIME TABLES.

YOKOHAMA-TOKIO RAILWAY.

The Trains LEAVE YOKOHAMA Station at 6.45, 8.00, 8.50, 9.45, and 11.00 a.m., and 12.15, 1.30, 2.45, 4.00, 4.45, 6.00, 7.15, 8.30, 9.45, and 11.00 p.m.

The Trains LEAVE TOKIO (Shinbashi) at 6.45, 8.00, 9.15, 9.45, and 11.00 a.m., and 12.15, 1.30, 2.45, 4.00, 4.45, 6.00, 7.15, 8.30, 9.45, and 11.00 p.m.

Those marked with (*) run through without stopping at Tsurumi, Kawasaki, and Omori Stations. Those with (†) are the same as above with the exception of stopping at Kawasaki Station.

LATEST SHIPPING.

FREIGHTS.

The past week has been entirely void of interest in the matter of shipping; beyond the shipment of small lots to the few vessels on the berth, nothing whatever has transpired. The *Oxfordshire* which sailed on the 5th instant for New York, via ports, and Suez Canal, has been followed by the *Galley of Lorne*. For San Francisco the *Mary Winkelman* continues loading, and the *J. V. Troop* sails for same destination, via Hakodate, on the 10th instant. The *J. E. Graham* sailed to-day in ballast for British Columbia. Coastwise a few trifling offers at very low figures are in the Market.

ARRIVALS.

Sooloo, British bark, 472, Baikie, 1st September.—Nagasaki 11th August, Coals.—P. M. S. S. Co.
Kworio Maru, Japanese steamer, 481, G. Withers, 2nd September.—Yokkaichi 1st September, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S. S. Co.
Wakanoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,342, A. P. Christensen, 2nd September.—Kobe 31st August, Mails and General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S. S. Co.
Staut, Norwegian bark, 581, C. Hannestad, 3rd September.—Nagasaki 22nd August, Coals.—Japanese.
Toyoshima Maru, Japanese steamer, 598, Thomas, 3rd September.—Hakodate, Mails and General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S. S. Co.
Niigata Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,097, John C. Hubbard, 4th September.—Hakodate 1st September, Mails and General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S. S. Co.
Taganoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 448, Matsumoto, 4th September.—Yokkaichi, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S. S. Co.
City of Tokio, American steamer, 3,821, J. Maury, 5th September.—San Francisco 18th August, Mails and General.—P. M. S. S. Co.
Tsuruga Maru, Japanese steamer, 850, Dithlefsen, 5th September.—Kobe 3rd September, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S. S. Co.
Takasago Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,229, C. Young, 6th September.—Shanghai and ports, Mails and General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S. S. Co.
Coptic, British steamer, 2,787, Kidley, 6th September.—Hongkong 1st September, Mails and General.—O. & O. S. S. Co.
Hiroshima Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,862, G. S. Burdis, 6th September.—Shanghai 2nd September, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S. S. Co.
Kosuge Maru, Japanese steamer, 751, H. Kawakita, 6th September.—Hakodate 3rd September, General.—Kiyodo Unyu Kwaisha.
Kworio Maru, Japanese steamer, 482, G. Withers, 6th September.—Yokkaichi 5th September, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S. S. Co.
W. H. Lincoln, American ship, 1,684, M. J. Dally, 7th September.—New York 25th May, 63,000 cases Kerosene Oil and General.—Order.

DEPARTURES.

Hingo Maru, Japanese steamer, 896, R. N. Walker, 1st September.—Hakodate via Oginohama, Mails and General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S. S. Co.
Taganoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 447, Matsumoto, 1st September.—Yokkaichi, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S. S. Co.
Zambesi, British steamer, 1,540, L. H. Moule, 1st September.—Hongkong Kobe, and Nagasaki Mails and General.—P. & O. S. N. Co.
Kworio Maru, Japanese steamer, 617, G. Withers, 3rd September.—Yokkaichi, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S. S. Co.
Toyoshima Maru, Japanese steamer, 598, Thomas, 3rd September.—Hakodate, Mails and General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S. S. Co.
Wakanoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,133, A. F. Christensen, 3rd September.—Kobe, Mails and General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S. S. Co.

Oxfordshire, British steamer, 998, C. V. Jones, 5th September.—New York via ports and Suez Canal, Tea and General.—Smith, Baker & Co.

Taganoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 448, Matsumoto, 5th September.—Yokkaichi, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S. S. Co.

Tokui Maru, Japanese steamer, 652, Carrow, 5th September.—Kobe, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S. S. Co.

Tsuruga Maru, Japanese steamer, 517, P. Dithlefsen, 6th September.—Kobe, Mails and General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S. S. Co.

Techigo Maru, Japanese steamer, 751, Jones, 6th September.—Hakodate, Mails and General.—Kiyodo Unyu Kwaisha.

J. E. Graham, British bark, 1,384, Cochran, 7th September.—British Columbia, Ballast.—Messageries Maritimes Co.

Kworio Maru, Japanese steamer, 619, G. Withers, 7th September.—Yokkaichi, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S. S. Co.

Niigata Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,096, Hubbard, 7th September.—Hakodate, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S. S. Co.

City of Tokio, American steamer, 3,821, J. Maury, 8th September.—Hongkong, Mails and General.—P. M. S. S. Co.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per Japanese steamer *Kworio Maru*, from Yokkaichi:—81 Japanese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Wakanoura Maru*, from Kobe:—Messrs. E. C. Kirby and G. Wiggins and 6 Japanese in cabin; and 132 Japanese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Niigata Maru*, from Hakodate:—Rev. and Mrs. Lindsay and child, Mr. and Mrs. Roesler and 3 children, Mr. and Mrs. Bunting and 2 children, Mr. and Mrs. Tsurada, Miss Vail, Captain Arai, Messrs. Retz, Araki, Morio, Tamura, Miyata, Kusakabe in cabin; and 1 European and 210 Japanese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Taganoura Maru*, from Yokkaichi:—83 Japanese.

Per American steamer *City of Tokio*, from San Francisco:—Mr. and Mrs. L. Deuette, and 2 children, Mr. and Mrs. England, Mr. and Mrs. W. Snecker, Mr. and Mrs. A. A. Higgins, Mrs. A. E. Randolph, Professor C. G. Knott, Messrs. J. B. Wheeler, Wallace Stebbins, J. Dittich, A. H. Little, J. H. Hubbell, C. A. L. Dunn, C. Netto, W. Hubbard, H. H. Peck, A. H. Perkins, and Totsuka in cabin. For Hongkong: Messrs. J. G. Voight, See Ta Sum, and Yen Ng Ku in cabin; and 405 Chinese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Tsuruga Maru*, from Kobe:—3 Japanese in cabin; and 20 Japanese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Takasago Maru*, from Shanghai and ports:—Mr. and Mrs. G. Blunthschli, Mr. and Mrs. Goldsborough and 4 children, Dr. and Mrs. Gootsche, Captain Kuga, Messrs. J. Richards, G. de Galember, Shinagawa, Wada, Isono, Kiogoku, Takase, Oka, Takei, Tomita, Yamaguchi, Sato, Kii, Ishidzumi, and Kashima in cabin; and Mr. Blunthschli's 2 servants, Dr. Gootsche's servant, 3 Chinese, and 403 Japanese in steerage. For Hamburg: Admiral Louis Von Blanc in cabin.

Per British steamer *Coptic*, from Hongkong:—Messrs. E. C. Ray, 2 sons, and servant, W. H. Ray and servant, and G. C. Wood in cabin; and 1 Chinese in steerage. For San Francisco: 3 Europeans, and 171 Chinese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Hiroshima Maru*, from Shanghai:—Mr. Hall in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Kosuge Maru*, from Hakodate:—Mr. Kondo in cabin; and 21 Japanese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Kworio Maru*, from Yokkaichi:—148 Japanese.

DEPARTED.

Per British steamer *Zambesi*, for Hongkong via Kobe and Nagasaki:—Major and Mrs. Gelston

and child, Mrs. Taylor, 2 children and servant, Miss Caspari, Rev. T. J. Taylor, Messrs. Bunker, T. Blom, and W. C. Ward in cabin; and 1 European, 5 Chinese, and 11 Japanese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Yechigo Maru*, for Hakodate:—General Oyama and Mr. Inouye Masaru in cabin.

CARGOES.

Per British steamer *Zambesi*, for Hongkong via Kobe and Nagasaki:—Silk for France, 458 bales; for London, 46 bales; for Italy, 12 bales; Total, 516 bales.

Per Japanese steamer *Takasago Maru*, from Shanghai and ports:—Treasure, \$8,500.00.

REPORTS.

The Japanese steamer *Kworio Maru*, Captain G. Withers, reports leaving Yokkaichi on the 1st September, at 7 p.m. with moderate southerly breeze and hazy weather; on the 2nd, at 3 a.m. passed Omaye-saki lighthouse with fresh breeze and hazy weather; at 3 p.m. passed Sagami lighthouse with fresh southerly breeze and fine clear weather. Arrived at Yokohama on the 2nd instant, at 5.30 p.m.

The Japanese steamer *Wakanoura Maru*, Captain A. F. Christensen, reports leaving Kobe on the 31st August, at 6.30 p.m. with light south-westerly winds and thick hazy weather throughout the passage. Arrived at Yokohama on the 2nd September, at 5.35 a.m.

The American steamer *City of Tokio*, Captain J. Maury, reports leaving San Francisco on the 18th August, at 12.30 p.m. with fresh N.W. gale and head sea to the 20th; thence to the 1st September light variable winds and smooth sea; and thence to port fresh S.W. and head sea. Arrived at Yokohama on the 9th September, at 10 a.m. Time, 17 days and 1 hour.

The British steamer *Coptic*, Captain Kidley, reports leaving Hongkong on the 1st September, at 3 p.m. with fine weather throughout the entire voyage. Arrived at Yokohama on the 9th September after a passage of five days from that port.

The Japanese steamer *Hiroshima Maru*, Captain G. S. Burdis, reports leaving Shanghai on the 2nd September, at noon, with strong winds and clear weather on the first part of voyage, and on the latter fresh breeze and fine weather. Arrived at Yokohama on the 6th September, at 1 p.m. Passage, 4 days.

The Japanese steamer *Kworio Maru*, Captain G. Withers, reports leaving Yokkaichi on the 5th September, at 7.20 p.m. with S.W. light breeze and clear weather; at midnight off Oyama S.S.E. fresh breeze and cloudy weather; on the 6th at noon off Oshima S.W. fresh breeze and clear weather. Passed the Company's steamship *Taganoura Maru* during the voyage, and no other vessels all the way. Arrived at Yokohama on the 6th September, at 5.30 p.m.

MAIL STEAMERS.

THE NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From Hongkong, per P. & O. Co. Sunday, Sept. 9th.*
From Shanghai, Nagasaki, & Kobe, per M. B. Co. Thursday, Sept. 13th.†
From America, per P. M. Co. Monday, Sept. 24th.‡

* *Kankow* left Nagasaki on September 7th at 1 a.m. † Left Shanghai on September 5th. ‡ City of Arling left San Francisco on September 4th.

THE NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For Europe, via Hongkong, per M. M. Co. Sunday, Sept. 9th.
For America, per O. & O. Co. Sunday, Sept. 9th.
For Kobe, per M. B. Co. Monday, Sept. 10th.
For Shanghai, Kobe, and Nagasaki, per M. B. Co. Wednesday, Sept. 12th.
For Hakodate, per M. B. Co. Wednesday, Sept. 12th.
For Europe, via Hongkong, per P. & O. Co. Saturday, Sept. 15th.
For America, per P. M. Co. Saturday, Sept. 22nd.

The arrival and departure of mails by the Occidental and Oriental, the Pacific Mail, and the Peninsular and Oriental Companies, are approximate only.

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

The week's business has been on a small scale for Yarns, best qualities being weak, whilst the prices for common are well maintained. In Shirtings, there have been but small sales with no improvement in prices. We have to note a better enquiry for Mousselines at advancing rates: also more demand for Pilot Cloth, and there has been a better demand for Velvets and Satins. Metals, too, show some improvement. Stocks of some kinds being much reduced.

COTTON YARNS.

| | PER PICUL. |
|---------------------------------|------------------|
| Nos. 16 to 24, Common to Medium | \$25.00 to 28.50 |
| Nos. 16 to 24, Good to Best | 29.25 to 30.25 |
| Bombay, No. 20, Good to Best | 25.50 to 28.25 |
| Nos. 25 to 32, Common to Medium | 31.25 to 32.00 |
| Nos. 28 to 32, Good to Best | 32.75 to 35.25 |
| Nos. 38 to 42 | 35.00 to 37.00 |

COTTON PIECE GOODS.

| | PER PIECE. |
|----------------------------------------------------------|----------------|
| Grey Shirtings— $\frac{3}{4}$ yd, 38 to 39 inches | \$1.70 to 2.15 |
| Grey Shirtings— $\frac{3}{4}$ yd, 38 to 45 inches | 1.87 to 2.40 |
| T. Cloth— $\frac{3}{4}$ yd, 24 yards, 32 inches | 1.42 to 1.52 |
| Indigo Shirting—12 yards, 44 inches | 1.55 to 1.67 |
| Prints—Assorted, 24 yards, 30 inches | 1.10 to 2.40 |
| Cotton—Italians and Sateens Black, 32 inches | 0.07 to 0.09 |
| Turkey Reds—2 to 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ yd, 24 yards, 30 inches | 1.15 to 1.35 |
| Turkey Reds—2 to 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ yd, 24 yards, 30 inches | 1.35 to 1.65 |
| Turkey Reds— $\frac{3}{4}$ yd, 24 yards, 30 inches | 1.70 to 1.82 |
| Velvets—Black, 35 yards, 22 inches | 5.90 to 6.70 |
| Victoria Lawns, 12 yards, 42-3 inches | 0.70 to 0.75 |
| Taffetaelars, 12 yards, 43 inches | 1.75 to 2.07 |

WOOLLENS.

| | PER PICUL. |
|-------------------------------------------------------------|----------------|
| Plain Orleans, 40-42 yards, 32 inches | \$3.80 to 5.25 |
| Figured Orleans, 39-41 yards, 31 inches | 3.25 to 4.00 |
| Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 33 inches | 0.18 to 0.28 |
| Mousseline de Laine—Crape, 24 yards, 31 inches | 0.15 to 0.16 |
| Mousseline de Laine—Itajime, 24 yards, 31 inches | 0.18 to 0.26 |
| Mousseline de Laine—Yuzen, 24 yards, 31 inches | 0.30 to 0.37 |
| Cloths—Pilots, 54 to 56 inches | 0.30 to 0.40 |
| Cloths—Presidents, 54 to 56 inches | 0.40 to 0.50 |
| Cloths—Union, 54 to 56 inches | 0.30 to 0.55 |
| Blankets—Scarlet and Green, 6 to 5 $\frac{1}{2}$ yd, per lb | 0.35 to 0.40 |

IRON.

| | PER PICUL. |
|-------------------------------------------|----------------|
| Flat Bars, $\frac{1}{2}$ inch | \$2.50 to 2.90 |
| Flat Bars, $\frac{1}{4}$ inch | 2.80 to 3.00 |
| Round and square up to $\frac{1}{2}$ inch | 2.80 to 3.00 |
| Nailrod, assorted | 2.25 to 2.50 |
| Nailrod, small size | 2.85 to 3.12 |

KEROSENE.

Sales during the week amount to 13,000 cases, and deliveries to 35,000 cases. The *W. H. Lincoln* has arrived with 63,200 cases, making our present Stock of sold and unsold Oil some 768,000 cases in first hands. The Market continues weak.

| | PER CASE. |
|--------|-----------|
| Devoe | \$1.62 |
| Comet | 1.60 |
| Stella | 1.52 |

SUGAR.

A slight advance in Brown sorts has taken place, but the transactions are of a retail character. No change in the prices for White, and but little business doing.

| | PER PICUL. |
|---------------|----------------|
| White, No. 1 | \$7.50 to 8.00 |
| White, No. 2 | 7.00 to 7.50 |
| White, No. 3 | 6.75 to 7.00 |
| White, No. 4 | 6.00 to 6.50 |
| White, No. 5 | 5.00 to 5.20 |
| Brown Formosa | 4.50 to 4.60 |

EXPORTS.

SILK.

Business is in full swing. Settlements for the week total 800 piculs, and prices for nearly all kinds are firm at quotations given below. Arrivals are coming in, and Stock is increased to 3,000 piculs. Export to date is 4,902 bales, against 4,752 bales last year, and the outgoing American and French mail steamers will take a fair quantity.

Hanks have been currently sold at former rates. Some Annaka have been done at \$495, with Shimoda and Tomiyoka at \$525.

Filatures.—Best have been dealt in at full rates for shipments by the *Coptic*, a particularly good parcel of Tokosha (white color) bringing \$642.

Good Medium kinds are offered and weak. *Ko-shu fil. "Uchida"* was done at \$610. Mino and Hida sorts \$580.

Re-reels have not been much enquired for, and prices for all but the best are tending downwards. A sale of Shorusha (Two-butterfly chop) is noted between Japanese at \$600.

Oshiu sorts, both *Kakeda* and *Hamatsuki*, are moving off to a fair extent, the latter having a decided tendency towards higher rates.

QUOTATIONS.

| | | |
|--------------------------------|---|--------------|
| Hanks—No. 1 | - | \$520 to 530 |
| Hanks—No. 2 (Shinshu) | - | 515 to 525 |
| Hanks—No. 2 (Maibash) | - | 510 to 520 |
| Hanks—No. 2 | - | 495 to 505 |
| Hanks—No. 3 | - | 470 to 480 |
| Hanks—No. 3 | - | 430 to 450 |
| Filatures—Extra | - | 630 to 665 |
| Filatures—No. 1, 10/13 deniers | - | 640 to 650 |
| Filatures—No. 1, 14/16 deniers | - | 630 to 640 |
| Filatures—No. 1, 14/17 deniers | - | 610 to 620 |
| Filatures—No. 2, 10/13 deniers | - | 600 to 610 |
| Filatures—No. 2, 14/18 deniers | - | 600 to 610 |
| Filatures—No. 3, 14/20 deniers | - | 570 to 580 |
| Re-reels—No. 1, 14/16 deniers | - | 610 to 620 |
| Re-reels—No. 1, 14/17 deniers | - | 600 to 610 |
| Re-reels—No. 2, 14/18 deniers | - | 580 to 590 |
| Re-reels—No. 3, 14/20 deniers | - | 550 to 570 |
| Kakeda—Extra | - | 625 to 635 |
| Kakeda—No. 1 | - | 600 to 610 |
| Kakeda—No. 2 | - | 530 to 570 |
| Kakeda—No. 3 | - | 520 to 530 |
| Hamatsuki—No. 1, 2 | - | 475 to 485 |
| Hamatsuki—No. 3, 4 | - | 455 to 465 |

TEA.

Business during the week now under review has continued much on the same scale as previously reported. The demand has been well distributed for all grades, but at the close, those below Fine are mostly sought for. Transactions aggregate 1,600 piculs consisting of the following grades:—Common 40, Good Common 371, Medium 610, Good Medium 245, Fine 210, Finest 120, Choice 109, and Choicest 35 piculs. Market drooping at the close. Settlements here and at Kobe are 197,832 piculs, against 215,617 piculs at the same period last year. The *O. & O.* steamship *Oceanic*, despatched on the 31st ultimo, carried from this port 52,553 lbs. for New York, 170,081 for Chicago, 75,160 lbs. for San Francisco, and 29,585 lbs. for Canada, making the total of 327,379 lbs. Tea. The American ship *St. David* which sailed on the 31st August took 440,458 lbs. Tea for California. The British steamer *Merionethshire* sailed from here for New York, via ports, on the 30th ultimo also took 75,435 lbs. for Yokohama; via:—34,911 lbs. for New York and 40,524 lbs. for Canada.

QUOTATIONS.

| | | |
|-------------|---|-----------|
| Common | - | 9 & under |
| Good Common | - | 10 to 12 |
| Medium | - | 13 to 15 |
| Good Medium | - | 16 to 18 |
| Fine | - | 20 to 23 |
| Finest | - | Nominal |
| Choice | - | Nominal |
| Choicest | - | Nominal |

EXCHANGE.

There has been a considerable amount of Private Bills placed during the week, and rates have slightly advanced on quotations, ruling at the close of last week.

| | | |
|-----------------------------------------|---|---------------|
| Sterling—Bank Bills on demand | - | 3/7 |
| Sterling—Bank 4 months' sight | - | 3/8 |
| Sterling—Private 4 months' sight | - | 3/8 |
| Sterling—Private 6 months' sight | - | 3/9 |
| On Paris—Bank sight | - | 4/6 |
| On Paris—Private 6 months' sight | - | 4/7 |
| On Hongkong—Bank sight | - | 1/0 1/2 prem. |
| On Hongkong Private 10 days' sight | - | 1/0 1/2 dis. |
| On Shanghai—Bank sight | - | 72 |
| On Shanghai—Private 10 days' sight | - | 73 |
| On New York—Bank Bills on demand | - | 89 |
| On New York—Private 30 days' sight | - | 80 |
| On San Francisco—Bank Bills on demand | - | 89 |
| On San Francisco—Private 30 days' sight | - | 89 |

KINSATSU QUOTATIONS.

The following table shows the rate of the day, and the fluctuation during the past week:—

| | |
|--------------------------|-----|
| Monday, September 3rd | 116 |
| Tuesday, September 4th | 116 |
| Wednesday, September 5th | 116 |
| Thursday, September 6th | 116 |
| Friday, September 7th | 116 |
| Saturday, September 8th | 117 |

NOTES FROM JAPANESE PAPERS.

The opening ceremony of the Nippon Railway Company will shortly be performed. The Company proposes to petition His Majesty the Mikado to honour the occasion with his presence.

A report from the Prefect of Kagoshima states that that prefecture was visited by a fierce hurricane on the 18th ultimo, in consequence of which dwellings and plantations were considerably damaged.

The Agricultural Bureau has determined to despatch a number of officers to Awomori for the purpose of taking precautions against the insect blight, which has appeared in Hokkaido, lest it spread to the central provinces.

Kono and Aizawa who were sentenced to seven years' and six years' imprisonment respectively, have been summoned before the Tokiyo Saibansho on a charge of libelling the Fukushima Ken authorities.—*Choya Shimbu*.

Some residents of Sekinakacho in Ise propose to organise a patriotic society to be designated the *Yuntoku-gisha*, whose object is to take over the foreign loans of our Government. According to the scheme arranged by the society, the sum of yen 13,400,000 is to be refunded in two years.

A clerk of the Osaka branch of the First National Bank has been arrested on a charge of forging promissory notes of the Bank.

Reports are to hand to the effect that a rock of considerable size overhanging the sea in Hamamura, Kadsusa, slipped from its bed on the 23rd ultimo. A woman was killed by its fall.

The construction of coal depots on the island of Getsubi, Korea, has lately been completed.

The editor of the *Choya Shimbu* has been fined five yen for neglecting to publish a statement from the *Official Gazette* contradicting a paragraph that appeared in his journal.

A thunderbolt fell in Fujikawa, Yenshiu, on the 30th ultimo, setting fire to a dwelling house, and injuring two persons.—*Nichi Nichi Shimbu*.

Mr. Chiba Shinsaku, a famous fencing master, contemplates organizing a *salle d'armes* at Nishiki-cho, Kanda, Tokiyo.

Five hundred soldiers in Tokiyo are down with *kakke*.—*Fiji Shimbu*.

A special Cabinet council was held yesterday.

Messrs. Todo Koketsu and Todo Koken, *hwa-soku*, have lately presented a sum of ten thousand yen towards the fund for educating the children of the *shisoku* in Ise and Iga.—*Fiji Shimpo*.

The value of the export of timber hence to Shanghai amounts to eighty or ninety thousand taels per year. It is said that the Chinese Customs authorities vary the import duty on planks without giving due notice to the Japanese Consul. The latter immediately reported the matter to our Minister at Peking, who has demanded an explanation from the T'sung-li Yamen.

Destitute patients treated gratis by the Doaisha Society in the Capital during last month were 215 in number.

Three students will be dispatched to China by the Foreign Department on the 15th instant to study the literature of the Middle Kingdom.—*Hochi Shimbu*.

Intelligence from Korea announces the establishment of a Board of Health in the Japanese settlement in that country.

Counterfeit paper money is reported to be in circulation in Osaka.—*Mainichi Shimbu*.

The import of rice and other grain in Kobe during the two halves of last month amounted to 61,974 bags and 14,487 bags respectively. The actual stock of rice on the 1st instant is said to have amounted to 104,567 bags.

The 1st National Bank has established a branch in Niigata.—*Bukka Shimpo*.

The sailing vessel *Chihaya Maru*, of the Public Works Department, which left Shanghai with coal on the 2nd ultimo, is reported to have experienced a gale on the 5th at the mouth of Yangtze River. One of her masts went by the board, and she put back to Shanghai for repairs.—*Official Gazette*.



NOTIFICATION.

TO ALL CITIZENS of the UNITED STATES OF AMERICA in JAPAN, and to all COMMANDERS and MASTERS of VESSELS bearing the flag of the UNITED STATES in JAPANESE WATERS.

THE UNDERSIGNED, in accordance with the request of HIS IMPERIAL JAPANESE MAJESTY'S MINISTER FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS, hereby notifies the CITIZENS of the UNITED STATES in JAPAN and the COMMANDERS and MASTERS of all NAVAL and MERCHANT VESSELS of the UNITED STATES arriving from SWATOW, CHINA, at the Ports of NAGASAKI, KOBE, or YOKOHAMA, JAPAN, that the port of SWATOW, CHINA, has been declared to be infected with CHOLERA, that all Vessels arriving at either of said Ports in JAPAN from SWATOW will be subject to MEDICAL INSPECTION, and that the Regulations for such Medical Inspection promulgated by the Imperial Decree of His Japanese Majesty's Government by Notification No. 31, dated the 23rd of June, fifteenth year of Meiji (1882), will be enforced in said several Japanese ports, in respect to all vessels arriving therein from SWATOW, and that the COMMANDERS and MASTERS of all UNITED STATES NAVAL or MERCHANT VESSELS arriving at either of said ports in JAPAN from SWATOW will be required, until further notice shall be given, to CONFORM in all respects to the PROVISIONS of the aforesaid REGULATIONS, for the Medical Inspection of Vessels arriving from localities infected with Cholera.

Given under my hand, at the UNITED STATES LEGATION, Tokei, Japan, this 21st day of August, 1883.

JNO. A. BINGHAM,
Envoy Extraordinary and Minister
Plenipotentiary of the United
States of America in Japan.

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July 21st, 1883.

W. Y.

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SIR SAMUEL BAKER,

in his work entitled "The Nile Tributaries in Abyssinia," says—"I ordered the dragoman Mahomet to inform the Fakar that I was a Doctor, and I had the best medicines at the service of the sick, with advice gratis. In a short time I had many applicants, to whom I served out a quantity of Holloway's Pills. These are most useful to an explorer, as possessing unmistakable purgative properties they create an undeniable effect upon the patient, which satisfies them of their value."

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in his account of his extraordinary travels in China, published in 1871, says—"I had with me a quantity of Holloway's Ointment. I gave some to the people, and nothing could exceed their gratitude; and, in consequence, milk, fowls, butter, and horse feed poured in upon us, until at last a tea-spoonful of Ointment was worth a fowl and any quantity of peas, and the demand became so great that I was obliged to lock up the small remaining 'stock'."

Sold by all Chemists and Medicine Vendors throughout the World.

May 1st, 1883.

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THE Japan Weekly Mail,

A REVIEW OF
JAPANESE COMMERCE, POLITICS, LITERATURE, AND ART.

No. 20, VOL. I.]

YOKOHAMA, SEPTEMBER 15TH, 1883.

[£24 PER ANNUM.]

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The Japan Weekly Mail

"FAIS CE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL" must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith. It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 15TH, 1883.

BIRTH.

On September 9th, at 219A, Bluff, the wife of H. Moss of a Son.

WEEKLY NOTES.

HIS Majesty the Mikado has telegraphed his condolence to the King of Italy in connection with the recent terrible catastrophe at Ischia. This expression of sympathy will doubtless be received in Italy with much satisfaction, nor does it fail to remind us how completely the barriers that once separated Japan from the rest of the world have been broken down. We understand that the Italians resident in Japan subscribed a handsome sum for the relief of the sufferers and despatched it within two or three days of the receipt of the intelligence of the disaster.

LITTLE has been added during the week to our knowledge of the circumstances which led to a charge of violence being preferred against the police in the United States Court. Our readers will remember that the seaman McCarthy, who was said to have been so cruelly beaten, swore that the assault was committed upon him before his arrival at the Police Station in the Settlement—on his way there, in fact. Of this he was

very positive, and indeed went so far as to state that it was in the Japanese town, near the Station, he was beaten. The evidence of the Japanese police who conducted him to the Station absolutely contradicted this statement, but since then a German, Mr. Harry Witt, has testified that, while passing the Station, at about 11 o'clock in the forenoon, he saw McCarthy put out of the gate, and saw, also, a number of policemen beating him with their clubs. This, we presume, is the operation which McCarthy described as getting "fired out of the gate." He did not seem to find much fault with the method of propulsion, but fortunately for himself his feelings were a little blunted from other causes. As the case stands, however, it is plain either that McCarthy was too drunk to remember times and places, or that the hammering he received at the "firing out" was a supplementary affair. The United States Consul-General has, it is said, lodged a formal complaint with the Local Authorities, and it will be for the interest of both sides to see the matter thoroughly investigated. An opinion appears to prevail that the action of the Japanese has been ill-advised in this case. It was unquestionably a blunder on their part to send the police to the U.S. Consular Court for examination in the first instance. Such a course cannot be justified on any grounds whatsoever. If an American citizen has any complaint to prefer against a Japanese, it is for the Japanese Authorities, and for the Japanese Authorities alone, to take the evidence of their own people. Any other plan would convert the United States Consul into a Judge—not a complainant. It is quite plain that if he is to hold a preliminary examination of the Japanese, as well as the foreign witnesses, and in consequence of that examination to decide whether or no there is just cause of complaint, he virtually forestalls the judgment of the Japanese authorities. The latter may disagree with him, but they can only do so by accepting the responsibility of recording a different verdict on the same evidence. Possibly the United States Consul-General did not fully appreciate the import of his own action, but that he altogether exceeded his functions there can be no manner of question. The Japanese, however, having acceded at the first to his extraordinary request, and allowed two of their constables to appear before the U.S. Court under such unprecedented circumstances, committed themselves to a position from which there was some difficulty in receding. By subsequently refusing to send forward the policemen who were on duty at the time of the alleged

assault, they certainly incurred the danger of grave misinterpretation. But, on the other hand, they could not foresee where the Consul-General's new request might take them. Some shadowy excuse may have presented itself with regard to the constables who had been actually engaged in conducting the prisoner to the Station; but when it came to a question of sending to the Consular Court all the policemen who were on duty in or about the station at the time of the occurrence, the Consul General's enthusiasm was obviously assuming extravagant dimensions. Here, then, the line was drawn. As to the conduct of the police themselves, it would of course be premature to speak, pending the result of an official investigation. But we cannot too strongly emphasize the necessity of either proving the charge to be utterly groundless, or severely punishing the perpetrators of the alleged assault. We are ready to give the police credit for excellent motives, but we cannot forget that they have to contend with serious disadvantages, and that instances are on record where they have abused the powers entrusted to them. Among the lower classes of foreigners in Yokohama the Japanese police are treated, and spoken of, with the utmost disrespect. No opportunity is lost of holding them up to contempt and ridiculing the authority under which they act. A drunken sailor, who in his soberest moments probably thinks that a blow is more suitable than a bow as a method of initiating converse with an Oriental, is not likely to be disabused of his rough notions in this Settlement. In the gin-shop he hears the Japanese described as "niggers," or something even less complimentary, and reeling out of the gin-shop, he finds some of these very "niggers" waiting to arrest him. Naturally he resists, and in nine cases out of ten his resistance is temporarily successful. The police, on the other hand, get badly punished at first, but soon they assemble in sufficient numbers to vindicate their authority. Now on previous occasions where violence was employed—rare occasions it must be admitted—it was precisely when the police found themselves in force that they proceeded to use their clubs, whereas it was precisely then that all necessity and excuse for such a proceeding disappeared. A policeman has to remember always that the only place he can properly obtain redress is in Court. If he tries to "get even" with a recalcitrant prisoner before-hand, he is guilty of a most grave offence. Knowing what infinite pains are taken to inculcate this lesson upon

English constables, and how often the teaching goes for nought, we cannot profess to believe in the perfection of Japanese training. Even granting the ability, there has not yet been time to evolve a system of drill calculated to satisfy the extraordinary conditions that exist here. It is, therefore, natural that foreigners should be ready to suspect the police of abusing their power, and since these suspicions are calculated not only to augment the difficulties the police have to contend with, but also to embitter the relations between the Foreign and Japanese residents, we trust that on this occasion a really searching investigation will be held, and its results publicly announced.

On Wednesday and Thursday Tokiyo and Yokohama were visited by weather which unmistakably proclaimed the vicinity of a typhoon. Indications of serious atmospheric disturbance had already been recorded at the Imperial Meteorological Observatory, Tokiyo, and the coast from Sakai westward round to Kochi was warned. The barometric pressure began to fall on Monday, the readings being lowest in the north-western district and highest in the central, while, at the same time, a rise of temperature amounting to 12 degrees Centigrade was reported from Sapporo. On Wednesday the centre of the storm passed over southern Kishiu. Its greatest force was experienced at Wakayama, Miyasaki, and Nobiru, but nowhere did it attain the dimensions of a hurricane. At Tokiyo and Yokohama it expended its strength in heavy gusts, accompanied by dashes of rain and a close oppressive temperature. This state of things lasted throughout Thursday, but at 6 o'clock in the evening the wind fell more rapidly than it had risen, and on Friday morning the sun rose in a clear sky and shone through that peculiarly crisp, exhilarating atmosphere which always succeeds an autumnal typhoon. We may reasonably hope, now, to escape without further visits from typhoons, in which case the rice harvest will be one of the most abundant that Japan has enjoyed for many years.

THE warlike news which reached us by telegram at the beginning of the week, has been succeeded by more pacific intelligence. The return of the Marquis Tseng to Paris was the signal for the re-opening of negotiations, and if Reuter may be trusted, M. Challemeil-Lacour assumed a tone very much more reasonable and sensible than might have been anticipated from his previous utterances. Indeed, he is reported to have favorably entertained the Marquis' proposals that France should acknowledge Chinese suzerainty in Annam, and agree to the delimitation of the frontier and the demarcation of a neutral zone. Such concessions as these, if France can really persuade herself to make them, will go far to restore her reputation for fairness and liberality. Nobody can pretend to have any doubt as to the result of a struggle between her and China, but there would be more involved in such a war than military or naval achievements. *Le Temps*, writing on the 12th instant, says that

the British Government has agreed to mediate between France and China, so that we may reasonably hope for a peaceful solution. It may cost France an effort to be magnanimous enough to return to the lines mapped out in the Bourée convention, but she is capable, let us hope, of the effort.

• • •

Meanwhile military operations in the south proceed. The blockade of all the ports of Annam and Tonquin was announced by Admiral Courbet on the 17th ultimo, and preparations appear to be in progress for a decisive expedition against the Black Flags. It is in Tonquin, after all, that the real danger lies. If, as last Monday's telegram stated, fifteen thousand Chinese troops have crossed into that province, we may at any moment hear of a collision between them and General Bouet's forces—an event which, with France in her present humour, would put a final period to all negotiations. Thus, the issue is to a great extent dependent upon chance, for we cannot suppose that the Chinese forces are under efficient control from Peking. Their behaviour must be virtually regulated by their immediate commanding officers, and these, for aught we know to the contrary, may desire to precipitate war.

THE funerals of the deceased Princesses, Shige and Masu, took place on the 13th and 15th instant respectively. His Majesty the Emperor is said to be much afflicted by this double bereavement. The deceased children were both daughters of the same lady, yet, strange to say, Japanese etiquette required that they should live in separate palaces and have entirely distinct establishments.

THE two Fukushima ringleaders, Kono and Aizawa, who at their recent trial in Tokiyo preferred such sweeping charges against the police, and who are under sentence of seven and six years imprisonment respectively, are said to have been brought before the lower Criminal Court on a charge of libelling public functionaries. We may therefore hope that the events which caused such a painful impression in connection with the Fukushima troubles will be thoroughly investigated.

SIR HARRY PARKES' arrival in China will already have inspired the foreign residents with a sentiment of more than general thankfulness. Scarcely had he reached his post when the foreign settlement at Canton was made the scene of an outrage of unusual magnitude. Fourteen houses were burned on the 11th instant by a mob of rioters, and had not the foreign community evacuated the place in good time, some loss of life would doubtless have accompanied the destruction of property. The affair has no political significance, we are told, but it is impossible to avoid a conviction that the feeling of animosity against the "foreign devils" must be singularly accentuated and wide spread if a mere rumour of a Chinaman's death at the hands of an European can suffice to pro-

duce such a demonstration. Her Majesty's Representative will have enough to occupy his attention pretty fully if this incident may be taken as an index of the spirit prevailing in China.

NOTES.

We are a little surprised to find the *North China Daily Herald* abandon the courtly and moderate style which generally distinguishes its writing, and adopt, instead, a fashion of controversy that belongs to an entirely different rank of journalism. In its issue of the 25th ultimo appears the following:—

The last number of the *Japan Mail* contains an article which may well excite the astonishment, if not indeed indignation, of most residents in the far East. The editor seems to have had no other reason for writing it than an irresistible impulse to pour the vials of his ridicule upon exterritoriality. In order to compass this end, the writer has accumulated the strangest and most heterogeneous mass of inconsequent allusions into one short paragraph, in which soiled doves, scavengers, jinricksha coolies, night-soil, and youthful gallants pass in succession before one's bewildered gaze. The gist of the whole seems to lie in this remarkable sentence:—"Exterritoriality, in short, is propped and buttressed by such a multitude of pleas, that men are constrained to pity its tottering decrepitude. It is a good old fossil which has survived the disappearance of the stratum it belonged to, and will soon be buried under the ridicule its advocates' hysteria excites." Now it is simply impossible that the writer of these words can believe in their truth. He must know perfectly well that whatever his own opinion on the subject may be, exterritoriality is not ridiculed, it does not require to be buttressed up, men do not pity its tottering decrepitude, it is not in a state of tottering decrepitude at all, and it is by no means likely to be soon buried under any ridicule by whatsoever or whomsoever excited. These are plain facts. But the editor of the *Japan Mail* has before now distinctly asserted that he has never advocated the abolition of exterritoriality by any means, and that the only thing he deprecates, and the Japanese authorities deprecate, is the conflict of jurisdiction which exists among foreigners at the open ports. That is a widely different matter. Since then the editor of the *Japan Mail* seems to have assumed a bolder attitude, and now makes no scruple of ridiculing exterritoriality and pretending to think it is on its last legs. We can only echo the question of a Yokohama contemporary, not generally too squeamish in its remarks, and ask why on earth the editor of the *Japan Mail* doesn't naturalise himself as a Japanese subject without more ado? That would be the only logical step for him to take; for certainly there is little chance of his being able to place himself under Japanese jurisdiction, as he is evidently very anxious to do, by any other means. By the publication of this article, however, the editor of the *Mail* has rendered one very great service to his own paper, though probably without intending it. For a long time he has lain under the imputation of being the paid mouthpiece of the Gaimusho, and of writing whatever he is told to write. That suspicion should now be very greatly shaken, for Mr. Inoué is much too far-sighted a statesman to have dictated an article so admirably calculated to throw ridicule upon the abolition of exterritoriality, even supposing such a change to form part of his political programme.

One of the experiences generally garnered pretty early by men of moderate discernment is this—that the more violent forms of speech, and especially those which directly impute false and dishonest motives to others, have only the result of drawing attention to their employer's intemperance. Our Shanghai contemporary appears to be still without this experience. The deficiency is to be regretted for his own sake, but we cannot pretend to be much concerned about it ourselves. The knowledge will come in time, no doubt, bringing with it a perception that when he declared it "simply impossible" we could believe in the truth of what we wrote, he at once announced the viciousness of his own cause by having recourse to the

weapons of conscious impotence—namely, rudeness and abuse. For the rest, if the *North China Herald* wishes to form a conception of the frivolous absurdities that are employed in Japan as pleas for extraterritorial jurisdiction, he had better examine the files of the English local press for the past two years. He will then learn that the "strange and heterogeneous" instances we grouped together fairly represent the nature of the arguments commonly advanced on behalf of extraterritoriality—arguments which are ridiculed by many of the advocates of the system just as much as by its warmest opponents, and which are weak enough to impart an appearance of decrepitude to any cause. Indeed, we are almost constrained to think that the task of championing extraterritoriality has an enfeebling effect upon the minds of those that undertake it. Even our Shanghai contemporary forgets the ordinary requirements of logic when he approaches the question. He seems to think that his case can be won by simply transforming his opponent's affirmatives into negatives, and describing the results as "plain facts." We do not quarrel with the method: quite the contrary. It savours a little of girlish repartee, but at all events it is quite consistent with the conclusion we find in its context, namely—that the only logical step for the editor of this journal to take is to place himself under Japanese jurisdiction. That step would doubtless promote the solution of an international problem, quite as much as the arguments of the *North China Herald* help to elucidate it.

One point only in our contemporary's article deserves notice. It is this statement:—"The editor of the *Japan Mail* has before now distinctly asserted that he has never advocated the abolition of extraterritoriality by any means, and that the only thing he deprecates, and the Japanese authorities deprecate, is the conflict of jurisdiction which exists among foreigners at the open ports." The italics here are our own. We employ them to emphasize an interpolation which—doubtless without its author's intention—entirely misrepresents our position. We have never said that extraterritoriality ought not to be abolished "by any means." Our firm belief, on the contrary, is that the sooner it can be abolished, the better for foreigners and Japanese alike. But public opinion is not yet ripe for such a comprehensive measure. What is required immediately—what the failure of foreign governments to provide is a disgrace to their intelligence and a serious blot on their good faith—is some measure competent to correct the anomalies and abuses of the present system. That measure must take the form of conferring upon the Japanese a certain limited amount of jurisdiction, and though the prejudice entertained by many of our fellow residents against any step in that direction is natural and well worthy of respect, it must yield sooner or later to the necessities of the case. When it does yield, we shall see a much happier spirit prevail on both sides; we shall see the end of the exclusive attitude which Japan

deems it necessary to preserve in the face of our jealous conservatism; we shall see the removal of the restraints which at present cripple enterprise and render life in Japan irksome and profitless. It is to bring about these results that we labour. The object is sufficiently large to make us quite indifferent to any abuse and misrepresentation we may encounter in its pursuit.

The *Mainichi Shimbun* publishes some items of intelligence from Korea. Trade is said to have seriously declined since the termination of last year's disturbances in Seoul, owing to the grave depreciation in the value of commodities in Japan. The merchants in Wŏn-san are much distressed. The prominent firms of Sumitomo and Ikeda have closed their stores and withdrawn their establishments to Japan, while Messrs. Yamaguchi and Keida of the Miyoshi Company have amalgamated their business with that of the Saiyo Trading Association. The number of the leading houses has decreased by forty per cent. Exports and imports during the first half of last year were valued at yen 744,128: this year they reach only yen 577,723. A decrease of yen 166,405 has thus to be recorded. Part of this depression is ascribed to the opening of the port of In-chhŏn and the consequent diversion of some trade thither. The year's imports into Wŏn-san were valued at yen 348,412: exports yen 229,310, giving an excess in favour of the former of yen 119,102. Imports may be said to have virtually ceased.

THERE can be little question as to the meaning of the order to the German naval officer in command on the China Station, published amongst the telegraphic news in this issue, and it is not difficult to come to the conclusion that Bismarck has made up his mind to afford protection to the shipping trading in the East under the German flag, in view of certain events coming to pass. German bottoms under canvas have greatly increased in the last ten years on the China Coast, and steam tonnage under the same flag has probably trebled in the last seven years, so that there is something at stake should France and China ultimately become belligerents. The telegram is an indirect expression of opinion of the probability of war.

WHEN tramways were established in Tokiyo we used to hope that a walk in Ginza would no longer be made painful by the spectacle of emaciated horses, covered with sores, and incapable of any exercise of muscle that was not evoked by the lash or the goad. The hope has been realized, but only to a limited extent; for though the number of carriages drawn by scare-crow ponies has perceptibly diminished along the routes traversed by the tramways, the vehicles that remain do not appear to be subjected to any efficient police supervision and certainly not to any laws of humanity. It will be remembered that regulations intended to check these evils were enacted by the Municipal authorities of Tokiyo in 1881, but experience has invariably shown

that the suppression of cruelty to animals is a duty which cannot be satisfactorily discharged by official effort alone. In every Western State private associations have been formed to assist the police, and there is no reason whatsoever to suppose that Japan can afford to despise these precedents. But it seems an almost hopeless task to persuade the Japanese that private persons need concern themselves about such matters. In contradiction to the recorded opinion of more than one observer, we venture to think that the people of this country are naturally quite as sensible of humane influences as Europeans or Americans; but the dictates of mercy, like all other impulses, lose their authority from disuse. It is one of the many anomalies presented by the character of the Japanese that, while they are ready to make, and indeed do habitually make, sacrifices almost heroic for the sake of those related to them by blood, they often exhibit a stoical indifference to alien suffering. Indeed one of the leading principles of their social creed is that the results of unsolicited interference are generally worse than the ills it seeks to remedy. This idea, that every man knows his own business better than his neighbour, has become crystallized into an apathetic mood, which in the West would indicate callousness, but cannot here be so easily interpreted. There is certainly no want of kindness in the treatment which animals generally receive in Japan. Anybody familiar with the habits of the people must have been struck by the fact that the Japanese *mago* never carries either whip or stick. He manages his pack-horse entirely by voice, and though his method of fastening the bit is sometimes severe, the invariably excellent condition of the horse is incompatible with any serious ill-treatment. But the use of draft-horses is something quite new in this country, and the drivers of the Tokiyo carriages—men evidently selected from the lowest class of *belto*—appear to be absolutely indifferent to everything except the necessity of pushing their cattle along. The marvel is that the streets are not more often encumbered by dead or dying horses. Much as has been written upon this subject by foreign newspapers in Yokohama, the vernacular press has persistently ignored it, and the citizens of Tokiyo are doubtless, for the most part, quite ignorant of the cruelties daily practised in their midst. Many charitable associations have sprung up of late years in the capital, and it is probable that a very little effort would suffice to enlist active sympathy on behalf of the miserable animals daily tortured to death in the streets. Surely this matter is not unworthy of some attention.

In connection with this subject, we find recorded, in a recent Italian journal, a curious instance of the practical measures resorted to in Rome by the *Società protettrice degli animali*. It appears that the street *Nazionale* is exceedingly steep, and that painful scenes are often witnessed when tired horses have to draw a heavily loaded carriage up the incline. The law provides no complete remedy for such a case, yet it was plain that the sufferings of

the horses were very great. To meet this difficulty the Society determined to station a powerful horse at the bottom of the incline under the charge of a driver who was instructed to employ him in assisting heavy vehicles to ascend the hill. Ultimately it was found necessary to detail a second steed for this duty, as the traffic continues about fourteen hours *per diem*. The sum required for the support of the two horses and their drivers is 16 francs a day, and the journal from which we extract our information urges the Municipality to come to the aid of the Society in this good work. This is truly a practical method of helping over-worked animals. How long will it be before the spirit that prompts such measures finds active expression in Tokijo?

But with whatever deplorable brutality the wretched hacks in Tokijo are treated, they are not deliberately submitted to torture for the pleasure of the torturer. The idea of their drivers is simply to hammer as much work out of them as possible. For a piece of murderous barbarity, followed by wholly inadequate punishment, commend us to the instance cited in the following short story from a London paper. A man named Goss, described as a "labourer," was charged with cruelly ill-treating a horse. Goss, it appeared by the evidence, thrashed the horse for half an hour until its side, back, and loins were one mass of wounds. The wretched animal shortly after being subjected to this horrible treatment was, as might have been expected, taken ill, and ultimately died of lock-jaw. If ever there was a case in which the utmost penalty allowed by law might with propriety have been inflicted surely it was this. The magistrates, however, appear to have thought differently; for they let off the ruffian who had been guilty of an act of barbarity, so gross as to be almost incredible, with a fine of 50s. and costs. This was a merciful decision for Goss, but a most unmerciful one for hosts of dumb animals with no protection against brutality but that afforded by the law: which will soon lose its deterrent effect if it allows them to be actually beaten to death for a few shillings.

Not long ago the Parliament of Great Britain passed a Bankruptcy Bill which reimposed upon the Government functions not at all consistent with the *laissez faire* principles of modern political philosophy. Since then we have seen France provide official protection for atheists against the consequences of a momentary reversion to theism, and now we have the German Reichstag enacting a law by which every workman in the empire is compelled to insure his life. These three measures, considered together, confer upon 1883 the distinction of marking a manifest tendency to return to the old-fashioned methods of paternal government. The motive of Prince Bismarck's Bill is to be found in the growth of socialism, which he connects, doubtless justly, with the sufferings caused by indigence. He thinks that these sufferings are keenest when illness paralyses the energies of

the bread-winner of a family, and he proposes that the new system shall furnish funds against such contingencies. To this end it is now enacted that, with the exception of agricultural laborers, every workman in Germany, whose daily pay does not exceed 6½ marks, must insure his life, *nolens volens*. The idea of extending the system to agricultural laborers also found many supporters in the Reichstag, but the majority opposed it. The insurer is left free to choose between private offices, associations formed by the workmen themselves, and the offices of the Commune, though recourse to the last becomes compulsory in certain events. The amount which the workman has to set aside for this purpose is from 1 to 2 per cent. of his pay, and in cases where this appropriation is found insufficient to maintain insurance associations among the workmen themselves, the office of the Commune is required to make good the deficiency. At its next session the Reichstag proposes to take up the question of compulsory insurance against accident. Curiously enough, almost simultaneously with the adoption of these measures in Germany, the Italian Chamber also voted a scheme for insuring the lives of workmen, with this great difference, however, that in Italy the workman is free to insure or not as he pleases. If he does please, the Government promises him assistance and protection: that is all. It must be confessed that Italy is socially more fortunate than her new ally.

In the Netherlands Court, Wednesday, before F. Krien Esq., Acting Consul, and Messrs. Von Hemert and Hegt, Assessors, the claims of two Japanese against Mr. Jan de Boer, a Dutch subject, were investigated. The case had been adjourned from the 13th of August, when the first plaintiff, one Yamamoto, was examined. The demands arose originally out of the question of the proprietorship of the *Kokusan*, which will soon be tested in H.B.M. Court. Mr. de Boer said that he had entered into a contract with Mr. Whittall to remove the steamer from the Creek to the harbor. He said that in executing his orders he was obstructed by Yamamoto, and assaulted by the second plaintiff, Nakamashiro, the latter singing out to his comrades for a rope, which, being brought, the Japanese tried to tie around him (De Boer). He struggled to free himself, at the same time calling for help, and was rescued by the efforts of Mr. Whiteford, in charge of the vessel, and a Japanese policeman, whom Mr. de Boer accompanied to the Central Station. He did not deny the possibility of his having struck the plaintiffs while trying to elude their grasp. They each subsequently preferred comparatively heavy claims against him for injuries sustained, and medical and other expenses incurred. As, although they had been warned by the Consul to come to the final hearing armed with something more than mere assertion as to the amounts they had expended, they failed to do so, His Honour could not do less than reduce their demand proportionately. After a patient hearing and a short retirement, the Court ordered Mr. Jan de Boer

to pay Yamamoto *yen* 13.60, and Nakamashiro *yen* 8.75, as compensation for the injuries they alleged they had sustained. This is only an incident in the romantic early history of the young steamer *Kokusan*.

Our telegraphic news on Wednesday was of an alarming character, the wire announcing the pillage and burning by a Chinese mob of the Foreign Concession in Canton. It is some consolation, however, to learn that the Foreign residents have escaped without loss of life up to the time of the despatch of our message. The Shamien, on which the Foreign residences and Consulates are built, is a little island in front of the City of Canton, and is connected with it by several bridges over the canal which separates it from the city. The island is partly natural, formed by the silt of confluent waters of the Pearl River, but was improved in 1861 at a cost of \$325,000, and conceded to the English and French. At the present time, covered with well-grown trees, and beautifully laid out, it is one of the prettiest spots in China, and looks like a small piece of England dropped into the big river. The community is a small but sociable one, and the Shamien boasts a Club and a very pretty little theatre. As a rule there are usually one or two steamers at anchor off the Settlement, and the steamers of the Hongkong, Canton, and Macao Steamboat Company lie at the wharf alternately during the night. These boats carry good stands of small-arms and would be a safe refuge for the foreign community, as they are officered by Europeans and Americans who could be relied on to a man in an emergency. Under the circumstances, it is not probable that any foreigners have been injured, but we shall probably not get the particulars till the arrival of the Hongkong papers.

By the courtesy of His Excellency the Minister for Foreign Affairs we have been furnished with additional particulars of the above riots. Three telegrams were received in Tokijo on the 13th instant. They describe the rioters as a disorderly mob, which had been roused to ungovernable fury by the reported murder of a fellow countryman by a foreigner. Particulars of this murder were, at first, variously given, one report being to the effect that a Chinese youth had been shot by a foreigner employed in the Customs Service, while another asserted that the fate of a man who had fallen from a steamer into the water and been drowned was the cause of the excitement. It subsequently transpired, however, that the affair which had excited the popular indignation was the death of a Chinese who was killed on the preceding day (10th instant) by an European petty officer belonging to the steamer *Hankow*. It is, at all events, quite certain that the riots were entirely free from political complexion. The mob broke into the Foreign Settlement and succeeded in burning 12 houses as well as the wharf. It was at first reported that no personal injuries had been sustained by foreigners, but subsequent enquiry showed that several foreign

officers of the Imperial Customs Service had been slightly wounded. The riot was quelled by the Chinese troops, but in the meanwhile the Foreign Consuls hauled down their flags, and ordered their nationals to abandon the Settlement. By 5.45 p.m. on the 12th instant the mob had been completely dispersed, order restored, and three gunboats, two English and one French, had reached Canton.

ENGLAND'S Egyptian policy seems to inspire certain continental journals with a species of sinister joy. Her conquests on the banks of the Nile mark, they say, the highest point of her national trajectory. Henceforth she will follow the descending branch of the curve. So long as she remained behind the natural fortifications of her island home, she was comparatively invulnerable, but now that she has extended her outposts to Egypt, she becomes at once more assailable and more likely to provoke assault. And Europe, if we may credit these croakers, is very willing to be furnished with a pretext for humbling the purse-proud islanders. Scarcely a year has passed since English influence became paramount in Egypt, and already the Continent cries out that it is menaced by cholera entirely because England has more care for her own commercial interests than for those of a considerable portion of the globe. It used to be thought that the British empire represented, in itself, a not inconsiderable portion of the globe, and that a country did not sin very grievously when it preferred its own, to its neighbours', interests. But England is evidently expected to practice principles of exceptional altruism, and it must be confessed that the expectation, though somewhat exacting and slightly ungenerous, is not without an element of subtle flattery. No pains are taken to explain the exact process by which cholera germs have been developed from commercial selfishness. It is sufficient that the disease has appeared in Egypt during the English occupation, and that England is proverbially a nation of grasping traders. Any links that may be wanting in this chain of reasoning are easily supplied by jealousy. There was a momentary hope that this same cholera would drive the British troops home, and in the presence of a prospect so cheering, a French journal exclaimed:—"What a delightful riddance it would be for Europe if we learned, some fine morning, that the whole English army of occupation had quitted Egypt for good!" But as that event did not come off, dissatisfaction has been deepened by disappointment, and quite a little army of malignant mischief-makers are busily trying to pick holes in the commercial monster's armour. This, doubtless, may be regarded as a foretaste of the danger to which England has exposed herself by her escapades at Alexandria and Tel-el-Kebir, but it is a species of danger that generally accompanies success.

In the context of these attempts to saddle England with the responsibility of the cholera in

Egypt, it is interesting to note that some doubts are entertained as to whether the disease is cholera at all. The United States Consul at Smyrna writes to the National Board of Health, Washington, as follows:—

The news from Egypt is less alarming than at the time of my last report. Facts have come to light tending to show that the disease which is decimating the population of Damietta is not Asiatic cholera but a malignant distemper caused by the filthy condition of the town and the unclean habits of its lower classes, whose principal article of food is fish, caught from water polluted and poisoned by being used as a receptacle for offal, the carcasses of diseased animals, etc. During the British occupation many animals perished, and their bodies were dumped into the water regardless of consequences.

This theory is strengthened by the following facts: First—The disease first made its appearance in Damietta on the 4th of June, but was not made public until the 20th, at which time the death-rate became too large for longer concealment.

Second—The mortality is confined almost wholly to natives, who disregard in their mode of living all sanitary requirements.

Third—The disease is limited to a small territory.

Fourth—Its previous course, on the supposition that it is Asiatic cholera, cannot be traced.

Fifth—The disease does not spread with the rapidity of Asiatic cholera. In 1865 the cholera was only two days in traveling from Damietta to Alexandria.

I may add that some of the best physicians of Smyrna do not regard the present scourge in Egypt as the cholera. With the stringent measures taken to confine it within its present limits it is fair to assume that its ravages will not be much further extended, although the death-rate shows little diminution as yet.

A GENTLEMAN, writing over the signature "Tojin," addresses one of our local contemporaries on the subject of two persons riding in one *jirikisha*. He complains that while riding thus with a friend, his vehicle was stopped by a policeman and the coolie's number taken with a view to subsequent proceedings. "Tojin" expresses much surprise at this proceeding, and not without reason. The explanation is, however, very simple. About two weeks ago it was found necessary to notify the owners and drawers of *jirikisha* that only the larger class of vehicle (*ni-nin-nori*), which pays a higher tax than the smaller (*ichi-nin-nori*), is permitted to carry double. The single *Kuruma*, even though it be of the ample dimensions dictated by foreigners' physical development, is not permitted to accommodate two people unless it pays the corresponding tax. The penalty for infringing this regulation—which in itself is reasonable enough—is fixed at 1 yen. It seems a pity, as "Tojin" justly observes, that steps have not been taken to inform the foreign public of this new measure, but the action taken by the police in "Tojin's" case was perfectly in order.

A CORRESPONDENT in Korea of the *N.-C. Daily News* forwards proclamations just issued by the King. They are four in number and very verbose. The first is a "Warrant for the banishment and death of certain conspirators." For "opposing the teaching of literature," it exiles three men to a distant island from which escape is dangerous and orders their imprisonment within a bamboo enclosure. Some of "the great" have been "plotting secretly." His Majesty enquires:—"What has our country ever done to them, to have incurred such dangerous ill-will on their part?" and adds:—I

cannot be expected to present them with the Sword of State that I may connive at My own destruction and surround Myself with their enmity; therefore let the prisoners Tseng Tsien-tê and Tsao Chai-hsia be exiled and confined within the bamboo enclosure, and the prisoners Li Tsao-wan and Li Yuen-ching suffer the penalty of death." Number 2 conveys "Pardon and admonition to suspects." Number 3 pronounces "Sentence of death on guilty nobles in deference to Censors and public opinion." It means evidently that his Majesty's lenience has been authoritatively blamed by the Censors; as it orders that four of the prisoners sentenced by the first proclamation to exile in an island be decapitated—a most inhuman, injudicious, and cowardly proceeding, as vile as that which beheaded Raleigh after his release was promised him. The blood of these men is not likely to cement the foundation of the Korean throne. Number 4 provides for the banishment of four other alleged criminals to the island Shan Pei Tung and their confinement thereon.

In a more recent letter the correspondent gives some particulars of one of the nobles implicated in the late sedition:—"Pu Teiyang," he writes, "is a bad man and full of schemes, who owes his rise to the corruption of his family. Years ago, when the House of Mi held the power of State, Pu's father and uncle, by dint of spending tens of thousands of taels in bribery, procured for themselves high and lucrative posts, in which they ruled to the misery and wretchedness of the people. Pu, the son, rose to be a Hanlin, and his father and uncle were promoted to the second rank. When the Dai In Kun came into power their crimes were made public, and, driven to desperation, they secretly joined the conspirators while openly praising the progressive part. Their unworthy son afterwards fell a victim to his friend, Tsao Tung-shan, who eventually became the possessor of his favourite concubine and nearly all his fortune. Such was the shameful career of one of Korea's foremost noblemen."

An interesting meeting has been held recently between Governor Bowen of Hongkong and a deputation of his Chinese subjects, when some matters of interest to both European and Celestial communities were discussed. The *Daily Press* says that, a delegation of the Tungwah Hospital Committee and other Chinese gentlemen having waited upon His Excellency and made sundry representations on affairs which they thought required the attention of the Executive, in due and rapid course Sir George Bowen forwarded his reply through the official channel. After considering some points of detail in which he agrees with the views of the deputation, His Excellency deals with the important subject of gambling, as laid before him. The Committee request the suppression of lotteries on account of the social and moral injury caused by them. The Governor replies that the police have orders to act in the suppression of public gambling with as great energy as

the law will permit, and says that, if the existing law is not sufficient, the Government will propose a new Ordinance on this subject. He suggests that Chinese owners of houses can materially assist the efforts of the Government by not allowing their houses to be used for gambling or other immoral purposes—a very wholesome suggestion which, it is to be hoped, Chinese owners of property will duly note and act upon, thus giving practical effect to the views they have expressed. Next, the Committee wish some steps to be taken to prevent married women from deserting their husbands in China and coming to Hongkong. They recommend that such women should be delivered up to the Chinese authorities and by them restored to their husbands and families. They urge also that a law punishing adultery criminally should be enacted in Hongkong as in China. The answer of the Governor is clear and to the point. He says the Government of Hongkong has much difficulty in dealing with questions of this nature, in consequence of the importance attached by the English people to the right and principles of personal liberty; and although this personal liberty may in some cases, such as the present, seem to entail undesirable consequences, yet His Excellency is sure that the gentlemen who waited on him, and have so many proofs of the advantages which it confers on all residents in this Colony, will not desire that it should be unnecessarily curtailed. It will be noted, however, that what the deputation proposed was that in the case of women this liberty should most decidedly be curtailed. He Excellency goes on to say that persuasion is the only weapon that can be employed, and that the Registrar-General has instructions to give every assistance in his power towards inducing runaway Chinese wives to return to their husbands. It is hard to imagine what more could be done; though one can scarcely escape the reflection that His Excellency credits his subordinate with the "voice of the charmer." The idea then arises of how his charms will operate upon the recalcitrant ladies, "charm he never so wisely." The next question touched upon is that of hawkers' stalls. The deputation requests that hawkers may be allowed to have stationary stalls in the streets, and His Excellency, without making any definite promise, says that in all well regulated cities certain rules are necessary for securing order and cleanliness, that nothing further is contemplated in Hongkong, and that, in carrying out the regulations, the police have strict orders to exercise forbearance as far as the law permits. The *Press* remarks that this point had been already considered in the time of one of His Excellency's predecessors in the administration, when another Chinese deputation was at variance *inter se* upon the subject, and that it is difficult to know what the agitators really do want. Another question touched upon is that of distrains for rent, the Chinese complaining that the new system of having to take out distrains through the Supreme Court causes delay. This is a matter of detail as to which the Governor says there must be some misap-

prehension on the part of the deputation. The last and most important question is that of the bankruptcy law. On this point our contemporary remarks that "the present bankruptcy law is defective and unsatisfactory in every respect; its defects have been repeatedly commented on, and it is satisfactory to be at length informed that the Attorney-General is now preparing a new Ordinance on bankruptcy which will shortly be laid before the Legislative Council."

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Regarding the demanded surrender to Chinese on the mainland, the extradition as it were, of absconding wives—a demand which is not without a comic element in its utter unreasonableness, and display of ignorance on the part of those who propound it of International Law in general and English Law and prejudice in particular—the *Daily Press* moralizes in a style which is almost Pecksniffian. "In the Blue Book on Restrictions on Chinese, we find no mention of this matter as a grievance under which the Chinese population of Hongkong were groaning. Had it been so mentioned it would hardly have commanded the sympathy of the English humanitarians. The representation of the Committee serves to show how unfitted the Chinese really are to take any direct part in the Government of the Colony. They have not yet imbibed the spirit of English freedom, and if they were allowed to have their own way would cause the law of this Colony to be assimilated to that of China, including its tyranny and some of its barbarities. The position of the woman in China is one of degradation and hardship. Whether wife or concubine she is practically in the absolute power of the man and possesses no rights in her own person. The treatment she receives is often cruel, as it must necessarily be under such a system, human nature being what it is."

MR. KELLAR gave the first of his series of three magical entertainments on Wednesday evening in the Gaiety Theatre to, for Yokohama, a fairly good audience. Verily, modern magic has advanced beyond the wildest dreams of the necromancers of the middle ages; and Mr. Kellar is one of its most brilliant exponents. Gifted with a gentlemanly manner, pleasant voice, and fluent and correct delivery, he at once impresses his visitors favorably; while his tricks of prestidigitation are executed with more than ordinary dexterity. The three figures that he had on the stage are of themselves worth three times an ordinary show. While "Arno" was executing a medley upon his cornet, "Clio," at the request of one of the audience sketched a picture of the late Earl of Beaconsfield producing a wonderful resemblance to the dead statesman. Asked to touch an eye and the memorable curl, the obedient automaton laid its pencil upon them. "Arno," mysterious Oriental, in an incredible short time did astounding sums of multiplication, squared and cubed as fast as the numbers could be called, and, more astounding still, extracted cube roots as swiftly. Was not Master A. R.

astonished when he found the glassful of brand that he was holding transformed into a glass of water; and the rings that he himself had hampered up and rammed into a pistol shot out as good as new. Mr. Kellar gave Maskelyne's magical cabinet trick. Bound and imprisoned, he released himself at will, rang bells, played tambourines, threw off his coat, and in a few seconds was discovered tied and seated as before. Probably the well known and jocular resident who consented to be shut up with the wizard in the cabinet will not care to repeat the experiment. We have not heard from his own lips the secret of his seclusion; but believe that he was rapidly unfrocked. In fine, as Mr. Kellar will shortly leave, it will be a pity if the public of Yokohama to an individual does not witness his entertainment. The performance has the additional merit of commencing punctually; and the intervals being very short there is no tedium. In all the magician is not before his audience much, if at all, more than an hour and a half, during which time, however, the interest does not flag for a moment.

SHANGHAI was visited by an electric storm on the night of Saturday the 1st instant. Some curious phenomena were observed. The oppressive heat of previous days had warned the inhabitants that some meteorological disturbance was imminent. The *North-China Daily News* relates that, at about 7 p.m. on Saturday, heavy banks of cloud floated over the Settlement from the North-west and North, accompanied by violent gusts of wind and lurid flashes of lightning in the South. At 7.15 rain began to fall. At 7.30 a vivid flash of bluish lightning filled the whole of the visible heavens, and simultaneously there was a streak of silver coloured lightning in the South. In less than three seconds, a deafening peal of thunder shook houses and made window-panes rattle, and rain came down in torrents. Lightning in vivid flashes was followed almost instantaneously by resounding thunder. The last flash was the most vivid of all and the clap was the loudest. It was this discharge that did most damage. The following are some of the incidents of this terrific storm. A foreign constable on duty in the Woosung Road felt a shock as if he was holding a powerful electric machine and was unable to let go. Four Chinamen who were near him were knocked down flat in the road. The electric fluid struck one of the Municipal telegraph wires, and, communicating with the transmitter at the Hongkew Station, smashed the box that covered the transmitter and knocked the sergeant on duty, about five feet distant, out of his chair at the office desk. The Chinese prisoners said this was "joss pidgin," because he had shot a number of captured dogs lately. The Electric Company's lamps all went out, as the fluid was absorbed by some of the wires and flew to the dial at the station in Chapoo Road. An electric spark projected for some time about two inches from this dial. In the meantime, a small portion of the glass was melted and the iron-work was blackened. A house at the corner of the

Seward and Wuchang Roads was struck, and the corner wall was rent asunder. The fluid first struck the edge of the tiled roof of a house in the same block. Just below this there is a verandah with a corrugated iron roof, and the lightning ran along this to the corner of the other house over an iron telegraph pole connected with the shattered angle by a stay which was wrenched away. Many other strange effects are reported. At the Astor House, where the Electric Company's wires are still attached to a lamp in the Bowling Alley, the electric fluid ran along the wire, filled the alley with light, and burnt some leaves out of a book that was in one of the verandahs of the Hotel. At the Central Police Station, the electric fire-alarm rang, and the apparatus, through contact with the current, was so charged with electricity that the alarm rang again some minutes afterwards when the sergeant on duty went to put the bell-plug in. Happily the electric fury was of short duration, having expended itself at 7.45, or within a quarter of an hour of its actual outburst. At 8.15 the weather was fine, and the rain had ceased. The thermometer during the storm fell eleven degrees. On the whole this manifestation appears to have been one of the most remarkable atmospheric electrical commotions on record.

Among the potentialities of the future is one that a vessel coming from San Francisco to Yokohama may bring into this harbor, trailing at its stern, a ton or two of the precious metals. At least that is the harriolation of a Nevada Editor. This gentleman reminds us that the fact has long been known to chemists that the water of the ocean contains an appreciable quantity of gold and silver in solution. Scientific experiments have demonstrated the fact that each ton of sea water contains about one milligramme of gold and two of silver. To this amount these precious metals have frequently been extracted from the sea water, but like the manufacture of diamonds, the expense necessarily incurred in the operation rendered the work unprofitable. For more than a century, chemists in all parts of the world have been endeavoring to discover some unexpensive process by which the precious metal thus in solution could be collected, but thus far without success. In this context we are told that, some years ago a gentleman who graduated at one of the Eastern colleges when a young man, and subsequently followed a sea-faring life for a number of years, a pioneer in the gold fields of California, and one of the first to successfully work the refractory ores east of the Sierras, undertook to solve this problem. He has spent many years of hard labor and much money in the work, and the result of his study and labor is destined ere long to astonish the world. That his efforts have been crowned with success there is no longer any doubt, and the means employed are as simple as the results are wonderful. It would be an unpardonable breach of confidence to enter into details, and the reader must be content for the present to know that it consists of a simple yet ingenious ap-

paratus, fastened to the keel of a ship, which, being thus submerged and moved through the water, collects and securely holds every particle of the precious metal with which it comes in contact. It is estimated that the instrument will collect at least a ton of gold and silver on a single voyage from San Francisco to Yokohama. If the name of the inventor should be given it would not be a strange one, for everybody on the Pacific coast knows, or at least has heard, of Captain Jim Townsend, of Mill Creek.

In recent paragraphs and extracts we have alluded to actual cannibalism in China and elsewhere, and superstitious scares, such as that which even to this day accuse the Jews, among ignorant European populations, of inhuman and ghoul-like atrocities. The correspondent in Korea of the *N.-C. Daily News* mentions a similar illusion which the lower classes of the community in the peninsula are said to entertain toward their Japanese guests. He writes:—

On the 9th day of the 6th moon, which was the anniversary of the *Emute* against the Japanese, a rumour was prevalent that the latter were going to offer some Koreans as a sacrifice to the spirits of the murdered men. This caused considerable agitation, but did not come to anything. Another report said that these same terrible Japanese intended to draw blood from Korean girls and children for the purpose of concocting medicine. So great was the alarm among the maidens in the Capital that many betook themselves to flight, and others actually got married off post-haste without caring much what sort of husbands they were getting so long as they could save themselves from the impending danger to the unwedded. A third rumour was to the effect that the long drought that has prevailed in Korea was caused by the Japanese having hoisted on tall flagstaffs their national standard, the device on which is the Sun. The case here was plain enough. The music played at the Japanese Legation, too, had effectually dispersed the wind and driven away the rain. The God of Drought had been invoked by Japanese to blight the country of the Koreans. Last summer a similar period of drought was broken up immediately after the slaughter of the Japanese, which proves the latter event to have been the will of Heaven. Ah! we are a progressive people, and can read the signs of the times. All the same, these absurd and injurious rumours have a very bad effect upon the relations of the two peoples.

THE following telegram has been addressed by His Majesty the Mikado to His Majesty the King of Italy:—

The terrible catastrophe which occurred in Ischia greatly touches my heart. I desire to express my sincere sympathy for the sufferers and for the Italian people generally.

FINANCIAL articles in the London papers draw attention to a slackening in shipbuilding, which industry for years now has been going on at a rapid rate. The additions made to the mercantile marines of the world have resulted in depressing freights to such an extent that a pause in building has become necessary. In consequence, new orders have almost ceased to be given upon the Clyde. It is said, indeed, that the yards have orders that will keep them fully engaged for nine months or a year; but new orders for some time past have been growing scarcer and scarcer, and now have ceased to come in. A falling-off in shipbuilding must have a serious effect upon the iron trade; for activity in marine construction has materially contributed to keep up prices and to maintain business. If now there were to be a serious

check, the consumption of iron would decidedly fall off. It is probable, however, that with a series of good agricultural years trade would improve so considerably as to give employment to all the vessels now afloat; and with increasing trade no doubt owners would recover courage and would again begin to order new ships. Besides, it is to be borne in mind that in no department are greater improvements being made. Types rapidly grow old, and competition is so keen that there is a constant demand for larger and quicker vessels. Lastly, the losses are heavy every year. Although, therefore, the activity of shipbuilding has been so great of past years, the real additions to the mercantile marines of the world are not so great as they appear.

ALL men are born to trouble, but some are more richly dowered than others in this respect. We should be inclined to say that Mr. James McDougall has no reason to complain that his "peck" is not fairly filled. He has just been released from prison in Oneida County by Governor Cleveland, whose explanation of this act of clemency is as follows:—

The wife of the convict left him, and for some time he could not discover her whereabouts. He learned that she was living with another man, ostensibly as a domestic, but, as it now seems to be conceded, actually in a very different relation. The husband's repeated requests that she should return to him and restore his child, which she had taken with her, were refused, and his efforts in that direction were resented by the man with whom she was living. The crime of which the prisoner was convicted consisted in his bursting into the house where his wife had taken up her abode, in the night, apparently with the idea of reclaiming her and his child. He was confronted by the man who had alienated and was harboring his wife, and was by him shot and nearly killed. As soon as he had sufficiently recovered from his wounds to appear in court, he was convicted of burglary in the first degree, and sentenced to prison for ten years. Nearly six years of his term of imprisonment having expired, I have but little difficulty in agreeing with the judge who sentenced him and the attorney who prosecuted the indictment in their opinion that he should be released.

It is with much regret that we announce the decease of the infant Princess Masu, who expired at the Urugasumi Palace on Saturday, at 1 o'clock p.m., thus surviving her half-sister, the Princess Shige, by a few hours only. The Princess Masu was but 10 months old. Her illness was of a similar nature to that which carried off her sister on the preceding day. This is the fourth child His Majesty the Emperor has lost within the past few years.

At Dover the two 80-ton guns in the turret at the end of the Admiralty Pier were tested. The authorities have for some considerable time been looking forward to a favourable day on which to test these immense guns, and as there was a favourable west-south-west wind on that day, they took advantage of it. When the wind is in this direction it blows off land, and the danger of the concussion causing a downfall of the overhanging cliffs, or otherwise damaging the houses along the sea front, is reduced to a minimum. A large multitude of people assembled near the Admiralty Pier and along the seashore. On account, however, of the large number of passing vessels, it was found impos-

sible for several hours to get a clear range for the shots seaward. There was a signalling party on an elevation on the Western Heights, who communicated with those at the turret by means of flags. At length the turret was seen to go round, and number one shot was fired in a straight line for Calais. There were five rounds fired. The charge was increased at each succeeding shot. Prismatic powder was used, and each shell weighed 18 cwt. The turret worked most satisfactorily.

THE *Pall Mall Budget* suggests that the educated Baboo will have to do his best if he does not want to be eclipsed by the educated Kaffir. The latter is going along fast. He has already got as far as having a newspaper of his own, and this journal appears to contain the civilized refinement of matrimonial advertisements. A Port Elizabeth newspaper gives us a specimen of one of these advertisements which appeared in the *Isigidimi* during last month:—

MARRIAGE: The advertiser, a Kaffir, begs to announce to all girls that he wants a good-looking spinster to be joined with him in holy matrimony. She must be of average height, of bright copper colour, age between seventeen and twenty-one years. The qualifications required are that she is efficient in book-learning and a thorough good hand at all domestic work. The advertiser is tired of eating stamped mealies and unleavened bread. He is of ordinary height, twenty-five years of age, pretty, with a good moustache. In stock and property he is worth £135, has a healthy constitution and strong arms. He understands how to work. The girl who, on reading this advertisement, may choose to accompany him through thick and thin in this life, may depend upon her choice. Those willing to reply to this advertisement must enclose their photos, that will be submitted to the advertiser and his friendly advisers for selection therefrom. Rejected photos will be returned after the decision is come at. "Ponies" (very short girls) need not apply. Address A.B.C., Port Elizabeth.

"We are not going to comment," says the Port Elizabeth journalist, "but we may remark that the natives are certainly advancing."

THE German newspapers call it an American duel when two persons pull straws to determine which of them shall commit suicide. It is a mistake to call this duelling on the American plan, for such a method of appeasing wounded honor is unknown in the United States, but this is not saying that the practice might not be introduced with profit. As a method of getting rid of objectionable people it is only second to the Japanese custom of hara-kiri. If all the disagreeable persons in the United States could be paired off and made to pull straws to see which ones should kill themselves, there would be a riddance of half of the whole number at once. Then the survivors might be made to repeat the performance until they were all gone but one, and the chances are that he would soon be overcome with remorse and also kill himself. The "American" plan is worth thinking about.

—*Alla*.

MESSRS. KELLAR and CUNARD gave their third performance in Yokohama last evening to a good house. The programme in the first part was very similar to that of Wednesday, consisting of brilliantly executed sleight-of-hand tricks and illusions. After the first interval, Mr. Collins, a young musician of evident promise, played several airs on the cornet and was twice enthusiastically encored. Mr. Kellar was then bound by two well-known residents (one at least of whom

should be able to tie even a Gordian knot), and was imprisoned in the cabinet with the invariable result of resonant tumult and spiritual manifestations, which ceasing, the magician was found tightly pinioned as before. Mr. Kellar explained the secret of the knots, a secret which, in view of his expected return within a few months from Shanghai, whither he and his confederate go by mail steamer to-morrow, we decline to divulge. They will be heartily welcomed back by the Yokohama community.

At about 3.45 this morning, the fire-bell gave notice of a fire, and within a few minutes thereafter both the Relief and Victoria steam fire engines were on the spot; their services were, however, scarcely required as the fire had complete mastery of the small building in which is originated, a blacksmith's workshop and dwelling-house at No. 31, lately occupied by M. Maigre, and in which the business was still conducted by his successor. The efforts of the brigade-men were chiefly directed to preventing the spread of the fire to the adjoining buildings, and in this they were successful. The fire was eventually subdued by about 5 a.m. when the engines returned to their stations.

A CORRESPONDENT of *Nature* mentions a fish recently acclimatised in England which would be a valuable addition to the ornamental waters of Japanese gardens. The specimens which attracted his attention had been presented by the Duke of Bedford to the International Fisheries Exhibition, and were exhibited in one of the tanks of the Aquarium. They are some of a number which Lord Arthur Russell succeeded in importing from Wiesbaden in March, 1874, and which were placed in a pond at Woburn Abbey in Bedfordshire. Owing to the succession of cold summers these "Orfes," as they are called, did not breed until last year, but may now be considered acclimatised. The Orfe, whose bright yellow or golden colours resemble those of the goldfish or golden tench, is, like these two latter fish, a permanent variety of a wild and much less brightly coloured race, belonging to the same genus as, but specifically distinct from, the chub, with which it was confounded by some writers. Its systematic name is *Leuciscus idus*; of vernacular names those of "Aland" and "Nerfling" are those most generally used in Germany, whilst the Swedes know it by the name of "Id." The name "Orfe" refers to the golden-cloured variety only, which has been cultivated for centuries in inclosed waters in Bavaria. Willoughby knew it well; he says in his *Historia Piscium* (Oxon, fol. 1686), p. 253:—"At Augsburg we saw a most beautiful fish, which they call the 'Root oerve,' from its vermilion colour, like that of a pipin apple, with which the whole body is covered, except the lower side, which is white." As in the golden tench, individuals of pure golden-yellow tints are scarce, the majority retaining marks of their origin from a plain-coloured ancestry in brownish spots or blotches on some part of their body. The ordinary size

of this species is ten or twelve inches; but it is known to have attained to double that size and to a weight of six pounds. The writer in *Nature* adds that the Orfe will thrive in all inclosed waters suitable to roach and goldfish. As an ornamental fish it is preferable to the latter on account of its larger size, livelier habits, and rapid reproduction; it takes the bait, and is eaten in Bavaria. As an ornament in ponds and aquaria the goldfish will always hold its own, but for waters of any extent and free from pike and perch there is no more ornamental fish than the Orfe, a worthy rival of the golden tench, which has been so successfully acclimatised by Lord Walsingham. To introduce the Orfe into Japan would be a worthy achievement for any persevering admirer of the delightful *genre* of gardening peculiar to this country.

THE *Echo* thinks it was a mistake for Lord Ripon to again refer Mr. Ilbert's Bill to the different Local Governments for their opinion. "It is not easy to understand the necessity for this step. Before the Government of India decided to make the alterations proposed by the Bill, all the Local Governments were consulted, and all, with the exception of Curg, the least important of them all, reported in favor of the Bill. To send back the Bill to the Local Governments, is to invite an expression of opinion less favorable to it than the one originally given, and that means the loss of the Bill."

A RECENT number of the *Shen Pao* contained some curious rumours. One was to the effect that the Dai In Kun died recently in captivity at Pao-tung Fu; another that the chief of the Annamese Mission at Peking had fallen mortally sick in consequence of the Chinese Government having failed to send assistance to his country against the invasions of the French.

A BLUE-BOOK just issued by the British Government contains reports on the mineral wealth of Korea. The explorers found numerous veins of iron, copper, lead, and also some gold. These were worked in the rough native fashion, and it is noticeable that no indications of coal were found. In twenty days' journey ten mines were seen, and many of them, especially those of iron and copper, are said to be very rich in excellent ore.

THE *Alla* says:—If it is true that France has remonstrated with the United States against allowing our manufacturers to fill orders for military arms for the Chinese Government, it only shows that the European Republic has subjected herself to the danger of a snub. China has a right to buy arms and ammunition in this country if she pleases. If she sends these arms to the rebellious Tonquinese, that is a matter which France must settle with China, not with the United States. Our Government would have no right to demand of China to know what she is doing with the arms.

FRANCE AND CHINA.

THE telegrams which we publish in this issue present the Franco-Chinese embroglio in a more hopeless light than ever. "Fifteen thousand Chinese troops are said to have crossed the Tonquin frontier; the French have decided to send strong reinforcements to Tonquin, and the threatened rupture between France and China is being anxiously discussed in all quarters." Such is the latest intelligence, dated London, September the 6th. Careful readers of the telegrams received by the last American mail will have observed matter which serves as a fitting preface to these announcements. A despatch, dated New York, August the 5th, said that M. BOUREE, who recently represented the Republic at Peking, had waited on M. CHALLEMEL-LACOUR on the preceding day, and informed the Minister for Foreign Affairs that in spite of China's pacific declarations she was continuing her warlike preparations. M. BOUREE added that the Chinese forces are excellently armed and drilled à *Euro-péenne*; that guns of long range are mounted in their forts; that in his opinion Peking is virtually impregnable, and finally, that he strongly advised M. CHALLEMEL-LACOUR to come to an amicable understanding with the Middle Kingdom. Acting, *more suo*, on this excellent counsel, M. CHALLEMEL-LACOUR had an interview, the following day, with the Marquis TSENG, from whom he demanded explanations with regard to the Chinese troops massed on the frontier of Tonquin, threatening that unless their recall was ordered immediately, France would declare war. The Marquis could give no decisive reply, but asked for time to communicate with Peking. Just a month after these events comes the intelligence which we publish to-day, its significance not a little augmented by the defiance it seems to throw in the teeth of French menace.

But, after all, what are we to understand by the fact—if fact it be—that the Chinese forces have crossed the Tonquin frontier? Does it mean that China has at last roused herself to face all the contingencies of a struggle with a first class European Power? Many people will be reluctant to admit any such interpretation. Unvaried and often repeated experiences have taught everybody to regard the Middle Kingdom as a species of unwieldy semi-comatose animal, which uses its head with tolerable facility but possesses no intelligent command over its limbs. Ready enough to vindicate her title to consideration by an

appeal to abstract principles or a reference to national traditions, China invariably shrinks from any physical effort which might compromise her dignity, being content to docket and file the insults she receives, as though she thought to persuade the world that a day of reckoning is deferred only by her magnanimity. Nothing short of a very firmly rooted faith in her inability to overcome her own inertia could have rendered people so indifferent as they showed themselves to the outcome of the recent negotiations at Shanghai. For certainly a nation was never more effectually deprived of every loop-hole to escape peacefully from an undeserved dilemma. To fight or be hopelessly humiliated, these were the only alternatives offered her. It is impossible to conceive anything more insulting and less considerate than the policy which M. TRICOU is said to have pursued in his Shanghai negotiations. We shall not do him the injustice of supposing that he was primarily responsible for that policy; but that its most offensive features lost nothing by his method of presenting them, is a presumption warranted not less by the reputation he left behind him in Japan than by the mood he is known to have carried with him to Shanghai. China was told, in so many words, that she had no concern with any events which might occur on her borders; that she had no concern with any forcible arrangement which a foreign power might make there for the purpose of opening up a new route to her territories; that she had no concern with the fate of a neighboring tributary state where some twenty thousand of her own subjects are residing; that though it had formerly pleased the Government at Paris to acknowledge her right to concern herself about these matters, it did not please them to continue that acknowledgment any longer, and that finally she must either abandon all her pretensions and forego, without question, whatever measures she had deemed essential to her safety, or be prepared for the chastisement with which France would certainly visit her interference. This was the pill which China was required to swallow. No attempt was made to gild it in any way. France reckoned, as indeed others also reckoned, upon the illimitability of Chinese tolerance, not reckoning, however, that there might be a worse alternative in China's eyes than even a war of defeat, and that were she driven to accept that alternative, the strength of her resolution might be proportionate to the patience which preceded it.

It is not, of course, absolutely impossible that this passage of Chinese troops across the Tonquin frontier may be merely another move in the game of "bluff" which the Government at Peking are supposed to have been playing in obedience to precedent and inclination. But before entertaining this hope, we have to remember that France had distinctly pledged herself to regard any such manœuvre as a declaration of war. China cannot have forgotten that. She knew the full import of the step she was taking, and not even her inimitable reputation for drawing back at the eleventh hour is sufficient to weaken the significance of what she has done. On the other hand, it will be seen from the last telegrams in the series just received, that the trouble has not yet passed beyond the stage of peaceful discussion. The Marquis TSENG is said to have returned to Paris with the intention of resuming negotiations, a fact which looks as though the action of the Chinese troops may have been planned solely as a practical method of drawing France's attention to China's real position and her determination not to be thrust out of court unheard. British mediation is again urged by the London Press, but the nature of the relations at present existing between France and the United Kingdom is unfortunately ill suited to friendly intervention. Still there is a loop-hole, and we may be quite sure that both sides will be equally anxious to avail themselves of it. One of the best features of the affair is the skill with which China has removed the scene of the discussion from Shanghai to Paris. The rude, blustering policy pursued at the former place was not calculated to serve either the interests of peace or the reputation of France, and its elimination, as well as the elimination of its representative, from the controversy is a matter for congratulation. Nevertheless, it would be idle to pretend that the situation is not extremely critical. Whatever China's will may be, the presence of her troops in the field introduces a new and grave element of complication. Her ability effectually to control their action at such a distance is doubtful, and any collision between them and the French would at once carry matters to a fatal crisis. We have seen the Cabinet at Paris publicly place a paltry casualty among the salient motives of the Tonquin campaign, and we are, therefore, at no loss to discern the consequences of an encounter between Chinese and French troops on the banks of the Red River.

A HONGKONG JOURNAL ON
EXTERRITORIALITY.

WE are not quite sure whether gratitude or amusement is the dominant sentiment inspired by a perusal of the *Hongkong Daily Press*' latest dissertation on the subject of exterritoriality. Our colonial contemporary is so very respectable that we feel constrained to listen to him with the utmost gravity, but the effort is a little trying. It was a worthy and characteristic *coup* to enlist Christianity among the supporters of a system so admirably efficient and so charitably considerate of national prejudices. "On exterritoriality," says the *Daily Press*, "the safety of Europeans and Americans in non-Christian countries greatly depends." Christianity has broad shoulders, but a little more reverence for its reputation might have induced our contemporary to keep it out of this context altogether. "Men," says COLTON, "will wrangle for religion; write for it; fight for it; die for it; anything but—live for it." Excellent representatives of New Testament morality are those gentlemen who force their manufactures upon "non-Christian" peoples with bayonets and blunderbusses, and whose lives in "non-Christian" countries are a long epic of charity, humility, and toleration. On the whole, religion had better not be imported into this discussion. It will gain nothing by contact with such elements.

The reason of our gratitude for the homily of the *Daily Press* is that the *naïveté* of its arguments considerably strengthens the cause we advocate. Our colonial contemporary "doubts very much whether the Japanese themselves do practically entertain the strong objections to exterritoriality put forth on their behalf by their English organ." He thinks that, "under existing conditions it is the system which works best for all parties." He opines that to remove it would be to impose upon Japan "a responsibility the burden of which would prove heavy." In short he pirouettes delicately on the outskirts of the question but never gets fairly within its circumference. The point is not whether exterritorial jurisdiction has proved in practice a failure or a success: not whether the Japanese are seriously opposed or comparatively indifferent to its exercise. Exterritoriality might be one of the most perfect devices ever conceived by human wisdom. It might be free from every one of the defects and abuses which render it a disgrace to civilized intelligence. It might be all this, and yet the deadlock into which Japan's foreign intercourse has

drifted would remain as stubborn as ever. That deadlock is this. Japan refuses to remove the restrictions to which foreigners residing within her territories are subjected by treaty, unless foreigners, on their side, remove the restrictions similarly imposed upon the exercise of her authority within her territories. "You do not trust us!" they complain. "Set us the example!" she retorts. "Treat us as we treat your people when they come to us!" the foreigners urge. "Allow yourselves to be similarly treated!" the Japanese reply. It ought to be plain enough that under such circumstances the practical working of exterritorial jurisdiction is a mere incident. To say that the system should be perpetuated because it accomplishes certain ends, is like telling a man that he has no reason to complain of losing his leg provided the amputation be neatly performed. If foreigners are determined to perpetuate a scheme specially adapted, twenty-five years ago, to a condition of partial intercourse, they have themselves to thank for the fact that that intercourse remains partial. Our Colonial contemporary thinks that the *Japan Mail*'s efforts in the matter of exterritoriality are "worthy of a better cause." Yet the cause is not a bad one; for on its issue depends the nature of Japan's foreign relations. We are living here under conditions which, if not absolutely intolerable, are at all events humiliating to our tact and inconsistent with our professions. We want to be treated with greater liberality, but we refuse to make the pettiest concession ourselves. If Japan needed to be taught the nature of a treaty and the obligations it imposes, we have instructed her after a fashion that could not fail to remove every shadow of uncertainty from her mind. Perhaps it might have been more convenient had she been left a little ignorant, but certainly her teachers have no business to cry out if she profits by her lesson. We enjoy privileges to-day that cannot be based upon any rendering of the treaties, however distorted. We want more privileges. Japan's answer is that so long as we decline to offer her any prospect of treating with us on an equal footing, she proposes to abide by the treaties she has, and expects us to abide by them also. Which side is the more likely to yield? We do not pretend to foretell, but we do say that it is time to change a policy which has been fruitlessly pursued here for the past twenty years and which has ended by landing both sides in a wretched deadlock. It is the habit of some minds to think that everybody who advocates a more liberal and trustful at-

titude towards this country is inspired by base motives—is, in short, a traitor to the cause of his own nationals. Were this notion universal, the position would be indeed hopeless, for though many a just and generous man may be unwilling to take a step whose full consequences he cannot discern, none but a knave and a bully will believe that to advocate justice and generosity is unpatriotic or traitorous. That such an evil spirit should find expression and toleration is a remarkable illustration of the sentiments which have been engendered in vulgar minds by the mistaken character of foreign policy towards Japan. Our earnest desire is to see things placed upon a sounder and more sensible footing, and our unceasing object has been and shall be to promote that end. The *Hongkong Daily Press* may think such a cause unworthy of so much effort. We, however, do not think so, seeing that it is the cause of our fellow residents' comfort and prosperity as well as of Japan's.

SOLAR ECLIPSE.

From observations made during the solar eclipse of 1878, Dr. C. S. Hastings, Associate Professor of Physics in the Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, was led to believe that the sun has no corona, and that the light seen round the luminary during a total eclipse is not due to a material envelope but is purely a phenomenon of diffraction. The latest views enunciated by scientific observers in reference to the physical nature of the sun are to the effect that the entire orb is an aggregation of vapour altogether destitute of any trace of liquid or solid agglomeration. Rossetti's estimate of the heat existing at the surface of the sun is eighteen thousand degrees Fahrenheit, and this figure has been accepted as reasonable by many of the best authorities. Such a temperature, amounting to nearly five times the greatest heat that man is able to produce by artificial means, is quite incompatible with the existence of either liquid or solid substance. Everything compound, of whatever nature, would be dissolved—dissipated into vapour. It is generally believed that the heat must be higher within the mass of the orb than towards its external confines, and consequently that the whole matter composing the vast luminary is in a state of dissociation. Under the gravitating influence of its own stupendous mass the sun doubtless grows more dense towards its central regions. But this condensation cannot amount to the production of a solid, though the centre of the sphere, under the vast superincumbent weight of the outer parts, may be in a kind of plastic, half-coherent state. Dr. Young, writing on this subject says:—"But while, on the whole, it seems probable that the sun's core is gaseous, nothing could be more remote from the truth than to imagine that a mass of gas, under such conditions of temperature and

pressure, would resemble our air in its obvious characteristics. It would be denser than water; and since, as Maxwell and others have shown, the viscosity of a gas increases fast with rising temperature, it is probable that it would resist motion like a mass of pitch or putty." On the other hand, the outer portion of this enormous sphere of heated gas is converted, where it comes sufficiently within the influence of the external cold of space, into a shell-like expansion of brightly luminous cloud. This is called the 'photosphere' of the sun, because it is the immediate source of the brilliant illumination which radiates out into space. Outside the photosphere there is supposed to be a layer of more refined and quite incondensable gas (chiefly hydrogen), which not even the cold of external space can convert into visible cloud-like vapour, but which, nevertheless, glows to some extent with its own inherent light, as a kind of ruddy flame, often playing outward in the form of lambent tongues. This is called the chromosphere. It is the region of the red protuberances, which were first observed shooting out from behind the opaque body of the moon on the occurrence of a total eclipse, and at once drew so much wondering attention to themselves. Outside the chromosphere, again, there appears to be a coronal investment of radiating glory, which is also lost to sight in the superior effulgence of the photosphere when the latter is in view, but is seen with the red flames on the occurrence of a total eclipse. This corona has been hitherto attributed to the glimmering of some still more rare gaseous envelope, interspersed with masses of glittering meteors wheeling as a kind of solid spray outside the brighter envelope. According to Dr. Hastings' new theory, however, the corona is not due to a tenuous atmosphere extending for millions of miles from the sun, but is light (from the photosphere) which has undergone diffraction—that is to say, light which, instead of impinging directly on the retina, is bent round the opaque body of the moon, and thus conveys the impression of coming from beyond the edge of the sun. Dr. Hastings' conception is simple but very ingenious. The moon's disc overlaps that of the sun during an eclipse, so that the former can move for about five minutes and still cover the latter entirely. Now if the corona consists of light from a solar atmosphere, it should not change at all during the movement of the moon. But if diffraction is the cause of the luminous appearance, then the slightest change in the relative positions of the sun and moon should change the configuration of the corona, and the character of the light, as shown by a spectrum analysis, should vary. By the aid of an ingenious instrument, so arranged as to show an accurate image of the eclipse from the first to the last instant of totality, and, at the same time, to divide the light of the corona into its constituents, Dr. Hastings found, on the occasion of the eclipse of May, that a certain bright green line—whose presence in the spectrum has hitherto been regarded as an argument in favor of the view that the corona is a solar atmosphere—instead

of remaining fixed during the phenomenon, as it obviously should were the corona an atmosphere, grew shorter in the light from one side of the corona and longer on the other. The only way in which this change can be accounted for is on the diffraction theory. Three other independent facts seem to support Dr. Hastings' new theory. They are:—(1) An atmosphere extending to anything like the limits generally assigned to the corona would cause an enormous pressure at the Sun's surface, whereas it is known that the gaseous pressure there must be less than an inch of mercury. (2) The laws of gravitation would require a solar atmosphere to be distributed symmetrically round the sun, whereas the corona is exceedingly irregular in form. (3) The solar atmosphere is supposed to extend for millions of miles from the sun, yet the recent comet passed within two hundred thousand miles of the luminary, and its orbit was not affected in the least—as it must have been had it ploughed its way through a material substance. Dr. Hastings accordingly concludes that though there is a small envelope round the sun, it does not extend beyond the chromosphere.

Every discovery which tends to disprove the existence of atmosphere in the neighbourhood of the sun militates against the truth of Siemens' theory with regard to the recuperation of solar heat. It is true that Dr. Siemens conceives that all inter-stellar and inter-planetary space is filled with something of a much more substantial character than imponderable ether, and he will therefore be little disturbed though Dr. Hastings' demonstrations reduce the supposed coronal atmosphere to a so-called vacuum. Still, as his theory essentially depends on the presence of some residual gas throughout all space, he would certainly have found it more convenient to leave the old theory of the corona undisturbed. It is known, by calculations based upon the size of the earth and its distance from the sun, that of the entire energy radiated by the latter only about the 1,250,000,000th part is caught by our planet, and that probably about ten times as much falls to the share of the other planets. In other words, not more than the 125,000,000th part of this radiant energy is utilized by our system. With the exception of this infinitesimally minute fraction, all the rest is dissipated into space. Nothing whatever is known as to what becomes finally of the vast amount which thus wanders off into the void fields of the measureless immensity. The 1,250,000,000th part which our earth receives "creates a world teeming with life out of a dead rocky chaos." But the immeasurably larger quantity that trembles off into the unbounded immensity seems to be lost to the sun and in some way absorbed into the infinite void. Now our mundane experience tells us that fires go out unless they are periodically supplied with fresh stores of fuel, and it has been computed that the present annual yield of all the coal-mines of the earth would scarcely suffice to keep up the fire of the sun, at its present intensity of light and heat, for the forty millionth part of a second. How then is that

fire kept up? Is the solar sphere gradually growing chilled, and will the beneficent luminary ultimately become a mass of cold and desolate scoræ and rocks? Were the surface heat of the sun reduced from 18,000° of Fahrenheit to 13,500°, the collections of water upon our earth would all be frozen into ice, and the terrestrial surface would be transformed into an uniform glacial mass. But, on the other hand, all observation goes to show that for two thousand years there has been no material diminution in the sun's heating power, and that, even with no specific provision for restoring his waste radiations, his mass is so vast and his heat so enormous, that he could go on cooling by free radiation into space for what, taken in reference to man's method of counting the lapse of time, would be a very long period before any actual change of temperature could be perceived. Nevertheless, we cannot get over the fact that this enormous loss of radiant energy must in the end exhaust its source unless some means of recuperation exist, and scientific ingenuity has consequently been strained to show how the loss may be compensated. First came forward Dr. Mayer, of Heilbronn, with a theory that the sun is a stupendous anvil in the course of being perpetually hammered upon by falling meteors, and that its heat-energy is maintained by this hammering, as a lump of iron is kept red hot by the vigorous blows of a blacksmith. The disciples of this theory proved, scientifically enough, that a mass of matter, equal to about the hundredth part of the earth, falling every year from the earth's distance, would in this way suffice to maintain the Sun's heat radiation permanently. The trouble of the thing, however, is that if meteoric material were so abundant in space, the earth's share, instead of merely furnishing it with an occasional pyrotechnical display, ought to batter its mass in a year into a temperature something like that of boiling water. Moreover the anvil upon which these meteoric blows have to be delivered, instead of resembling the iron mass upon which the blacksmith operates, is more of the nature of an air cushion fashioned upon a nucleus of putty, while the meteors themselves, before striking upon this anvil, would be transformed into tenuous vapors and gases. Five years subsequent (1883) to the enunciation of Dr. Mayer's theory, Professor Helmholtz of Berlin propounded the very beautiful conception that if the solar mass is gradually but progressively contracting its dimensions without any loss of substance, some of the outer portions of the sphere must be gradually thrust in upon its inner and more central parts, and on that account the temperature of the mass rises in proportion to the compression accomplished in its entire bulk. This statement is in accordance with incontrovertible scientific truth. If any orb in the regions of space be diminishing in size without loss of ponderable substance, it is certainly growing hotter at the same time. Reasoning upon these data, Helmholtz showed that, if the diameter of the sun contracts 250 feet every year, or a mile in a little more than 20 years, as much heat

would be furnished every year as is really scattered in the same time from the luminary into space. Naturally one is disposed to imagine that, if this contraction were in constant process, evidence of it ought to be furnished by our measurements of the sun's diameter. But the truth is that our finest and most powerful instruments scarcely enable us to measure anything so small as a second of arc, and as a second of arc represents 450 miles at the sun's distance, the diameter of the orb might go on contracting for 9,500 years, at the rate of 250 feet per annum, before any change became appreciable here. Helmholtz's hypothesis, however, does not profess actually to maintain the existing state of the sun. It contemplates the gradual cooling of his mass and the ultimate extinction of the solar fires. For science has proved that, though loss of heat involves contraction of size; and contraction of size develops sensible heat, yet when a contracting mass of gas begins to change into the solid or liquid state, the further contraction is then accompanied by the production of cold instead of by the augmentation of heat. Keeping these facts in view, Professor Newcomb, of Yale College,—who is a believer in Helmholtz's theory—holds that, if the sun maintains its present rate of radiation, it will shrink to half its present diameter in five millions of years and will then be eight times more dense than it is now. With these data he infers the high probability that the conditions which would have enabled the earth to preserve its present state, cannot have existed for more than ten millions of years, and that it is quite as probable the sun will not be able to issue heat enough for the support of terrestrial life for another like period of ten millions of years. Thus the entire life of the solar system, from its birth to its death, would be comprised within a limit of something like twenty millions of years. The latest theory, however,—that of Doctor Siemens,—contemplates the perpetual maintenance of the sun's radiant energies. He conceives that all space is filled with some sort of atmosphere, however tenuous; or, more particularly, that the vapours of water and gaseous compounds of carbons and hydrogen are universally diffused. This material vapour, if it exist, must be drawn towards the solar orb with tremendous energy. But it is so drawn in a dissociated* state owing to the resolving agency of the solar beams. "The dissociated elements come ultimately into contact with the whirling sphere, and are carried along as a sort of rushing wind from the polar regions of comparative quiescence towards the equatorial zone of more rapid rotatory progress, to be there whirled off again into space as a sort of gaseous spray. But, as they are carried along in this way in intimate association with the whirling mass, they first burst into flame under the influence of heat, and are so turned back into the compounded state—as hydrogen is converted

*Dissociation means the resolution of all chemical alliances and bonds, and the severing of material substances into their primary atoms, by the dispersive powers of exceedingly great heat, controlled only by the gravitating pressure of the resulting vapours.

into water in terrestrial combustion with the evolution of flame—to be there dealt with over again by the resolving force of the solar radiations. But, as this continuous play of resolution by dissociation, and of recombination by combustion, is carried on, the recombined elements give back to the sun the heat which is generated by the renewal of their union, as heat is generated in the fire by the union of the carbon and hydrogen of the burning coal with the oxygen of the air. In this way the sun day by day receives back as much heat as it loses by radiation into space. The solar orb thus assumes the rôle of a stupendous turbine, sucking in combustible vapours from space by its whirl, to feed with them the enduring vitality of its fires, and to generate the vapour compounds which are scattered in return into space." One of the most interesting points of this theory is that it exonerates nature from the charge of wanton wastefulness implied in the useless radiation of immense quantities of solar heat into space. According to Dr. Siemens' conception the dissipated heat scattered out from the sun is first caught in the residual gas medium diffused through space, and with it is drawn back into the sun, being thus used over and over again. By this instrumentality the apparent waste is transformed into an abundant flood of recuperating power, the heat alone which has been usefully spent upon the planets being absolutely lost to the sun. Unfortunately there are difficulties which seriously impede faith in this beautiful theory. There is first the mathematical difficulty that, in order to free themselves from the control of the sun's gravitating force, the recompounded vapours, which are supposed to be whirled off into space from the sun's equatorial regions, would need to start from the luminary with a minimum velocity of 27 miles a second, whereas the maximum speed that could be communicated to them by the sun's rotatory movement is one mile and a quarter per second. There is also the physical difficulty that, if the cosmical vapour with which Dr. Siemens fills all space, be dense enough to arrest the heat rays issuing from the sun and to convert them into dissociative impulse, it must carry with it the consequence of a resisting medium, and be competent to produce a marked retardation of the planetary movements. No such effect, however, is produced, the retarding influence of this medium even upon the filmy material of a comet being still regarded as very problematical. Further, it is well known that the most subtle trace of watery vapour in the air we breathe suffices to take into itself the heating power of the solar rays, and to shut them off from the solid surface of the earth. Yet the vapour sphere which can produce such an effect is limited to an extent of some four or five miles. Surely then if such a vapour were diffused in space, however thinly, to a distance of ninety-three millions of miles, it could not fail to intercept the heat vibrations of the sun considerably more than the atmospheric vapour screen enveloping our earth ever intercepts them, and there would be little heat radiations left for our atmosphere to deal with

when the vibrations reached its outer limits. However these things may be, it is plain that everything which tends to contradict the existence of a gaseous or atmospheric envelope in the vicinity of the sun, renders Dr. Siemens' theory more difficult of credence. The whirling off of gaseous spray into space from the solar equatorial regions fits in very well—other considerations apart—with the atmospheric character hitherto attributed to the corona, and becomes correspondingly unlikely when the latter is divested of that character and relegated to the rank of optical illusions.

REVIEW.

Sunny Lands and Seas: A Voyage made in the S.S. "Ceylon." By HUGH WILKINSON. London: John Murray, 1883.

It would be generally thought a foolish and profitless speculation for any traveller to write down exactly what he sees and knows, leaving out what he hears. Yet the experiment might be worth trying, if only as a novelty. The reflection is forcibly suggested by a perusal of Mr. Hugh Wilkinson's "*Sunny Lands and Seas*," a book which records the story of its author's voyage round the world in the S.S. *Ceylon* and other conveyances. It is a clever book, an amusing book, and, on the whole, an instructive book, but one lays it down with an uneasy feeling that, wherever the author thought his pictures lacked colour, he did not hesitate to borrow any pigments that came handy, however bizarre and exaggerated. An Irishman by name, he possesses an Englishman's idiosyncrasy,—albeit tempered by a genial disposition,—of seeing no good in anything that is not English. It is not till he is sailing once more in British waters within sight of the Emerald Isle, that he suffers himself to break out into unqualified praise of any people, and they are "the hardy, fearless, weather-beaten men of Britain—frank honest and free as the rough air they breathe." He had at the outset "no theories to support nor prejudices to overcome," and yet he had not spent many hours in San Francisco before he was in a position to "reckon up" the community of that city, writing them down as "pushing, reckless, self-reliant, enterprising, and intensely selfish to a degree unknown in the old world." "Clothe or cloak this selfishness as they will," he tells us, "it would still win, hands down, in a canter amongst any other communities in the world eligible to compete. They have one aim; that is money—nothing but money! They have one god; which is self—nothing but self!" At another place, a "pretty, peaceful-looking little village," he finds that "even the schoolboys carry revolvers, and have been known to use them against their masters, just *pour encourager les autres*;" while "in a bar opposite to the hotel where he is stopping, four men have lately been shot; the brains of the last one being still on the wall which they splattered. So trifling a matter as one person's brains they do not think it worth while to clean away: So they wait until there is a crop of them." The reader will perceive that Mr. Wilkinson is, in some degree, a humorist, and indeed there is much in his writing that justifies the title. But it happens—as in truth it often does happen—that he is most diverting when he means to be most serious. This is especially the case in his account of Japan and the Japanese. Landing at Nagasaki on

March the 10th, he set out from Yokohama en route for home on the 25th of the same month, so that he had exactly fourteen days to "do the country." It was natural, under the circumstances, that he should refrain from venturing on any un-beaten tracks. A portion of the hackneyed round was the utmost his opportunities made feasible, and we find him, accordingly, travelling from Nagasaki to Kobe via the Inland Sea; thence to Osaka, Kiyoto and Nara; then to Yokohama, Tokiyo, Kamakura, and Daibutsu, and then—to the Sandwich Isles. A gentleman who had resided in Japan for some years, was once heard lauding with effusion the remarkable politeness of the people, and on being requested to give a reason for the faith that was in him, he explained that wherever he went, the commonest coolies saluted him with a courteous "O-hayo." Now as it would be difficult to conceive anything ruder from a Japanese point of view than that a labourer or artisan should thus accost a person whom he happens to meet by the way and who is entirely unknown to him, and as it is, nevertheless, quite certain that in the great majority of instances the salutation is offered with the best possible intentions, the inevitable conclusion is that when a Japanese says "O-hayo" to a foreigner, he is doing what the latter has taught him to do, not by any means what the etiquette of his own country prescribes. In fact, if it be necessary to convey a precise idea of the import of such an act in Japanese eyes, we may find a fair parallel in the sentiments we should ourselves experience did we see a crossing-sweeper in England kiss his hand to the inmates of every carriage that passed. This O-hayo-admiring gentleman's conceptions of Japanese politeness were derived from a source very similar to that which furnished our author's ideas. Travelling along the beaten track of tourists and holiday-seekers, Mr. Wilkinson encountered everywhere on his route the hybrid manners and customs which Western intercourse has created, and as he had not time to look any further, he concluded that what he saw was a fair sample of the whole. At first he is charmed beyond measure. "Had we to return to-morrow," he says, on the second day of his visit, "we should feel we had been fully compensated had we seen nothing else." He finds the air "bright and clear;" the streets "quaint and clean;" the people "happy, light-hearted and more than friendly." In short his early enthusiasm leads him to speak with unusual frankness:—

A remarkable trait in their character, that one cannot help noticing, is that all seem so kind and loving to one another! A little dot of a child came near being knocked over by one of our jinnikishaws, which was being pulled so fast that it was with the greatest difficulty it could be stopped without knocking the little fellow down. Our coolie patted him on the head as tenderly as if he had been his own child, and without the shadow of an angry look at the trouble to which he had been put. It was impossible to help comparing him with one of our too often brutal cabmen or carters at home, who with an oath and a slash of the whip would have sent the little fellow away screaming; and yet this is the country to which English and American missionaries come to teach them our civilization and what we are in the West—how good we are—how gentle—how loving, clean and sober—how exalted are our methods of life—how high our aims! Is it not wiser to teach men how to live before teaching them how to die? The latter plan has been tried long enough; and of its fallacy the records of the world are unhappily by this time full enough!

It would be far more pertinent, and less impertinent, were they to send missionaries from Japan to England and America, to teach us what is the grand potent which makes them so happy, sober, so clean, and so kind and loving to one another. When one thinks of our East End and the stupendous depths of degradation to which whole masses of our people at our very doors have sunk, and whose deplorable condition, both spiritually and bodily, so loudly calls for help, it seems at least odd that missionaries should be sent to a people who seem to need it far less than the multitudes of our people at home. Until our own festering sores are cured, should not every missionary be recalled, and every farthing of the money which now leaves England

for missionary purposes be applied to wipe out our own deep national disgrace?

His favourable opinions receive their first shock when he pays a visit to a bath-house. It does not seem to strike him or his companions that although there is nothing to prevent a party of foreigners from walking into a woman's bath-house and inspecting the ladies' ablutions, the visit may be quite as great an intrusion as it would be anywhere else. Nothing of the sort occurs to him, because, like the majority of foreigners who visit Japan, he does not give himself the trouble to reflect that susceptibilities not superficially evident may possibly exist. He sees a bath-house where no precautions to secure privacy are apparent, walks right in among the nude females, is "greeted with smiles;" persuades himself that the ladies whom he treats with so much consideration "are evidently pleased and flattered at his visit;" comes away astounded by such an absence of modesty, and records a statement that in Japan "both sexes bathe together with all the innocence of simple animals." Mr. Wilkinson may perhaps be interested to learn that a Japanese acting as he acted would be hooted by the very children. Of decency, as the word is interpreted in the West, there is very little to be seen at a Japanese bath-house of the inferior class, but it is wrong to say that the sexes bathe together, except in the sense of bathing under the same roof. The men and the women are separated by a partition which, if it sometimes seems a scanty affair, is quite sufficient for persons who never think of violating one another's privacy. Your Western tourist, however, has no scruples of this nature. He marches into the bath-house, sees whatever he can, emerges piously shocked, and is greeted with "O-hayo" by the coolies and city urchins who, in their turn, fall into the error of judging falsely by appearance and imagining that because some hilarious hoidens from the West are impelled by a feeling of good-humoured condescension to chuck every Oriental under the chin and pat him on the back as though he were a pretty child or a pet dog, all foreigners like to be treated with similar *sans-gêne*. Individuality strong enough to leave its mark wherever it goes is a fine thing in its way, but in this instance the mark might be obliterated with advantage. Those who remember the charmingly quiet, courteous, and unassuming manners of the lower orders in Japan a dozen years ago, and compare them with the rough effrontery that now passes for manners in regions where foreign influence has been chiefly exercised, cannot but feel somewhat humiliated that the most palpable consequences of our example should be so unsightly. The visitors from the S.S. *Ceylon*, however, knew nothing of these distinctions. They took everything as they found it, and thought that their bath-house deductions were strikingly endorsed when, at Nara, they were "escorted to their rooms (being led by the hand) by two not blushing nor even modest damsels with jet black teeth, who tried on their ulsters and examined their rugs nearly laughing their ribs out all the while," and of whom one stood beside them when they were at dinner, helping herself, as she had a fancy for meat diet, and "deposing, with the most innocent grace, her leavings on their respective plates while they were still eating from them." What a singularly significant marginal note to the history of foreign intercourse with Japan! These young ladies fancied they had learned exactly how to make themselves agreeable to foreign tourists, and experience had given them confidence in the correctness of the lesson. True

it involved some outrage to their early training and habits, but women are versatile things, and to live is the first necessity of life. It is not surprising that Mr. Wilkinson and his friends drew some unfavorable general inferences from these novel circumstances. Similar inferences will be recorded by other tourists and credited by the public until the Japanese recognise that rowdiness is not a trait but an accident of Occidental behaviour.

It seems fated that of the tourists who visit Japan some should judge the people wholly by the good they have learned from foreigners, others, wholly by the evil. Sir Edward Reed is the most remarkable representative of the former class; Mr. Wilkinson, of the latter. Both appear to have been naturally adapted for the rôle they played; Sir Edward by a more than ordinary share of romantic good-nature; Mr. Wilkinson by a precipitancy of deduction scarcely less conspicuous than his proneness to hyperbole, which latter habit of mind induced him to describe the Tokaido between Kanagawa and Kanazawa as "a road made of rich virgin soil, as soft but not nearly so level as a newly ploughed-up field." Yet strange to say the author of *Sunny Lands and Seas* falls into his most glaring errors when he arrives at Yokohama, and places himself at the feet of a Gamaliel among the "old residents," a gentleman who far outstrips any tourist in the complacency with which he estimates the traits of a whole nation by his own limited experiences, and who appears to have even amused himself a little by gulling his pupil. The lesson Mr. Wilkinson learned from this teacher is worth quoting in full:—

One of the old residents here told us much about the inner character of the people, for whom he had (in common with all those who know them well) a far from exalted opinion. Naturally the ideas one receives during a short sojourn amongst them can be but the merest 'surface' impressions; and we are quite aware that a longer stay amongst them would undoubtedly make us alter our opinions in many respects. From our friends here we always hear the same story, viz., that their greatest sins are licentiousness and untruthfulness; the latter is with them no sin, the former only after marriage. There is no word for 'virtue' in their language. There is no romance, nor love, nor courtship, as we understand them; the women are almost invariably so frail, and so obedient, that no winning is necessary. 'Tis enough for the swain to say, 'You shall be my wife,' and like happy slaves they obey, much obliged for any notice and kindness. Of the wild throbs of being wooed, or of the ecstatic glory of being won, they consequently know nothing; neither have the men ever experienced the rapture of the murmuring assent, told in fearful, broken accents by their loved ones (which De Bosco tells me is so delightful). Both men and women have gentle and affectionate natures, and are very kind to animals, as well as to one another, but they have very little feeling. The suffering of another they can contemplate without emotion, like our philosophers at home; and no sight which would horrify us moves them at all. In manners every woman is a lady, and every man a gentleman. They are like children—they lie like them too; but every sin, like those committed by a child, seems to have a deal of innocence in it. They don't lie with the same amount of sin as our people do, for, lying being no sin with them, it seems innocent to do it. It becomes a way of expressing ideas; and people talk and lie to one another like fends; each knowing that the other is doing it. In business they do the same, and they are entirely without honour. It is like a game of chess—the same old moves on the board, which are well known to all—for lying is a national pastime in which all are expert. They are also without sincerity, and personal gain overrides everything. Shyness and shame are unknown in the land; and, though it ought constantly to be met with, no 'blush of maiden shame' has ever yet been seen. There being no shame, there is little secrecy of any sort. In hot weather men and women go about the country unclothed, with the exception of a large straw hat on the head; and girls powder and paint openly, sitting in the street with their powder, rouge, and cosmetics, and decorate themselves at a little hand-glass of the smallest dimensions, talking all the time to the passers-by.

This marvellous miscellany of truth and falsehood—the latter largely predominating—professes to be, not a "mere surface impression," but a true analysis of the inner character of the people. To make such an analysis correctly and conscientiously is a task of immense difficulty, demanding very exceptional qualifications—as, for example, a thorough knowledge of the language of the country;

long and intimate intercourse with all classes of the people; an extensive acquaintance with their literature, and a mind absolutely free from prejudice. How many of us possess these qualifications or anything resembling them? And yet how few of us, while consciously possessing not one of them, hesitate to pronounce judgment upon every trait of Japanese national character! This "old resident" who so successfully deceived himself and misled the author of "Sunny Lands," seems to us to speak the language of the self-opinated sciolists that abound all over the world, but especially in Japan—men whose charity is in the inverse ratio of their ignorance, and their assurance directly proportionate to their partiality. We cannot allow ourselves to think that romances such as these which Mr. Wilkinson's records are prompted by any impulse of wanton malignity, but that they are cruel and unjustifiable libels there can be no shadow of doubt. Nor does their maleficence lose anything by the grains of truth they embody. It were idle to deny that, so far as our limited opportunities enable us to judge, the Japanese are licentious and untruthful. The women with whom we come in contact show little respect for chastity, and the men who frequent the foreign settlements have no regard for truth. But that "licentiousness is no sin" before marriage; that there is neither "romance, nor love, nor courtship;" that a Japanese "can contemplate the sufferings of another without emotion;" that "no sight which would horrify us moves him at all;" that lying has become a "national pastime" and "merely a way of expressing ideas;" that "in business the people are entirely without honour or sincerity;" that "shyness and shame are unknown in the land;" that "no blush of maiden shame has ever yet been seen"—all these statements are just as gross falsehoods as the assertions that "there is no word for virtue in the language" and that "in hot weather men and women go about the country unclothed, with the exception of a large straw hat on the head." Mr. Wilkinson, or, to speak more correctly, his informant, is a veritable Munchausen rebuking mendacity. It is true that there is no word for virtue in the "pidjin" dialect of Yokohama, and it is also true that romance, love, courtship, and blushes of maiden shame do not flourish abundantly in the air of Takashima-cho or Honmoko. But what then? Do the social types which Yokohama offers for inspection—types which are a by-word among the Japanese themselves as well as among foreigners whose experiences have been acquired outside the Settlements—truly portray the character of the nation, and is it either generous or honest to assume that they do portray it? It is not necessary to be very extensively acquainted with Japanese literature to know that there is a word for virtue in the language; that the romance of love and courtship enters at least as largely into the national life as it enters anywhere else; that the heroine of fiction and history alike is a girl who holds her virtue dearer than everything except filial piety, while the hero is a man upright, loyal, fearless, and faithful. Limited opportunities and restricted intercourse incapacitate us to interpret with confidence the many idiosyncracies which, of necessity, exist among a people so long isolated from the outer world, but of this we can be quite sure, that the moral types depicted by their writers truly represent the ideals which men and women admire, and boys and girls are taught to emulate. The study of these ideals by persons setting up as judges of Japanese character would avert the disgrace of such cruel and unscrupulous libels as those which Mr. Wilkinson has been persuaded to publish.

H.B.M. COURT FOR JAPAN.

TUESDAY, 11th September, 1883.—Before N. J. HANNEN, Esq., Judge.

THE CHARTERED MERCANTILE BANK OF INDIA, LONDON, AND CHINA V. THE HONGKONG FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY (Limited).

This case is heard before a Jury composed as follows:—Messrs. J. Esdale, J. W. Gray, G. Sale, J. H. Curtis, and R. Abbey. It consists in a claim for the sum of \$6,237.83, with interest from the 15th March 1883, together with interest on \$2,685.63 and \$15,000 from the 15th March to the 18th May, and also for costs.

Mr. Lowder appeared for the plaintiffs, and Mr. Kirkwood for the defendants, whose local Agents are Messrs. Jardine, Matheson, & Co. Mr. W. B. Walter of that firm was present.

Mr. Kirkwood took exception to the amended petition, as it was not of the same date as the original, and to all intents and purposes was a new petition. He said he was not prepared to answer it in its present state, the particular point of his objection being the date.

Mr. Lowder did not see that it required altering as he had received permission from the Court to amend the original petition, and had dated it according to the order given by the Court.

His Honour said that the amended petition should mention the date of the order given by the Court, but should bear the actual date of the original.

Mr. Lowder, who repeated that he did not see any necessity to alter the date, then opened his case. He said—This is an action brought by the Chartered Mercantile Bank of India, London, and China against the Hongkong Fire Insurance Company (Limited), for damage done by a fire which took place in March last, the goods being insured with the defendants under three policies. The petition of the 23rd April stated that the plaintiffs carry on a banking business in Yokohama, and are in the habit of insuring goods in their own name, when such goods have been hypothecated to them. The goods in question were insured under three policies, one for \$15,000 on coal, lumber, and merchandize in godown 255c; one for \$5,000, of which \$3,000 was on merchandize in Lot 114 and \$2,000 on coal on Lot 255c; and one for \$8,000 on lumber, goods, and merchandize on Lot 255c. On the 15th March, Lot 255c was damaged by fire, and the plaintiffs claimed, under the original petition, the sum of \$21,625.46 and interest at 10 per cent. from the 15th March, 1883. In answer to this, the defendants stated that the property was partially damaged, but not to the extent claimed; also that the policies were granted under the stipulation that the insured must give full particulars of his loss, and that the plaintiffs had not satisfactorily complied with this rule. The petition had been amended, and the present claim was for the sum of \$6,237.83 and interest from the 15th March, 1883, and interest on \$2,685.63 and \$15,000 from the 15th March to the 18th May, 1883, with costs of suit and any further relief that the Court may think fit.

Mr. Lowder then read the correspondence between the plaintiffs and defendants: also schedule of the property destroyed in the godown, with an affirmation signed by Mr. P. Bohm. Some correspondence between Mr. Masfen and Mr. Bohm was not read, as it had been written without prejudice. It was after this correspondence had passed that the case was placed in Mr. Lowder's hands.

Mr. Lowder said that, as there had been no answer to the amended petition, he presumed the answer to the original petition was supposed to be sufficient. He thought that, as the case stood, the first issue for the jury to consider would be, did the loss sustained by the fire amount to \$23,923.86? The second issue would arise out of Article 3 of the petition, and the third on paragraph 4 of the answer which stated that the Bank only held the property as mortgages; but the policy of insurance does not state that the Bank must declare whose property is insured. Should the other side say that Mr. Masfen purposely suppressed the name of Mr. Bohm, as being the owner of the property, he would call Mr. Masfen to prove that the defendants knew that the property was Mr. Bohm's. Had Mr. Masfen suppressed

Mr. Bohm's name to obtain an insurance which would not otherwise have been granted, he should certainly not have had anything to do with the case. Issue five will be whether the \$15,000 and \$2,500 is sufficient to satisfy the claim of the plaintiffs. It will be proved by Mr. Masfen, and a Chinaman who was put in charge of the godown some twelve months ago, that the Chartered Mercantile Bank held a mortgage on the property. He said it was a claim on lumber *ex Peiho* and *Black Diamond* and various other merchandize. The lumber *ex Peiho* and various other articles were in the godown, when the Chinaman was put in charge. He would give proofs that the goods were equal to the value claimed. He thought that, if a list of the contents of the godown prior to the fire and a list of the salvage were produced, the jury could readily see the amount lost. As to values, he should depend principally on Mr. Bohm's valuations, he being a dealer in these articles, and also on a list of actual sales made. The law is that the insured can claim the actual market value of the goods destroyed and no more, so the claim is based on the actual market value of these goods, and not on the invoices, &c., to which he would only have to refer for quantities. With regard to the outside articles, he would call witnesses who actually dealt in these goods.

Sou Hin, a Chinaman, godown-keeper for the Chartered Mercantile Bank, whose evidence was interpreted by Mr. Kingsell, stated that he entered into the employ of the Bank on the 19th of August last, and received instructions to take possession of godown No. 255c. It was on the 19th August that he received the keys. The keys were kept by the Compradore of the Bank, and he got them whenever it was necessary for him to go to the godown. He had a list of the goods that were in the godown on the 19th August. They were as follows:—63 casks cement, 3 bundles wire rope, 20 casks spikes, 3 packages coffee, 41 pieces rope, 70 bundles oakum, 70 tins paint oil, 155 tins paint, 150 packages salt, 4 cases preserves, 2 cases cigars, 20 cases beer, 3 cases whiskey, 3 casks shark oil, 3 casks resin, 3,000 pieces large and small timber, and some coal—how much he did not know. On September 5th, there were 40 casks vinegar, 88 cases whiskey, 200 casks cement, taken into the Godown; and on October 12th, 1,280 pieces large and small timber, 11 spars and 780 bundles shingles were received. The deliveries were:—August 24th 1 cask cement, 26th 3 tins paint oil, 28th 2 tins paint oil, September 5th 2 cases whiskey, 18th 57 tins paint oil, October 27th 1 case whiskey, 30th 1 coil rope, November 3rd 2 coils rope, November 6th 3 coils rope, 21st 1 tin paint oil, 28th 2 bundles oakum and 1 case whiskey, 29th, 1 tin paint oil and 1 bundle oakum, December 6th 2 tins paint oil and 14 tins paint, 26th 1 tin paint oil, 22 tins paint and 2 cases whiskey, 28th 1 cask cement and 2 tins paint, February 27th 1 cask whiskey. Out of the lumber there had been delivered on October 23rd 77 pieces lumber, 4 planks and 45 bundles shingles, 28th 15 bundles shingles, November 2nd 3 pieces lumber, December 6th 5 pieces lumber, 9th 2 bundles shingles, 28th 28 planks, February 7th 12 planks, March 10th 15 planks.

This ended the translation from the godown-man's book, and the Court adjourned to 1.30 p.m.

On the Court resuming,

Witness, in reply to Mr. Kirkwood, said that, in addition to the articles above mentioned, three tons of coal were delivered on the 21st of August. Altogether 134½ tons were delivered. He knew of no more goods. Mr. Walter never asked him to see the list of goods that were in the godown on the 19th August. Mr. Walter asked witness if Mr. Bohm had been in the godown, and to tell him what goods were in the godown.

To Mr. Lowder witness said that Mr. Walter had sent for him; and he had not asked Mr. Masfen's permission to go. The conversation was partly through the compradore.

Mr. W. Bourne, auctioneer, was next sworn. He remembered being instructed in March last to sell damaged goods at godown No. 255c, by Messrs. Jardine, Matheson & Co. He received a list of the goods and sent it to be printed, according to a list produced in Court. There were some alterations made afterwards which appear

in the account sales. (A press copy of the account sales was handed into Court.)

To Mr. Kirkwood witness stated that Mr. Walter instructed him to sell the goods for account of the concerned, and to hand the account sales to Mr. Masfen. The goods were all more or less damaged by fire and water. Witness could not say if much zinc was off the wire rope.

Mr. L. C. Masfen, Manager of the Chartered Mercantile Bank, Yokohama, believed these (produced) to be the same policies that he handed to Mr. Lowder. The endorsement on the policies were not done in witness' office, but obviously in the office of the Insurance Company. (Policies handed into court). Mr. Bohm is the actual owner of the goods mentioned in the policies. Witness insured the goods for the security of the Bank, as it had advanced money on them. It was for an overdraft on various loans. From the evidence of others, Mr. Masfen satisfied himself before bringing the claim into Court that it was a fair one.

To Mr. Kirkwood, in a lengthy cross-examination, Mr. Masfen replied to the effect that he had not seen an accurate list of the goods in the godown. He saw the Chinaman's approximate list. His shroff made out a detailed list after the fire. He had not seen a detailed list before the fire. Mr. Bohm supplied him with a periodical list for despatch to London, which were the only lists he kept personally. Witness believed that he first advanced on goods in that godown in July last year. He recollected the policy No. 1,514, for \$10,000, dated 31st December, 1881. (Policy No. 1,513 was shown witness, who admitted having had a lien on that policy). He had no list of the goods in the godown in December, 1881. He thought the keys were in the custody of the Bank from December, 1881, to the occurrence of the fire. He always kept the keys of any godown that contained goods on which money was advanced to Mr. Bohm. All transfers of such goods from one godown to another were made at the request of Mr. Bohm. Witness did not recollect what goods were transferred to No. 255c on the 31st May, 1882, to cause the change in the risk, and was not aware that there were goods in that godown belonging to other people. If there were such goods, Bohm ought to have notified the fact or he would have been much to blame. He certainly had not with witness' consent the control of the keys at any time. It would not be necessarily surprising that in July, 1882, other people went into the godown and measured goods on which they had a lien. Witness was away at the time, but was not told that other people had goods in that godown. Other goods were taken, not against special loans, but against current overdrafts. The proof that they were so taken is that witness had possession. If the keys were left in the possession of Mr. Bohm, he (Mr. Masfen) should consider the Bank people very much to blame. The Chinese who was examined did not make a report to witness on the 19th of August, when he took charge. It was a matter for the Jury to decide to whom the coal belonged that was sold to Mr. McArthur. Mr. Masfen, in conclusion, declined to express any opinion about Mr. Bohm, or to say what he thought was the general opinion current in Yokohama about that gentleman.

Re-examined by Mr. Lowder, Mr. Masfen stated that the coal spoken of was under mortgage to the Bank at the time of the fire. The Insurance policy proved that the goods were in the godown in December, 1881, and if so, he must have had the key.

A. Davis, sworn, said he was a chemist: that as to the length of time it would take to burn the whiskey would depend on the state of the doors and how much oxygen got into the godown. It was quite possible that, with a strong heat for some hours, the bottles would melt; but it was impossible that there should be no traces of the molten glass afterwards.

L. C. Masfen, recalled, acknowledged that the policy for \$10,000 was in his possession on 31st May, 1882, when \$3,000 was transferred to godown No. 255c. He could not say whether \$3,000 worth of coal were stored there that day; but no doubt it was transferred on the application of Mr. Bohm.

P. Burnside, sworn, stated that he was in the employ of Messrs. Busch, Schraub, & Co. who dealt in rope, oil, paints, and such like stores. He said that the following were about the market values of the undermentioned articles in the middle of

March last, viz.:—paint oil \$5.50 per drum, wire rope 7½ cents per lb., galvanized spikes 12 to 13 cents per lb., best charcoal made wire rope would be about 15 cents per lb., Manila rope, European, 13½ cents per lb., Santa Mesa 17 cents per lb., Russian rope about 20 cents per lb., oakum machine picked 12 cents per lb., German rope 16 cents per lb., rosin \$3.50 per picul. He could not give the prices of coffee, salt, marmalade, beer and vinegar. The prices are current quotations. He had made sales at both lower and higher prices. The price of spikes is not so much regulated by the length as they are generally averaged. He had not sold Russian rope lately, and had not heard of any sales having been made, but should think 20 cents per lb. a fair price.

Mr. Lowder here put in the correspondence, and the enclosures in the correspondence read in the morning as exhibit No. 1.

J. P. Bohm, sworn, stated that, after the fire he made a list of the goods that were in the godown at the time of the fire. He was a dealer in lumber, ship's stores, &c., and was under advances to the Bank at the time of the fire to about the amount of \$46,000, of which the contents of godown No. 255c were part security. He drew out the statement (shown) as to the contents of the godown and the statement of the value of the balance of the *Peiho* cargo is in his handwriting. He remembered being called upon to give further details as to the lumber, and wrote to Mr. Masfen (letter produced and recognized.) He said the information in the letter was correct, as was also the statement of the other goods in the godown. The number of tins of paint he was not certain about, the shark's oil would be rather more than estimated. He could not produce a statement as to the number of pieces of lumber, as the book in which the pieces were marked was kept in the godown, but by his books he could tell the number of superficial feet, the feet only being entered in the books. The market price of cement on 19th March would be about \$5.00, but he had reduced the claim to \$4.50 per cask. Paint oil was worth about \$6.00 per gallon. For wire rope he used to charge 10 cents per lb., and thought it a fair value. Galvanized spikes he valued at 10 cents per lb., they were small ones: coffee \$22.00 per picul, cigars \$20.00 per case, but he had only charged \$18.00, Manila rope 17½ cents per lb., Russian rope 16 cents per lb., oakum 10 to 12 cents per lb., paint, white zinc \$12.00 per cwt., salt \$35 per ton: it was special salt for curing furs. Marmalade was \$5.00 per dozen, vinegar 50 cents per gallon. For the whiskey the market value would be from \$6 to \$7 per dozen, beer \$3.00 per case, German rope 16 cents per lb., mixed paint \$10.00 per cwt. Of shark oil he could not tell the value. Rosin was \$13.00 per cask, shingles, \$2.25 per bundle, or about \$9.00 per million, deck planking for first quality 7 cents per foot, tongued and grooved 5 cents per foot for narrow, clapboard 6 cents per foot, rough lumber of extra lengths 5 cents per foot, ordinary rough lumber 4½ cents per foot. Spars were sold according to size and quality. He considered the amount put down for spars less than their actual market value. Australian coal was worth about \$9.00 per ton. He further stated that the list of deliveries of lumber was made up in his office and that he checked it. The two items of deck planks were actually sold at 7 cents per foot. The actual measurement of lumber is generally in excess of the invoice, as the wholesale trade does not calculate inches, and also, if an order is given for certain lengths and the lumber measures slightly more, it is invoiced according to the order and the extra is not charged for.

This finished Mr. Lowder's examination, and the Court adjourned till 10 a.m. next morning.

WEDNESDAY, 12TH SEPTEMBER, 1883.

On the opening of the Court, Mr. Lowder asked permission, which was granted, to put another question to Mr. Bohm, who, in reply, stated that the lumber was delivered from Godowns 255c and 256.

Mr. Bohm was further cross-examined by Mr. Kirkwood. He said that he leased the godown 255c from sometime in 1881. He kept the goods contained there since December, 1881, insured with Messrs. Jardine, Matheson & Co. He was not sure whether the particular goods referred to were insured in any other company. (Exhibit E was produced by Mr. Kirkwood, policy No. 1513, Dec. 31, 1881, Hongkong Fire Insurance Co.) He had

no particular book showing where his goods were stored during the last seven years. (To the Court witness said if particular goods were named he could say in what godown they were put.) He would refer to his books and see if there was any entry, if that were permitted.

Here some discussion ensued between Court and Counsel as to notice given about books to be produced, the Court deciding that no such notice had been officially given.

Witness resumed, after referring to a letter from the Chartered Mercantile Bank. He said that, on the 19th of July, 1882, he had insurance for \$3,500 on goods in godown 255c. The Hongkong and Shanghai Bank had held one policy. He did not inform Mr. Masfen of the fact. He did not think it necessary, as he himself held the keys of the godown for the Chartered Mercantile Bank up till the end of August, 1882, when the Bank comptroller took charge. Mr. Masfen's statement that the Bank held the keys before that was incorrect. On the 19th of July there were seven or eight hundred tons of coal, mortgaged to the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank, and no more, in godown 255c. The coal had been in that godown since May or June—he thought the latter month. (A policy No. 1591, was here produced by Mr. Kirkwood, covered by a letter, written under witness's instruction, to Messrs. Jardine, Matheson, & Co., announcing the transfer of coal therein assured to godown No. 255c, and was admitted by witness.) That insurance covered coal mortgaged to the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank, the coal being the same as was in the godown on the 19th of July. He had approximately, besides, 517 tons of coal during part of the same period in the same godown. This parcel was taken to the godown between the 27th of May and the following Monday, in pursuance of a promise given to Mr. Masfen, the coal being mortgaged to the Chartered Mercantile Bank. Thus, there were about 517 tons in charge of that Bank, and between seven and eight hundred tons mortgaged to the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank, in all more than twelve hundred tons, in the godown. In the interval all that was pledged to the former Bank, but none pledged to the latter, was taken out of the godown. Lumber *ex-Peiho* was in the godown, but was transferred on the arrival of the *Black Diamond*, belonging to witness, with a cargo of about 300,000 feet of lumber, 50 spars, and 179,000 shingles, and 100 cases of salmon. The freight charged was \$12,000. Witness charged the freight to himself: the cargo was his. Exclusive of the spars and shingles, the freight would come to about \$39 per thousand feet. Sometimes the price is \$30. The freight on lumber *ex MacNeil* was very much less, about \$16 or \$17; but that vessel had arrived here two or three years ago, and would have had to be rebuilt before it could carry such a cargo as the *Black Diamond* could. Rates had increased last year from the previous year. The *Black Diamond's* tonnage was 601. The rate of interest here was about 10 per cent. Sales of lumber at 4 cents per foot would not bring a profit of 25 per cent.; 4½ cents might with rapid sale. Some of the cargo witness had sold at four cents. Some at 4½, and two parcels only at 7 cents, in all sustaining a loss. Witness was questioned at some length on the particulars of his losses from the fire at No. 255c, as furnished by the Chartered Mercantile Bank to Messrs. Jardine, Matheson & Co., and referred to in his evidence in chief. The cement in the warehouse was in good order, witness explaining how it was the part of a consignment of 200 cases on commission, and 200 of his own property.

After questioning witness as to the value of shingles which he had placed at \$2.25 and 50 on. Mr. Kirkwood returned to the subject of the coal destroyed.

Witness said that before the quantity of seven or eight hundred tons was transferred on the 31st of December, 1881, it had been stored in Benton. At that time there was pledged to the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank an amount of 1,100 tons. He had no trouble about it with the Bank, as he had repaid his advances. A long course of questioning and cautious replies, or replies which were not at all to the point, followed between counsel and Mr. Bohm as to the discrepancy of three hundred tons between the quality at Benton and that actually transferred to No. 255, the witness ultimately admitting that if the whole had not been

transferred the balance must have been sold. He had not his books with him, and no delivery order book had been kept at Benton. Mr. Clark was supposed to hold the keys for the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank, but witness really held them, sometimes giving them up as a matter of form. He did not necessarily ask the Bank's authority to sell coal. He reported sales and paid in the money when collected. After some opportunity from Counsel, Mr. Bohm admitted that Mr. Clark might have pressed him upon several occasions for the keys, and that he, witness, might have put him off with some excuses. Witness remembered being in Miyanosita in July, 1882, and his return before the fire at his house on the Bluff in that month. He was constantly travelling backwards and forward, and often received while in the country messages to return to Yokohama on urgent business. It was such a telegram that brought him home before the Bluff fire. He had an interview with Mr. R. Clark the evening of his arrival. Clark told him that he was anxious about what he thought to be the disappearance of coal from the godown, and had had it measured, with the result that there was only 350 tons. Witness did not remember whether he had asked Clark if the latter had informed Mr. J. Walter of the deficiency. As regards the policies on the Bluff property, he thought Mr. Kirkwood held that on the house, he himself had one on the effects, and to Mr. Clark he had transferred one on the furniture and other things in the house as "general security" for what he owed that gentleman. Witness could not be brought to admit that the policy was made over to cover any deficiency in the coal. People had been able to see him the day after the fire, although he had been hurt. He saw several people, and was in his office in the town during the following day. Some amusement was caused in Court by witness' naive admission that there were ten keys to the godown which has ten doors, and that he held eight keys, one each for as many doors, on behalf of the Chartered Mercantile Bank, while Mr. Clark held two, one each for two doors on behalf of the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank. Mr. Clark was only appointed to look after the "special heap" of coal, which had been mortgaged to the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank.

The Court adjourned at a quarter-past noon until 2 p.m.

On the hearing being resumed, Mr. Kirkwood continued his cross-examination of Mr. Bohm, who said that, after the fire on the Bluff, Clark held two keys of the godown only, witness holding the balance, and occasionally having access to the other two. The reason of his borrowing them was to get out lumber which could not be got out through the other doors. Two keys were given Clark for his convenience in charge of the coal. When witness had them he finally detained them. When the keys were handed over to the Chartered Mercantile Bank the coal was not under mortgage to Clark, whose consent was obtained to their surrender. At that time Clark held all the documents. Witness was not aware that, when Clark discovered that the keys had been given up, he forced him to a settlement in the German Consulate under threat of proceedings, nor does he remember Clark reproaching him with giving the Bank keys securing goods belonging to Clark. The arrangement with Clark was made about the 18th of August, and subsequently witness pledged a number of other skins in lieu of the coal, the skins being put into Clark's own godown, witness having second sets of locks put on the doors. It is German law that there should in such cases be two sets of keys. That is it is discretionary. As regarded the Chartered Mercantile Bank's mortgage witness did not think it necessary to have double sets of locks. Witness had to work in the godown with the skins, and had access solely to one door, with Clark's consent. (It will be understood that the arrangement was supposed to be that each man should only be able to get in without the other.) Witness remembered that he did not get Clark's consent to this duplicate contrivance. He did not think it necessary, as Clark might have had the keys at any time. He ultimately sold the cement referred to, as good cement, to Mr. Forbes.

Re-examined by Mr. Lowder—The Hongkong Fire Insurance Company made no objection to the transfer of the risk asked for in April, 1882. At

the burning of the godown there was much more lumber than in Dec. 81. As regards the freight by the *Black Diamond* from Puget Sound he had been offered \$30 p. 1,000 cubic feet by Messrs. Fraser & Co., at the end of 1881. He had been offered by Mr. E. B. Watson the same year to go in on joint account for a similar freight at \$27. Neither offer was accepted. At Mr. Lowder's request, witness here went through his godown order-book marking in prices which had been left blank in the rate column, and making and correcting two errors of calculation. The item represented actual sales made by him. Other papers than those produced in Court as having been sent by him to the Bank or the Bank's lawyers had been sent by him—a bill of lading for the cement in question, some letters and draft agreements, and the *Black Diamond's* bill of lading for her cargo from Burrard's Inlet. Witness repeated his evidence of the morning about the cement. He had claimed for 179 damaged casks out of the consignment of 400. The Mitsui Bussan Kaisha had it surveyed and he was allowed \$283, or \$10 less than the freight he had to pay. These casks were stored, and are still, in godown on 261. Up to the middle of 1882 witness had always had pleasant dealings with the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank. Once before that time they took the keys of a godown containing their securities and kept them for one day, as the Bank's people said, "for form's sake." Clark was the Bank's custodian of the coal by mutual agreement between the three parties. Witness was not requested by the Bank to hand over all the keys to Mr. Clark. Had he been so requested he would have refused, having goods in the godown partly his own and partly mortgaged to another Bank. There was a quarrel between him and Clark about the alleged deficiency in the coal. He made the transfer of property to Mr. Clark because he was under an obligation to him. To his knowledge none of the coal pledged to the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank was taken out of godown 255C. He owed Mr. Clark \$13,000 or \$14,000. The first amount lent was some four or five thousand without security. Since August witness had not once had the key held by the Chartered Mercantile Bank, nor access to the godown without being accompanied by an officer of the Bank. Witness described the process by which, under this system, he effected sales and gave delivery. He was present at the fire on 255C after the roof had fallen in. (Mr. Lowder was here stopped by the Court, as this matter had not been touched in cross examination.)

Mr. Bohm asked leave to correct his statement as to the number of doors in the godown. There were eight doors and two gates, with of course ten keys.

Mr. Masfen, called by Mr. Lowder, wished to correct a statement he made yesterday to the effect that the Bank had general custody of the keys before the 19th of August. He had now to say that they had not been in the Bank's possession before the 19th of August.

In answer to Mr. Kirkwood, Mr. Masfen stated that he had much the same security after, as before, the 19th of August. The lien he had upon the goods was the letter of hypothecation.

Mr. Kirkwood asked that they be produced; as they had not all been put into Court. After some conversation Mr. Masfen was asked and promised to produce all documents relating to the goods in question running on the 19th of August.

Mr. Charles Wiggins, a member of the firm of Messrs. Carroll & Co., was next examined. He deposed that the average price of best paint white zinc in March last was \$12 per cwt.: white lead from \$10 to \$10½, according to quality, paint oil \$5 a drum of 5 gals.: wire rigging 10 cents per lb.: galvanized spikes 7 to 8 cents: Santa Mesa Manila rope 17½ cents: best Russian 15 cents: oakum 10 to 14 cents: rock salt \$25 per ton: vinegar 50 cents a gallon: Scotch whiskey about \$8 per case: beer \$10½ per cask of 4 dozen (quarts): German rope 10 cents per lb.: medium rosin \$3 per piecl.

To Mr. Kirkwood, witness admitted that the prices varied according to quality. Very common paint might be sold as low as \$6: the very best at \$14. English Manila rope might be sold at 13 cents. Good rope, properly stored, would not deteriorate in two or three years. Keeping would not be likely to affect Russian or German

rope. A keg of rosin would be worth \$7 or \$8. Mr. Wiggins gave other expert testimony on the various articles enumerated in the godown list.

Re-examined by Mr. Lowder, Mr. Wiggins said that a keg or cask of rosin at \$13 would be dear, even if the material were of superior quality: 40 casks of vinegar for \$400 would be cheap.

Mr. Julius Helm remembered carting cement for Mr. Bohm in Sept., 1882. It arrived from London in the *Kumusaka Maru* to the extent of 400 casks. He carted 200 to 255C, on separate days, and the others later to Mr. Clark's godown, after it had remained for some time on the tatoba.

In cross-examination, Mr. Helm said that the casks were arranged in two lots, and that by Mr. Bohm's direction he took two hundred good casks to 255C, leaving the bad. He did not think the matter of much importance, particularly as Mr. Clark told him to collect the charges from Mr. Bohm.

Mr. Thomas Rose, dealer in Marine Stores, gave the average price in March last of cement at \$1.50 (about) per cask: oakum 8 to 10 cents: white lead \$9.50 per cwt.: rosin \$5 per cask: assorted paints from \$7.50 to \$10 per cwt.: galvanized spikes (the largest) 8 to 9 cents per lb.: 7 and 7½ cents would be very reasonable. Cement if hardened by damp is useless.

Kawaishi, a Japanese dealer, deposed that the day before the fire at 255C he went to Mr. Bohm's place and obtained a sample of cement which was good. Mr. Bohm asked \$5 a cask. Witness made no offer but intended to do so, as the stuff was good. He bought the whole 200 casks salvaged at the auction. It was damaged by water, but he made it up again. He had many dealings in the article.

Mr. Louis Stornebrink, a Marine Engineer, said that after the fire he had been called in to estimate about the amount of coal burned. He did so in square feet; 10 lbs. per square foot for each hour of burning, and the fire was burning about five hours. It would have burned very quickly because it was lumpy.

The Court adjourned at five o'clock till ten a.m. next morning.

THURSDAY, 13TH SEPTEMBER, 1883.

Mr. Lowder asked leave to recall Mr. Bohm, who stated that he had measured the coal left in the godown after the fire, and found the stack to be 15 ft. by 30 ft. by 10 ft. and a fraction. That would expose a surface of more than 3,100 ft. to the fire. Supposing ten feet of coal were burned per hour over that surface, 13½ tons per hour would be consumed or in 5 hours 67½ tons.

Cross-examined by Mr. Kirkwood, witness referred to the report that the fire had lasted four or five hours. His calculation was on his measurement. With great heat it would be impossible to walk on the mass. He did not take a note of how many broken bottles were left in the debris; nor did he know what space the burnt rope occupied; nor did he count the tins of paint. If the paint contents were destroyed the tins would remain. Drums having contained oil, or traces of them, would likewise remain.

Mr. J. Carst deposed that he been a resident of Yokohama since 1865, and was connected with shipping. He took all the cargo out of the *Black Diamond* last year, and landed it from the Creek near the Subic Gardens. He had seen many fires in Yokohama. In this case he was not present, but saw the godown after the fire. There is always a good deal of thieving going on at fires. At No. 255C he observed broken bottles among the debris but did not know how many bottles had been broken.

To Mr. Kirkwood witness said that the burned godown was close to another, but he did not know if there was a fence between. Many people, how many he did not know, pass during business hours. The night of the fire was wet. So many fires have occurred that he was disgusted with them, and on this occasion did not turn out, though it was not the rain that kept him at home. He did not see glass in a molten mass, nor did he take special notice of the condition of the burned rope. He did see a lot of rope scattered about and covered with spars and other things. A ten of rope would cover about six feet square space.

Mr. Masfen produced the documents demanded yesterday by Mr. Kirkwood, witness believing that they covered everything in the Bank's custody at

the time of the fire. There were a promissory note and a letter of hypothecation accompanied by a general godown order. The balance of the goods enumerated, after account of deliveries, remained in the godown. The hypothecation paper stated that all the goods but the coals were stored in No. 114. He had only the Chinaman's testimony as to what goods were in No. 255c. Witness is not in the habit of keeping tally of all the pots of marmalade stored in warehouses on whose contents he has a lien.

His Honor remarked that the documents asked for by the defence were letters of hypothecation on goods stored in godown 255c, which this letter was not.

Mr. Masfen remarked that he had been told by Mr. Todd that the goods were removed from 114 to 255c. Witness had possession of the keys. What security he had on the *Peiho* lumber was Mr. Bohm's cheque, cashed and placed to the debit of his current account. Mr. Bohm used to furnish periodically a list of goods under lien to the Bank. He did not generally state the godowns in which the merchandise was stored.

Mr. Lowder said that he had only one more witness to call, and he had been obliged to go to Tokyo, but would be in Yokohama this afternoon. Mr. Johnstone of the Mitsu Bishi Company would then testify as to the quality and value of the timber purchased by him for the Company from Mr. Bohm.

Mr. Kirkwood then addressed the Court stating the case for the defence. He proceeded, generally, to outline the defence, contending that the plaintiff's case rested solely upon the statement furnished by Mr. Bohm and the list supplied by the Chinaman who had been in charge of the godown. It would be found that there were great discrepancies between Mr. Bohm's statement of what was in the godown previous to the fire, and what was shown by experts to have been actually there. The only articles of which correct account had been rendered as to quantity were the cement, spikes, and spars and this for the obvious reason that they were articles that could not be destroyed. Meanwhile the cement had been damaged before the fire and the claim for the other two things was excessive, while the statement of the other merchandise in the godown was grossly exaggerated. This was the general line of Mr. Kirkwood's argument. Messrs. Jardine, Matheson, & Co. had paid \$2,600, the amount realized from the salvage, to Mr. Bohm, and had now deposited \$15,000 in Court. The jury would have to find whether that was not the full value of the loss sustained, or rather whether it was not far more than the loss sustained. Of the 1,100 tons of coal mortgaged by Bohm to the Bank for \$10,000 in January only 350 tons were left in July. The learned Counsel alluded to Mr. Bohm's connection with Clark in the latter's capacity as custodian of the coal, Clark's finally forcing him to a settlement, the burning of Bohm's house on the Bluff, and payment of mortgages out of the proceeds of the insurances; and stigmatised other transactions on Bohm's part with Clark, particularly that of the cement as fraudulent.

Mr. Kirkwood then called Mr. W. B. Walter, Manager of Messrs. Jardine, Matheson, & Co.'s local branch, Agents for the Hongkong Fire Insurance Company, who said he recollected the fire which destroyed godown 155c. on the 16th of March. He declined to satisfy the claim on account of that fire because he thought the circumstances suspicious, the claim exaggerated, and no proper proof of loss adduced. Mr. Masfen had also stated that he considered Mr. Bohm, who was proving the loss, to be a thief, who would "do" him or do "us" (J. M. & Co.), but would probably prefer to do "us," as he had still something to hope for from the Bank in business. The Bank gave no proof whatever of loss except statements and documents furnished by Mr. Bohm. Mr. Masfen had said that personally he knew nothing of the contents of the godown, and that the only person who did was a Chinaman, a friend of Jardine, Matheson, & Co.'s compradore. Witness saw that Chinaman, who said he had had nothing to do with the godown until the 10th of August, 1881, since when he had been employed in delivering cargo from 255 to 262. He said also that he had not made a complete list. Of timber he had taken Bohm's word for so many pieces. No list

was sent to witness, who had not seen any other list, except Mr. Bohm's, until this case came on. After the fire witness arranged with several experts to report upon the salvage, and tried to arrive at an estimate of the quantity of timber that should have been in the place before the fire, judging from what remained. In the letter produced, dated in March, Mr. Masfen promised to furnish details of the contents of the godown through Mr. Bohm. The expert's reports when furnished did not agree with Mr. Bohm's statement, and witness required further proof of loss. His previous experience of Mr. Bohm had been unsatisfactory, and he had heard that Mr. Bohm had hypothecated goods with the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank. He would not have insured miscellaneous property for Mr. Bohm. At the end of 1881 he had ordered in the office that no policies except for coal should be issued to Mr. Bohm. The reason for this precaution was that, in the case of a stack of coal catching fire it would burn slowly, and there would be considerable salvage. The loss should be comparatively small. He had paid the proceeds of the salvage to Mr. Bohm, and \$15,000 into Court. The policy of Insurance Companies (the Hongkong Fire among others) was to be liberal in the settlement of claims. Grave suspicion is necessary to cause any delay in adjustment, a policy which in Yokohama has perhaps of late years been carried to excess, where, he believes, several fires have been the result of incendiaryism. In fact he had told Mr. Masfen that, if that gentleman would supply, on behalf of the Bank, some reliable evidence apart from Mr. Bohm's, as to the accuracy of the lists of the contents of the godowns, he would pay up to the full extent of the assigned value, on the part of the Company. No such evidence had been tendered.

At noon the Court adjourned until 1.30 p.m.

On the Court resuming, Mr. W. B. Walter was cross-examined by Mr. Lowder. He said that, though prior to the fire the Bank Agent had visited him and spoken to him about the goods, he would not necessarily infer that the property was the Bank's. He might think that it was in charge of the Bank. He knew prior to the fire that the godown was not Mr. Bohm's, although he may have known that the latter had property in the godown. Witness told Mr. Masfen that the amount of lumber was stated in excess. As for the cement, he had told Mr. Masfen that he would require very full particulars. He had entered into particulars with Mr. Masfen as to the exaggeration in the claim. He had spoken of lumber, cement, and, he was sure, whisky: other things also. His first offer to Mr. Masfen was \$14,000. He did not go through the list item by item. Mr. Masfen had frequently agreed that the claim was probably exaggerated, and told him that he would assist him in every way in paying only what was fair, and would look into the amount of Bohm's indebtedness to the Bank, and the value of other securities, and do his best to get witness's claim settled for the \$14,000 proposed. Mr. Masfen said, as witness deposed this morning, that Bohm was "a thief." The exact words were that he was "a — thief." Mr. Masfen went on to say that Bohm would rather "do" Jardine, Matheson, & Co., than the Bank, but that he had future expectations of business from the Bank. He did not add that his (Masfen's) claim was a just one, and he meant to press it. That could hardly have been, as the expression alluded to was used at one of the earliest interviews between him and Masfen after the fire. Nor did witness remember that Mr. Masfen ever said that he meant to press his claim. All the documents referred to (produced) were furnished at witness's request, with the exception of Mr. Watt's statement (made as the result of an agreement between witness and Mr. Masfen) and a bill of lading from *Black Diamond*, about which he was not sure, and Mr. Bohm's statement which was only sent in by Mr. Masfen as a proof of loss. (Witness took some time in examining the documents, but could make no other statement than the foregoing). As for the affirmation made and sealed by Bohm before the German Consul, it was the result of a conversation between himself and Mr. Masfen, he (witness) having heard from the Consul that it was in accordance with German law to take a loser's oath or affirmation in support of claims made. When the affirmation was sent to witness he did not, as far as was aware, write to tell Mr. Masfen that it was unsatisfactory. He

had previously mentioned that any mere unsupported statement of Mr. Bohm's would be unsatisfactory. It was very shortly after the fire that Mr. Masfen advised him to see "the Chinaman." The conversation was in Masfen's own office. The Chinaman was said to be a friend of the Bank's compradore, and was understood by witness to be not the custodian of the goods, but the man who had charge of receipts and deliveries. Witness believed he had asked for Mr. Bohm's books. He had not demanded the Chinaman's godown records: they would have been useless—written in Chinese. He communicated verbally, not in writing, the result of the reports of the experts about the debris in the godown after the fire, including Mr. Watt's statement. When telling Mr. Masfen that he would require further and full particulars of the loss, witness did not specify what particulars he required, Mr. Masfen having previously stated that he could give none but what were supplied by Bohm, and the Chinaman. Jardine, Matheson and Co. in times past have had fairly large dealings with Mr. Bohm, and were very glad to get rid of him. He was never, to witness's knowledge, in their debt without security. He eventually paid, but there was great difficulty in getting payment. He paid a fair rate of interest. This morning witness had stated that he had directed his clerks to ensure nothing but coal for Mr. Bohm. It would have been out of his way to tell his customers that he had given such order. He did not warn those taking policies from him that he would not insure miscellaneous property standing in the name of Mr. Bohm after the last renewal of a policy on No. 255. Before the fire he found fault with one of his clerks because a policy had been renewed on goods held by Mr. Bohm, but in what godown they were he did not know. Possibly he may have pointed out to Mr. Masfen that if the question of the renewal of one of the policies on godown 255c had been submitted to him he would have prohibited it. He had never taken possession of the salvage at 255c. He had a watchman looking after the debris. The fire-brigade had a policeman from the Kencho. He thought that Mr. Masfen had a watchman also. (Letter produced from Mr. Masfen dated 16th, asking witness to look after the property on account of those concerned). He put a man in charge (a Chinaman) immediately after receipt of the letter. From the time of the fire the place was never left unguarded by the police. In the Auctioneer's catalogue, is "No. 41, Hoops and Staves." Mr. Bourne made his own list by witness's direction. If he had stated the contrary he had stated what was incorrect. (Mr. Lowder asked Mr. Walter to look up his letter-book to see if there was no letter from Jardine, Matheson & Co. to Mr. Bourne, enclosing a list of salvage articles to be sold. The Court supported Mr. Lowder). After working up values as far as he could and making liberal allowances he offered a lump sum of \$14,000, in addition to the salvage money \$2,600. That offer was subsequently increased to \$17,000, which he considered to be excessive, to avoid proceedings. At first Mr. Masfen treated with perfect candor: latterly he was by no means frank, having made an affidavit on a private conversation with witness. That was subsequent to the filing of the petition.

Re-examined—The Chinaman in charge of the godown could give particulars of receipts and deliveries from a godown-book kept in Chinese. He could not give particulars of what was in the godown when he took charge. There was then only Mr. Bohm to fall back upon. No further particulars than those given in the documents produced were furnished as to the goods in the godown; no list of prices at which merchandise had been sold, except lumber, was supplied. Witness was told that there had been no sales of other goods. Later he received particulars of cement, vinegar, and so forth. He thought they referred to the whole parcels. He received no particulars as to other contents of the godown. Mr. Masfen had said that he could not accept witness's offer because Mr. Bohm refused all compromise. No particulars of *Peiho* cargo were furnished. Witness had a policy on some coal and lumber for Mr. Bohm on the creek. He considered that he had been acting in the affair of the settlement of the claim after the fire both for Mr. Masfen and himself.

Mr. John Walter, Manager of the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank's branch, being sworn, stated that

he recollected, in January, 1882, Mr. Bohm having coal in godowns at Benten.

Here Mr. Lowder remarked, and the Judge concurred, that only testimony relevant to the case should be given. Mr. Kirkwood answered that the question of character was part of the evidence in this instance; and the examination was continued.

Mr. John Walter—The Bank advanced \$8,000 on eleven hundred tons of coal, on the condition that it should be stored in charge of a disinterested third party, and accepted Mr. Robert Clark as its custodian. Delivery should be only on the Bank's order. The Bank gave no authority for the removal of any coal from the Benten yard to No. 255c. There was no trouble until April, when Mr. Clark informed witness that there was a considerable deficiency, and that he thought Mr. Bohm had stolen the coal. It was supposed to have been stored in the original sites at Benten and 255c. Witness ordered that the coal should be measured. Captain Martin measured it (copy of measurement produced) and found 383 tons of Australian coal, worth in godown \$7 per ton, in 255c, and none at Benten. At that time the loan had not been in any way reduced.

The Court here asked Mr. Kirkwood what this had to do with the case. Counsel replied that he must tender testimony as to character. Asked for his authority, the learned Counsel failed to cite one, and was stopped in this line of questioning by the Court.

Mr. Walter said that he had not ordered any delivery of coal.

To Mr. Lowder, witness said that he had taken a letter of hypothecation of the coal from Mr. Bohm. It is always the Bank's custom to have such documents except in cases of small temporary advances on current account where there is a general letter of hypothecation. Supposing that the Bank had possession, either in its own godowns, or elsewhere in charge of a custodian by it appointed, of merchandise, it would consider that it had a lien.

Re-examined, witness said that he would not advance on goods in an outside godown where he knew that goods belonging to any one else than the hypothecator were stored.

Mr. James Johnstone was next called by Mr. Lowder for the plaintiff. He said he had been in the habit of purchasing lumber from Mr. Bohm. A portion was delivered out of the godown destroyed by fire and a portion out of the adjoining godown. It was of fair quality. The fair price of deck-planking in March last was about 6 cts. per superficial foot; for spars 16 inches square 8 to 8½ cts.

To Mr. Kirkwood, witness explained that the prices varied according to the length of the spar from 7 to 9 cts. Common rough lumber is worth from 4 to 4½ cts. Witness had seen quotations in February last at less than 4 cts. He would not purchase at that price.

To Mr. Lowder—The reason was that the timber was not good enough.

Mr. James Martin, Junior, deposed that a document shown him was a correct copy of a report of his measurement of coal at the request of the Manager of the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank. He found in 255c, 283 tons; in the enclosure indicated to him at Benten he found none. There were indications that coal had been stacked there—how long ago he couldn't say. In March last Australian coal was worth probably \$7 or \$8 per ton.

To Mr. Lowder, witness said that he had about 500 tons of Australian coal in March last. Selling it on board ship he would have charged \$8½ per ton in small quantities, on the Bluff \$9 to \$9½. At the godown it would be worth about \$8 wholesale. He was certain that he had made no mistake in his measurement. He had measured twice.

To Mr. Kirkwood—In March last 280 tons of Australian coal taken from witness's godown would have been sold at \$8.00.

Robert Clark acknowledged his signature to a document produced, dated Yokohama, 17 January, 1882, being a storage receipt for 1,100 tons of Australian coal, valued at \$10,000, taken charge of by him on behalf of the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank, by whose manager he was appointed. He received the keys. Part was subsequently removed from Benten to 255c. (Paper produced.) That relates to half of the whole quantity. The document is in the handwriting of Mr. Batavus, Mr. Bohm's clerk. Witness did not keep the keys

of the place at Benten all the time between January and April. Mr. Bohm had them when he said he wanted to repair the fence. After April Mr. Bohm had the keys of 255c to put the coal in. He only put half in. Witness often asked him for the keys, but was answered that the coal had not all been removed. The last answer was that Bohm wanted the keys to effect an insurance. Subsequently, witness passing by Benten found was no coal left in the Benten enclosure. There were marks of coal having been removed; but grass was growing where coal had been stored. Later he went into godown 255c, and saw the same quantity of coal as was first put in. He was present when Captain Martin measured the contents. He had never authorised Mr. Bohm to take any of the coal either thence or from Benten. When told of the deficiency, Bohm said "there ought to be more." The Bank told witness that he was responsible for the amount deficient—worth about \$7,000. The balance was then hypothecated by Bohm to witness and so remained for three or four months. Mr. Clark did not know that any part of a shipment of cement to his order had been changed by Mr. Bohm for any other part.

Mr. George Whitfield, Engineer, of 69, Yokohama, had been in business in Japan as part proprietor of the Yokohama Iron Works for seventeen years. He had visited the ruins of 255c a few days after the fire. His principal object was to examine the cement, of which he thought there were about 200 barrels. It was damaged, and he should think long before the fire occurred. The reason of this belief was that the cement was lumpy, with none of the wood-work of the barrels adhering. Galvanized wire rope in a fire could only lose the weight of the zinc covering, about 5 per cent., and then only if the fire were intense enough to melt zinc. Thin wood planks might be destroyed entirely in a fire of three or four hours duration. As regards the timber in godown 255c, he thought it might have lost about 20 per cent. during the fire.

Cross-examined by Mr. Lowder, witness admitted that cement was a delicate article; but insisted that that in question, from its appearance and the way it was stacked, "he could stake his existence," has been damaged before the fire. Mr. Lowder failed to shake Mr. Whitfield's evidence in this respect.

To Mr. Kirkwood—The best cement is the longest setting. Witness thought it would take a day for a caskful of cement to "set" after being played upon by water.

The Court adjourned till 10 o'clock next morning.

FRIDAY, 14TH SEPTEMBER, 1883.

John Lindsley, of the firm of Frazer & Co., was called by Mr. Kirkwood. He said that he had made no offer to Mr. Bohm for a freight from Puget Sound to Yokohama for lumber at \$30 per 1,000 ft. He offered \$30 for the same quantity from Burrard's Inlet to Shanghai provided the ship was a good risk. Burrard's Inlet is a port in Puget Sound. That would be the further voyage of the two—about ten days longer. Whether the ship was a good risk or not was left to the decision of Mr. MacArthur who did not give a satisfactory report. In March last rough lumber was selling at 38/10 cents to 5 cents per foot. Five cents would be for plain flooring tongued and grooved. This is a very small market for lumber. Witness could not sell any quantity last year at the prices quoted: the reason perhaps was that the sizes were not suitable.

To Mr. Lowder—Witness could not say whether the difference of distance between Puget Sound and Shanghai, and Puget Sound and Yokohama, made any difference to the charter. The firm wished to get a fair offer from Mr. Bohm to Shanghai for a charter. Probably he had offered Mr. Bohm some lumber at 4.30 cents instead of 4½ cents if he would take the lot.

To Mr. Kirkwood—He did not recollect definitely ever making such an offer, nor the time when it might have been made.

Mr. Alexander Clark said to Mr. Kirkwood that he recollected the fire at 255c. Shortly before that he had seen Mr. Bohm in the neighbourhood of the godown.

Mr. Lowder objected to the examination.

Mr. Kirkwood said that he was going to prove by this witness that Mr. Bohm had a key with which he let himself into the compound and went

to the door of the godown at the time when he had said that the keys were in the custody of the Bank.

His Honor said that Mr. Kirkwood ought not to have called this witness. The line pursued was only calculated to prejudice the character of Mr. Bohm in the eyes of the jury.

Witness, allowed to proceed, said that he saw Mr. Bohm go towards the godown, which was then fenced round.

Mr. Lowder objected.

To the Court witness said that he saw Mr. Bohm take a key from his pocket and unlock the outer gate; but did not see any other key in his hand.

Mr. Kirkwood having nothing further to ask the witness on this head, His Honor said to the learned Counsel that he should have informed himself better: that his brief should have shown him whether he could prove that Mr. Bohm entered the godown; and that the implications he was now endeavoring to establish were quite irrelevant to the issues.

Witness had had experience in cement, and saw some cement at 255c after the fire. It must have been for months in a solidified state—in a block: it could not have been so rendered in two or three days. To "set" free cement would take about 36 hours. About a month would be necessary to set a cask of cement to the shape of the cask when immersed in water. In that case the middle portion would not harden first: the hardening would be a gradual process. The cement he saw after the fire was solidified to the exact shape of the casks. If a fire were to take place, and fire and water were to act on casks of good cement at the same time, as soon as the casks broke the contents would fall in a heap. The effect on a good cask of cement, in case water had first been pumped on it and the cask were then burned, would be that the outside would be caked, and the inside would be normal. It would be impossible to cake the contents of such a cask by playing water on it. The water would loosen the hoops, the staves would fall down, and the cement would run out. The cement in question now was not merchantable after the fire.

To Mr. Lowder—Witness had never been a butcher. He had been in various occupations in his 22 years residence in Japan. He had been a comprador's assistant. He had gained his knowledge of cement by attending salvage sales, buying it, and using it on his own property. He had worked cement there with his own hands, teaching Japanese how to mix it.

Mr. James Walter, Chief Superintendent of the Yokohama Fire Brigade, recollected the fire at 255c on the morning of the 16th of March. Had had considerable experience of fires during 16 years in Yokohama, and with the fire Brigade during 10 or 12. Was called to the fire in question at a quarter to four, arriving on the spot at five minutes to four. There were then only a few persons present, consisting of four or five men of the brigade—some Japanese and one foreigner. The godown was of tiles nailed on to slight woodwork, one of the most flimsily constructed godowns in the settlement. It had been in flames from half an hour to three quarters. The fire was by no means a "hot" one. Pillering of whisky was going on during the fire to the extent perhaps of two or three dozen bottles or less. Witness thinks there was no other robbery, because he made supervision of all parts of the compound at short intervals, and there was a good guard of Japanese police in the vicinity. The godown was situated in a part of the settlement where there is little nightly traffic. The dwelling-house of the watchman of Messrs. Smith, Baker & Co. is near: no foreign dwelling house is near. Robberies are more frequent at fires of dwelling-houses than of godowns. Danger from this fire was over at seven o'clock; but, the ruins still smoking, an engine was kept on the compound. He went over part of the debris before leaving the fire—all but that portion in the centre where the cement was stored. He then saw no rope. He left at about half-past seven, and returned between half-past eight and nine, when he explored the whole of the debris, and then saw some rope, he should think about half a dozen or a dozen coils, hardly more. He saw no whisky then. During the fire he saw some—none in cases but only in bottles—to the extent of perhaps four cases. During and after the fire he saw broken bottles, to what quantity he could not say exactly, but not more than a dozen. On the South side facing the creek

was a strong wooden fence: on the West the godown was open to the compound of Smith, Baker & Co.: on the East and North sides each was another godown.

To Mr. Lowder—The fire alarm always attracts great crowds of Japanese. After every fire from private dwellings there are serious complaints of robbery: not from godowns. A thief would not be less attracted by a fire in a godown than in a dwelling-house. It is much more difficult to steal from the former than the latter, owing to the weight of the articles; and that consideration would probably enter into the thief's calculations. Formerly the police were incompetent to prevent stealing at fires; but there is now a much better organization, and that was in force at the time of the fire. The whisky was stolen under the eyes of witness who prevented it as far as possible. By "went over" the debris he meant "walked over," not with any idea of taking a list of what he saw. When he returned he had no idea of doing so. His observations were casual.

To Mr. Kirkwood—Before he left the premises witness put Japanese policemen in charge of the ruins. They remained the whole day and the following night, and he believes for several days later.

To Mr. Lowder—He put them in charge when he first left the premises.

Mr. George Watt, carpenter, said that he had been thirteen years in Yokohama, and for thirty years had had experience in timber. He remembered the fire at 255c, and on the 18th of March measured the timber and counted the pieces left in the godown. (List produced and admitted by witness to have been furnished by him). The timber was partly burned. A fair amount to add for burning to what he found would be a fourth of the lengths. From the state of the whole none would have been so completely burned as to leave no trace. The number of pieces was increased by the fire: some of the long pieces were burned into two or three. He measured the spars. (List produced and admitted). The spar measurement allows for the loss sustained by the fire. He saw three coils of wire rope, zinc-covered. The zinc was only removed from the outside parts of the coil. The largest coil had not lost 20lb. in weight. He also saw some rope—over three tons but not four—of hemp and Manila rope. The weight estimated was that of the material before the burning. He counted 60 paint tins, and saw about 2 cases of whisky and beer, each, some in the cases and some among the lumber, and broken bottles to the number of 105 or 106—not 200.

To Mr. Lowder—Witness said that he made the examination on the Sunday after the fire. He commenced with the lumber, which took him two days to examine. He estimated the loss of "three tons, not four," of the original rope by guess after collecting the debris, and putting it in a pile. He made a rough calculation but did not measure or weigh it. He does not know how much a coil of wire-rope generally weighs. He did not weigh the wire-rope, and guessed at the excess of loss from the largest coil at 20lb. He did not see more than 60 tins of paint and didn't look for any. (At least Mr. Watt was understood to say this; but for some sentences he had given his evidence in a very weak voice; and at this stage of the proceedings he fainted, and had to be lifted from the witness box.)

Mr. George Ford remembered buying a cask of cement from Mr. Bohm some time last year, after the discharge of the *Kumasaka-maru*, as good cement. When it was opened it was found to be bad, but was broken up and made use of. Witness was landing-agent for the *Kumasaka-maru*. The cargo was generally in bad order: he should think from the appearance of the cement that the whole was damaged.

To Mr. Lowder—Witness said that he did not examine every cask for sea-damage. He knew that Mr. Bohm had refused to take away any of the cement, claiming that it was sea-damaged.

Mr. Kirkwood raised the point whether a certificate given by the late Dr. Geerts of the Benteen Laboratory of his analysis of a piece of cement from the consignment would be admitted after some conversation between the Bench and Counsel. His Honor ruled that it should not be admitted.

Ah Cheng, a Chinese whose evidence was interpreted by a compatriot, said that he had kept watch at No. 255c from the time of the fire for

twenty-one days. He took turn about with another Chinese watchman, and saw no stealing from the premises.

At noon the Court adjourned until 1.30 p.m. On reassembling, Mr. Watt not having yet returned, Mr. Kirkwood called.

Nicholas Morgan, Superintendent of the Fire Brigade hand-engines. He recollected the fire at 255c. When he arrived there the flames had spread to the roof. Very few people were there. He was the first European to arrive, and was accompanied with six coolies. He lives near the Fire Brigade. It would take him about five minutes to arrive. He remained till the fire was completely put out—between eight and nine. The roof came down in about three quarters of an hour from his arrival. He did not see people carrying away things. Japanese coolies in employ of the Brigade were handing each other drinks. If these coolies could they would carry things away; but they are nearly naked and are watched. Perhaps three dozen bottles were drunk. None was carried away, as far as witness saw. He must have seen if things were taken. Before he left he examined the debris, and saw casks of stuff solid as rock, which he supposes to be what is referred to as cement, piled up; rope, wire and Manila mixed together, perhaps ten coils; broken glass representing about one hundred bottles, scattered among the shingles, not two hundred.

To Mr. Lowder—Witness said that he had not looked at the bottles and rope with a view of remembering how much was there.

Mr. Watt's cross-examination was next continued. He said that he had looked for remnants of everything except coals. He did not look specially for tins. He calculated that there were about 100 broken bottles on the 20th of March. He had five coolies and a Chinaman turning over the place and had collected broken and whole bottles. (List shown him and admitted as a copy of his original list of property found by him in the godown. In one list a quantity of timber is calculated at 22,580 ft.: in another at 17,163 ft. The explanation is that one calculation is for one inch, the other for three quarter inch, boards). The rough lumber is estimated to be worth 4½ to 5 cents per foot. Deck planking in March last was worth 6 to 7 cents. Tongued and grooved boards 5½ to 6 cents. Galvanized spikes 7 to 10 cents per lb. Mr. Whitfield charges more, 10 to 12 cents.

To Mr. Kirkwood, witness explained his double calculation of the timber, which may be sold in lots of ½ and 1 inch. Then a calculation is made at ¾ inch. He would have found remnants tins of had they been among the debris. He knows prices of timber by buying and selling it. His quotations of prices for galvanized spikes are for small quantities: not per pound, by the keg.

A Japanese police officer was called and testified to having been one of four told off to guard the debris of the fire at No. 255c. in March last. Each policeman was on duty for two hours at a time. Witness did not see any robbery going on from the premises.

To Mr. Lowder, witness said that he received his orders from an inspector at 8 a.m. on the 16th, the fire having occurred a short time previously.

Another policeman testified to the correctness of the statement of the previous witness, who was on duty from 8 to 10, and relieved by witness from 10 to noon and so on. He, too, saw no robbery going on from the premises.

Ah Heng, a Chinese, examined through a countryman of his, said that he remembered the fire at No. 255c, and took alternate watches, with the previously examined Chinese witness, of the premises after the fire.

Mr. Bing, in the employ of Messrs. Jardine, Matheson, & Co., is a foreman of the Fire Brigade, and remembers the fire at 255c. His engine is the "Relief," stationed on the Brigade compound. He brought the engine down, and on arrival found very few people, Mr. Morgan and some Japanese coolies. Witness was present from four till daylight, when Mr. Jas. Walter, danger being over, gave him leave to go home. The actual flames only lasted for three quarters of an hour from four o'clock. He saw a heap of coal in the godown which did not actually burn. It was not so hot but that he could sit on the top and play on the fire below. Beyond a small quantity of whisky drunk there was no thieving. There is very little

at godown fires. At Mr. W. B. Walter's order he afterwards took a list of the things among the debris. He saw some brown stuff, which he supposed was cement: it was very hard.

To Mr. Lowder witness said that he had attended forty fires, small and big, during his 2½ years residence in Yokohama, as well as others abroad. He thinks there have been more than forty fires in Yokohama since he has been here. About ten of these were godown fires, one at Owston, Snow, & Co.'s, one at the China and Japan Trading Co.'s, and several so called godowns in Japanese town. There is not so great a crowd at godown as at dwelling-house fires. During the greater part of the time of this 255 fire he was sitting on the coal and playing on the fire below.

To Mr. Kirkwood witness said that he had opportunities from time to time of seeing what was going on, as he was occasionally relieved.

Mr. C. D. Moss, Chief Clerk of H.B.M. Court, had not received his appointment in March last. He remembered the fire now in question. He arrived on the spot at a quarter to 8 a.m. He returned later with the view of making a careful examination of what was there, and remained about one hour. He saw some cement, casks stacked in rows, the wood work burned away and the contents standing solid. In some instances the cement had fallen and crumbled, some in lumps, and some like sugar, but not much. About a quarter had fallen, and the remainder was standing, and was very hard. He could not put a stick through it though he tried. He had experience of cement for twenty years. Some cements will set in twenty-four hours: some in longer time. He did not think that a full quarter of the cement was merchantable: it was not so bad as the rest. The contents of ten or fifteen casks were merchantable. What was "set" had so set before the fire. The bulk was useless, unsaleable. He saw some coils of rope, and iron nails: no trace of coffee: sixty tins of paint he counted later: a quantity of oakum and salt; no cigars: he was astonished at this, as Mr. Watt had said there should be 20 million (*sic*). No fish-oil but some staves: 2 cases beer a quantity of rosin; 2 cases of whisky and some bottles: some casks of vinegar: no marmalade: the lumber: some beer; and some broken bottles, certainly not more than 200 bottles. Witness remembered a letter (produced) from Mr. Bohm, accepting an offer made by the former for shingles. Witness had previously bought in all 120 bundles at \$2 per bundle. His offer was for the lot, supposing that to be about 500 bundles, at \$1.75. As it turned out there were 1,400 bundles, which was much more than he wanted. Best cement was selling last March at \$4 to \$4.50—that is in quantities of ten casks at a time. People will always sell a large quantity at less than a small one. Good cement could not sell for much less than \$10 a cask in any quantity.

To Mr. Lowder.—Witness said that Mr. Bohm refused to let him have a lot of 500 bundles at \$1.75. The best part of the cement left after the fire was not more than 15 casks. Even that witness would not have bought except for some special purpose—not for building. The balance might be worth \$2.00 a cask.

Mr. Kirkwood addressed the Court for the defendants, commencing by thanking the Jury for their patient attention during a tedious trial. The issues for them to decide would be two simple ones: 1, are the amounts paid, namely that realized from the salvage \$2685.63, and \$15,000 lodged in Court as the full sum fairly due under the policies, sufficient to meet the plaintiff's claim? 2, what was the value of the articles in the godown at the time of the fire, and if less than that already paid by the defendants what amount should be returned to them? At some length he insisted that the Bank had given no proof whatever of what was in the godown 255c., except through the evidence of the Chinese custodian and Mr. Bohm. The former's testimony he discredited because he could get no answer to his repeated questions: the latter's on account of the nature of the transactions in which the evidence showed Mr. Bohm had been engaged, his failure to produce his books, and the small likelihood that goods would be kept under-insured in his godowns. Counsel asked the jury to set the Chinaman's and Bohm's evidence on one side altogether. He then entered item by item into the question of quantities, making some scathing remarks about the "first-class quality," according to

Mr. Bohm, of cement which had been amply proved to be "rocks" and so forth, and three-fourths of the claim on which had been virtually abandoned by his learned friend. After dissecting the various portions of the claim, and calculating them, according to the quantities which he argued were in the godown previous to the fire and the prices fixed by experts, and allowing the value of dubious items on what he asserted to be the most liberal scale, he found that \$14,000 might be considered due to the plaintiffs from the Insurance Company, leaving a sum of \$3,600 odd, to be distributed as the Jury might decide. Mr. Kirkwood concluded by re-insisting that the Chartered Mercantile Bank was really nothing in the affair: that the case was Bohm's, the property Bohm's, and that he by the mass of evidence, his own included, and the transactions with which it was proved he had been connected, was wholly unworthy of credit.

Mr. Lowder followed for the plaintiffs, thanking the gentlemen of the Jury for their patience and attention. He traversed Mr. Kirkwood's argument, and specially deprecated the attacks upon Mr. Bohm's character, and the unfair use which had been made of his connection with one transaction, the error of which he had admitted though not with the candour which would probably have been employed by an educated man. Mr. Bohm was for nothing in the case directly. It was the Chartered Mercantile Bank's case alone; and Bohm could only indirectly benefit by reducing his debt to that institution if it gained the case. Referring lengthily to the coincidence of Mr. Bohm's evidence and that of Sow Hing, the Chinese custodian, and other features of the case, Mr. Lowder argued that the testimony of both those witnesses was perfectly trustworthy. He ridiculed the high moral grounds on which the Hongkong Fire Insurance Company had resisted the claim of the Bank. He wished that the sentiment professed were more common than it is, but here it was manifested in questions of cents, and spikes and nails. He referred to the correspondence which passed between the parties prior to the litigation, and insisted that the Bank had done everything it was called upon to do under the policies from the very first, and had acted with such fairness that, if the defendants had only emulated it, the case would never have come into court. He then proceeded to consider the items of the claim in detail, holding that much property must have been consumed in the fire, and that the existence in the godown of the articles mentioned in Mr. Bohm's list was proved by the Chinaman's godown book, taken with the auction account sales and the very condition of the debris. He made elaborate calculations from the evidence adduced on both sides, original receipts *ex Peiho* and *Black Diamond*, and deliveries, that the claim for lumber specially was accurate; and admitted a discrepancy in that for cement to the extent of three-fourths of the whole, requesting the Jury to take Mr. Moss's valuation as correct. Some items were charged below the value assigned them by the experts. In one or two others the charge was a trifle in excess of that testimony. All such he begged the Jury to reduce as they thought fit. It was beneath the dignity of the Bank to claim one dollar which was not due to it; and he was not there to argue any unjust claim. With this understanding, he left the case in the hands of the Jury, asking them to put on one side any consideration of pity for the Bank and to be guided in their decision only by what they thought to be strictly its due.

His Honor then charged the Jury briefly, explaining to them the nature of the claim which was preferred by the Chartered Mercantile Bank against the Hongkong Fire Insurance Company. It was evident that behind the Bank was the real owner, Mr. Bohm, about whom very much had been said; but in this case he must be judged by the evidence, and by that only. Mr. Kirkwood had said everything that he could to damage the value of his testimony; while Mr. Lowder had endeavored to show that it was trustworthy. He would leave the Jury to form their own opinion, adding only that if Bohm's admission of a questionable transaction had been as candid as, according to Mr. Lowder's illustration, it might have been, he would have placed himself in a better light; but, as Mr. Lowder admitted, it was not candid. About the unreliability of Sow Hing's testimony, also, Mr. Kirkwood had made many remarks; and the Jury

had heard what Mr. Lowder had said about Mr. Kirkwood's insinuations as to the motive of the Chinaman's first saying he had a list and then that he had no list, and being unwilling to answer Mr. Kirkwood's questions. The value of this testimony was also for the Jury to decide; but His Honor pointed out the difficulty of making a Chinaman understand what one means whether in a Court or in an office. It might have been as difficult for Mr. Walter to make that witness understand him in his office as it was here. To show that there might have been no contradiction in Sow Hing's statements, the Judge read from his notes Mr. Walter's question and the Chinaman's answer about the goods in the godown on the 19th of August, 1882, and his taking Mr. Bohm's word for the quantity of lumber, and also Mr. Walter's remarks on the same subject in re-examination. Had, then, Mr. Kirkwood made a case strong enough to throw out the testimony of this witness? Mr. Kirkwood admitted that the book of entries and deliveries since August, 1882, had been correctly kept, and yet among the items were some which he scouts, as vinegar and whiskey; so these the defendants cannot be said to dispute. Referring to the receipt of the cement and the changing of the barrels under the bill of lading, His Honor stigmatised it as unjustifiable, but yet held that it proved that the cement had gone into 255, and the Jury might find that it was there. Meanwhile, Mr. Lowder admits that only one-fourth of the claim can be substantiated; and Mr. Moss's evidence may be taken as a basis that one-quarter of what was salvaged was good and the rest worth \$2 a cask. Without going into the details of the smaller claims, His Honor directed the Jury to consider whether the main amounts were proved, and if so then, perhaps, they need not go into the minor ones. The first question to be decided was:—"Have the plaintiffs sustained damage to the extent of the sum paid into Court plus the proceeds of the salvage?" (\$15,000 and \$2,585.63). There was only \$6,237.83 to be decided upon. If the amounts struck out exceeded that sum, there was an end of the matter, and there would be a verdict for the defendants. On the other hand, if greater damage than \$17,585 had been sustained, the Jury would have to say how much, and give a verdict accordingly. His Honor then ran rapidly through the various items, and remarked, as regards the lumber, that Mr. Lowder's calculations were not unfair. As regards the coal, if Mr. Bing's testimony that he was sitting on it during the fire is to be believed, 67 tons could not have been burned.

In answer to jurors, His Honor said that if they found for plaintiffs they would have to decide the question of interest; and that the market value of goods as stated by experts should be a guide to their verdict. The Jury retired to consider their verdict soon after six o'clock.

At 8.15 the Jury returned. Their answer to the question, "Have the plaintiffs sustained damage to the extent of the sum paid into Court plus the proceeds of the salvage?" was "No."

A verdict for defendants was entered accordingly. The question of costs was reserved for future discussion.

THE DONCASTER ST. LEGER.

The St. LEGER STAKES of 25 sovs. for then three-year-olds; colts, 8st. 10lb.; fillies, 8st. 5lb.; second to receive 200 sovs., and third 100 sovs. out of the stakes; Old St. Leger course (about one mile six furlongs and 132 yards).—202 subs.

The classic race of the North, run on the 12th inst., on the Town Moor, resulted in a finish which must have upset a great many calculations—Ossian 1, Chislehurst 2, Highland Chief 3—the winner having hitherto been the most unfortunate three-year-old of his year, for with 26 engagements, the greater number of which must have been at the spring and summer meetings, he has only now (so far as is known by last mail) succeeded in earning a winning bracket, having been continually placed—often in very good company—and several times a good second. Ossian is owned by the Duke of Hamilton, and is trained by Marsh, who has always prophesied a change in the hitherto persistent bad luck. A Duke of Hamilton won the

Leger in 1814 with William, and two years in succession (1807-1808) landed the same race with Petronius and Ashton; but this does not come up to Lord A. Hamilton's *comp.*, who in 1736 and the two following years won the Leger with Paragon, Spadille, and Young Flora, and again in 1792 with Tartar. Ossian is a brown colt by Salvador—Music, and only ran once as a two-year-old, when he started at 20 to 1 in a field of five for the Molecomb Stakes, for which St. Blaise and Elzevir ran a dead heat. He was not brought out for the Derby, having been reserved for the rich prize run on the following day; the race, however, fell to Prince Soltykoff's Padlock, but Ossian, with his usual luck, managed to struggle into third place. His best form in other races was exhibited when he ran second to Grandmaster in the Craven Stakes at Newmarket, his second to Ladislas in the Ascot Derby—which was a desperate and punishing finish, and a near thing—and a similar position to Galliard in the Prince of Wales Stakes.

Chislehurst is a bay colt by Beauclerc—Empress, belonging to Mr. C. Perkins, and in five essays as a two-year-old managed to win twice—the Whitsuntide Plate at Manchester, and the Seaton Delaval Stakes at Gosforth Park, beside running into a place in the Champagne Stakes and in a race at Redcar. Chislehurst this year won the North Derby at Gosforth Park, and the Rous Memorial Stakes at Ascot. The latter performance brought the colt to 8 to 1 in the St. Leger betting, but he afterwards dropped back in the quotations.

Highland Chief, owned by Lord Ellesmere, is a bay colt by Hampton—Corrie, and, starting six times as a two-year-old, won the Exeter Stakes at the Newmarket July, and the Home-bred Sweepstakes at the October meeting. He made a good race of the Middle Park Plate, where he got a half-length beating by Macheath, but the brown son of Macaroni and Heather Bell was giving Lord Ellesmere's colt 3lb. His best performance this year is well remembered—second in the Derby—when, with Webb up, he made a grand effort at the finish, and only lost the race by a neck.

NOTES FROM JAPANESE PAPERS.

H. F. Matsukata, Minister of Finance, is confined to his house on account of indisposition.

Great difficulty has hitherto been experienced in collecting the taxes in Tokijo, owing to the brisk transfer of property and changes in the registration of persons from one place to another. This year, however, a committee was appointed to go round the various ward offices, assisting the officers in making the people pay their taxes. This scheme proved a great success, and the taxes for the first half of this year are already collected.

The Japanese banks in Yokohama have agreed to reduce the daily interest to 30 *sen* per one thousand *yen* on the security of silver and 15 *sen* per one thousand dollars on the security of paper money.

The railway between Kumagai and Honjo—a distance of 14 miles—has been completed and will be opened for traffic at the end of this month.

The native Christians in the provinces of Cholla-do and Chung-chhông-do, Korea, number upwards of ten thousand. Their influence is great. They generally pray at night when the neighbours are in repose. But they have not yet established a Church. The Catholic missionaries in Nagasaki have adopted Korean names and will shortly enter upon their evangelical work in Korea.

Intelligence has reached here from Holland, announcing that the Japanese articles in the Exhibition attracted great attention and that they have been nearly all contracted for. The Meisan Kwaisha have disposed of goods worth 3,500 florins, Shippo Kwaisha 2,240 florins, Mr. Maronaka 8,630 florins, and Mr. Tanzan 1,955 florins. The King bought a pair of vases from the Senji Kwaisha for 1,900 florins.—*Mainichi Shimbu.*

The total amount of gold, silver, and copper coins turned out in the Osaka Mint from November 1870 to July this year, was *yen* 51,807,988, *yen* 45,367,873, and *yen* 9,266,813.27 respectively.—*Fuyu Shimbu.*

LATEST TELEGRAMS.

[REUTER "SPECIAL" TO "JAPAN MAIL."]

London, September 6th.

CHINESE TROOPS IN TONKIN.

It is reported that fifteen thousand Chinese troops have crossed the Tonquin frontier.

FRENCH REINFORCEMENTS FOR TONKIN.

The French Government has decided to send strong reinforcements to Tonquin.

PRINCE EDWARD OF WALES.

Prince Edward, eldest son of the Prince of Wales, has been created a Knight of the Garter.

FRANCE AND CHINA.

The threatened rupture between France and China is being anxiously discussed in all quarters.

BRITISH MEDIATION URGED BY THE PRESS.

The London Press urge British mediation between China and France.

RENEWAL OF NEGOTIATIONS.

The Marquis Tseng has returned to Paris to initiate a resumption of negotiations.

London, September 8th.

FRANCE AND CHINA.

The interview between the Marquis Tseng and the French Minister for Foreign Affairs is described as friendly.

The Marquis Tseng proposed a settlement of the questions at issue on the following basis:—The acknowledgment by France of Chinese suzerainty; the delimitation of the frontier; the demarcation of a neutral zone along the frontier.

This proposal is stated to have been favourably received by M. Challemeil-Lacour.

London, September 10th.

THE GERMAN FLEET IN CHINA.

The German Admiral has been ordered to collect his squadron at Hongkong and to cruise in the vicinity of the Treaty Ports.

London, September 11th.

FRANCE AND CHINA.

The *République Française* publishes an article in which demands are made for a French Protectorate over the whole of Annam. The article advocates the concession to China of honorary suzerainty, but opposes the neutral zone scheme.

NEW MINISTER TO THE HAGUE.

M. Pâtenotre has been appointed Minister to the Hague.

London, September 12th.

FRANCE AND CHINA.

The *Temps* publishes a statement to the effect that the British Government has agreed to mediate between France and China.

London, September 13th.

DEATH OF A FRENCH ADMIRAL.

Admiral Pierre is dead.

THE RESULT OF THE ST. LEGER.

The Duke of Hamilton's Ossian 1
Mr. C. Perkins' Chislehurst 2
Lord Ellesmere's Highland Chief 3

"SPECIAL" TO THE "JAPAN MAIL."

Hongkong, September, 11th.

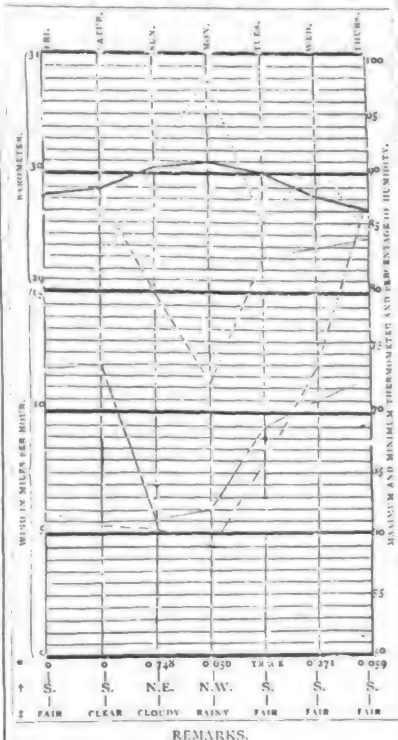
The Foreign Consession at Canton has been attacked by a Chinese mob, and the Shamien partly burned and pillaged.

The Foreigners have fled to vessels anchored in the river. No lives had been lost at the time of sending this despatch.

METEOROLOGICAL REPORT.

FOR WEEK BEGINNING FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 7TH, 1883.

Observatory of Daigaku, Moto-Fujicho, Hangō, Tokyo, Japan.



Heavy line represents barometer.
Light continuous line—maximum and minimum thermometers.
Dashed line—represents velocity of wind.
Dotted line—percentage of humidity.
The barometer is reduced to the freezing point and to the level of the sea.
* Rain in Inches. † Direction of Wind. ‡ Weather.
Maximum velocity of wind 54.7 miles per hour on Thursday at 3 p.m.
The highest reading of the barometer for the week was 30.145 inches on Monday at 10 a.m., and the lowest was 29.595 inches on Thursday at 3 p.m.
The highest temperature for the week was 88.6 on Saturday, and the lowest was 61.0 on Sunday. The maximum and minimum for the corresponding week of last year were 87.0 and 63.0 respectively.
The total amount of rain for the week was 1.735 inches, against 0.601 inches for the corresponding week of last year.

MAIL STEAMERS.

THE NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From Europe, via Hongkong, per M. M. Co. Tuesday, Sept. 18th.*
From Shanghai, Nagasaki, & Kobe per M. B. Co. Thursday, Sept. 20th.†
From America per P. M. Co. Monday, Sept. 24th.‡

* Tanais (with French mail) left Hongkong on September 12th.
† Left Shanghai on September 12th. ‡ City of Peking left San Francisco on September 4th.

THE NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For Europe, via Hongkong per P. & O. Co. Saturday, Sept. 15th.
For Kobe per M. B. Co. Monday, Sept. 17th.
For Hakodate per M. B. Co. Wednesday, Sept. 19th.
For Shanghai, Kobe, and Nagasaki per M. B. Co. Wednesday, Sept. 19th.
For America per P. M. Co. Saturday, Sept. 22nd.
For Europe, via Hongkong per M. M. Co. Sunday, Sept. 23rd.

The arrival and departure of mails by the Occidental and Oriental, the Pacific Mail, and the Peninsular and Oriental Companies, are approximate only.

LATEST SHIPPING.

FREIGHTS.

Beyond noting the movements of the few vessels on the berth for various destinations, there is really nothing of interest to put on record in the freight market. The American ship *J. V. Troup* sailed yesterday for Hakodate to load sulphur for San Francisco, and the American 3-masted schooner *Mary Winkelman* sails on Monday for the same destination direct with a full general cargo. For New York we have the *Galley of Lorne* and *Benarty* circulated with quick dispatch, with possibly the *Strathleven* to follow. In other directions nothing offers, although for London there is quite a considerable accumulation of sailing ship cargo, for the disposal of which negotiations are pending. Among our arrivals may be noted the American ship *W. H. Lincoln* and the British ship *Gloaming*, both from New York with oil, the former making the voyage in 139 days, while the latter occupied only 113.

ARRIVALS.

Taganoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 448, Matsumoto, 8th September,—Yokkaichi, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S. S. Co.
Higo Maru, Japanese steamer, 806, R. N. Walker, 9th September.—Hakodate, Mails and General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S. S. Co.
Sagitta, British bark, 579, Taylor, 9th September,—Newcastle, N.S.W. 17th July, Coals.—Frazar & Co.
Wakanoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,133, A. F. Christensen, 9th September,—Kobe 7th September, Mails and General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S. S. Co.
Kashgar, British steamer, 1,515, W. J. Webber, 10th September,—Hongkong 2nd September, via Nagasaki and Kobe, Mails and General.—P. & O. S. N. Co.
Korio Maru, Japanese steamer, 482, F. Crighton, 10th September,—Yokkaichi 9th September, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S. S. Co.
Tokai Maru, Japanese steamer, 650, H. J. Carrew, 10th September,—Kobe 8th September, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S. S. Co.
Sophie, Russian brig, 270, Sandwike, 11th September,—Hakodate 28th August, Fish.—F. Retz.
Genkai Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,914, G. W. Conner, 13th September,—Shanghai and ports, Mails and General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S. S. Co.
Tsuruga Maru, Japanese steamer, 830, Dithlefsen, 13th September,—Kobe 10th September, Mails and General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S. S. Co.
Gloaming, British ship, 1,498, R. F. Densmore, 13th September,—New York 15th May, 52,900 cases Kerosene Oil and General.—China and Japan Trading Co.
Scirio Maru, Japanese steamer, 591, G. R. Nirei, 15th September,—Yokkaichi 13th September, Oil and Rice.—Mitsu Bishi M. S. S. Co.

DEPARTURES.

Nagoya Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,015, Wilson Walker, 8th September,—Shanghai and ports, Mails and General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S. S. Co.
Coptic, British steamer, 2,787, Kidley, 9th September,—San Francisco, Mails and General.—O. & O. S. S. Co.
Matsushima Maru, Japanese bark, 9th September,—Sendai, Ishinomaki, 13,500 cases Kerosene Oil.—Japanese.
Mensaleh, French steamer, 1,276, B. Blanc, 9th September,—Hongkong, Mails and General.—Messageries Maritimes Co.
Wakanoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,133, A. F. Christensen, 10th September,—Kobe, Mails and General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S. S. Co.
Kosuge Maru, Japanese steamer, 801, H. Kawakata, 11th September,—Hakodate, General.—Kiyodo Unyu Kwaisha.

Kworio Maru, Japanese steamer, 481, Creighton, 11th September.—Yokkaichi, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Sakune Maru, Japanese steamer, 475, Evan Jones, 11th September.—Hakodate, General.—Kiyodo Unyu Kwaisha.

J. V. Troop, British ship, 1,291, Farnsworth, 12th September.—San Francisco via Hakodate, Ballast.—Comes & Co.

Hiogo Maru, Japanese steamer, 896, R. N. Walker, 12th September.—Hakodate and West Coast, Mails and General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Hiroshima Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,158, J. Wynn, 12th September.—Shanghai and ports, Mails and General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Yoshino Maru, Japanese steamer, 250, 12th September.—Yokkaichi, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Akitushima Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,146, Frahm, 13th September.—Kobe, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Takasago Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,229, C. Young, 13th September.—Hakodate via Oginohama, Mails and General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Antelope, American ship, 1,259, Peabody, 14th September.—San Francisco, Ballast.—China and Japan Trading Co.

Normandy, American ship, 1,156, E. F. Tukey, 14th September.—San Francisco, Ballast.—China and Japan Trading Co.

Taganoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 447, Matsumoto, 14th September.—Yokkaichi, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Tokai Maru, Japanese steamer, 652, Carrew, 14th September.—Kobe, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Tsuruga Maru, Japanese steamer, 517, P. Dithlefsen, 14th September.—Kobe, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Sooloo, British bark, 472, Baikie, 15th September.—Nagasaki, Ballast.—Captain.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per Japanese steamer *Taganoura Maru*, from Yokkaichi:—150 Japanese.

Per Japanese steamer *Hiogo Maru*, from Hakodate:—6 Japanese in cabin; and 1 European and 110 Japanese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Wakanoura Maru*, from Kobe:—Messrs. M. H. Robertson, C. Suther, and 8 Japanese in cabin; and 250 Japanese in steerage.

Per British steamer *Kashgar*, from Hongkong via Nagasaki and Kobe:—Captain and Mrs. Brackenbury and 3 children, Mr. and Mrs. Meyer, Mrs. Lind, Commander Lindsay, R.N., Messrs. Travers, Collins, Sorokoumofsky, Kellar, Cunard, and Budler in cabin; and 4 Chinese and 58 Japanese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Kworio Maru*, from Yokkaichi:—2 Japanese in cabin; and 85 Japanese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Tokai Maru*, from Kobe:—3 Japanese in cabin; and 3 Japanese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Genkai Maru*, from Shanghai and ports:—Mr. and Mrs. Petersen and child, Mr. and Mrs. Reschof and child, Mr. and Mrs. Suyenobu, Mr. and Mrs. Oyama and 2 children, Mr. and Mrs. Kinashi, Mrs. Appleton and child, Mrs. Jellowitz, General Chas. W. Le Gendre, Dr. Zacharia, Messrs. D. Jackson, W. Cance, N. Cumming, A. Beauchi, J. R. Elliott, Nakata, Fukuba, Watanabe, Mizutani, Kamiyo, Nagamine, Mori, and Nojima in cabin; and Mr. Thompson in second class; and 2 Europeans, 2 Chinese, and 192 Japanese in steerage. For Liverpool: Mr. H. M. Bevis in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Tsuruga Maru*, from Kobe:—Mr. Nabeshima in cabin; and 38 Japanese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Scirio Maru*, from Yokkaichi:—5 Japanese in cabin; and 110 Japanese in steerage.

DEPARTED.

Per Japanese steamer *Nagoya Maru*, for Shanghai and ports:—Governor Takasaki, Viscount de

Bari, Baron de Fontmagne, Mr. and Mrs. Morita and 3 children, Mr. and Mrs. Smith, Mrs. A. E. Randolph, Miss A. Davis, Dr. Salter, Captain Withers, Messrs. J. B. Glover, E. C. Kirby, James T. Darling, A. Saddler, O. Reimers, W. K. Seeley, F. Dubois, F. J. Marshall, G. C. Curtis, W. Stebbins, T. Hake, Yagawa, Yamagai, Kawakami, and Wakai in cabin.

Per British steamer *Coptic*, for San Francisco:—Senor B. Matte in cabin; and 8 Europeans, 2 Japanese, and 171 Chinese in steerage. For Hamburg: Admiral Louis Von Blanc in cabin. For Liverpool: Rev. and Mrs. J. Williams, and 2 children in cabin.

Per French steamer *Mensaleh*, for Hongkong:—Messrs. H. Robertson and Daiko in cabin; and 3 Chinese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Hiroshima Maru*, for Shanghai and ports:—Mr. and Mrs. A. Higgins, Mrs. Lillie, 2 children and infant, Mrs. R. W. Lillie, Miss Sowerby, R. A. Robertson, L. P. Falque, W. K. Seeley, F. Reynoso, A. Kappler, Orita, Ichiyonagi, and Otani in cabin.

CARGOES.

Per Japanese steamer *Nagoya Maru*, for Shanghai and ports:—Treasure, \$478,000.00.

Per British steamer *Coptic*, for San Francisco:—

| | TEA. | | | |
|----------|----------------|-----------|---------------|--------|
| | SAN FRANCISCO. | NEW YORK. | OTHER CITIES. | TOTAL. |
| Hongkong | 173 | 65 | 1,190 | 1,428 |
| Shanghai | — | 547 | 1,131 | 1,678 |
| Hiogo | 278 | 117 | 1,327 | 1,722 |
| Yokohama | 1,948 | 1,226 | 1,762 | 4,936 |
| Total | 2,399 | 1,955 | 5,410 | 9,764 |

| | SILK. | | | |
|----------|----------------|-----------|---------------|--------|
| | SAN FRANCISCO. | NEW YORK. | OTHER CITIES. | TOTAL. |
| Hongkong | — | 250 | — | 250 |
| Shanghai | — | 27 | — | 27 |
| Yokohama | — | 411 | — | 411 |
| Total | — | 688 | — | 688 |

Per French steamer *Mensaleh*, for Hongkong:—Silk for France, 704 bales; for London, 101 bales; Total, 805 bales.

Per Japanese steamer *Genkai Maru*, from Shanghai and ports:—Treasure, \$20,000.00 and yen 5,200.00.

REPORTS.

The Japanese steamer *Hiogo Maru*, Captain R. N. Walker, from Hakodate, reports having experienced moderate and variable wind throughout the passage.

The Japanese steamer *Wakanoura Maru*, Captain Christensen, reports leaving Kobe on the 7th September, at 6.15 p.m. with a light south-westerly winds and fine weather to Treaty Point Light Ship; thence to port thick foggy weather. Arrived at Yokohama on the 9th September, at 7.00 a.m. On the 8th September, at 5.30 p.m. passed P.M. steamship *City of Tokio* bound for Hongkong, 20 miles south-westerly of Omai-saki.

The Japanese steamer *Kworio Maru*, Captain F. Crighton, reports leaving Yokkaichi on the 6th September, at 9.70 p.m. with southerly fresh breeze and clear weather all night, up till 12 p.m.; on the morning of the 10th, fresh easterly winds and clear weather; at noon off Rock Island strong easterly winds and clear weather; at 8 p.m. off Sagami lighthouse dark cloudy weather attended by light drizzling rain. Arrived at Yokohama on the 10th instant, at 10.30 p.m. Sighted no foreign vessels throughout the whole voyage.

The Japanese steamer *Tokai Maru*, Captain H. J. Carrew, reports leaving Kobe on the 8th September, at 6 p.m. with fine weather and light variable winds until the evening of the 9th; thence to port fresh north-easterly winds and cloudy weather. Arrived at Yokohama on the 10th September, at 10 a.m.

The Japanese steamer *Genkai Maru*, Captain G. W. Conner, reports leaving Kobe on the 11th September, at 6 p.m. with fresh S. to S.E. breeze rain squalls; thence to Rock Island S.S.E. breeze and heavy south-easterly swell; thence to port fresh southerly winds and cloudy weather. Arrived at Yokohama on the 13th September, at 7 a.m.

The Japanese steamer *Tsuruga Maru*, Captain P. A. Dithlefsen, reports leaving Kobe on the 10th September, at 6.20 p.m. with moderate winds and fine weather to Coast of Hino-misaki; thence to Matoya strong easterly winds and confused sea; on the 11th, at 6.30 p.m. anchored in Matoya Harbour owing to strong easterly winds, very hard squalls, and heavy rain; on the 12th, fresh south-easterly winds and cloudy weather; at 5.30 a.m. proceeded for Yokohama with strong south-easterly winds and heavy confused sea. Arrived at Yokohama on the 13th September, at 1.40 a.m.

SHIPPING IN YOKOHAMA.

STEAMERS.

Genkai Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,917, G. W. Conner, 13th September.—Shanghai and ports, Mails and General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Godavery, French steamer, 1,049, Du Temple, 31st August.—Hongkong 25th August, Mails and General.—Messageries Maritimes Co.

Kashgar, British steamer, 1,515, W. J. Webber, 10th September.—Hongkong 2nd September, via Nagasaki and Kobe, Mails and General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

SAILING VESSELS.

Alma, American schooner, 35, Tibbey, 17th November.—Hakodate 8th November, Furs.—J. D. Carroll & Co.

Black Diamond, German bark, 585, Folley, 30th September.—Puget Sound, Lumber and Salmon.—P. Bohm.

E. von Beaulieu, British bark, 353, 20th November.—Nagasaki 7th November, Coals.—A. Clark.

Gloaming, British ship, 1,498, R. F. Densmore, 13th September.—New York 15th May, 52,900 cases Kerosene Oil and General.—China and Japan Trading Co.

Guam, British 3-masted schooner, 294, Marns, 23rd August.—Takao 2nd August, Sugar.—Master.

Mary Winkelman, American bark, 505, H. O. Alberg, 10th August.—Tientsin 10th July; Ballast.—Mourilyan, Heilmann & Co.

Pearl, American bark, 536, R. Howes, 28th May.—Nagasaki, 20th May, Coals.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.

Sagitta, British bark, 579, Taylor, 9th September.—Newcastle, N.S.W. 17th July, Coals.—Frazar & Co.

Sophie, Russian brig, 270, Sandwike, 11th September.—Hakodate 28th August, Fish.—F. Retz.

Stant, Norwegian bark, 581, C. Hannestad, 3rd September.—Nagasaki 22nd August, Coals.—Japanese.

W. H. Lincoln, American ship, 1,684, M. J. Dally, 7th September.—New York 25th May, 63,000 cases Kerosene Oil and General.—Order.

YOKOHAMA-TOKIO RAILWAY.

The Trains LEAVE YOKOHAMA Station at 6.45, 8.00, 8.50,* 9.45, and 11.00 a.m., and 12.15, 1.30, 2.45, 4.00, 4.45,* 6.00, 7.15, 8.30, 9.45, and 11.00† p.m.

The Trains LEAVE TOKIO (Shinbashi) at 6.45, 8.00, 9.15,* 9.45, and 11.00 a.m., and 12.15, 1.30, 2.45, 4.00, 4.45,* 6.00, 7.15, 8.30, 9.45, and 11.00† p.m.

Those marked with (*) run through without stopping at Tsurumi, Kawasaki, and Omori Stations. Those with (†) are the same as above with the exception of stopping at Kawasaki Station.

UYENO-KUMAGAI RAILWAY.

The Trains leave UYENO at 6 a.m. and 1.30 p.m., and KUMAGAI at 9 a.m. and 4.30 p.m.

The Fares are:—Special-class (Separate Compartment), yen 2; First-class, yen 1.20; Third-class, yen 60. The distance from Ueno to Kumagai is 35 miles.

"Special" Trains leave UYENO at 7 a.m. and 12 m., and OJI at 7.30 a.m. and 12.30 and 6.30 p.m. in addition to the above.

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

There has been more business during the week in Yarns, sales amounting to some 2,000 bales with no appreciable change in prices. In Shirtings there has been a large business done, some 50,000 pieces having changed hands, and in some cases an advance in price has been established. There has been also more doing in Velvets. Other Goods call for no special remark. Metals continue fairly active, with but little change in prices.

COTTON YARNS.

| | PER PICUL. |
|-----------------------------------|------------------|
| Nos. 16 to 24, Common to Medium - | \$25.00 to 28.50 |
| Nos. 16 to 24, Good to Best - | 29.25 to 30.25 |
| Honbay, No. 20, Good to Best - | 25.50 to 28.25 |
| Nos. 28 to 32, Common to Medium - | 31.25 to 32.00 |
| Nos. 28 to 32, Good to Best - | 32.75 to 35.25 |
| Nos. 35 to 42 - | 35.00 to 37.00 |

COTTON PIECE GOODS.

| | PER PIECE. |
|-------------------------------------------------------|----------------------|
| Grey Shirtings—8 1/2, 35 to 39 inches - | \$1.70 to 2.15 |
| Grey Shirtings—9 1/2, 38 1/2 to 45 inches - | 1.90 to 2.42 |
| T. Cloth—7 1/2, 24 yards, 32 inches - | 1.42 1/2 to 1.52 1/2 |
| Indigo Shirting—12 yards, 44 inches - | 1.55 to 1.67 1/2 |
| Prints—Assorted, 24 yards, 30 inches - | 1.10 to 2.40 |
| Cotton—Italians and Satens Black, 32 inches - | PER YARD. |
| Turkey Reds—2 to 2 1/2 yds, 24 yards, 30 inches - | 0.07 to 0.09 |
| Turkey Reds—2 1/2 to 2 3/4 yds, 24 yards, 30 inches - | PER PIECE. |
| Turkey Reds—2 1/2 to 2 3/4 yds, 24 yards, 30 inches - | 1.15 to 1.35 |
| Turkey Reds—3 1/2 yds, 24 yards, 30 inches - | 1.35 to 1.65 |
| Velvets—Black, 35 yards, 22 inches - | 1.70 to 1.52 1/2 |
| Victoria Lawns, 12 yards, 42-3 inches - | 0.70 to 0.75 |
| Taffetas, 12 yards, 43 inches - | 1.75 to 2.07 1/2 |

WOOLLENS.

| | PER PICUL. |
|----------------------------------------------------|----------------------|
| Plain Orleans, 40-42 yards, 32 inches - | \$3.80 to 5.25 |
| Figured Orleans, 20-31 yards, 31 inches - | 3.25 to 4.00 |
| Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches - | 0.18 to 0.28 |
| Mousseline de Laine—Crape, 24 yards, 31 inches - | 0.15 1/2 to 0.16 1/2 |
| Mousseline de Laine—Itajime, 24 yards, 31 inches - | 0.18 1/2 to 0.26 |
| Mousseline de Laine—Yuzen, 24 yards, 31 inches - | 0.30 to 0.37 1/2 |
| Cloths—Pilots, 54 1/2 56 inches - | 0.30 to 0.40 |
| Cloths—Presidents, 54 1/2 56 inches - | 0.40 to 0.50 |
| Cloths—Union, 54 1/2 56 inches - | 0.30 to 0.35 |
| Blankets—Scarlet and Green, 6 to 5 1/2 yds - | 0.35 to 0.40 |

IRON.

| | PER PICUL. |
|-----------------------------------|----------------|
| Flat Bars, 1/2 inch - | \$2.50 to 2.90 |
| Flat Bars, 3/4 inch - | 2.80 to 3.00 |
| Round and square up to 1/2 inch - | 2.80 to 3.00 |
| Nailrod, assorted - | 2.25 to 2.50 |
| Nailrod, small size - | 3.00 to 3.15 |

KEROSENE.

Sales during the week amount to 12,000 cases, and some 5,500 damaged cases at auction. Dealers hold back in expectation of lower prices. The *Gloaming* has arrived with 52,000 cases, making our Stock of sold and unsold Oil some 813,200 cases. Quotations are unchanged.

| | PER CASE. |
|----------|-----------|
| Devoe - | \$1.62 |
| Comet - | 1.60 |
| Siella - | 1.52 |

SUGAR.

With a stagnant trade in all kinds of Sugar, quotations admit of no alteration from rates last reported, and no immediate improvement in the Market is to be expected in view of present requirements being apparently satisfied. Stocks of Brown Formosa amount to 35,000 bags.

| | PER PICUL. |
|-----------------|----------------|
| White, No. 1 - | \$7.50 to 8.00 |
| White, No. 2 - | 7.00 to 7.50 |
| White, No. 3 - | 6.75 to 7.00 |
| White, No. 4 - | 6.40 to 6.50 |
| White, No. 5 - | 5.00 to 5.20 |
| Brown Formosa - | 4.50 to 4.60 |

EXPORTS.

SILK.

There has not been so much doing during the week, and Settlements do not much exceed 400 piculs. Buyers think that with a turn in currency exchange, prices should be easier. Sellers are not very tractable on the point, and generally speaking quotations are unaltered. Stocks are still further increased by the excess of arrivals over Settlements, being now estimated at 3,400 piculs of all descriptions. Export to date are 6,119 bales, against 6,592 bales to same date last year, and the outgoing P. & O. steamer *Kashgar* will take some.

Hanks—These have been dealt in at about former rates, but rejections from godown have been heavy, and the real business done has not

been large. We notice settlements of Shimoni: \$525, Shinshu \$515, Chichibu \$505, Maibash \$485, and Hachioji \$450.

Filatures—Some business passing on the basis of Nihonmatsu \$650, Shinshu kind \$610 to \$620, Koshu and Mino sorts \$600 down.

Re-reels—Not so much doing in these, some Five Girl Maibash taken at \$610. Other chops held for about the same figures, while best Shinshu are quoted \$625 sellers.

Oshu—A few bales *Sendai* district brought \$515. *Kakedas* have moved slowly at about former rates, one parcel "inferior" changing owners at \$540. *Hamatsuki*—Some sales reported at \$450 to \$475.

QUOTATIONS.

| Hanks—No. 1 - | - | \$520 to 530 |
|--------------------------------------|---|--------------|
| Hanks—No. 2 (Shinshu) - | - | 515 to 525 |
| Hanks—No. 2 (Maibash) - | - | 510 to 520 |
| Hanks—No. 2 1/2 - | - | 495 to 505 |
| Hanks—No. 3 - | - | 470 to 480 |
| Hanks—No. 3 1/2 - | - | 450 to 460 |
| Filatures—Extra - | - | 650 to 665 |
| Filatures—No. 1, 10/13 deniers - | - | 640 to 650 |
| Filatures—No. 1, 14/16 deniers - | - | 630 to 640 |
| Filatures—No. 1 1/2, 14/17 deniers - | - | 610 to 620 |
| Filatures—No. 2, 10/15 deniers - | - | 600 to 610 |
| Filatures—No. 2, 14/18 deniers - | - | 600 to 610 |
| Filatures—No. 3, 14/20 deniers - | - | 570 to 580 |
| Re-reels—No. 1, 14/16 deniers - | - | 610 to 620 |
| Re-reels—No. 1 1/2, 14/17 deniers - | - | 600 to 610 |
| Re-reels—No. 2, 14/18 deniers - | - | 580 to 590 |
| Re-reels—No. 3, 14/20 deniers - | - | 560 to 570 |
| Kakedas—Extra - | - | 625 to 635 |
| Kakedas—No. 1 - | - | 600 to 610 |
| Kakedas—No. 2 - | - | 550 to 570 |
| Kakedas—No. 3 - | - | 520 to 530 |
| Hamatsuki—No. 1, 2 - | - | 475 to 485 |
| Hamatsuki—No. 3, 4 - | - | 455 to 465 |

TEA.

Business has been on a larger scale than the preceding week, Settlements reaching 2,980 piculs, consisting of the following grades:—Common 150, Good Common 850, Medium 825, Good Medium 650, Fine 325, Finest 30, and Choice 125 piculs. Market at the close is pretty firm at the under-noted quotations. Estimated Stocks are 6,000 piculs. Settlements here and at Kobe are 204,555 piculs, against 218,369 piculs at the same period in 1882. The British steamer *Oxfordshire* which sailed from here for New York, via ports, on the 4th instant, took 234,974 lbs. Tea, viz.—159,351 lbs. for New York and 75,623 lbs. for Canada. The cargo despatched by the steamship *Coptic* on the 9th instant comprised 267,277 lbs. Tea from this port, viz.—76,069 lbs. for New York, 47,422 lbs. for Chicago, 81,997 lbs. for California, and 60,889 lbs. for Canada. The *City of Rio de Janeiro* is advertised to leave here for San Francisco on the 22nd instant, taking Tea at 2 cents per lb. gross to the Eastern States and Canada, but the rate for San Francisco is at present undecided.

QUOTATIONS.

| Common - | - | \$ 9 & under |
|---------------|---|--------------|
| Good Common - | - | 10 to 12 |
| Medium - | - | 14 to 16 |
| Good Medium - | - | 17 to 19 |
| Fine - | - | 21 to 24 |
| Finest - | - | 26 to 28 |
| Choice - | - | Nominal |
| Choicest - | - | Nominal |

EXCHANGE.

The business transacted during the week has been small, but rates close steady at the following quotations:—

| Sterling—Bank Bills on demand - | 3/8 |
|-------------------------------------------|-----------|
| Sterling—Bank 4 months' sight - | 3/8 1/2 |
| Sterling—Private 4 months' sight - | 3/8 1/2 |
| Sterling—Private 6 months' sight - | 3/9 |
| On Paris—Bank sight - | 4.63 |
| On Paris—Private 6 months' sight - | 4.74 1/2 |
| On Hongkong—Bank sight - | Par. |
| On Hongkong—Private 10 days' sight - | 1/60 dis. |
| On Shanghai—Bank sight - | 72 1/2 |
| On Shanghai—Private 10 days' sight - | 73 |
| On New York—Bank Bills on demand - | 89 |
| On New York—Private 30 days' sight - | 89 1/2 |
| On San Francisco—Bank Bills on demand - | 89 |
| On San Francisco—Private 30 days' sight - | 89 1/2 |

KINSATSU QUOTATIONS.

The following table shows the rate of the day, and the fluctuation during the past week:—

| Monday, September 10th | 120 |
|---------------------------|---------|
| Tuesday, September 11th | 120 1/2 |
| Wednesday, September 12th | 122 1/2 |
| Thursday, September 13th | 122 1/2 |
| Friday, September 14th | 121 1/2 |
| Saturday, September 15th | 120 1/2 |

IMPORTANT NOTICE.

SMALL CAPITALISTS, wishing to establish a business, should see if there is an opening for a Mineral Water Manufactory in their District. All information and recipes for the purpose of making Lemonade, Soda Water, &c., is given, previous knowledge is not necessary. The demand for these drinks is so much on the increase in all parts of the world, that the outlay for the machinery in all cases leads to a profitable and safe business. Catalogue forwarded free, on application to

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JOSEPH GILLOTT'S STEEL PENS. 1878.

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No. 21, VOL. I.]

YOKOHAMA, SEPTEMBER 22ND, 1883.

[£24 PER ANNUM.]

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The Japan Weekly Mail.

"FAIS CE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whoever is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL," must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith. It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 22ND, 1883.

BIRTH.

On the September 17th, at Tokijo, the wife of Navigating-Lieut. T. H. JAMES, R.N., of a Son.

WEEKLY NOTES.

It is almost a hopeless task to attempt to follow the course of the military operations in Annam. Broadly speaking, however, we may say that the campaign is, or was, in progress at two widely separated points, one being the capital of Annam and the surrounding district, the other, the Delta of the Red River. At the former place the record of French successes is complete. Hué was bombarded for thirteen hours incessantly by five men-of-war on the 19th of August, the Annamite forts replying all the while with commendable pertinacity but meagre results, inasmuch as, of the 6,000 shots they are said to have fired, only one touched a French ship. Then on the 20th we read of a "magnificent attack," conducted by 940 Frenchmen, assisted by 100 coolies from Saigon; an attack which "proved to Oriental Powers that old French renown has not disappeared." The Annamites, well found and well armed, "fought to the bitter end," according to the *Saigon Independent*, and "defended themselves with courage and tena-

city," according to the official proclamation of the French authorities, but again the results they achieved were meagre, for while losing 700 men themselves, they succeeded in killing of their assailants—not a single soldier, nor even a coolie. With the terms of the treaty subsequently concluded our readers are already familiar. It is a treaty which surrenders to France the control of the Annamite revenue, forts, and telegraphs, and cedes to her the sovereignty of several important places as well as the right of disposing of all government offices. In this direction, therefore, the campaign has been signally decisive. Turning, however, to the Delta of the Red River we find a somewhat different state of affairs. There France has taken upon herself the task for failing to accomplish which Annam was found guilty of treaty-violation and sentenced to suffer loss of sovereignty. It is the task of freeing the Red River from the piratical Black Flags whose presence renders its navigation impossible. These brigands appear to be massed chiefly in the neighbourhood of Hanoi and Sontai, and they have well chosen their post. A glance at the map will show that Sontai is the key of the position. At a short distance above that place the Red River receives two large tributaries, the Clear River and the Black River; while a little farther down, it separates into two branches, enclosing the island on which Hanoi stands, and these again, in their turn, divide themselves into a labyrinth of streams and canals, forming the delta whose occupation France seems so anxious to accomplish. Thus Sontai acquires special importance from its position, and, further, while the country below it is flat and easy of access, the districts above it are mountainous and difficult. It will be remembered that, almost simultaneously with the bombardment of Hué, a sortie in force was undertaken by the garrison of Hanoi, the object being to dislodge the Black Flags from their outposts between that place and Son-tai. Several sorties with a similar object have been already reported from Hanoi, and though all were described as successful, not one appears to have produced any permanent effect. The affair on the 15th of August was of some magnitude. Three columns marched out, each taking different routes. The enemy was very soon unmasked, and a stubborn fight ensued, the casualties among the French troops being 2 officers and 13 men killed, and 60 wounded, while the losses suffered by their allies, the Yellow Flags, are not recorded. The result was described as a partial success, but inasmuch as its immediate

consequence was a telegraphic appeal from General Bouet for further reinforcements, there is reason to interpret it less favorably. Then followed the telegraphic news published by the *Ki-sampo (Official Gazette)* on Wednesday last, to the effect that an engagement had taken place between the French troops and a column of Black Flags, numbering 4,000 men, the issue being a decisive victory for the former. This looked promising, but scarcely two days had elapsed when the wires transmitted a very different sort of message—namely, that the French had sustained another defeat at the hands of the Black Flags; that the civil and military authorities had quarrelled; and that Admiral Courbet had declared his inability to maintain his positions with the troops at his disposal. It seems pretty plain from all this that to charge the King of Annam with violating his treaty engagements because he failed to hold the Black Flags in check, was to credit him with ability to achieve more than the French themselves can readily accomplish. Of course these pirate hordes will be swept away sooner or later, but we cannot help regretting that France underestimated their strength in the first instance. Meanwhile the situation is considerably complicated by the presence of the fifteen thousand Chinese troops, which, as it now appears, crossed the Fonquin frontier at a place called Mongkai, and declared Hai-duong to be their goal. It is true that according to the Chinese authorities this force is to be employed, not against the French, but against the Black Flags. But this interpretation is opposed by the fact that the Chinese troops, while passing through Mongkai, drove the French missionaries out of their station and killed two of their people. Hai-duong, the reported destination of this army of braves, is one of the places recently occupied by the French, and according to latest intelligence M. Harmand was *en route* thither to arrange for carrying out the new treaty. China's real intentions must, therefore, be very soon declared unequivocally. European telegrams certainly lead us to suppose that the movement of these troops had been used as a lever by the Marquis Tseng in his negotiations with M. Challemel-Lacour and interpreted by the general public as an emphatic Chinese protest against the contemptuous indifference with which her claims had been treated. However this may be, it appears tolerably certain that China means to prepare herself to the best of her ability for anything that may eventuate. The purchase of arms in English, German, and American markets

is said to be proceeding merrily, and proclamations are issued calling upon the subjects of the Middle Kingdom to take military service. Among these documents that of His Excellency T'so T'sung-tang is remarkable. The Viceroy of the Liang-Kiang, after gravely enunciating the platitudes that fishing-boats are abundant along the sea-coast and at the mouth of several large rivers, and that "persons born in fishing boats and brought up as fishermen are generally well-built and of sound constitution, enjoy good health and are experienced in marine movements," proceeds to declare his intention of selecting thirty per cent. of these boat-born individuals to become soldiers, and registering the rest as a reserve. General T'so is not a man of forms and ceremonies.

THE Customs' officer, Mr. Roberts, who was committed to prison by order of Assistant Judge Mowat, for refusing to give evidence without the permission of his superiors, has been released, after six days' incarceration. No understanding appears to have been come to so far as Roberts was concerned, but as the man charged with stealing opium confessed, and the case was thus brought to a close, the testimony of the Customs' officer was no longer required. It is unfortunate that such questions should remain unsolved, as they cannot fail to impair the efficiency of the Customs Service, as well as to bring ridicule on a system which leads to complications so senseless.

NOTES.

GENERAL CROOK'S story of his campaign against the Apaches is an instructive record of the conflict which is still going on between the white inhabitants of America and the unfortunate aborigines who are vainly struggling to defend the right God conferred on them of living and breathing in the land where his providence placed them. That, at all events, is their method of regarding the position, and nobody can say that it is an extravagant view. General Crook assumed command of the Military Department of Arizona just a year ago. Very shortly after his arrival at head-quarters a party of Indians made an irruption into Southern Arizona from Mexico, and, despite the efforts organized to intercept them, succeeded in effecting their retreat without any casualties. The General arrived at the conclusion that nothing decisive could ever be accomplished unless these savages were fairly hunted down, and he accordingly resolved to make the attempt. But how was the pursuit to be managed? Apaches travel without impediments of any kind, and move across country at the rate of 75 miles a day, abandoning and killing their horses as fast as they play out and helping themselves to remounts at every ranche they pass. The best cavalry in the world cannot accomplish so much, and consequently the only resource lay in a surprise. At first sight this plan seemed even more impossible of accomplishment, but the capture of an Apache deserter, commonly called "Peaches," inspired

the General with fresh hope. This man, after undergoing a "severe examination,"—whatever that may mean—agreed to act as guide, and General Crook, having arranged for the passage of the troops through Mexico, set out on the 1st of May. His force consisted of 193 Apache scouts, commanded by three American officers, and one company of United States cavalry numbering 42 men and two officers. They had field rations for sixty days and 150 rounds of ammunition per man. For three days they did not encounter a living thing upon their march, the whole country having been converted into a wilderness by Apache raids. After this they passed three Mexican hamlets, whose inhabitants were living in a state of such constant apprehension that no man could venture away from the vicinity of his own dwelling. The delight of these Mexicans at the appearance of General Crook's force was excessive, and they would have joined his ranks, but the General prudently declined, having made up his mind that his little army was already quite as large as he could hope to lead successfully through such a country. And truly it was a country that must have baffled any but the most indomitable energy and resolution. General Crook tells us very little of the difficulties he had to encounter. He simply says that when the column made its way into the recesses of the Sierra Madres, the trail became very precipitous, and that "a number of mules were lost by slipping over precipices." The notion of troops traversing a route where mules could not keep their footing is novel, but the General has nothing to say about it except that the packs of the deceased animals were generally recovered without much difficulty! On the 12th day of its march the column came in sight of the Apache stronghold. "Peaches" had fully justified the confidence placed in him after his "severe examination." The only trouble was that the place seemed absolutely impregnable. The Apaches, however, were absent. It appears that they are people of a somewhat nomadic disposition, not naturally insensible, perhaps, to the advantages of a settled home, but knowing them only by tradition. From his earliest infancy the American Indian "has to defend himself against enemies as cruel as the beasts of the mountain and the forest." In his brief moments of peace he constantly looks for attack or ambuscade, and if in defending himself he neglects the codes of "civilized warfare"—monstrous absurdity—it is because his foes never set him any better example. So he scurries about from place to place like a wolf, building himself, wherever he stops, a species of bush fortress called a "wick-a-up," which can be destroyed in a few moments so as to leave to the unpractised eye hardly a trace of its sometime existence. Indications were not wanting, however, that the stronghold in the Sierra Madres had been very recently evacuated, and General Crook determined to leave his pack mules there and to send out his Apache scouts on foot to reconnoitre. On the second day the latter discovered the camp of the "hostiles." The General's instructions were that no shot should be fired, but that the dispositions he had

made for surrounding the camp should be carried out in the strictest silence. One of the scouts, however, not being able to resist taking a shot at a buck and squaw, the alarm was given, and the Indians, standing to their arms, fought for several hours. But the surprise had demoralized them. They had deemed their position impregnable, and had always succeeded in driving back, with rocks as well as bullets, the Mexican troops who ventured to pass the foot of the hills. So at the last they fled, leaving nine of their number dead in the camp, and five "half grown girls and young boys" in the hands of their assailants. The eldest of the captive girls finally acted as a go-between, and General Crook, by the exercise of some finesse and a considerable show of sternness, had the satisfaction of seeing the Apaches come in little by little, until, in the end, he marched back to San Carlos with 384 Indians, prisoners, and six recaptured Mexicans, captives. The whole affair reflects the greatest credit on the American troops and their leader alike. General Crook's despatches show that he is not only a brave and skilful commander, but also a merciful and far-seeing man. He takes the utmost care to impress upon his superiors that the Indian must not be judged by the same standard as that applied to white men. In all his combats with the latter the Apache has found that neither age nor sex is spared—his women and children are the first to suffer. It does not much surprise him, perhaps, that, when his camps are attacked and destroyed, squaws and babies are invariably found among the dead, but it certainly does not help to correct his own methods of warfare. "All that we can reasonably do," says the General in conclusion, "is to keep the Apache under such supervision that he cannot plan new outbreaks without running the risk of immediate detection, and for these acts of rascality punish him so severely that he will know we mean no nonsense." Unfortunate Apache! The approach of civilization is his death warrant, and even though his executioners be men of General Crook's stamp, they are still his executioners.

A BEAR-STORY is related in the *Mainichi Shimbun*. It is said that the villages in the district of Chitose and Iburi, Hokkaido have lately been plundered in a mysterious manner. Horses and rice, not an extravagant combination, provided the animals were used to carry away the grain, have unaccountably disappeared, stone fences even having been broken through to effect the removal. Night watches were set, but in vain: the evanishments continued. In spite of all precautions, a big hole, about four feet square, was found to have been perforated in the wall of a godown, whence twenty-seven bags of rice had been abstracted. Probably this led to increased vigilance on the part of the country-people whose fears and superstition must already have been heavily taxed; for we read that on a subsequent night four watchers observed approaching the building three enormous figures, which, being fired upon, rapidly retreated toward the mountains. The robbers turned out to be

huge bears, as big as the ponies which they had impressed into their service to carry away the bags of rice. A raid was made upon them, and sixty-seven fell to the weapons of their wronged and enraged pursuers.

THE statistics of fires in Paris show that Japan is not quite as badly off in this respect as people generally suppose. Thus in 1882 there were 982 conflagrations, in the French capital being at the rate of nearly three *per diem*, and in addition 1,656 chimneys took fire. In the former cases, buildings and fixtures were insured in 926 instances and furniture and effects in 751. The losses paid by the insurance offices amounted to 7,729,315 francs.

PROFESSOR THOROLD ROGERS, M.P., declares that he entirely sympathises with the wise and judicious action taken by Lord Ripon and embodied in Mr. Ilbert's Bill. He says:—"If India is to be governed on the principles of the Queen's Proclamation; the Natives to be gradually introduced to self-government and the political institutions of Western civilization; if the extension of education is to give content and hope instead of inciting those who receive it to the sense that they are debarred from that to which they conceive themselves entitled; it is essential that all the residents in India, European and Native, should be equally amenable to law." Professor Bryce, M.P., also writes:—

I am glad to express the conviction forced on me by all I have heard and read upon the subject of Mr. Ilbert's Bill, that it was necessary for the Indian Government, after what had been done and promised by successive Viceroys, with the full approval of successive Home Governments, to make some such proposal as the Bill contains. That Bill seems to me, if I may venture to express an opinion, to be an integral and indispensable part of a scheme of policy whose main lines have been drawn some time ago. I am not competent to judge of its details, but the principle seems to me to be a sound one and a far safer one on which to proceed than the doctrines which we hear from the assailants of the measure.

ISEZAKI, in Gumma, is reported to be infested with gamblers, who are a source of constant disturbance. A successful raid was recently made by the police upon the hells of the district; but one of the gang who had given information was set upon by his fellows and beaten to death.

THERE is nothing surprising in the news (received on Monday) of the seizure of the British schooner *Otomé*. Something of the sort has long been expected. There seems to be a notion among a certain class of adventurers that the commonest rights of property may be violated with impunity provided the operation involves sufficient risk, pecuniary and physical. The man who breaks into one's house and steals one's goods is treated as a common felon, but the man who fits out a schooner and goes to steal seal-skins in the territories of a foreign power is regarded as a gentleman of shrewdness and enterprise. It is possible that the owner of the *Otomé* may have been an unwitting offender. It is possible that he had no certain knowledge of the trespass he was committing or of the fraud he was perpetrating. But even

this excuse, if it be credible, shows him in the character of a man who trusted chance to keep him honest. Everybody in Yokohama knows that there are islands to the North of Japan which belong to Russia, and that there are islands where the right to hunt seals and otters has been exclusively leased to private individuals. Under these circumstances, to sail northward and capture seals and otters wherever one can find them is, morally speaking, quite as bad as to go in search of them with deliberate intent to trespass. Behring Island is Russian territory, and the sole right to procure furs there was leased by the Russian Government to an American Company in 1871. According to the terms of the Company's charter they are obliged to pay a fixed price to the inhabitants of the island for every fur exported thence. The money thus paid constitutes the islanders' principal means of support, so that any trespass on the Company's rights by outsiders is not only defrauding the Company but also depriving the islanders of their source of livelihood. All question of Russia's right to forcibly oppose such trespass is superfluous. If she has practically failed to do so hitherto, it is doubtless owing to the inadequacy of her precautions, not to the invalidity of her right. It will be seen that in the case of the *Otomé* the sealing party was driven back, in the first place, by the islanders, who are naturally anxious to prevent the theft of skins for which they would receive payment under ordinary circumstances. Further, the steamers engaged in the capture of the *Otomé* form part of the American Company's fleet, so there need be no doubt as to the nature of the offence which has been so summarily punished. The schooner's fate will be a salutary warning, and we sincerely hope that Russia's example will be followed by Japan before preventive measures cease to be worth taking.

A CORRESPONDENT of the *Hochi Shimbun*, who has recently visited the Bonin Islands, contributes to the vernacular journal a few items of intelligence acquired during his stay. The highest temperature is 90 degrees: the lowest 50 degrees, according to a series of observations taken during the last seven years. The group contains upward of four hundred inhabitants, most of whom are immigrants from the Hachijo Islands, there being only about sixty foreign residents, all of whom were naturalized last year. Their children are educated in the common school, and have made rapid progress in the study of Japanese, written and spoken. It is proposed to enlarge the school. Many of the foreign women dress in Japanese style. One of the oldest settlers was a Mr. Whip (*sic*), who died last year after a sojourn of twenty-eight years in the island. He was a good Japanese scholar and was greatly esteemed by his fellow-exiles, the majority of whom are unable even to write their own names. The turtles of the isles are to the inhabitants what the grain harvest is to the people of Nippon. Four thousand of the animals have been caught this year, being an increase of one thousand already over the take

of 1881, and two thousand over that of last season. Of the ten islands that compose the Ogasawara Archipelago, the Chichi-jima or Father Island is the best tended, being under cultivation in nearly its whole area, and producing abundantly both cereals and vegetables. Only a few years ago coffee was first planted as an experiment. It is now one of the staple products of the islands, and grows luxuriantly, producing a berry which, though not of the choicest kind, yet serves the simple wants of the islanders. Sugar cane was planted a few years since, and is expected to give satisfactory results at no remote period. The flora of the group is profuse; in fact some flowers or other are in bloom the year round; and all are honey-laden. Bees have been imported from America; and, having taken kindly to the climate, are increasing rapidly. Last year 120 *kuamme* of honey were taken from the hives; this reason more than three hundred *kuamme* have been already collected. The quality is said to excel the far-famed produce of Kumano and Saga. Cattle-breeding is a thriving pursuit. The islands are well watered, and good provender grows in profusion. Brandy is much approved of by the residents, who receive their stock of spirits with rice and other provisions at three-monthly intervals. No edible fish, except a certain river-fish, is to be found in the waters of Ogasawara; but, as a set-off, the teeming soil produces quantities of fruits and vegetables. A lemon-tree, said to have been planted by Commodore Perry, is annually covered with fruit.

ANY one who has travelled along the Grand Canal in China, and specially through the terminal and very short section which connects Tung-chow with Peking, cannot fail to have remarked the signs of corporal punishment carried on their persons by the sturdy boatmen who navigate the heavily-laden junks bearing the rice tribute of the various provinces to the capital. An astounding percentage of the men toiling at the oar or the punt-pole are in such a lacerated condition about their nether man, as to be not only unable to sit down but even to endure the touch of their scanty clothing. In fact a tribute-rice boatman appears to be despised by his fellows until he has been, at least once, well thrashed with bamboo by order of some local mandarin. A well scarred buttock is to the Grand Canal boat-hauler what a row of scalps is to the American Indian, or what a garment of tatoo in quaint but artistic device was to the ordinary Japanese coolie of three lustres ago. There is this distinction, however, that the celestial waterman must qualify for his degree by some desperate theft of the cargo which he is helping to convey; and by all accounts he is the most reckless and barefaced thief in creation. The thrashings that he receives he is bred to and laughs at. Not long since some foreign travellers journeying in a small boat from Tung-chow to the capital, passed one of the heavily laden lighters crawling up the stagnant canal. Of the visible crew of three,

there were two middle-aged men tranquilly punting, but both so circumstanced as to their sedentary apparatus that any upright position would evidently be preferable to a sitting or recumbent one—unless horizontal repose were indulged in face downward. The third was a lad of some fourteen years of age with the lips and lower part of his face swelled to the size of a small melon. The condition of the two men awakened no sort of interest in the foreigners' native boatmen, who probably knew from personal experience how to account for it; but the boy's face did provoke some apathetic curiosity on their part. At least they inquired, lethargically, what he had been doing. He mumbled out, laughing as well as he could, that he had been "cheeky" to a mandarin when questioned, and had been battered about the jaws to teach him future civility. Now, it appears that the system under which these junk-men toil, live, and bring up families to succeed them in their servitude, is not sufficiently severe to hold them in reasonable check. At least, according to recent abstracts of the *Peking Gazette*, published in the *North China Daily News*, such is the lamentable case. We read of a "Decree acknowledging a Memorial from the Commissioners of the Peking Granaries, who request that the penalty for stealing government grain on board the boats that convey it from Tientsin to Peking may be made more severe. They represent that the speculation that goes on on board these boats has greatly increased of late, the boatmen becoming so bold in their depredations that as much as several score of piculs are stolen from every boat in a fleet, some even going so far as to steal the whole of the rice and abandon their boat. The Decree characterises such defiant contempt of the law as most abominable, and calls upon the Board of Punishments to consider what heavy penalty shall be laid down as the punishment of offences of the above nature. In a Postscript Memorial the same officers go on to say that the boatmen engaged in the transport of government rice play into the hands of persons that are characterised as grain sharks, who aid them in their thefts on the passage from Tientsin to Tung-chow. The Governor-General of Chihli and the Governor of Peking are called upon to instruct the authorities in whose jurisdiction the route lies, to be on the watch for thefts of the kind described, and to punish the offenders with the utmost rigour. Any officers displaying special zeal in the detection of the frauds will be rewarded." It will be interesting to learn what form this additionally rigorous punishment takes.

A few days ago an English gentleman who has travelled much in Australia, and "knows some" as the colonists, like their American cousins, say, of colonial politics, was talking to a Japanese acquaintance, who has a good knowledge of English but is deficient in the science of slang. Their conversation turned upon the subject of railway extension in Japan; and the English-

man said, "I hope you will have no 'log-rolling' in your work." "How can railway construction be carried on without it?" replied his friend. "Necessarily much timber will be employed and it is often more economical to roll logs than to carry them." The Saxon laughed loudly and entered upon the following explanation: He said:—"I have lately been reading in an Indian paper, an account, ostensibly written by a Madrassee on his travels, of the various countries, including Australia, which he had visited. In one of his letters he describes this very operation of 'log-rolling' which is abstract, and not as the term would imply physical. He remarks with perfect truth that it means that kind of backstairs influence which eventuates in jobbery. 'Scratch me, and I'll scratch you' was once the explanation of 'log-rolling' as given to the Hindoo. It is a kind of benefitting one another all round: one good turn must result in another. As an illustration of this, the Indian once travelled on a railway in Victoria where the curves were so sharp and frequent that it was said that a train of forty carriages would be on at least three curves at once. This peculiarity of construction necessitated short trains, and therefore two trains where one would otherwise have better suited every purpose of traffic. The explanation of this was 'log-rolling.' Estimates were prepared for the construction of a line between two places. One engineer went about among the Committee, who were also the local tradesmen, and offered to make the line at a very low rate per mile. He persuaded them to vote for him, and he was appointed: but *no mention was made as to the route to be taken.* The consequence was that he avoided all hard ground and all elevations as far as practicable, and ran his line wherever it was cheapest to make. Several miles additional length and numerous inconvenient curves were the result. The local tradesmen, that is to say the Railway Committee, gained a good deal of additional trade by the extra labor employed, and seemed tolerably well satisfied with their bargain. Now, however, as the charges on passengers and goods are according to the mileage, a different feeling prevails. It is not at all improbable that a new line will have to be made there. Such is 'log-rolling,' and this will, perhaps, explain some of the strange freaks of legislation in places where this system prevails. Now you understand," added the Englishman to the Japanese, "the peculiar process of preparing timber for railway lines which our modern English describes as 'log-rolling,' and you will understand the benevolence of my desire that the operation may not be found essential in your national scheme of railway extension." The remainder of the conversation was either not overheard or was comparatively uninteresting.

A long and thoughtful article in the *Bombay Gazette*, dealing with Mr. Marvin's work on Central Asia, tends to show Russian advances in the interior of the great continent in the moderate light in which Englishmen generally and Anglo Indians in particular should regard them. The contribution is too long to be considered

here in detail. What is most worthy of notice is the writer's idea that the events of the last five or six years have demonstrated the political object of Russia in her advance eastward. It was the common belief of the Russophobe of former days, and may still be of many, that the aim and ambition of the statesmen of that country were to wrest from England her great Indian Empire. For that reason she was supposed to be swallowing up the independent Khanates of Turkomania, and expending large sums upon a line of connections between her Eastern frontier and its European base. There can, our contemporary thinks, be little doubt that this view of the question was a false one. It was not one cause, but several acting together, which prompted the advance, and, when once begun, kept it always to the fore. Land-hunger has had much to do with Russia's Central Asian conquests. The conflicts with half-civilized nations to which those conquests led have in many cases rendered new advances imperative in a most natural way. The desire, too, of Russia's generals for employment and fame may have had much to do with the matter. But behind all these causes there has, no doubt, always existed a desire to approach India. Perhaps the desire has been at times faint, and it must have been a very vague one for long. Those who felt it years ago would possibly have been unable to explain what their desire really amounted to; whether to a hope of conquering India, or merely to a wish to annoy and alarm the British nation. The desire has, however, of late taken a very tangible and intelligible form, as Mr. Marvin impresses upon his readers. There can, one thinks, be but little doubt about the correctness of his interpretation of recent events, when he points out that the main object of the Russian statesmen of to-day in their policy of advance, so far as it concerns British interests and India, is to use the latter country as a menace to England in her Western politics, and gain such a hold over her in Asia as to prevent in future her interference with their schemes of aggrandisement in South-Eastern Europe. The writer holds that if any doubt existed on this subject it must have been extinguished by the manner in which Russia showed her hand, in 1878, when towards the close of the Russo-Turkish war the expedition of General Kaufmann was planned. It is hardly to be believed that that experienced officer, or those under whose orders he acted, conceived for one moment that the force under his command could reach the Indian frontier, much less that if it ever arrived there it would be in a position to make a serious attack upon the Indian Empire. But Russian officials have always held a very poor opinion of the internal solidity of that Empire. The prevalent feeling is well exemplified in the brochure of General Annenkoff, who briefly sums up the British position by remarking that, "from what has been already said on the matter, it is evidently beyond dispute that the allies are doubtful, and the sepoys untrustworthy." This is a matter for deep consideration, and it affords a reason of the most

cogent nature why England should not view with equanimity the establishment upon her border of a Power having the means, and under certain circumstances the will, to work upon the feelings of her allies and subjects. The chances of Russia ever being able to invade India are, doubtless, of the remotest, provided that the necessary precautions are taken; nor does the contingency seriously occupy the thoughts of Russians whose opinions are worthy of consideration. Amongst other evidence to this point is the opinion of the late General Skobeleff. The actual invasion of India is probably not the object of Russia to-day, but that which really is her object is a feasible one. To "shake the frontier" is a very different thing from passing it, and it is the consequences of such a shaking that England has to guard against. If the Russians in 1878, from their comparatively harmless and remote position in Turkomania, were prepared to send an army to approach the frontier, and by the aid of internal dissensions try to endanger England's position in the East, is it not clear, asks the Bombay journal, that in the future when troubles again arise, as they assuredly will, in Eastern Europe, England must be prepared to withstand a similar attack, this time made in real earnest? Russia, speaking from her outposts along the Persian frontier, perhaps even at Herat, will be a very different Power from Russia speaking from a far distant land across a high mountain range and a mighty river.

ONE of those ever recurring and harrowing stories of adventure and suffering, with little new save in its details, is narrated in a Bombay journal by the people of the wrecked steamer *Knight of the Bath*, who were brought to Bombay on the 12th of August from the Arabian coast. The *Knight of the Bath* left Bombay on June 12th with a cargo of wheat and seeds, for Havre, and six days afterwards, having in the meantime experienced very bad weather, was driven ashore on the desert island of Kooria Moor. The breakers swept over the deck of the ship with great violence as she lay on the rocks, and no time had to be lost in taking to the boats. This was a hazardous enterprise, however, and some members of the crew positively refused to leave the vessel, with the result that they were every one carried overboard by a huge wave and drowned. One or two others were lost in getting into the boats. Altogether seventeen got safe ashore, and sixteen were lost. The two boats made the mainland at about the same spot, and their occupants on landing were immediately surrounded by a band of armed Arabs, and robbed of nearly all their clothes. The boats also were taken possession of, and the unfortunate castaways were left in a terrible plight, with scarcely any clothing, and without food or water. They wandered inland, and, after meeting with several other bands of Arabs who treated them very churlishly, but did not rob them, evidently because they had nothing more to lose, and undergoing great sufferings from hunger and thirst and from their sore and

blistered feet, they on the third day arrived at a fishing village, the inhabitants of which received them with friendliness and kept them for forty-five days, feeding them on rice, seeds, and boiled shark. They were here discovered by a messenger to whom Captain Cuthbert, of the *Amberwitch*, had intrusted a note for Captain Williams, of the wreck, and the man acted as guide to where the *Amberwitch* was lying. They reached her after two days' journey, the greater part performed on foot. Captain Cuthbert steered straight for Bombay. Those saved were the captain, second and third officers, the third and fourth engineers, and twelve of the crew and firemen.

THE Honorable Rivers Thompson, Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal, who has recently made a tour of inspection through the province under his jurisdiction, took occasion, on the presentation of an address to him by the municipality of Chinsurah, a town on the Hooghly, to express himself strongly on the subject of race animosities. Referring to the great changes which had taken place since his arrival in the country, or even within the last ten years, he said that coming up the river from Calcutta, he had been struck very forcibly with the extent of the industries which were being promoted along each bank. There were everywhere jute mills and other industries which supplied labor for the crowded populations of agricultural districts; and all these were due to the enterprise of Englishmen. Such changes must be telling on the minds of the people, and telling in a way which they must realize for themselves, and which, was breaking up their caste prejudices. Female education, also, must have its effect on native society. He deplored, no one could do so more, for it affected him very much, those differences between Europeans and natives which had found such severe expression during the past few months. It was difficult to say whether Europeans or natives had begun them, but they were begun, and they found strong expression, especially in Bengal. He would be glad if the cause of these animosities were removed. They seemed to him to be based on a very small matter. After all, the Bill to give natives criminal jurisdiction over Europeans, which had given rise to these differences, was such a petty and small affair, that if it were passed, it would confer the privilege on only two natives in India. Whereas, on the other side, it offended the susceptibilities, and he was inclined to think the just susceptibilities, of a very large class. Whichever way it was settled, he would be very glad if this cause of dispute were removed. He would be very glad of it, because he thought it turned away their attention from the development of those great reforms to which the Government of India, and also the Government of Bengal, attached very great importance.

A NEW vernacular magazine, the *Kokwai Zasshi* (*Nautical Magazine*) has appeared. Its main object professes to be to urge the Japanese people to develop their mercantile marine, and

to instruct them in the best methods of so doing. With this view it is written in familiar style, and avoids as far as possible all technicalities. It proposes to treat of maritime law, the science of navigation, the history and progress of marine commerce, naval architecture, ancient and modern, and kindred subjects. It desires generally to be useful to all those that "go down to the sea in ships and occupy their business in the deep waters." The office of the Magazine is styled the "Japanese Lloyd's;" and it is within the scope of the projectors to establish as soon as possible, an institution which shall answer to that name. Nos. 1 and 2 of the periodical, published on the 18th of August and 16th of September respectively, contain congratulatory addresses from friends, and articles on the government rules for building wooden vessels, their classification, and facilities of insurance: translations from Lindsay on Merchant Shipping, Lees on Shipping Laws, the *Nautical Magazine* on Freeboard, and other items of general interest. Mr. S. Sato, Interpreter and Translator to the Marine Office, has assumed editorial charge of the translation department of this new literary venture, to which we wish all success in a long career of usefulness and profit.

ATTENTION is drawn to a Government notification published elsewhere announcing that all telegraphic communication is suspended from the 20th instant, to and from the Omori Kawasaki and Tsurumi stations on the Yokohama-Shimbashi line of railway, and to and from the Takatsuki station on the Kobe-Kiyoto line. No reason for the notification is assigned. Some of the telegraph officials suggest with subtle irony that the railway is so much more rapid than the telegraph, within limited areas, that the latter relinquishes competition with the former between small distances.

ON Saturday night last a collision occurred in Nagasaki between the Police and some Chinese, in which one of the latter was killed on the spot and four others wounded. It appears that a policeman in mufti entered a Chinese house and took, or attempted to take, from one of the inmates an opium pipe. The Chinese soon swarmed round the house in numbers, and the police, to extricate themselves, drew their swords, with the result stated above. The police of Nagasaki have quite recently adopted side-arms.

YESTERDAY morning we stated that a telegram had been received announcing a decisive French victory in Annam. Our authority was the *Official Gazette*, so that the telegram was obviously forwarded from the Japanese Consulate in Hongkong. Yesterday afternoon, however, telegraphic news of a very different nature reached us from a trustworthy source. It was to the effect that the French had sustained another defeat at the hands of the Black Flags; that disputes had arisen between the civil and military authorities, and that Admiral Courbet, declaring himself unable to maintain his posi-

tion, had given up his command and set out for home. This news is important, for although no reverses the French arms may sustain at present can influence the result of the struggle, they may not only protract it, but also entail its prosecution on a scale that would render non-intervention on China's part exceedingly difficult. By way of a set-off to this bad news, however, comes intelligence from Shanghai that, according to China's version, the lately reported passage of fifteen thousand Chinese troops into Tonquin has no significance so far as France is concerned. The Marquis Tseng may have seen fit to put his own interpretation on the fact, but in reality the troops are intended to act against the Black Flags, who get the credit of being far more hostile to China than to France. The *North China Herald*, writing on this subject, says:—"Now that they" (the Black Flags) "have been in a measure driven back towards the frontier, it behoves the Chinese authorities to prevent them overrunning Kuangtung, Kuangsi, and Yunnan, which would be the natural result of the recent French successes. There seems nowhere in fact for them to go; and unless China has resolved once for all upon waging a war of extermination against hordes which have been fighting men from their birth, the prospect of peace in the Southern provinces appears very small."

Those who have attentively read the Hongkong papers for the last few weeks cannot have been greatly surprised by the news of the recent riots in Shamien. A pronounced feeling of distrust prevalent among the natives of Canton has been distinctly noticeable for some months past. Placards teeming with ill-will against all "outer barbarians" have been posted about the city, while petitions, signed by thousands of people belonging to the better class, have urged the magistrates to investigate the alleged assaults of Customs officials upon certain natives. This feeling of dislike is intensified often by the most trivial circumstance or the most casual rumour, for the Chinese need but little pretext to carry their hatred of Europeans to practical demonstrations. "Apart from all official direction," says Mr. Boulger in the *Fortnightly Review*, "the people are singularly antipathetic to foreigners." And though the Government has, partly out of necessity, partly from superior knowledge, thrown a cloak over its mind, we can safely assume that its real views are not widely different from those that appear to spring from the hearts of the people.

This antipathy of the Chinese towards foreigners seems to be one of their ruling passions. The three leading sentiments which form the basis of their political opinions are all more or less influenced by this same hatred of Europeans. China has, they claim, an inherent right to superiority: intellectually, morally, socially, the Middle Kingdom heads the nations of the world. Again, China has always been a self-sufficing world to herself: trade with foreigners is thus an irksome, even if lucrative, obligation. Finally,

the vast extent of the Chinese Empire makes it an axiom of prudence to abstain from cultivating close relationships with those independent of its authority. If China wishes to preserve her wide domains intact she must continue the anti-foreign policy which is so prominent a feature of her politics. But, be it noted, China makes a vast difference between inland and coast trade; as long as traffic with Europeans is confined to the sea and river-ports there is little to be apprehended from intercourse with foreigners.

So much, then, for the popular sentiments of the Chinese. There remains, however, an additional reason for their national prejudice against foreigners in the fact that there is a deep-rooted conviction that they are the losers in traffic with Europeans. It is quite true that at the outset of commercial relations with China, the balance of trade was heavily against the Chinese. The country was exposed to a continual drain of specie in return for the numerous imports from Europe, while only small quantities tea and silk were exported. Under these circumstances, the relations with outside peoples assumed the appearance of a calamity which the Peking authorities felt justified in endeavoring to cure by every means in their power. A climax was reached in 1840, when the destruction of English property in Canton led to hostilities which terminated with the Treaty of Nankin; and from that time trade was conducted on a new basis. In fact, its conditions then became entirely reversed; for, owing to the increased demand for Chinese tea in Europe and America, China was a gainer in specie to the amount of more than a million annually. Nevertheless the Government of the Middle Kingdom is always confronted by the uncomfortable fact that the single item of imported opium equals in value all the other goods brought to China from foreign countries, and is considerably more than half the total export trade. In 1879 the value of the imported opium, including that smuggled *via* Hongkong, was estimated at sixty-five millions of dollars, while the whole export trade only amounted to 100 millions.

We have in the recent riots in Canton a very similar occurrence to that of 1840. But we can justly assume that the outrages committed and the destruction of foreign property were this time neither instigated nor sanctioned by the authorities. Our telegraphic despatches lay stress upon the fact that no political importance is to be attached to the riots. They would have us believe that the disturbances originated in an altercation between some natives and officers of the river-steamer *Hankow*. Chinamen are notoriously clannish, and the cry of *Tai tai* is sufficient to attract eager partisans for a fray with foreigners. But this was certainly not the sole cause, as there have been for several months past almost constant collisions between officers of the Custom House and the native populace. It must be remembered that smuggling, in especial the smuggling of opium, is one of the principal causes of ill-feeling between the Cus-

toms officials and natives; for not only are many thousands of Cantonese engaged in it, but is it also constantly carried on. As early as 1838, Captain Elliott foresaw that the continual smuggling of opium would result in a collision between foreigners and natives. To avoid this, he wrote to the then Governor Choo an urgent despatch, calling upon the native authorities to assist him in putting an end to the illegal traffic. "The undersigned," he wrote "deliberating on those serious risks to which the lives and properties of many innocent men, both natives and foreigners, are at present exposed, considers that it is his duty to lay his thoughts before your Excellency. Seeking for the immediate source of this dangerous state of things, he finds it in the existence of an extensive opium traffic conducted in small craft in the river. From one condition of undisturbed lawlessness to another and still more hazardous, the course is sure and rapid. Illegalities will be committed more and more frequently, the difficulty of distinguishing between the right and the wrong will become daily more difficult; the foreign interests and character will suffer increasing injury; violent affrays will be of constant recurrence; life, and probably the lives of innocent men, will be sacrificed; some general catastrophe will ensue, and there will be employment for none but the reckless and the culpable. The undersigned is without doubt that the continuance of this traffic in the inner waters will involve the whole foreign community in Canton in some disastrous difficulty,"—and the riots of 1840 amply proved the justice of his apprehensions.

Although forty-five years have passed since Elliott wrote this despatch, the position of affairs to-day is practically the same. Many of the officials as well as thousands of the natives are actively engaged in smuggling operations. Even the vessels of the Hoppo's notorious 'blockade fleet' are only so many conveniences for the furtherance of illegal traffic. It is true that the ostensible excuse for the maintenance of this fleet is to prevent opium smuggling and the like between Canton and Hongkong; it is true, also, that they confiscate yearly goods to the amount of 300,000 *taels*, although twice as much passes into Canton in safety. But it is positively known that wholesale smuggling is being carried on by nearly every vessel of this doubtful fleet; more than this, the confiscated goods are only delivered up in part, and the frauds on the Government are endless. When will China learn that only evil can come of a policy which keeps corrupt officials, unjust magistrates, and tyrannical governors in office?

What were the possible defences of Shamien in case of riots? A few policemen stationed at the entrance and exit of the broad bridges connecting Shamien with Canton,—and nothing more. No precautions were taken to guard against an insurrection of the native populace, who could easily cross on boats if the bridges were obstructed; no available guard was

within call except the Tartar soldiers, and so the beautiful residences of Shiamien lay within easy reach of all sorts of desperadoes. Even last year, when the prevailing spirit of incendiarism gave the foreigners considerable cause for alarm, nothing was done to secure the safety of Shiamien, and the ease with which a large portion of the settlement was destroyed last week proves that the residents were totally unprepared for any assault. Canton has been the theatre of riots and violent actions of all sorts ever since the establishment of the East India Company in that city, and the bitter experience of the past will, we trust, carry with it a lesson not to be forgotten.

A DEPUTATION, mainly composed of gentlemen belonging to the medical profession, have waited upon the President of the Board of Trade for the purpose of urging upon the British Government the necessity of improving the *status* of ship-surgeons on board emigrant Atlantic and other large steamships. Sir Lyon Playfair, M.P., who introduced the deputation, pointed out the enormous increase of emigration from the British shores within recent years, and urged the absolute need of improving the medical and sanitary condition of the vessels in which these immense bodies of people were taken across the Atlantic. Many of the medical men who were employed on board those vessels had but very limited qualifications, and very frequently were appointed without due regard to age, health, professional *status*, or character. The Board of Trade ought to obtain powers to take this important branch of the public service under its immediate direction. Mr. A. Moore, M.P., Mr. Ernest Hart, Dr. Garbutt, Captain Bedford Pim, R.N., Dr. Irwin, and others having spoken in support of the prayer of the memorial, Mr. Chamberlain said he was very much impressed with the arguments used. He did not see his way to a perfect acquiescence in the proposal that the Board of Trade should take over the control of the medical service on board the commercial marine of the country, and regulate the most minute details of the surgical and sanitary arrangements of vessels. As to the appointment of medical men, the Board of Trade might as well be asked to appoint captains or other officers. No Government could interfere in such matters of mere control; but he promised the deputation he would carefully consider the matter, and if he had an opportunity, as he hoped he should have, of bringing before Parliament next year his Bill for the amendment of the Merchant Shipping Act, he should embody some of the suggestions made in the way deemed most expedient and advisable.

An ex-Ceylon resident now stationed in the Straits Settlements sends the following note to the *Ceylon Observer*:—"In your report of a meeting of the Royal Asiatic Society, Colombo, some doubt is expressed as to what purpose the kingfishers' and blue jays' wings exported from Ceylon to China are put to. I think I can tell you. I was dining a few nights ago with the

head of the Chinese here (a very remarkable man), and after dinner, before going over to his theatre, where we were to witness a performance of the 'Wayung,' a Chinese play, I saw a picture under glass in a carved ebony frame like a dressing glass standing on a carved ebony table. The picture represented a conflict outside a Chinese castle; there were knights on horseback heated and furious, raining blows upon each other, fair ladies loafing about doorways and windows to pick up the tip as to who was the best joustier, and the whole thing except the horses and the faces was done in jay's or kingfishers' wings. Every shade was used, and the effect was not only curious but very pretty." An ex-Ceylon resident is right so far as he goes, but he hardly goes far enough. The principal use to which the beautiful blue feathers of the kingfisher is put in China, is in decorating the heads of the ladies of the Middle Kingdom, the feathers referred to being very neatly inlaid after stripping from the quill, in the silver, and sometimes gold, ornaments used in ladies' head dressing.

We read in the *Yiji Shimpo* the following particulars of the progress of the Union Shipping Association. Two steamers to be named the *Yamashiro* and *Omi*, are being built in England. Four others, the *Ist Owari*, *Totomi*, and *Suruga* are reported to have sailed from England for Japan, while the *Yetchiu-maru* (late *Hoshiwaka-maru*) is expected to arrive in Shinagawa within a few days. These vessels are deemed insufficient for the purpose of the company; and a further order has been forwarded to England for the construction of eight additional steamships to be delivered in Japan in the course of the next few months. It is estimated that in April next the fleet of the Company will consist of more than thirty ships. The names, tonnage, and speed of the new vessels will be as follows:—

| NAME. | TONNAGE. | SPEED IN KNOTS. |
|------------------------------------------------|-------------|-----------------|
| <i>Yamashiro Maru</i> | 2,000 | 13 miles. |
| <i>Ist Maru</i> | 1,200 | 10 miles. |
| <i>Totomi Maru</i> | 2,400 | 10 miles. |
| <i>Yetchiu Maru</i> | 1,350 | 10 miles. |
| <i>Satsuma Maru</i> | 1,970 | 12 miles. |
| <i>Higo Maru</i> | 1,360 | 10 miles. |
| <i>Mutsu Maru</i> | 800 | 10 miles. |
| <i>Idzumo Maru</i> | 800 | 10 miles. |
| A steamer for the trans- port of coal | 2,500 | 10 miles. |
| <i>Omi Maru</i> | 2,000 | 13 miles. |
| <i>Owari Maru</i> | 1,150 | 10 miles. |
| <i>Suruga Maru</i> | 700 | 10 miles. |
| <i>Nagato Maru</i> | 2,300 | 10 miles. |
| <i>Kii Maru</i> | 1,300 | 10 miles. |
| <i>Nine Maru</i> | 800 | 10 miles. |
| <i>Harima Maru</i> | 800 | 10 miles. |

Scotch papers record that the Japanese servant of Captain Dundas of Dundas, had a very narrow escape from drowning. The servant went down to the Forth near Queensferry and swam across to the opposite shore. On his return, however, owing to the coldness of the stream, he was seized with cramp in his legs, and had the greatest difficulty in getting back to where his clothes were, swimming only with his arms. The exertion of this was too much for him, and he fell down insensible on the beach

directly he landed. In this condition he remained about half an hour, when he was found by some men, to all appearances quite dead. He was carried to Captain Dundas's house, where the necessary steps were taken to restore animation with, we are happy to say, complete success.

THE telegraphic news which we published the other morning requires correction in so far as Admiral Courbet's resignation of his command or departure from Annam are concerned. The facts appear to be that the French have sustained a reverse at the hands of the Black Flags; that Admiral Courbet, declaring himself unable to maintain his positions, has recommended separate negotiations with the Black Flags, and that this recommendation being negated by M. Harmand, the *entente cordiale* between the civil and military authorities is for the moment disturbed.

THE *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* publishes the following report, said to have been forwarded to that journal by its correspondent at Inchhōn, Korea:—The Tariff question, which has for sometime past occupied the attention of the Korean Government, and Mr. Takezoye, the Japanese Minister, has at last been settled. The principal point of the agreement is that goods are to be charged an *ad valorem* duty. On dyes, shirtings, cotton cloth, silk, woollen Italians and *saké*, the duty is 8 per cent., damask, and satins 10 per cent., velvets, carpets, copper, iron, watches, and articles of luxury 20 per cent., fancy goods 15 per cent., and provisions for consumption by Japanese 5 per cent. There is no duty on the export of gold and silver ore or on gold dust; whilst cereals and all other merchandize are subjected to an impost of 5 per cent. Red ginseng is prohibited except by permission of the Korean Government, but when Koreans import it into Japan they have to pay the Japanese Government an import duty of 15 per cent. It is also stated that the trade regulations that have been framed, are rather more complete than, but on the same basis as, those of Japan. The tariff will come into operation within one hundred days after the ratification of the treaty, so that on and after the 5th of November next, all imports will be subject to it. The above information has been obtained from a trustworthy Korean source.

ACCORDING to the *China Mail*, the report that 10,000 Chinese troops are being raised in Canton and the immediate neighbourhood seems to be a matter of common knowledge in Canton. Certain Chinese officials in Europe also seem to have admitted that a very large force has been concentrated in Yunnan. The following "note" on this subject, which appears in the *Pall Mall Gazette* may be instructive:—"The report of the conversation between the Chinese military attaché in Berlin and M. Challemeil-Lacour reveals the dark cloud on the horizon. Referring to the concentration of thirty-five thousand men in Yunnan, the Chinese attaché explained that step as being directed to meet the frontier aggres-

sions of the Black Flags. These marauders have now harried the valley of the Songkoi, and probably also the Yunnan border, for nearly twenty years, and the Chinese never before thought it necessary to send a large army to the aid of the local forces in repressing their forays. This new army in South-western China probably awaits the result of the negotiations going on between France and China."

With reference to the awful calamities wrought by the recent seismic and volcanic tumult in and near the Straits of Sunda, and the dangers to navigation ensuing from geographical transformations, we are pleased to read that instructions have been telegraphed to Singapore by the Admiralty to despatch a British man-of-war immediately to Sunda Straits, to render any assistance that may be required by the Dutch authorities, and to assist any vessels in distress, as also to ascertain as far as possible the nature of the changes in the channel. H.M.S. *Champion* is at present (says the *Straits Times*) "on a cruise under sail in the Straits of Malacca, having returned from the eastward and passed through to the west, and we understand she will probably be communicated with by means of a private steamer."

An instance of Catholic missionary devotion is recorded modestly by the *Catholic Register* (Hongkong), Mgr. Pagnucci, Coadjutor to the Vicar Apostolic of Shansi, relates the death in August last, of the much-esteemed Father Lewis Martinetti, after a mission of forty-eight years in the interior of China without having a single leave home. The deceased Father came to China in 1835, worked as a missionary in the province of Hupeh for a short time and afterwards passed to Shansi, where he spent thirty-eight years in educating the native clergy. His death was deeply lamented by the whole community of the province.

The committee of the Calcutta International Exhibition have decided the form which the awards are to take. After inspecting and considering the numerous designs sent in, they have adopted that submitted by the Calcutta School of Arts, "principally on account of its excelling all others in its chaste and artistic combination of Oriental designs." The medals are to be executed by Messrs. Wyan and Co., London, and will be wrought according to the instructions forwarded to that firm by the Government of Bengal.

The *Yomiuri Shimbun* publishes a report to the effect that H.E. Inouye, Minister for Foreign Affairs, has been privately informed of his appointment as Minister to a Foreign Court. H.E. Terashima, Minister to Washington, is named as his successor. The journal in question does not vouch for the accuracy of the report.

A rumor, which the *China Mail* gives for what it is worth, is current amongst the Chinese to the effect that China has made overtures to

Japan offering to settle the Loochoo and Korean questions to Japan's satisfaction and in accordance with her wishes, provided that Japan will enter into an alliance, offensive and defensive, against France should the situation anent the Tonquin imbroglio require it. It is believed, still according to the *China Mail*, that Japan has taken the matter into consideration and will, through the medium of her newly appointed Minister to China, who has not as yet arrived at his post, give answer to the latter power very shortly.

Concerning the distribution of the British Squadron in Chinese waters, the *Daily Press* of Hongkong publishes the following correspondence:—

Hongkong General Chamber of Commerce,
Hongkong, 16th April, 1883.

To His Excellency Vice-Admiral GEORGE O. WILLES,
C.B., Commander-in-Chief.

SIR,—On behalf of the Committee of this Chamber, I beg to address Your Excellency on the subject of the naval protection to be afforded to British Commerce in these waters.

During the last two years, it has come under the observation of the Committee that for considerable periods of time this harbour has, on more than one occasion, been left without the presence of an effective vessel of war, and it is now rumoured, though the Committee are unable to give any good authority for the statement, that it is Your Excellency's intention to allow the naval service along the entire Coast between Foochow on the North and Hoihow on the South—including the waters of this Colony during the summer months to be performed by a single sea-going pennant.

The Committee feel it to be their duty to represent to Your Excellency that keeping in view the possibilities of local disturbance at any one of the Treaty ports and the special duties which a vessel of war may be called upon to undertake during a period of six months while the Squadron will be at the north, it is very desirable that this harbour should not be without the presence of at least one of Her Majesty's ships while another is doing patrol duty along the Coast.—I have the honour to be, Sir, Your Excellency's obedient servant.

(Signed) F. BULKLEY JOHNSON, Chairman.

Audacious at Hongkong,
17th April, 1883.

SIR,—I am commanded by Vice-Admiral Wiles, Commander-in-Chief, to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 16th April on the subject of the Naval Protection to be afforded to British Commerce in these waters.

In the 2nd paragraph of that letter you are good enough to make a statement, on behalf of the Chamber of Commerce, that for considerable periods of time this harbour has, on more than one occasion, been left without the presence of an effective vessel of war. The Commander-in-Chief regrets that the Chamber should have accepted information which is at variance with actual facts.

The Commander-in-Chief further directs me to acquaint you, for the information of the Chamber of Commerce, that it is his duty to give protection to British subjects, commerce, and possessions, and that he so disposes of the Squadron under his command as seems to him most conducive to the attainment of that object, or as may be ordered by Her Majesty's Government.

He need not assure the Chamber of Commerce that he reciprocates their desire to see British Trade effectually guarded, and that he is fully alive to the important mercantile interests which are represented in Hongkong.—I have the honour to be, Sir, Your obedient Servant,

(Signed)

WILLIAM W. PERRY,
Secretary to Commander-in-Chief.
The Chairman of the Chamber of Commerce,
Hongkong.

Among the items of news relating to the movements of the foreign fleets in Chinese waters, we read that the German men-of-war *Wolf*, *Leipzig*, *Illir*, arrived off the Bluff at Chefoo on the evening of the 4th instant.—H.M.S. *Kestrel* left

Shanghai for Chefoo on the afternoon of the 6th instant, and the *Foxhound* arrived at the former from the latter port on the same date.—The French frigate *Tourville*, Captain Bose, has arrived at Hongkong from Singapore. The *Tourville* is an unarmoured steamer of 5,340 tons displacement, 6,000 horse-power, carries a crew of 550 men, and is armed with 27 heavy guns, of which 20 are of a bore of 5½ inches and 7 of 9½ inches. The *Tourville* was launched at Toulon in 1876, and is a 17 knot boat.—The United States corvette *Junia* left Singapore on the afternoon of the 2nd inst. for the Straits of Sunda, under telegraphic orders from the American Admiral. H.M.S. *Champion* passed through Singapore on the morning of the 4th from a return cruise in the Straits of Malacca to the Straits of Sunda.—The French corvette *Kersaint*, left Hongkong ostensibly for a cruise, but, in reality, for Tonquin. The *Kersaint* carries despatches for Admiral Courbet and M. Harmand from Monsieur Tricou, the French Minister, anent the Tonquin matter. The *Telegraph* understands that the result of M. Tricou's negotiations with China has been far from satisfactory, and it is rumored that the Chinese Government have telegraphed to the Marquis Tseng, to ask the French Government to recall M. Tricou and send some one else in his stead. From a few particulars gleaned from various sources, the same paper hears that the French Minister has solicited his nation's naval authorities to make a naval demonstration in Shanghai with a view towards having a salutary moral effect upon the Chinese mind.

A CHINESE paper issued in Hongkong from the office of the *China Mail* suggests that a reward of \$10 should be offered for "each head of a French private soldier and \$100 for each head of a French officer, by which means they would soon be swept off the face of the earth." Apart from the fiendish barbarity of the proposal, and the wonder arising that it is allowed to appear without subsequent disclaimer on the part of the proprietor of the office from an English-owned printing establishment, the question arises how many heads each French private and officer carries, as they are appraised at so much each. To paraphrase Ancient Pistol, "Have we not Hydra here?"

We learn from the *Choya Shimbun* that the Naval Department have decided to postpone the construction of the dockyard in Kiushiu. It is now proposed to purchase two more men-of-war besides the one lately ordered in England, and that the five million yen voted for the dockyard be appropriated to this purpose.

TRAVELLERS on the Yokohama-Tokyo railway are warned that pickpockets ply their trade at the Shimbashi station, evidence to this effect having been gained on the 19th instant by one of the oldest residents in Yokohama, who did not apparently "pocket his watch, and watch his pocket, too," for arriving at Tsukiji he discovered that he was minus his chronometer. He

remembers, he says, that there was a good deal of pushing near the ticket-collector, and requested the people near him to take time. This, of course, was the time and place at which the operation was performed.

SOME time on Thursday evening or night a robbery was effected at No. 136, Honmura Road, a house which is in course of repair, and is in the occupancy of Mr. and Mrs. Whitman, who have recently arrived in this country. They retired to rest at nine o'clock, leaving the back door locked, with the key in the door on the inside, and a small door leading into the scullery unfastened for the entry of the scavenger. This morning at six o'clock Mrs. Whitman found that her dress had been removed from the bedroom. She found it on the floor of the kitchen, the door of which was unlocked, the key having been removed. The pockets of the dress, which contained \$150 in American currency notes, \$50 in local Bank-notes, an American gold dollar, and two sovereigns, had been rifled. Two suits of men's new clothes had also been stolen. It is uncertain at what time the theft was accomplished. Some time last evening a Japanese man changed \$80 worth of American currency notes at an Exchange-shop in Honmura Road; and early this morning, the Chinese proprietor, hearing of the robbery, with laudable promptness, gave information of his transaction. It is thought that this may afford a clue whereby to trace the robber.

THE *Hongkong Daily Press* is informed that the Wa Hop Telegraph Company's line has not been taken over by the Viceroy of Canton, as previously reported, but that offers have been made by the China Administration Telegraph Co., of Shanghai, to take over the line on favourable terms, but which are not to be considered settled until the money is paid.

THE Nippon Railway Company advertise in the native journals that the "special train" hitherto running between Uyeno and Oji has been discontinued.

THE following figures of the trade between France and China are interesting at the present time:—In 1870 the imports from the Celestial Empire amounted to f.56,000,000; in 1878 to f.140,000,000; in 1880 to f.158,000,000; and in 1881 to f.145,000,000; while the exports from France to China were no more than f.4,700,000 in 1870, f.20,500,000 in 1880, and f.36,100,000 in 1881.

THE name of King Theebaw of Burmah has of late years been so closely associated with every thing that is vile, cruel, and debauched that it bade fair to be bracketed with Nero's in the category of atrocious autocrats. Hence it is no ungrateful task to dash a few streaks of white over his rapidly darkening portrait. The *Pioneer*, one of the justest of Indian journals, has undertaken the task of an improving artist. It reports that a French gentleman, for more than eighty years resident in Mandalay, and the recipient

of numerous favours at King Theebaw's hands, affirms that the vices of cruelty, dissipation, and drunkenness with which the young monarch is daily charged, are not really attributable to him. The informant has had innumerable opportunities of seeing and interviewing His Burmese Majesty, and he believes that few Eastern rulers have been more maligned. Cruelties have undoubtedly been committed at Mandalay, but not by the King's personal direction; on the contrary, the commission of these cruelties—the cold-blooded executions which horrified British Burmah a couple of years ago—was really the handiwork of the officials to ensure the permanence of their high offices, and the preservation of the present régime. Theebaw's mother, the Queen Dowager, is a bold, designing, clever woman, possessing a resolute character; and she is responsible for much of the bloodshed. The writer in the *Pioneer* adds that, while disinclined to accept all that his present informant tells of the Mandalay Royal Family, it must be suspected that the "annexation party" in British Burmah are often misled by the wild stories which they readily accept, repeat, and urge upon the Government of India as reasons and pretexts for the immediate annexation of Upper Burma.

"STOCK-NOTES" are issued in India, with a view to tapping, and utilizing in improving the financial condition of the country, the hoarded wealth, doubtless enormous, of the inhabitants. The *Bombay Gazette* regrets that the documents have not become popular; but holds that it is well to acknowledge the fact at once, and endeavour to find a remedy. The scheme originally was well thought out, and if it had been accepted by the population for the purposes intended, the benefits would have been manifold. It is not difficult to understand some of the obstacles which have stood in the way of their adoption. They are less convenient than they might have been, though the restrictions on their usefulness were designed with a reasonable object. There is no ready market for the notes; and some other defects were not wholly unforeseen. Stock-notes are inconvertible into ordinary paper, and the coupon is not detachable as in ordinary coupon notes. The former provision saved the notes from the operations of speculators, and the second prevented their being employed as remittances. It was intended that they should supply the place of the jewellery which it is the custom to hoard up in India. The *Bombay Gazette* finds it not surprising that the scheme should not have been cordially received. "Traditional customs are hard to break through. But the attempt must be made, and we are glad to see that Government are disposed to persevere. Meanwhile the opinions of local Governments are to be asked for, before any final decision as to amendment is arrived at."

THE practice of "ensilage," the introduction of which into Japan has more than once been advocated in this journal, has long been known in the Mofussil, where it is applied even to grain, and not as in America and Europe to fodder

only. The grain is stored, when the prices are low, in pits dug under ground, where it remains sometimes for many years until a profitable market occurs for it.

IN the U.S. Consular Court on Wednesday, before Consul-General T. B. Van Buren, Hugo Lehmann, a marine of the U.S.S. *Richmond*, was charged with being drunk and incapable. He pleaded guilty; and as it was his second offence he was fined two dollars and ordered pay thirty *sen jinrikisha* hire, and to go on board his ship at once.

HIS Excellency Shinagawa, Vice-Minister of Agriculture and Commerce, was present at the opening of the German Language School in Tokyo, on the 18th inst.

THE American ship *Alex. McNeil*, from New York April 18th, with oil, passed Anjer for this port on the 12th August last, consequently she may shortly be expected; she brings about 39,000 cases.

THE M.B.M. Co.'s steamer *Kworio Maru* sailed on Monday for Korea, with from four to five hundred troops to relieve the present Japanese Legation guard at Seoul.

THE O. & O. Company's steamship *Arabic* left San Francisco on the 15th inst. for this port, on which date the *Oceanic* arrived, having left here on the 31st ult.

WE would draw public attention to an appeal in the advertisement columns to the generosity of the community on behalf of the sufferers by the late terrible events in the Straits of Sunda.

SIR R. T. KENNIE is now in Canton, where he will hear the case of the Customs' employé charged with shooting some Chinese in Honam.

WE are happy to see that the vernacular press announces the recovery of H.E. Matsugata, Minister of Finance, from his recent indisposition. He is said to have resumed his duties on the 17th instant.

THE attendance at the Gaiety Theatre last night was small, but this had no effect on the spirits of the performers, who gave a very good entertainment. Undismayed by empty benches, the enterprising caterer has announced two performances for Saturday, at two in the afternoon and nine p.m.

A TELEGRAM was received on the 19th instant announcing that the French had gained a final and decisive victory in Annam.

THE American flag-ship *Richmond* will leave the Anchorage at 9 a.m. this morning for Yokosuka.

WE are informed by the Messageries Maritimes Company that the outgoing French mail will be carried by the steamship *Godavery*, instead of the *Tanais*, as previously announced.

JAPAN'S DIRECT TRADE.

AN article which we reproduce elsewhere from the columns of the *Keisai Zasshi* (*Economist*) deserves attention. Its object is to dissuade Japanese merchants from enterprises of direct trade, above all direct trade under official auspices. In the abstract our Tokiyo contemporary is not opposed to this so-called "direct trade." He avowedly hopes that, as Japan's foreign commerce develops, her people's ability to carry it on independently of outside aid will develop in proportion. Commerce, however, is purely and simply a matter of money-making. The plain business of those concerned in it is to conduct it after whatever fashion offers the best prospect of legitimate gain. But it is much to be feared that this primary object has been obscured in Japan by considerations which ought to be wholly extraneous, and which, by crippling the country's resources, must ultimately have the effect of postponing the end they seek to compass. We admit frankly that to manage their foreign-commerce independently is a legitimate and natural aim for Japanese merchants to pursue, but this admission must not be interpreted as implying that the state of dependence carries with it any reproach whatsoever. The Japanese need be no more ashamed of employing foreign agents to conduct their business abroad, than of engaging Europeans and Americans to teach in their colleges. If, indeed, the agency can be carried on more economically or to greater advantage under Japanese management, then, but not till then, Japan ought to think earnestly of discharging her foreign assistants. This, we affirm, is the only practical and common-sense view. Let it be discounted as much as may seem necessary in consideration of our partiality to the interests of our own nationals, there will still remain the indisputable fact that commerce is purely a matter of dollars and cents, and that to make it produce a maximum of those coins is the principle which ought to underlie all the details of its management. But this, we repeat, is not the only motive which prevails with the Japanese. Politics have been suffered to obscure the question to a degree that cannot but cause great uneasiness to every well-wisher of the country. The term "politics" is not employed here in the sense of hostility to Western intercourse. Whatever umbrage Japan may feel at the anomalies of the system now existing, it would be unjust and untrue to accuse her of any lingering prejudice against foreigners themselves. What we mean is simply this—that among

the list of objects whose complete accomplishment must precede Japan's elevation to the status of a civilized Power—using the term "civilized" in its Western signification—she has placed the independent management of her foreign commerce. Her politicians and her people alike are persuaded that her reputation for moral competence is more or less concerned in this achievement, and to accomplish it the resources of the country are squandered to an extent which—if the figures of the *Keisai Zasshi* be even approximately correct—signifies almost a national disaster. It is this creed which inspires the talk we hear so often about "commercial rights" and about the "arbitrary conduct of foreign traders," and it is this which prompts the Government to assist a few clever, and we fear designing, Japanese merchants to an extent incompatible with any sound financial principles. For, after all, what is meant by direct trade? Does it mean the admission of a considerable section of the nation to privileges from which they are at present excluded by foreign intervention; or does it mean that half a dozen merchants are allowed to exploit the Treasury by way of reward for transacting affairs of which they have no knowledge and which they have hitherto hopelessly bungled? We assume the correctness of the *Keisai Zasshi's* allusions to official assistance, but we find much difficulty in persuading ourselves to believe that the Government really hopes to promote commercial competence by such expedients. It ought to be quite evident that these men who, without assistance from the Treasury, will not venture to essay direct trade, and who, with that assistance, make lamentable failures, will avoid any similar enterprise on their own account hereafter as they would avoid certain ruin. Something perhaps may be gained in experience, but at what a price! If there is really a desire so earnest to educate commercial ability in this particular direction, it would be infinitely wiser and much more economical to place twenty or thirty youths in merchants' offices in the manufacturing centres of the West, and let them devote nine or ten years to a careful study of the methods that have made Western merchants what they are. The only persons likely to succeed in direct trade are those who can conduct it profitably, independent of all official assistance, and it is tolerably certain that these men will make the attempt soon enough without any abnormal incentive. There is much that is admirable and deserving of sympathy in Japan's efforts to correct the evils of her long seclusion, but these official attempts to

foster direct trade seem to indicate the existence of an inconsiderate, if not reckless, impatience.

We are not blind to the apparent injustice of charging this confusion of commercial and political ideas entirely to Japan's account. There need be no hesitation in admitting that Westerners themselves have set the example. Her Majesty's Representative struck the keynote of the policy that has been pursued here when he said, in a letter to *The Times*, that Japan is the last market in the East left open to English commodities. There has been something particularly humiliating in the undignified attitude assumed by Great Britain when, postponing the consideration of really vital issues, she descended to haggle for years with a comparatively weak Oriental State over a question involving an alteration of two or three per cent. in the latter's tariff. We have no right to complain if the spirit which prompted such a policy finds an echo in Japan. Little by little, convinced that they can never recover the power of managing their own affairs independently so long as Western pockets are concerned in the management, the Japanese may have persuaded themselves that to minimize Western interests in this country is the only hopeful method of escaping Western arbitrariness. We do not pretend to assert that this is so, but neither can we pretend to deny its possibility. Japan has taken her cue from foreigners in so many other things that it would be unreasonable to suppose her entirely uninfluenced by this phase of our behaviour.

Such a scheme, however, is eminently short-sighted, in so far as it involves official assistance. Every fresh evidence of Governmental interference in commercial matters supplies the Treaty Powers with another argument against surrendering to Japan the control of her own tariff. This is self-evident. Further, the invariable results of this policy in the past have been financially so disastrous that, instead of rendering direct trade attractive, they have made it synonymous with loss and disaster. Yet, if our Tokiyo contemporary be credibly informed, a tendency still survives to repeat these fatal experiments. We can scarcely believe it. What seems much more probable is that the Treasury's devices for obtaining a specie reserve have been erroneously interpreted as part of a scheme to promote direct trade. Those devices are doubtless open to much criticism, but Japan is in the unfortunate position of having only evils to choose from. Let us hope, however, that she will not voluntarily add to her embarrassments by pursuing a policy so irrational as that criticised by the *Keisai Zasshi*.

RIOTS—A PARALLEL.

ON every occasion of an anti-foreign riot in China, the trouble is referred, directly or indirectly, to the malicious interference of the secret societies, those mysterious organizations which portend so much danger to the peace of the Chinese Empire. But the secret societies, in their turn, must be inspired by some motives which appeal forcibly to popular sympathy. Their ultimate purpose may be, and probably is, treasonable to the reigning dynasty, but assuredly that programme does not yet possess features sufficiently attractive to throw a city into commotion at a moment's notice, as was the case at Canton the other day. The materials upon which these social incendiaries have to work must be already in a highly combustible condition, else would they not burst into such energetic flame under provocation so slight as the death of one man in a country where human life is appraised at an extraordinarily low rate. There can be little doubt that anti-foreign feeling is the smouldering influence primarily responsible for the recent outrage, and we may be sure that on this ground the Chinese Government will be required to indemnify the losses of the foreign settlers. It will not be uninteresting, then, to recall the circumstances of a similar, and similarly inspired, outrage against Chinese residents in a foreign country, namely, the riot of October 31st, 1880, at Denver, Colorado.

At about two o'clock in the afternoon of that day, two Chinese were playing pool with an American citizen in the "John's Place" saloon, Denver. The game was proceeding quietly, when three or four drunken men coming into the room, began to disturb and abuse the Chinese. Quiet was restored for a moment by the exertions of the landlord, and the Chinese attempted to escape, but were followed and badly beaten. The sight of two Celestials getting pounded with boards and fists seems to have possessed singular attractions for the citizens of Denver. In a few minutes several hundred persons assembled, and put themselves in motion for the Chinese quarter of the town, shouting that they meant "to run the cursed heathen out" and embellishing the declaration with various figures of strong speech. The city of Denver had, at that time, a population of forty thousand souls, including 450 Chinese. The latter appear to have been singularly hard-working, well behaved men, as it is on record that not one of them had ever been before the local authorities on a charge of theft. The task

of preserving order in the city was entrusted to a body of police numbering, all told, fifteen men. Thus there was never more than one constable on duty at a time, and his beat was the whole of Denver. The constable on duty on the afternoon of October the 31st, 1880, was Mr. T. J. RYAN. He reported the disturbance to the Mayor who, being an official of ready resource, desired the policemen to inveigle the mob into Blake-street where there was a fire engine ready for use. RYAN succeeded in accomplishing this commission, and then the Mayor took stock of the crowd. "Concluding," to use his own words, "that they were determined to kill as well as rob," he ordered the fireman to turn the hose on them, whereupon the mob did what most mobs would have done under the circumstances—got out of the way of the water. But their burglarious and murderous ardor was not quenched. Therefore Judge WELBORN appeared and "requested them to disperse if they would." They would not, however; so the judge, by way of diversion, placed himself at their head and cheered for HANCOCK. Two or three hundred of the rioters followed this judicial example, but the balance of the crowd proceeded to carry out their original intention of wrecking Chinese houses and beating or slaughtering their inmates. Constable RYAN assisted by one citizen represented the whole opposition, and the wrecking and beating were not seriously impeded. After seven or eight houses had been gutted the mayor appeared with a squad of police, who fired some shots in the air. The mob then fell back and the Mayor went home, leaving two "specials" to hold two thousand rioters in check. The specials, strange to say, failed to accomplish this task, and the roughs proceeded leisurely with their pastime, their force constantly increasing until by seven o'clock in the evening they numbered more than five thousand. Things being now tolerably lively, a rumour of what was going on reached Mr. POMEROY, a gentleman of singular courage and humanity. He hastened to the scene of action and found the houses of some Chinese "entirely surrounded by a surging infuriated mob, who were breaking in windows and doors, cursing, howling and yelling, 'Kill the Chinese! Kill the damned heathens! Burn the buildings! Give them hell! Run them out! Shoot them! Hang them!'" and so forth. Presently "a Chinaman was found in one of the houses and dragged out, to be knocked down, kicked, jumped upon, and beaten with clubs by the rioters," until finally a rope was thrown over his head and the crowd started with

him on the run, to the cries of "Hang him! Hang him! Hang him!" Mr. POMEROY appealed to the bystanders to assist him in saving life and property and preventing a conflagration, but was "answered by curses and cries of 'the Chinese must go! They've got to go.'" Hopeless of effecting anything single-handed, he ran to the executive department and found Governor PITKIN in his office, having just come in. The Governor wanted to know what was going on, and having been informed, said that he could take no steps unless called upon to act by the civil authorities. He was ready enough to go himself and do what he could to stop the riot, but officially he could not move. Mr. POMEROY now "ran to the office of the Mayor and found there a number of gentlemen smoking." He hurriedly reported what was happening, and said the Governor was ready to call out the militia if required. "The Mayor replied that he had quelled the mob in the afternoon *all that he could*, but had no force at his command to preserve the peace." He was persuaded, however, to make another effort, and on his way to the Chinese quarter he was joined, chiefly through the exertions of Mr. POMEROY, by a number of respectable citizens who forced their way into the heart of the crowd. A few shots fired in the air and a few threats of calling out the militia sufficed to quell the disturbance, but not before one Chinaman had been hammered to death and several others cruelly handled. By way of precaution nearly the whole Chinese community were put into the county prison and kept there for three days so as to be out of reach of the mob. No steps were taken, however, to protect the property of these unfortunate men during their incarceration, so that what with the destruction caused by the rioters and the thefts subsequently committed, the losses of the Chinese amounted to upwards of fifty thousand dollars. An inquest was held on the body of the murdered man, when the jury appended to their verdict the following unequivocal but slightly ungrammatical corollary:—"And we further find that the said mob was but the outcome of a drunken attack by two or three white men on some Chinese in the rear of their quarters between Blake and Wazee streets, near Sixteenth, and which, the evidence shows, could have been suppressed by the regular police force had they fearlessly arrested the ringleaders; but which, owing to the disorganized condition of the police force of the city, and the incompetency and inefficiency of its government by the proper authority, and the failure of the

county authorities to render the necessary aid and assistance required in such emergencies, the mob assumed such proportions as culminated in the destruction of human life and the disgrace of the city in not affording protection to life and property."

We have described this miserable affair in detail to the end that our readers may be in a position to appreciate what followed.

Five days after the riot the Chinese Representative in Washington—Mr. CHEN LAN-PIN—called on the Secretary of State—Mr. EVARTS—and discussed the occurrence, subsequently placing on record a formal request that the affair should be investigated, the guilty persons punished, and "the owners of the wantonly destroyed property in some way compensated for their losses." He added that "the Chinese in Denver went there under treaty stipulations and engaged in labour and trade, but now unfortunately they are subjected to such persecutions that they cannot peacefully labour, and the destruction of their property has interrupted the prosecution of their business." He could not have described more accurately the state of affairs now actually existing in Canton.

To this despatch Mr. EVARTS replied in very remarkable terms. Having premised that, according to the constitution of the United States, the Federal authority can not be brought into operation in a State in such a way as to interfere with the administration or execution of that State's municipal laws, except in response to a formal request from the proper local authority, and having concluded that no occasion for such interference existed in the present case, he went on to say:—"In this connection, it is satisfactory to be able to note, with approval, the conduct of the public authorities of Colorado, and of the people of Denver, on the unfortunate occurrence in question. It was seen then, as it always is in such outbreaks, that the fury of the brutal and lawless, who compose such mobs, is ultimately turned against the weak and defenceless, and it is creditable alike to the appreciative sense of public duty of the authorities of Colorado and the humane instincts of the citizens of Denver that their first care in this emergency (involving as it did for the moment the lives and property of all alike), was the protection and safety of the Chinese residents, whose presence seemed to serve as a special incitement to the passions of the mob."

Mr. EVARTS must have had a very low idea of Chinese intelligence when he wrote in this strain. From first to last the Denver rioters were inspired by one and only one

motive—the destruction of Chinese life and property. The lives and properties of other citizens were never for a moment in any designed peril. Sixteen witnesses were examined at the inquest, and not one of them so much as hinted that the tumult was anything but an anti-Chinese demonstration. As for the "humane instincts" and "appreciative sense of public duty" which Mr. EVARTS attributes to the authorities of Colorado, we have seen what a jury of Denver citizens thought about them. We should imagine that State papers contain few examples of such transparent subterfuges as this attempt to show that the mob went for the Chinese, not because they were Chinese, but simply because they were weak and defenceless.

The Secretary of State then proceeds to discuss the question of compensation. Here is what he says:—"It seems superfluous to call your attention to the fact, but too well attested by history, that on occasions, happily unfrequent, often without motive in their inception, and always without reason in their working, lawless persons will band together, and make up a force in the character of a mob of sufficient power and numerical strength to defy, for the moment, the denunciations of the law and the power of the local authorities. Such incidents are peculiar to no country. Neither the United States nor China are exempt from such disasters. In the case now under consideration it is seen that the local authorities brought into requisition all the means at their command for the suppression of the mob, and all these means proved so effective that within twenty-four hours regular and lawful authority was re-established, the mob completely subdued, and many of the ringleaders arrested. Under circumstances of this nature, when the Government has put forth every legitimate effort to suppress a mob that threatens or attacks alike the safety and security of its own citizens and of the foreign residents within its borders, I know of no principle of national obligation, and there certainly is none arising from treaty stipulations, which renders it incumbent on the Government of the United States to make indemnity to the Chinese residents of Denver, who, in common with citizens of the United States, at that time residents in that city, suffered losses from the operations of the mob. Whatever remedies may be afforded to the citizens of Colorado, or to the citizens of the United States from other States of the Union resident in Colorado, for losses resulting from that occurrence, are equally open to the Chi-

nese residents of Denver who may have suffered from the lawlessness of the mob. This is all that the principles of international law and the usages of national comity demand. This view of the subject supersedes any discussion of the extent or true meaning of the treaty obligations on the part of this government towards Chinese residents, for it proceeds upon the proposition that these residents are to receive the same measure of protection and vindication under judicial and political administration of their rights as our own citizens. In communicating to you the views of this government in the premises, I have pleasure in adding the assurance that it will upon every occasion, so far as it properly can, give its continued attention to every just and proper solicitude of the Chinese Government in behalf of its subjects established here under the hospitality of the treaties."

The position taken by the Secretary of State is plain enough. While admitting that the Chinese residents of Denver were established there "under the hospitality of the treaties," he considers that the stipulations of the latter are satisfied if the same measure of protection and vindication is afforded to Chinese and American residents alike, and he holds that no compensation can be claimed of a Government which "has put forth every legitimate effort" to prevent outrage. It is curious to reflect how, *mutatis mutandis*, these arguments would have sounded in the mouth of the Bakufu Government, against which, at least as much as against its foreign allies, were directed the outrages by which the latter suffered in person and the former in pocket and prestige. This, however, by the way.

Mr. CHEN had an easy task in answering this despatch. His reply was:—"First, that since 'treaties as well as the Constitution are the supreme law of the land,' and since the Chinese residents of Denver 'had come there under the right of treaties between China and the general Government of the United States, and not with Colorado or any individual State,' he failed to see how the question could properly be relegated to the disposal of a State alone. Secondly, that, according to the verdict of the people of Denver themselves, as expressed by a Coroner's Jury, the local authorities, so far from 'putting forth every legitimate effort to prevent outrage' had failed to afford protection to life and property through 'the disorganized condition of their police force,' through their own 'incompetency and inefficiency' and through their 'failure to render the

necessary aid and assistance required in such emergencies." Thirdly that it was indisputably proved that the Denver riot had been motived solely by anti-Chinese feeling, and that it was not in any sense directed against citizens of the United States.

Fortunately for himself, perhaps, Mr. EVARTS had not to answer this despatch. That duty devolved on his successor Mr. BLAINE, who struck out a comparatively new line. He refused altogether to admit that the treaties had anything to do with the residence of Chinese subjects in the territory of the United States. The latter's treaty with China contains this provision:—

All citizens of the United States of America in China, peaceably attending to their affairs, being placed on a common footing of amity and good-will with the subjects of China, shall receive and enjoy for themselves and everything appertaining to them, the protection of the local authorities of Government, who shall defend them from all insult or injury of any sort. If their dwellings or property be threatened or attacked by mobs, incendiaries, or other violent or lawless persons, the local officers, on requisition of the Consul, shall immediately despatch a military force to disperse the rioters, apprehend the guilty persons, and punish them with the utmost vigour of the law.

"You will perceive" writes Mr. BLAINE, that in no part of the treaty is there any provision reciprocal with this with regard to subjects of China resident in the United States. * * * No treaty stipulations are necessary to enable subjects of China to come to this country, take up their residence here, &c. The subjects of China, in respect to their rights and security of person and property, are placed under the protection of the laws of the United States in manner and measure equal to that extended to native citizens of this country." He then goes on to vindicate the efficiency of the Colorado local authorities, and, in the face of the verdict of the jury at the Coroner's inquest, declares that "a more successful resistance to a mob of such character and numbers cannot be found in the history of any community or country." Mr. BLAINE's definition of executive efficiency is not very exacting. Suppose that a mob of Japanese were to attack the foreign settlement in Yokohama and wreck every third house occupied by foreigners, and suppose further that the Japanese authorities found it necessary to protect us by putting eight-ninths of our members in jail for three days, leaving our property at the mercy of native thieves all the while, would that be called an instance of executive efficiency without precedent for success and vigor?

If pushed to its logical conclusion, Mr. BLAINE's argument with regard to the conditions of Chinese residence in the United States compels the admission that treaty obligations are less onerous in the case of an Occidental, than of an Oriental, power.

For while it suffices that the former should afford to the subjects of a treaty State residing within its territories the same measure of protection and vindication which it affords to its own people, the latter is required to afford a larger measure—which proposition proceeds upon the hypothesis that in a civilized country the subjects of a foreign Power are not exposed to any danger on account of their alienage. How far this hypothesis has been justified by the experiences of Chinese resident in the United States we may learn from the Denver riot, from the outrages recently recorded in New York and elsewhere, and from the disgraceful legislation to which Congress allowed itself to be forced by the clamor of a party as exclusive, as bigoted, as vindictive, and as cruel as the lowest classes of political agitators in China. Secretary EVARTS, as we have seen, did not commit himself to any such definition of the United States' position *vis-à-vis* China. He thought that Chinese resident in America were "established there under the hospitality of the treaties." But he, equally with Secretary BLAINE, held that compensation for outrage cannot justly be claimed of a Government which has exerted every legitimate effort to preserve order. It is plain that Occidental intercourse with the Orient demands greater circumspection now than it demanded in the times when such precedents as the Denver riot did not exist, and such declarations as those of Secretaries EVARTS and BLAINE had not been placed on record.

FOREIGNERS IN THE CHINESE SERVICE.

THERE has occurred at Shanghai another of those curious cases which have led to so many conflicting interpretations of the doctrine of comity.

On the 1st instant a quartermaster on board the P. & O. steamer *Ancona* was charged with stealing 163 balls of Malwa opium from that vessel. The case came up for trial at the Police Court before Assistant Judge R. A. MOWAT. When thefts of this sort are discovered, it appears to be the habit to apply to the Custom House officials, who send their *employés* on board to search for the missing opium. Such, at all events, was the course pursued in the case under consideration. Three or four Custom House servants—the exact number does not appear—visited the *Ancona*, and, in company with the fifth officer of the ship, made a search which resulted in the discovery of thirteen balls of opium in the quartermaster's cabin. It was necessary,

of course, to take the evidence of the persons who had conducted this examination, and accordingly a Customs official, by name JOHN ROBERTS, who described himself as Assistant Examiner and Diver, was subpoenaed. This witness stated that he had been sent on board in his official capacity to search the *Ancona*, and the case then proceeded as follows, the Assistant Judge being the questioner:—

And what did you do when you went on board?—I cannot answer that question, as I am strictly forbidden to answer any questions on subjects of which I have a knowledge only by reason of my position as a servant of the Chinese Government.

You say you cannot answer that question?—No, Sir. Are you forbidden to do it?—Yes, sir; strictly forbidden.

By whom?—By the rules of the service. That is your view of what the rules of service mean, I suppose?

Witness—Yes, sir; that is what is laid down.

You have attended upon a subpoena, have you not?—Yes, Sir.

Let me see it.—I did not bring it with me.

Mr. M. Jones, Clerk of Court, produced a copy of the subpoena.

His Worship—You would not attend on the previous day without a subpoena?

Witness—No, Sir.

And now, when you have attended upon a subpoena, you say to the question I put, "What did you do when you went on board?"—that you decline to answer the question put to you because you conceive it conflicts with the rules of your service?

Mr. R. E. Wainwright—Your Honour, perhaps I may be allowed to say here that I appear to watch this case on behalf of the Chinese Imperial Customs. I perhaps have no right to say anything, but there is one question which I would suggest should be put to the witness in fairness to himself.—will you ask him whether he has been ordered by a superior officer in the Customs service to do this.

His Worship—I asked him, "By whom?" and he said "By the rules of the service."

Mr. Wainwright—Perhaps he will be able to say he was ordered to act in this way.

His Worship—Do you act on your own view of the rules of the service?

Witness—I had the rules read to me, and I was likewise told.

By whom?—By my immediate superior.

What is his name?—Mr. Glover, Commissioner of Customs in Shanghai.

Not to answer any questions?—Yes.

His Worship—Well, the English law is that you are not bound to answer any question, if the answer has a tendency, in the judge's opinion, to expose you to any criminal charge. If answering the question I have put to you would expose you to a criminal charge, then you are entitled not to answer it. But that is practically the only case in which a witness, attending upon a subpoena, in such a case as this at any rate, is exempted from answering. The English law casts upon you as a British subject the duty of answering a question of this kind put to you by the Judge, unless you can say it would expose you to a criminal prosecution yourself; then the law is tender, and does not require you to answer. But in any other case generally you must answer. The mere fact that you are an official in a particular service and have instructions from a superior officer not to answer is an explanation of why you do not answer, but it is not an excuse for not answering; and if you do not answer, I shall have, unwillingly, to commit you to prison. Will you answer?

Witness—No, sir.

Mr. Wainwright—Your Honour will remember this is a Government service.

His Honour—I cannot hear you, Mr. Wainwright. You must apply afterwards. The Rules of our Court provide that:—"If on the appearance of the person summoned, either in obedience to a summons, or on being brought up by virtue of a warrant, he refuses to take an oath,—or, having taken an oath, to answer any question put to him,—and does not excuse his refusal to the satisfaction of the Court, then the Court may, by warrant, commit him to prison, there to remain for not more than seven days, unless he in the meantime consents to answer duly on oath." Now, as I have said, it seems to me that you have not excused your refusal; because I cannot take what you have said as an excuse; it is an explanation, but not an excuse, and if you adhere to your refusal I have no other course

but to commit you to prison for a period of seven days, unless you answer in the meantime. If you are ready to answer within the seven days, you will be brought here to give your answer. I hope that you will be enabled to answer. I regret very much the course I have to take.

Mr. Roberts—Will you allow me one favour—to get my room locked up?

His Worship—Oh, yes.

Another Customs officer then stepped into the witness-box, but as Mr. Wainwright told him he had not been called, he retired.

His Worship—I shall adjourn the case for seven days; but the prisoner will be brought before me before that time if the witness who has just been committed will answer the question.

Mr. Wainwright—If your Honour will permit me, I may remark that it is perfectly open to the prosecution to get the evidence of these two officers.

His Honour—I have nothing to do with that.

Mr. Wainwright—There is a way of doing it. They have nothing to do but to apply to the Superintendent of Customs, and it is for him to say whether he will allow them to give the evidence required.

His Worship—It is for the Court to say whether he must answer.

Mr. Wainwright—Your Worship commits him under Rule 288?

His Worship—Yes; he has sworn it. (To the Clerk)—Mr. Jones, the witness was sworn?

Mr. Jones—The witness was sworn.

His Worship adjourned the case till Saturday next, the 8th September, at 10 o'clock, informing the prisoner that he would be brought up sooner if the case would permit of it.

It must be confessed that the reasons which induced the Commissioner of Customs in Shanghai to impose silence on his subordinate in this particular case are somewhat obscure. It seems to follow logically and naturally that if to assist, under certain circumstances, in the detection of crimes committed by British subjects be among the duties devolving upon officers of the Chinese Customs, then to assist in prosecuting the perpetrators of those crimes is equally their duty. This, indeed, is so self-evident that we may fairly assume the existence of some consideration quite apart from the case of the *Ancona* robbery. To understand that consideration it is necessary to go back to March, 1881, when a British subject, EDWARD PAGE, was indicted before Chief Justice French and a jury for the murder of a Chinaman. PAGE—who was employed, with the QUEEN'S sanction (in accordance with a Convention) in the service of the EMPEROR of CHINA as a Customs Revenue Officer—had used fire-arms in an attempt to capture some smugglers, and his act had already been pronounced blameless by the Chinese Authorities. Under these circumstances his subsequent indictment before a British Court involved the question whether a foreigner lawfully in the service of the Chinese Government is responsible to the tribunals of his own country for acts committed in the performance of the duties, and in the employment of the rights and immunities, of the office entrusted to him by that Government. Into that question we need not enter at present. It was fully discussed at the time, and we only mention it because it imparts additional significance to an incident which occurred at the trial

and which is an exact parallel to the case of JOHN ROBERTS, mentioned above. Among the witnesses summoned before the British Court was an officer of the Chinese Customs, who, when required to give evidence, refused, pleading the rules of the service to which he belonged. Chief Justice FRENCH threatened this silent witness with imprisonment for contempt of Court, but the threat was not put into effect and the matter was allowed to drop. The affair led, however, to a definition by the Chinese Authorities of the position they desired to maintain in such cases—namely, that if a foreigner in the Chinese service were accused, his Consul should ascertain of the Chinese authorities whether the act complained of was done in the discharge of official duty. If the reply were in the affirmative, the case should go to the Minister, who would adjust it with the Chinese Government. If the reply were in the negative, the accused should be discharged from the Chinese service, and his Consul should take up the case judicially. Finally, if a foreign *employé* were wanted as a witness, the summons should be sent to him through the Chinese authorities. Many persons will, doubtless, be of opinion that these claims are not inconsistent with a reasonable rendering of the doctrine of comity. Indeed, this view receives indirect support from a judgment delivered by the Privy Council in connection with a case which occurred thirteen years ago in Shanghai. Their Lordships said:—"If it were shown that, by the law and customs of China, officers in the service of the Government were absolutely protected in making reports concerning their subordinates, and that it was against the policy of the Empire to allow them to be questioned by any Court, it might be proper to hold that it would be contrary to the comity of nations, and therefore against our own public policy, having regard to this comity, to allow a subject of the Queen, who had voluntarily entered into that service, to maintain such an action as the present." To the Foreign Representatives in China, however, the position taken by the Customs Authorities seemed to trench unduly upon the rights of jurisdiction conferred by the extraterritorial clauses of the treaties. They were prepared to go to a certain length, but not quite so far as the Chinese desired. The United States Representative addressed his Government on the subject, asking for instructions. "In a criminal case," he wrote, "if the person injured is a Chinaman, and the Chinese Government approves the official act by which the injury

has been done, I think, on the whole, the wisest plan is in general to recognize the plea of the accused that he is protected by the approbation of the Chinese Government as valid, and to discharge him. There may be, indeed, some danger that feelings of animosity against foreign officials will be excited; but the Chinese are so obedient to their Government that the danger is not very great, and our Government can, if it becomes necessary, forbid its citizens from entering upon the Chinese service. And possibly some limit might be set to the extent to which this plea should be recognized, if it is thought that there is danger of any abuse of it in aggravated cases. * * *

In respect to what shall be required of Americans in the Chinese service, when they are called into court as witnesses, I think it must be admitted that there are some things which they should not be asked to disclose. They should be permitted to plead privilege to a certain extent. Perhaps it must be left to the Consul to decide in each case how far this plea shall be extended. But in view of the inexperience and lack of legal training of some of our Consuls, it would be helpful if the Government should lay down some general principles for their guidance."

These general principles, however, the United States Government was not very ready to lay down. The Acting Secretary of State ultimately answered a portion of Mr. ANGELL'S despatch in the following terms:—"If in such a case the Consul found that the *employé* killed or wounded a man in the discharge of his official duty, and under such circumstances that he, if tried by a Chinese tribunal, be held guiltless, or such as would, under the laws of the United States, make the act justifiable or excusable, it would be the duty of the Consul to discharge him." This is plain enough in so far as regards the justification afforded by the orders of the Chinese Authorities for acts done by United States citizens in obedience to those orders. But it leaves undetermined the liability of an *employé* to give evidence before American Courts on subjects connected with his official acts. That is the question now at issue, and its solution will involve points of much interest. In the recent case at Shanghai we can be tolerably certain that the whole difficulty was comprised in the Court's refusal to forward the summons through the medium of the Customs Authorities—a trifling concession, which in the interests of mutual good feeling might well have been made.

The Chinese, on their side, had already taken a step, which, if not very logical, was at all events in the nature of a compromise. After the Canton trial of March, 1881, the Inspector General of Customs issued a regulation to the effect that, if any foreign *employé* of the Customs should kill or wound any person, he must immediately resign his place and report to the Consul of his nationality. If the Consul tried and convicted him, his resignation was to be permanent. If the Consul acquitted him or decided that there was no cause for trial, the *employé* might resume his official position with full pay during the time since his resignation. All this, to be sure, has the appearance of a somewhat undignified evasion, but it is surely the business of both sides to avoid diplomatic embarrassments as much as possible. The original motive of extraterritorial jurisdiction is to protect the lives and properties of Westerners resident in the East. It is not easy to see how that motive can be reconciled with an obstinacy so careful of extraterritorial forms that it prefers imprisoning a British subject to serving a summons on him through any but the strictly conventional channels.

REVIEW.

I.—*Japan, its Architecture, Art, and Art Manufactures.* By CHRISTOPHER DRESSER, Ph.D. F.L.S., &c. London: Longmans, Green, and Co. 1882.

II.—*The Ornamental Arts of Japan.* By GEORGE ASHDOWN AUDSLEY, F.R.I.B.A.; Member of the Asiatic Society of Japan. London: Sampson Low, Marston, Searle, and Rivington.

A LEARNED sinologue, who with infinite labour and marvellous perseverance had prepared and published a compendious Grammar of the Japanese written and spoken languages, was once requested to act as interpreter at an interview between a Western potentate and an Ambassador from the Land of the Rising Sun. On occasions of this nature the set orations delivered by the principal parties are generally handed to the interpreter two or three days beforehand, and our grammarian found no difficulty in rendering them correctly, according to his lights. But when these pre-arranged parts of the programme were concluded, and the sinologue was requested to signify his royal master's will that the envoys should take their departure, a difficulty arose. It is precisely in these simple forms of speech that the idiom of the Japanese language differs totally from that of any European tongue. The grammarian was at no loss for suited terms, borrowed from books, all embodying, more or less obscurely, the idea of going or "getting," but it never occurred to him to make use of such an expression as "It is well now," or "Taking your leave now, it is well." So he bungled and stammered while the Japanese listened attentively but with gradually augmenting curiosity and the potentate marvelled impatiently. At last a bystander, who happened to have served for some years in an official capacity in Japan, became cognizant of the dilemma, and, stepping

forward, addressed the envoys thus:—"King-san hanas piggy arimas," which fragment of execrable pidgin was instantaneously successful.

There is a simple moral to this story. It is that to interpret Japanese one must have lived in Japan. The grammarian in the anecdote had not fulfilled this simple condition, and his failure to make himself understood might have been predicted.

What is true of the Japanese language is eminently true of Japanese art. To appreciate it, one must be familiar with every feature of the people's household life; with their habits, their traditions, their creeds, and their moods. To discuss their art before acquiring this experience is much as though one were to attempt an analysis of Chinese ideographs without knowing that each of them expresses an idea. No very satisfactory lessons are likely to be learned, therefore, with such men as Dr. Christopher Dresser and Mr. George Audsley for teachers, of whom the latter has never set foot in Japan, and the former spent only three months there, travelling during that interval, as he tells us with apparent pride, "a little over one thousand seven hundred miles." Perhaps at the outset we ought to confess that the reputation Dr. Dresser left behind him in the East is not calculated to procure his book a very enthusiastic welcome here. On this point, however, it will suffice to say that before he had been a week in Japan he showed himself so ignorant of Japanese and Chinese ceramics as to be unable to distinguish the wares of one country from those of the other. But he possessed unbounded confidence in his own knowledge, and it may be said of art critics more truly than of any other class of persons, that self-assurance is often quite as serviceable as competence. Yet judging Dr. Dresser by his book alone, we find him singularly frank in his description of the impressions he received during his first walk in Japan. "It will be impossible," he says, "to describe the impression of novelty left on our minds; but to give the reader some notion of the strange aspect of things, I may repeat a remark made by one of the Austrian princes during the stroll:—'Had we died and risen from the dead the scene presented could not be more strange.'" It will thus be seen that he came here with a virgin mind, and if his work be read simply as the record of an expert's impressions and observations, much will be found there that is interesting and instructive. But the reader must not suffer himself to be deterred by the opening pages. There is something else which is obviously quite as strange to Dr. Dresser as Japanese houses and Japanese people, and that is—the society of Princes and Ministers. On his voyage out he made the acquaintance of two Austrian Princes, and our admiration is involuntarily commanded by the ingenuity he employs to bring their names in, on every possible occasion, as well as those of General Saigo, the Honorable James Saumarez, and other gentlemen of title. Two extracts from this portion of his work will suffice to illustrate its character:—"I breakfast off fish, ham, eggs, and tea, as though I were sitting at my own table in London" (he is sitting in the Grand Hotel at Yokohama) "instead of being 12,000 miles from home, and then set out to view the shops and their contents. During my walk I find many curios that are to me quite irresistible, and I buy, I fear, in a truly reckless fashion. At 5.15 I return home somewhat tired, having had a perfect 'field-day' amidst the shops. While I was dressing, Prince Henri came into my room and asked me to join him and Prince Montenegro at dinner. Thus passed my second

day in Japan." And again:—"It is the 28th day of December; yet as we saunter through these beautiful grounds I see trees laden with camellia blossoms looking as fresh as if it were summer. General Saigo gathers a bunch of these beautiful flowers and presents them to me, after which my companions return to their homes, and I go to the British Embassy, where Mr. Mounsey (the First Secretary of Legation) presents me to Sir Harry Parkes and insists on my staying to dine with him. I return to Yokohama by the ten o'clock train." These are thrilling details. Whether they belong to the architecture, art, or art manufactures of Japan we leave the reader to determine for himself.

An apologetic tone is fashionable in prefaces. Dr. Dresser's apology for venturing into print is that he is a specialist. "An architect and ornamentist by profession," he says, "and having knowledge of many manufacturing processes, I went to Japan to observe what an ordinary visitor would naturally pass unnoticed. As a specialist, and a specialist only, I submit this volume to public notice." This being so, let us turn to the architectural portions of the book, since there, if anywhere, we may hope to find something of sterling worth. What we find is a treatise perhaps the fullest that has yet appeared in book form. But it is much too chatty and superficial a treatise to do justice to such a subject. Diagrams showing details of construction and arrangement of plan, as well as coloured plates representing the decoration of buildings, are conspicuous by their absence. The author apparently seeks to supply this deficiency by abundant rhapsodies, but he does not excel as a word painter, and too often the reader finds his hopes of fuller knowledge balked by an airy assertion that the resources of language are inadequate for the occasion. Speechless ecstasy is a pretty mood enough at times, but we venture to think that an "architect and ornamentalist," who writes "as a specialist and as a specialist only," might with advantage delineate more and rhapsodise less. Even this failing, however, looks trivial beside the grotesque theories and fictions which Dr. Dresser enunciates; as, for example, when he tells us that pagodas are built with a big pendulum, weighted in the middle, swinging inside them; the fact being that these wooden towers have a central stiffening post, which, being necessarily of considerable length, is spliced or scarf-jointed in the middle. Basing his conclusions, perhaps, upon this absurdity, he asserts that all Japanese wooden structures are specially built to resist earthquakes, to which purpose, he thinks, no other more substantial buildings can possibly be so well adapted; and observing that structures of a less flimsy nature are gradually coming into fashion as a consequence of Western intercourse, he exclaims:—"Why should we thus lead a nation which is great in itself to adopt new methods by which it can only be made to appear small?" And again, alluding to these same changes in style and material, he writes:—"Let us refrain from obtruding our advice upon a people who know their wants better than we do"—an exhortation by which he would do well to profit himself. Eloquent diatribes against innovations, uttered by such a master of language as John Ruskin, are too picturesque to be wholly condemned, but Dr. Dresser's impracticable conservatism has neither euphony nor logical sequence to redeem it. The wants of a changing civilization, the higher valuation of life and property, the ever-recurring calamity of conflagrations, the yearly death roll

calling for sanitary improvement—all these vital considerations are either left unnoticed or thrust lightly aside by an author whose boast is that he writes as an "architect and specialist."

With regard to durability, we are almost asked to believe that wooden buildings last longer than those constructed of stone or brick. In support, apparently, of this monstrous theory some of the oldest Japanese temples are given an antiquity about ten centuries too great, an obvious confusion existing in the writer's mind between the traditional founding of the temple and the date of the erection which to-day marks the original site. There are buildings, doubtless, which can boast a tolerably long life, but in every case they have undergone perpetual repairs in all their parts—repairs which in the course of a century amount to virtual reconstruction. That the Japanese have chosen wood as a building material is to be attributed to its former abundance throughout the country, as well as to the difficulties—still almost insuperable—of quarrying and transporting stone and other materials. A conservative seclusion and consequent lack of emulation and enterprise have, of course, conspired to preserve the wooden fashion much longer than it is known to have prevailed elsewhere. But, for the rest, neither the Japanese builder nor architect has any theory whatsoever with regard to earthquakes, unless it be that a special means of exit should be provided for use in the event of those catastrophes. He places his wooden framework on isolated supports, with the object of escaping the dampness of the soil as much as possible, after which he proceeds to build as stiffly and solidly as his knowledge of carpentry will permit, following, for the most part, the models which his ancestors borrowed from China and Korea. By these means he produces a house to which the people have learned to adapt themselves, but he cannot roof it scientifically. Its covering ultimately becomes, in his hands, a heavy structure in receding stages, which seismologists and mathematicians alike pronounce radically defective in all qualities calculated to resist earthquake shocks. The Japanese house, cleanly in appearance, chaste in decoration and possessing a certain air of charming quaintness, recommends itself at first to all the romantic instincts of a new comer, but experience shows it to be essentially uncomfortable, and, from a hygienic point of view, about as faulty a species of dwelling as can be imagined. Dr. Dresser, in another part of his work, where he seems for a moment to forget his partiality for wooden buildings, asserts that nations in changing their material have temporarily preserved in their new, the forms of their ancient, constructions. It is well known that in the stone temples of India and the transitional styles of the Grecian Colonies, there are to be seen attenuated forms which are merely petrifications of wooden arrangements. Such examples are interesting enough historically, but are, for the most part, unjustifiable whether considered historically or practically. Japan herself furnishes an example of a similar treatment in the stone *Torii*, which are proportioned, scarved, and framed like their wooden prototypes. The application of brick and stone in a thoroughly scientific manner to the development of a new style is, perhaps, more prosaic than the slow and struggling experiments of less ambitious nations. But it is sounder, and in better keeping with a rapid progress, eager to skip over much which has been slowly and laboriously evolved elsewhere. If to oppose such an aim be not the desire of Japanese politicians, it is certainly not the duty of her archi-

tecs. If solid building is to be introduced,—upon which point we differ *in toto* from Dr. Dresser—then the new materials must be applied in the development of a proper trabeated or arcuated style, strictly obedient to the latest knowledge of their properties. Even between these hard and fast lines there is still ample space for the display of the national artistic spirit in detail and decoration.

Dr. Dresser devotes one of the most curious chapters in his book to a discussion of Japanese analogies and symbols. He brings to bear upon this part of his subject a considerable knowledge of Egyptian, Persian, and Grecian decorative devices, and his object is to identify them with those of Japan. It cannot be said that the measure of success he obtains is very large, though he seems to satisfy himself that Japanese art has borrowed so much from Egyptian as to warrant him in assuming the existence of direct intercourse between the two countries in ancient times. Like all men who mount hobbies, Dr. Dresser finds few obstacles insuperable. Setting out with a theory that national styles of ornament are not less trustworthy ethnological tests than the words and construction of a language, he proceeds to illustrate his meaning by reference to certain Ceramic specimens which came to England from Persia and which were found to have Chinese marks on them. "When evidence reached us," he says, "of the fact that these vessels were made in Persia, there was no longer any room for doubt that Chinese potters had settled in that country." Whether or no this inference was correct in Persia's case, the test in general is utterly fallacious. Dr. Dresser might have found in Japan hundreds of specimens of pottery and porcelain bearing Chinese marks, in the manufacture of which no Chinaman was ever concerned. We doubt very much whether throughout the whole series of Japanese decorative devices and symbols there could be found one which is not traceable directly or indirectly to a Chinese or Korean original. Thus, to take an example, Dr. Dresser seeks to support his theory of ancient Egyptian and Japanese intercourse by pointing out, *inter alia*, that the latter use the stork (*tsuru*) in their ornamentation much as the former use the ibis, forgetting, or ignoring, that the idea of this style came to Japan from China. The truth is that, to avoid erroneous conclusions, the student of Japanese art cannot too distinctly recognize the fundamental difference between the technical processes of the two countries. He must not infer originality because the devices employed by Japanese keramists, metal workers, wood-carvers, and so forth, are not represented in Chinese works of a similar nature. For while in China the artist and the artisan were two distinct personages, in Japan they were one and the same. Before asserting, therefore, that this device or that style is the outcome of pure Japanese thought, it is necessary to assure oneself that its original does not exist in Chinese pictorial art. In the paintings of such artists as Lioki, Joken, and Yok'sai will be found the embryo of many beautiful fancies generally attributed wholly to Japanese genius. The result of deeper study will doubtless be to show China as the immediate source from which Japan drew her early art inspirations, receiving with them many traces of Indian, Persian, and possibly Egyptian styles. But the subject is one that demands very much wider research than Dr. Dresser was in a position to attempt. Indeed, nothing strikes one more in perusing his analyses than the flippancy and carelessness into which he suffers himself to be betrayed precisely where the utmost

accuracy is essential. Thus we find him adducing the use of the key-pattern and wave-scroll by Japanese artists as an evidence of Egyptian affinity, entirely careless of the fact that the same designs permeate the whole of Chinese art; while the frequent occurrence of lotus-leaves on mouldings, as well as Buddha's lotus throne, also remind him of Egyptian styles and of the flower home of the Nile god, but do not appear to suggest any thoughts of China or India. At other times we find his imagination considerably out-pacing the comprehension of his readers. At Nara he saw an idol whose fist was tightly clenched with the thumb inside. The priests informed him that this arrangement of the digits symbolized displeasure, and had reference to punishment with the sword. "So here," Dr. Dresser triumphantly exclaims, "we have an idea similar to that presented in the Book of Genesis by the flaming sword guarding the gate of Eden." Then again he seems disposed to detect the thought of the Trinity in the *mitsu-domoye* of Japan, which symbol he describes as "three jewels with three tongues of flame surrounding them." Apart from the fact that according to Japanese tradition the *tomoye* has nothing to do with either jewels or flames, Dr. Dresser might surely have known that all through the Orient odd numbers are preferred to even, and that in Japan when the idea of number occurs in art three is generally used. For the rest, there is some interest in the similarity he discovers between crossed Buddhist tridents and the British crown, as well as between the drops pending from Egyptian papyri and those hanging from the petals of Buddha's lotus throne, but on the whole this chapter, which his previous training ought to have made specially interesting, might be cut out of the book without serious loss.

Of his chapter on Ceramics we may say briefly that its multitudinous errors are on a par with the hopeless confusion of its arrangement. One is prepared for a good deal from a writer who describes Ritsuo as a worker in lacquer only, but no preface could quite deaden the shock imparted by Dr. Dresser's ignorance and assurance. Yet this is how he opens his exposition of sciolism:—"When I started for Japan I thought my knowledge of Japanese potteries and pots tolerably perfect; but when I returned from that country, after visiting nearly seventy potteries, I came to the conclusion that even then my knowledge of Japanese ceramics was most limited." The last clause of this sentence contains the most indisputable proposition in the whole book. The only thing regrettable is that the learned Doctor's conclusion did not persuade him to refrain altogether from parading his ignorance, instead of prefacing it by this mock-modest declaration. Every student who is familiar with the rudiments of Japanese Ceramic History knows that Gorodayu Shondrai visited China about the year 1520, and that on his return, being unable to find in Japan any materials suitable for the manufacture of porcelain proper, he had to confine himself to Chinese clay. Dr. Dresser tells us that this artist returned from China between the years 1580 and 1590, and that "settling in Hizen, he succeeded in making various kinds of porcelain with the material found in the country." About the same time, we are further informed, some Korean potters, setting up their kilns near Kagoshima, "succeeded in making the now famous Satsuma ware." After these marvellous blunders the Doctor seems to have been seized with an infirmity of Satsuma on the brain. True, he skips off at once to Banko ware, two

centuries later than his imaginary Satsuma, but he presently returns to the old love, and after explaining that specimens of original Satsuma were commonly decorated with "domestic fowls, pheasants, and peacocks"—it would have been quite as correct to say foxes, greyhounds, and cock-robins—he commits himself to the following marvellous statement:—"The popularity which Satsuma ware attained led to the establishment, in a suburb of Kiyoto called Awata, of certain potteries in which it was to be imitated." Ignorance can go no farther. Dr. Dresser apparently knows nothing of the name most celebrated among Japanese Keramists—Nomura Ninsai—knows nothing of the tragical story connected with the Kiyoto potter's discovery of the methods of decoration with vitrifiable enamels; knows nothing of the fact that the Awata factories had been established more than a century and a half before "the now famous Satsuma ware" began to be manufactured. One imagines that these must be the limits of his know-nothing-ness. They are only the beginning. He goes on to tell us that "after Awata, the island of Awaji began to produce imitation Satsuma wares," and that it has "given us finer works of the Satsuma type than any which has come to us from Kiyoto." Considering that the characteristic productions of the Awaji kilns are porcelains covered with yellow, metallic green, and purple glazes, Dr. Dresser might just as truly have ascribed the origin of Cochinchinese wares to Satsuma influence. It were, however, a profitless and thankless task to follow him through all his blunders. His book is likely to do more harm than any hitherto published on the subject of Japanese art, because it is overlaid with a sufficient gloss of expert knowledge to lull the ordinary reader's suspicions, and further, because, despite the charlatanism which disfigures every chapter, it does contain items that are interesting enough to attract perusal.

A very much briefer notice will suffice in the case of Mr. George Audsley's *Ornamental Art of Japan*. This gentleman was formerly associated with Mr. James Bowes in the authorship of a work entitled the *Keramic Art of Japan*, a species of costly scrap-book with beautiful illustrations and a letter-press chiefly made up of fables. Four years ago the public was very indulgent to writers about Japan. The subject was full of interest, and it was difficult to discuss it from any aspect that seemed hackneyed. Yet even this facile mood was disturbed by the heresies of Messrs. Audsley and Bowes, and while it was generally agreed that the Liverpool amateurs had added a new chapter to the history of chromo-lithography, there was an equally universal feeling that such delicate and costly illustrations were in singularly bad keeping with a text so untrustworthy. At all events, the last thing to be anticipated was a repetition of the same experiment by the same authors; and our surprise was, therefore, unqualified when an announcement reached us some months ago to the effect that another work of a still more pretentious nature was in course of compilation. It was to be published in a number of parts—eight, if we remember rightly—covering the whole field of Japanese ornamental art, ceramics excepted, and the cost was to be something like sixteen guineas. The first part—or rather the first half-part—is now before us. It is a portfolio of plates, with a red sun and a golden goose on the cover, the former very aptly representing the blank brilliancy of the book, and the latter, the pecuniary downiness of its purchasers. Apparently the quondam associates have fallen out, for the name of Mr. George Audsley

alone figures on the title-page. The effect of this separation is easily traced in the text, for whereas the amateurs' joint production was, as we have said, a melange of romance and platitudes, Mr. George Audsley's unaided intellect has avoided the romance and confined itself wisely to the platitudes. In noticing the work we are naturally disposed to set out with an explanation of its scope and purpose. But the truth is that having perused the portfolio carefully from cover to cover, we find ourselves involved in a hopeless speculation as to its use or design. There is an introduction, in which the author confines himself to a general eulogy of Japanese art, but carefully avoids hazarding any original statement. Twice only does he become interesting—once, when he copies Dr. W. Anderson's description of the "artist artisan;" and once when he tells us that "China, India, and Korea have largely contributed to the foundation of Japanese art;" and that "it is not a difficult matter to trace their influence in the works of all the great periods." The latter statement, though in no respect novel, becomes entertaining when contrasted with what the same writer tells us in his introduction to the *Keramic Art of Japan*, namely:—"Let the communication between China and Japan have been what it may, it evidently failed to effect their respective arts, for a careful survey of the works of both nations fails to prove a systematic copyism on one side or the other." In addition to this empty preface, the book consists of twelve plates—three in monochrome and nine in chromo-lithography—beautifully executed by Lemerrier & Co., Paris, and accompanied by "descriptions." There is no attempt at arrangement. "Variety is charming" says the author, and in obedience to that principle, he gives us four plates of paintings; two of textile fabrics; two of lacquer; two of incrustated work; one of cloisonné enamel, and one of metal work. Mr. J. Quin's essay on lacquer manufacture is reproduced verbatim, and comprises the sum total of the information which the book contains. The descriptions of the plates tell us nothing, absolutely nothing, about the articles and subjects depicted, unless it be the names of their owners. To take an example:—Plate XI. Section I. is a reproduction of six paintings from a Japanese album. It bears the painter's name, *To (Fujiwara) no Morikane*, and the subjects are, commencing from the left:—(1) Shaka; (2) Yamato-take no Mikoto and the Princess Tachibana; (3) Nomi no Sukune and Kehaya; (4) the god and goddess Izanagi and Izanami; (5) the exiled poet and statesman Michizane, and (6) the deity Bunshosei. Every student of Japanese history knows that to each of these subjects there is attached an interesting legend and that without the legend the picture is meaningless. Here, however, is the whole account given by Mr. James Audsley:—"Careful reproductions of six paintings from a very beautiful *orihon*, or folding book" (*gwajō*, not *orihon*, is the proper term) "are given in the accompanying Plate. The originals are evidently the work of a very talented Japanese artist." (Apparently Mr. Audsley cannot read his name). "The book contains eight paintings, the best of which have been reproduced." (They are among the worst specimens of modern Japanese painting we have ever seen). "They are very carefully executed, on a fine silk ground, in transparent colours, laid on so thinly as to resemble stains. The flesh colours are the only ones which have any appearance of body, but even these are clear and lustrous. The grey back-grounds of all

the pictures are most dextrously manipulated; and have a depth and sumptuous softness which are altogether charming. Gold is introduced sparingly, and in a manner which strongly reminds us of the miniatures of mediæval manuscripts. The subjects of the paintings appear to be mythological or legendary; but we have not been able to obtain any satisfactory description of them. The original paintings measure $7\frac{1}{2}$ inches by $6\frac{1}{2}$ inches." So, too, we find a gaudy, vulgarly executed picture of the princess Wakana, the celebrated spider sorceress, with a spider's web beside her and a huge spider at her feet, described thus:—"It is a spirit—a veritable 'maiden of the mist'—visible, yet thin as air. The first condition is clearly marked by the force and richness of her coloured garments; while the second condition is made evident to the observer by the clever way she is depicted as passing through the spider's web without breaking it." This sort of crass ignorance has at least the merit of being amusing, but Mr. Audsley shows elsewhere that he is a stranger to even the most elementary principles of Japanese art. Thus at Plate IX. Section I. he reproduces a duck swimming in water beside which grow a few sprays of reeds. Of this work he says:—"Among the many highly interesting and beautiful specimens of painting on silk tissues, which have reached Europe from Japan, few, if any, may be said to surpass the one represented in this Plate, either in artistic conception or skilful manipulation." The "manipulation," indeed, appears to be beyond praise, but the reader will be able to appreciate the nature of the "artistic conception" when we say that the duck is placed precisely in the middle of the picture—exactly at the intersection of the diagonals. Imagine a first class Japanese artist making such a blunder as that! Again, the "beautiful bottle" of cloisonné enamel depicted at Plate III. Section VII., is chiefly remarkable for the excessive weakness of the curves and scamped rendering of the blossoms in the floral scroll that covers the body. With such a picture before us, we are constrained to think either that the author's judgment is defective or that the specimens to which he had access were not representative. Altogether, nothing can be said of this latest addition to Japanese art literature except that as a book it is worthless, and, as a pictorial album, misleading.

THE STORM OF 11th TO 14th OF SEPTEMBER, 1883.

A ready method of comparing the different months with regard to the weather changes consists in simply counting the number of depressions. Rise and fall of pressure and temperature, wind and rain are all connected with them; and the more depressions pass in a month, the more changeable the weather.

March brought 7, April 10, May 6, June and July 5 each, August 1. Thus generally speaking the weather within the last 6 months was most changeable in April, with one depression for every 3 days; most steady in August, with one only for 31 days.

In September the number has increased again, no less than three having passed already during the first half of the month, and the great weather changes noticed everywhere in Japan have been the consequence.

The first of these, after a very erratic course in

southern Hokkaido, traversed eastern Nippon from north to south; before its disappearance a second one started from the Inland Sea northwards, crossing near Hakodate to the Pacific, and after a short interval a third one came up from the eastern China Sea, this being the most important one of the three, accompanied by heavy gales in the whole south and east of Japan.

Distinct traces of this disturbance were first noted on Monday, September 10, 6 a.m.: on the morning of the 11th the aspect of the weather in the south-west had become threatening, so that the coast was warned, and 24 hours later the centre had arrived at south-western Kiushiu.

Preceded was the large disturbance by an insignificant looking depression, shown in the weather-map for September 9th, 2 p.m.

Far earlier information of the extent and importance of the large depression might have been received in Tokio from Amoy, and probably Hongkong and Manila, as the Shanghai observations from September 9th to 12th show that its influence extended more than 500 miles to the westward, a northerly gale blowing at Shanghai on the 11th and 12th at 4 p.m. This proves the importance of regular daily telegrams from China, as all large disturbances passing near Formosa are sure to be indicated by the Amoy observations. (See weather-map for August 24th, 2 p.m., with remarks on a dangerous depression on the eastern China coast.)

On the 12th and 13th the centre followed nearly a straight course, passing south of Miyasaki on the 12th, about 2 p.m., south of Wakayama on the 13th, at 6 a.m., north of Hamamatsu at 1 p.m., leaving the east coast of Nippon somewhat nearer to Nobiru than to Tokio, passing the former place at 10 p.m.

The speed of the centre was thus from Miyasaki to Wakayama 15 n.m. p.h., to Hamamatsu 18, to Nobiru 31 n.m. With the rapid increase of speed on the 13th, the depression grew quickly shallower, as the lowest pressures observed were 736 mm. at Miyasaki, 734 at Wakayama, 749 at Hamamatsu, and 754 mm. at Nobiru.

Gales or heavy gales were reported from 15 stations, strong winds from 5 more, out of a total of 22; thus the storm was felt more or less all over Japan; but the distribution of the stations with gales was rather peculiar, some in the north-east reporting such far in advance of the centre, and in fact disconnected with the centre proper, and also unaccounted for by the distribution of pressure and the gradients.*

From an investigation of the daily weather-maps of the Deutsche Seewarte, embracing the greater part of Europe, it has been found that on an average a gradient of 3.4 corresponds to a moderate 3.9 to a fresh gale.

In the present storm the gradients in the south were much steeper, ranging from 4.1 near Hamamatsu to 5.9 near Miyasaki. Without reference to the actual wind observations we conclude, therefore, that in the south the force of the wind exceeded considerably a "fresh gale."

But while in the south the wind-force corresponded to the gradients, the same was not the case in the north-east, where heavy gales were reported from Sapporo, Miyako, and Nobiru without corresponding gradients. Until September 12th, 6 a.m., the steepest was only 1.7, until September 13th,

2 p.m., only 2.8, gradients which alone cannot explain the wind-force experienced.

We have to look thus for another source and find it in quickly moving masses of warm air, descending from a higher level down to the surface of the earth along the east coast of Nippon, and carrying down with them the greater velocity of higher strata of the atmosphere.

This view is confirmed by the cloud observations, the rapid increase of temperature in the north on the 11th and 12th, amounting to 12 degrees in one day at Sapporo, the little wind at Hakodate, which generally enjoys a good share of it, while at Miyako, completely land locked, a heavy gale blowing inside the bay can hardly be otherwise explained than by an upper wind coming down as on an inclined plane.

Usually the wind-force at Miyako is much less than at the stations near by, and even the passage of great depressions with much wind immediately outside of Miyako bay is only to a small degree indicated by the wind-force inside of it. A slanting wind from above may reach the station: a horizontal wind will be much impeded by the heights surrounding the bay.

This descending current was probably also the cause of a slight secondary depression near Awamori on Sept. 13th, 6 a.m., which was merged at 2 p.m. with the principal one, the centre of which was then near Hamamatsu.

An approximate method of observing upper currents is to note the direction and speed of clouds, as is done in all Japanese observatories; later experience will show perhaps, where and when such currents are likely to descend, and whether the warm current on the south and east coast, the Kuro Shiwo, has some local influence. That a rapid change of temperature deserves much attention, is plain enough.

In certain parts of the year the effect of descending currents may be noticed in Japan for days together, the wind-force in the 2 p.m. weather-maps being always higher than either at 6 a.m. or 10 p.m.; this increase being due to upper currents reaching further down. It is only at the time of larger disturbances, that this increase of wind towards afternoon is marked.

Such gales as those mentioned in the north-east may be compared with certain squalls in the tropics, which come down from aloft and strip a ship in a few minutes, the barometer giving little or no warning; they also bring down with them to the surface the greater velocity of a higher strata.

The most rapid rise and fall of the barometer was in 8 hours for Miyasaki and Wakayama a fall of 9 mm., for Kagoshima a rise of 12, for Wakayama a rise of 13 mm.

After the passage of the centre the temperature fell rapidly in central and north-western Nippon, 13° (in 24 h.) in Kioto, 14° at Kanazawa.

Within the three days from September 11 to 14 rain fell at stations, most near the track. The sums were for:

| | | | |
|----------|---------|------------------|--------|
| Miyasaki | 135 mm. | Hamamatsu | 67 mm. |
| Kochi | 94 mm. | Osaka | 54 mm. |
| Wakayama | 80 mm. | Kagoshima | 53 mm. |
| Kioto | 73 mm. | Kanazawa | 52 mm. |
| Gifu | 73 mm. | All others below | 30 mm. |

In many respects this storm resembled another which followed nearly the same track from August 25th to 27th in 1880.

E. KNIPPING.

Tokio, 20th September, 1883.

TRANSLATIONS FROM NATIVE JOURNALS.

THE DEPRECIATION OF SILVER.

(Translated from the *Hochi Shimbun*.)

Since the middle of last year the value of Silver has shown a downward tendency. It was anticipated, however, that the price would revert to the old rate at the beginning of this year, but such was not the case. Depreciation has steadily progressed, and silver is, with slight occasional fluctuations, quoted at 120. The fluctuations that have taken place in the value of Silver will better be seen by the following Comparative Table of the value of the Silver yen in paper currency:—

18TH YEAR OF MEIJI (1885).

| | | | |
|----------|----------|-----------|----------|
| January | yen 1.71 | July | yen 1.57 |
| February | yen 1.66 | August | yen 1.56 |
| March | yen 1.63 | September | yen 1.53 |
| April | yen 1.61 | October | yen 1.50 |
| May | yen 1.54 | November | yen 1.51 |
| June | yen 1.57 | December | yen 1.41 |

19TH YEAR OF MEIJI (1886).

| | | | |
|----------|----------|--------|----------|
| January | yen 1.38 | May | yen 1.38 |
| February | yen 1.39 | June | yen 1.36 |
| March | yen 1.45 | July | yen 1.33 |
| April | yen 1.39 | August | yen 1.24 |

The above table gives the highest rate of exchange in each month, and although at one time in August it was quoted at yen 1.24, still on the 27th of the month it was as low as yen 1.17 7/10 to yen 1.17 8/10. Comparing this with the highest rate in August last year, we find a difference of more than 48 *sen*, or in other words fifty per cent. on the yen. What can be the real cause of this anomalous depreciation?

We are informed that in Osaka and the neighbouring districts, ten and twenty *sen* silver coins have reappeared in circulation, and that each of the exchange shops in the city receives about twenty yen's worth daily. This state of affairs has led to the belief that the fiat currency will regain its value and that it will shortly be possible to establish a convertible currency. Whether this can be effected or not we are unable to prognosticate. Should the depreciation continue we shall be delighted, but if afterwards values are subjected to serious fluctuations, which must be detrimental to commercial interests, our joy would be turned into grief. As we stated some time ago, paper money only is in circulation in the interior, and it is simply for the commercial transactions that take place in Yokohama, Kobe, Osaka, and Nagasaki that specie is required. Of the open ports Yokohama is recognized as the emporium, and, therefore, the value of silver in this port regulates the market price throughout the Empire. If Yokohama is supplied with an abundance of specie, so that there is no obstruction to trade, the value will necessarily fall. On the other hand, if the supply be insufficient for the amount of business done, the price will rise; and thus oscillation will become normal throughout the country. From the above circumstances we may infer that the comparative value of *Kinsatsu* and silver does not vary in accordance with the quantities in circulation but in proportion to the amount of transactions requiring settlement in bullion. A general scarcity of silver throughout the empire does not affect its value; but if quite sufficient for trade purposes is in circulation in Yokohama, its price can hardly fail to depreciate; and what more there is of specie in the country shares the same fate. For, in the first place, the augmentation of the amount of specie in the interior must tend to flood the Yokohama market. Secondly, if silver is

*Gradient is the maximum slope of pressure for a distance of 60 naut. miles in millimetres.

rare in the interior, exports have a chance of equalling imports in value, and there will still be abundance of coin in Yokohama for its mercantile needs. Or again, imports may be reduced to the level of exports by a similar process. Either condition is calculated to establish an equality between the actual amount of specie available and the requirements of the market; and either condition may tend to a fall in the price of silver. It must be remarked, however, that in the first case the depreciation will not be so marked as in the second.

The question arises:—"Is the present depreciation the result of the first or the second condition?" The annual report of the Commercial Bureau states that, from the year when trade conventions were first made with foreigners to 1871, the excess of export of bullion may be estimated at eighty million yen, while the excess from the latter period to the present was sixty-nine million, the two sums giving a total of an excess of yen 150,000,000 since the opening of the ports. Exports may have been in excess of exports last year, with the result of an unexpected influx of specie; yet no one is likely to assert that the depreciation of silver is due to there being a redundant supply in the market, as would be the case in accordance with the first supposition. The conclusion to be arrived at is rather that the decline is due to such circumstances as are referred to in the second. Last year's exports and imports were worth yen 37,240,000 and yen 29,160,000 respectively, showing an excess in favour of the latter of yen 8,080,000. Bullion was sent away to the extent of yen 4,430,000, and brought in to the value of yen 6,360,000, showing an excess of the latter to the value of yen 1,930,000. An advantage on the side of export of merchandize and import of bullion simultaneously had not been observed since 1872. In 1876, however, there was a brisk demand for silk, resulting in an excess of exports over imports, but it was only an insignificant amount as compared with that just above mentioned.

This, as we may call it, anomalous condition of trade was not confined to last year. It has continued during the current season; with the direct result that there is abundance of silver in the Yokohama market. The silver yen's exchange value has fallen to yen 1.17 in paper currency. These facts demonstrate that the fall in the value of silver has no connection with the amount in circulation throughout the empire; but must be ascribed to the abnormal condition of the Yokohama market, where silver is absolutely indispensable for purposes of trade. One may ask, here:—"Will the present abundance of specie endure? Is its present cheapness likely to have a permanent effect upon the mercantile community? May not our present delight at its depreciation turn into future grief?"

Well, then: the fall in the value of silver may be safely ascribed to the recent excess of exports over imports, bringing more than the ordinary supply of specie to the Yokohama market. But more searching investigation shows that that very excess is owing to stagnation of trade and obstruction in the circulation of money, both of which are sources of constant complaint on the part of the public. If we question the industrial classes we shall find that a fall in the price of rice has deprived the farmers of half their income, while artisans are unable to dispose of the products of their labor. Merchants can do nothing with their goods but store them, having no other way of placing them. With folded arms they ruminate how they may preserve their capital. They cannot

dream of making a profit upon it. Look where we may, there is no activity in any branch of industry, except perhaps in the direction of attempts to escape future loss. This is proved, for instance, by the extraordinary rise in the value of public loan bonds, seven per cent. pension bonds being quoted at 90.60—a case which is without precedent. Placards "for sale or to let" are conspicuous in every street of the capital. Fears are entertained in many quarters that the land-tax will not be forthcoming at the end of the year. All seems to show that our commerce has reached the lowest point of depression. People cease to spend their money, and are eager for the gain of even one or two sen. Merchants having sold what goods they can, have suspended the import of all such as are not actually ordered. These circumstances must have an anomalous effect upon the relations between imports and exports. Hitherto it has been the custom for importers to hold in stock at least twice the quantity of goods in immediate request by consumers. The latter, however, appear to abstain from purchase as far as they possibly can, so that even if the merchants could dispose of all their present stocks, they need hardly import any for a reserve, while, on the other hand, should the fall in the value of merchandize continue, the stuff that they already have on hand must bring them heavy loss. Indeed, they have really ceased to make purchases. Evidently this tends to decrease imports and augment exports. Below is a comparative table of exports and imports for three years, from 1880 to 1882 inclusive, showing how trade stagnation operates:—

| | EXPORTS. | IMPORTS. |
|------|----------------|----------------|
| 1880 | yen 27,418,346 | yen 36,176,087 |
| 1881 | yen 30,232,564 | yen 30,797,470 |
| 1882 | yen 37,240,915 | yen 29,168,040 |

From the above it will be seen that the exports during 1882 exceeded those of 1880 by yen 9,822,569, while the imports for the former year were less by yen 7,008,047 than those of the latter. Whatever progress Japan may have made in her industry, it is against reason that she should have succeeded in augmenting her exports by more than yen 9,840,000 in two years, while whatever changes may have occurred in the proclivities of her people, it is absurd to suppose that the simultaneous decrease of seven million of yen in the value of her exports was due to merely natural causes. Such phenomena can only be ascribed to dullness of trade. Can one fairly suppose, then, that the depreciation of silver, resulting as it does from the extraordinary causes enumerated above, will be permanent? To arrive at an answer to this question it is first essential to inquire into the comparative value of our principal imports. They may be thus enumerated:—

Cotton and linen fabrics, yen 11,290,000; sugar, yen 4,520,000; oil, yen 2,420,000; woollens, yen 2,840,000; iron, yen 1,510,000; miscellaneous, yen 1,210,000; medicines and drugs, yen 790,000; silk textiles, yen 580,000; leather and horn, yen 530,000; dye-stuffs, yen 520,000. Of the commodities hereabove enumerated, cotton and linen fabrics, sugar, oil, and iron may be accepted as necessities of life, which denomination also applies to other articles with the exception of "miscellaneous." Therefore the consumption of these materials by our people must not be looked upon as extravagance on their part, but rather as true economy, inasmuch as the things referred to, having been used instead of others during ten years and more, have come to be actual necessities. Yet even their purchase is likely to be suspended in cases where great distress prevails. When times mend, their purchase will be resumed.

Trade remains as stagnant this year as it was last, and consumers of the merest necessities have become frugal in their use, while the mercantile community, as we have said, have suspended all purchase of stocks. In this way we account for a temporary decrease in imports; but if the present depression should be removed the consumption of imported commodities must necessarily increase.

Should, however the existing dullness of trade continue, we are likely to see our populace converted into a congeries of ruined households. Matters must improve sooner or later, inasmuch as it is the two-fold result of an extraordinary rise in the price of commodities, which has reacted upon the relative value of the currency. To restore the normal relations between the two, a natural law has operated, impairing the value of the latter whose appreciation was abnormal, and producing a temporary stagnation in trade. When complete stillness comes, the tide must turn: the price of merchandize must fall to its proper relation with the currency, and trade must revive, implying a consequent resumption of imports, and an augmentation in the value of silver. Are we to rejoice on the one side at the depreciation of specie? We must then mourn on the other for the catalepsy of commerce. Shall we exult over the return of commercial activity? The value of silver must appreciate considerably. Some may be inclined to dispute this last proposition; and say that the reaction of trade can by no means enhance the price of silver, because although imports exceeded exports between the eight or nine years from 1871 to 1879, the value of specie was not augmented. Whatever reason there may appear in this vanishes when we remember that now-a-days conditions are vastly different from what they were some eight years or so ago. Prior to 1879 there was in the country abundant store of coin, preserved from generation to generation, wherewith to supply the Yokohama market whenever a scarcity arose from a disparity between imports and exports. What though six or seven million yen in specie was required annually to meet the deficiency, yet the value of silver did not greatly fluctuate. Specie does not necessarily appreciate when it is abundant in this market, however scarce it may be in other parts of the empire.

As we have just remarked, any deficiency of that metal in Yokohama was made good until 1879 when the internal supply began to fall short. Since then its value has fluctuated; and we may look upon the native sources whence the stream has hitherto flowed as having been drained. It will hardly be possible to find coins henceforth as heretofore to fill the gaps created by trade. If future imports should exceed exports to the extent recorded prior to 1878 the oscillations in the value of silver will be still more serious than they have yet been. It is ridiculous to expect a repetition of the circumstances of the period preceding 1879. Seeing, on the one hand, that the demand for imported articles is liable to be resuscitated, and that an excess of exports over imports must involve a fluctuation in the value of silver, we are forced to the conclusion that the present depreciation of that coinage cannot be permanent. The public should be aware that all financial evils have their origin in the unsettled condition of the money market, and if even the existing depression in the worth of silver be not of an enduring nature, the inconvenience which arises from it must still entail as great loss upon merchants, farmers, and manufacturers as would supervene from an augmentation of its value. If the public are content with the present state of affairs, all we have to say is that we cannot agree with them.

THE PROPOSED DIRECT EXPORT OF SILK.

(Translated from the *Tokyo Keisai Zasshi*.)

A rumour is current to the effect that the Government, with a view to the encouragement of direct trade, have decided to advance capital to Japanese exporters to the amount of ninety per cent. of the value of their shipments, at 4 per cent. interest per annum. A certain merchant is said to have contracted a loan on this basis for 300,000 yen. Whether there is any truth in this we cannot say, but considering the earnestness with which it is discussed, we are inclined to think that there must be some truth in it. This method of encouraging direct export presents no new features. It is only what has been already done by the Specie Bank, which obtains the amount of the proposed loan from the National Debt Bureau, and hands it over to the silk merchant, who repays it to the Government after the silk has been disposed of. There being a tendency in every direction to protectionist principles, this sort of paltry interference is quite characteristic. We have had on several occasions to discuss the advantages of direct exportation. It will therefore be sufficient to recapitulate the events of the past to show its disadvantages. Direct shipments have been tried at three different periods. The first period was during the 13th and 14th years of Meiji (1879-80), when many merchants embarked in the enterprise. The second period was during the silk difficulty, and continued throughout the second half of 1880. The third ranges from the 15th year of Meiji (1882) to the first half of this year: a period remarkable for the direct exportation undertaken by a certain merchant. As early as the 12th year of Meiji (1878), the question of direct shipments was mooted in the Cabinet, and resulted in the shipment of rice and silkworms' eggs. At this time it was not done on so large a scale as it has been within the last few years, and foreign merchants had some control of the business. The principle of direct trade is to ship goods to foreign markets independently of foreign assistance. This was not the case, however, as the export of rice was exclusively conducted by a certain foreign merchant. Although a few Japanese firms also engaged in the business, yet their transactions were insignificant as compared with the operations of the foreign firm. It would therefore appear that the above was not direct export in the proper acceptation of the word. This is the argument of the supporters of the enterprise, but some, however, think that so long as the goods are owned by Japanese it is direct export. We find that during the first period the Government advanced largely to the Specie Bank, which again made advances to merchants on the security of forest lands and plantations. Thus equipped with the necessary capital, the merchants exported commodities to foreign countries. The Government was content to receive 6 per cent. interest per annum from the Specie Bank, and the Bank charged the National Banks 8 per cent. These Banks then advanced money to the merchants at 10 per cent.

These loans were to be repaid after the goods had been sold in the foreign market, and the Banks and merchants alike rejoiced in the anticipated success of their venture. But when the consignments reached their destination all their arrangements were upset, for foreign merchants would not buy the goods except at a very low price. The longer the merchants waited for a chance to sell,

the heavier the charges became, until at last they were compelled to clear off the goods at a very great loss. In consequence of the loss made by the direct exporters, they failed to repay the advances made by the Banks, which in turn failed to repay the National Debt Bureau. The loss sustained by the merchants of Joshiu alone, amounted to more than 600,000 yen. If the losses made in the various provinces could be added together the sum would be enormous. As regards the second epoch, we find that the idea of recovering commercial independence greatly stimulated direct trade. The words "recovery of commercial rights" became the motto of every Japanese trader, and it was this that gave rise to the silk difficulty, the details of which need not be related here.

The Japanese combined to resist the aggression of the foreign merchants. The National Banks participated in the contest, and circulars were distributed throughout the provinces calling upon the people for support. This contest continued for over fifty days, when both parties saw the folly of their ways and came to terms. But the loss to the Japanese merchants was considerable. Coming to the third period under review, we notice that a certain merchant got into the market first and bought a considerable quantity of silk with the intention of exporting it direct. It is reported that he obtained an advance of 90 per cent. of the value of the silk, and that the whole or a portion of it has already been shipped. It is also said that, as it is most likely to show a loss, an officer of the Specie Bank will shortly be sent to look after the business. We are afraid that his journey abroad will not have any good effect. The above are the saddest results of the principal efforts to establish direct trade that we have seen. Nevertheless, we do not despair that we shall see direct export succeed, but we say that it is better to postpone it till the time is ripe. It is only to be expected that the export of silk when artificially forced by official means should be attended with such disastrous results as the above. We are sorry to see that the trade in tea and silk, which are the principal products of this country, are hampered by official interference, and are attended with loss year after year. We earnestly hope that the policy of interference with trade will shortly cease, and that a more liberal one will be adopted.

CORRESPONDENCE.

[Our readers must distinctly understand that we are in no sense responsible for the sentiments or opinions of our Correspondents, for the accuracy of their assertions, or for the deductions they may choose to draw therefrom.]

KANA REFORM.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—In the "Biographia Literaria," I find the following:—"Within less than a century after Luther's death the German was inundated with pedantic barbarisms. A few volumes of this period I read through from motives of curiosity, for it is not easy to imagine any thing more fantastic than the very appearance of their pages. Almost every third word is a Latin word with a Germanized ending, the Latin portion being always printed in Roman letters while in the last syllable the German character is retained." No one, I fancy, will judge Coleridge's condemnation of this fantastic literature too severe. Possibly in the distant future our Japanese friends will agree that, *mutatis mutandis*, it applies with equal force to the present Japanese literature.

I am, Sir, &c.,
September 13th, 1883.

K.

SEIZURE OF THE "OTOME."

Letters were received in Yokohama on the 15th from Vladivostock, dated Sept. 8th, announcing the seizure, by the Russian authorities of Eastern Siberia, of the schooner *Otome*, the property of Messrs. Owston, Snow & Co., and having on board Mr. H. J. Snow, a gentleman well known in Yokohama, one of the owners. The officers and crew are thus composed:—Sailing-master, J. W. Nicolle; chief-mate and hunter, J. Gillam; second-mate and hunter, Harry Solomon; boatswain, Jos. Silva (better known on the wharf as "Portuguese Joe"); crew, seventeen Japanese.

On the 10th of August a party of men from the *Otome*, in charge of the second officer Solomon, were shooting and spearing seals on Behring Island. The sealing party was surprised by the islanders and driven to the beach, where the men took to their boats, leaving Mr. Solomon, who presumably was superintending the embarkation, in the hands of the residents. The boats reached the schooner in safety; and the vessel remained cruising for some hours in the hope of picking up the missing officer. The following day she was overhauled and boarded by the Russian steamer *Alexandra*, which transferred to her own board Mr. Snow, and the *Otome's* papers and guns, ordering the Captain of the schooner to follow in her wake to Petropaulofski, an order which had to be obeyed. Outside the port the two vessels were met by the *Kamschatka* which towed the *Otome* into harbor, where she was detained with four of her men to look after her. Captain Nicolle, Mr. Snow, and the remainder of the crew, were conveyed by steamer to Vladivostock, where they were on the 12th instant, and whence the master wrote to H.B.M. Consul here on that date covering a protest addressed to the Governor of Eastern Siberia against the seizure. We understand that Mr. Solomon is entitled to American protection. Mr. Snow, the owner, is English, and his vessel sails under the British flag. The capture was made, no doubt, under the regulations embodied in the following notification, issued by Mr. Pelikan, H.I.R.M. Consul on the 15th of November, 1881:—

At the request of the Local Authority of Behring and other Islands, the undersigned hereby notifies that the Russian Imperial Government hereby publishes for general knowledge the following:—

I.—Without a special permit or license from the Governor-General of Eastern Siberia, foreign vessels are not allowed to carry on trading, hunting, fishing, &c., on the Russian coast or islands in the Okhotsk and Behring seas or on the N.E. coast of Asia or within their sea boundary line.

II.—For such permits or licenses foreign vessels should apply at Vladivostock, exclusively.

III.—In the Port of Petropavlovsk, though being the only port of entry in Kamchatka, such permits of license shall not be issued.

IV.—No permits or licenses whatever shall be issued for hunting, fishing, or trading at or on the Commodore and Robben Islands.

V.—Foreign vessels found trading, fishing, hunting, &c., in Russian waters without a license or permit from the Governor-General, and also those possessing a license or permit who should infringe the existing by-laws on hunting, shall be confiscated, both vessels and cargoes, for the benefit of the Government. This enactment shall be enforced henceforth commencing with A. D. 1882.

VI.—The enforcement of the above will be entrusted to Russian men-of-war, and also to Russian merchant vessels, who, for that purpose, will carry military detachments and be provided with proper instructions.

A. PELIKAN,
H.I.R.M.'s Consul.

Yokohama, Nov. 15, 1881.

LATEST TELEGRAMS.

[REUTER "SPECIAL" TO "JAPAN MAIL."]

London, September 14th.

THE GERMAN FLEET.

A semi-official denial has been given to the reported order to the German Admiral to concentrate a squadron in Chinese waters.

COMING TROUBLE IN SOUTH AFRICA.

Disturbances are threatened in South Africa, and many Boers are joining Cetewayo.

NOTIFICATIONS No. 14 & NO. 15 OF PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

It is hereby notified that the transmission of official and private telegrams, to and from the Omori, Kawasaki, and Tsurumi stations on the Yokohama-Tokyo Railway, and to and from the Takatsuki station on the Kobe-Kiyoto line, is suspended from the 20th instant.

(Signed) SASAKI TAKATSURA,
Minister of Public Works.

September 18th, 1883.

It is hereby notified that a telegraphic wire has been laid between Kanazawa and Nanawo in the prefecture of Ishikawa, and another between Yonezawa and Koide in the prefecture of Yamagata, and that they will be opened for traffic on the 1st of October next.

(Signed) SASAKI TAKATSURA,
Minister of Public Works.

September 20th, 16th year of Meiji (1883).

MAIL STEAMERS.

THE NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From Hongkong. per P. & O. Co. Sunday, Sept. 23rd.
From America ... per P. M. Co. Monday, Sept. 24th.
From Shanghai, Nagasaki, & Kobe ... per M. B. Co. Thursday, Sept. 27th.
From America ... per O. & O. Co. Thursday, Oct. 4th.

* *Zamato* left Hongkong on September 18th. † *City of Peking* left San Francisco on September 4th. ‡ Left Shanghai on September 18th. § *Arabic* left San Francisco on September 15th.

THE NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For America ... per P. M. Co. Sunday, Sept. 23rd.
For Europe, via Hongkong ... per M. M. Co. Sunday, Sept. 23rd.
For Vladivostok, Kobe, & Nagasaki ... per M. B. Co. Sunday, Sept. 23rd.
For Kobe ... per M. B. Co. Monday, Sept. 24th.
For Hakodate ... per M. B. Co. Tuesday, Sept. 25th.
For Shanghai, Kobe, and Nagasaki ... per M. B. Co. Wednesday, Sept. 26th.

The arrival and departure of mails by the Occidental and Oriental, the Pacific Mail, and the Peninsular and Oriental Companies, are approximate only.

UYENO-KUMAGAI RAILWAY.

The Trains leave UYENO at 6 a.m. and 1.30 p.m., and KUMAGAI at 9 a.m. and 4.30 p.m.

The Fares are:—Special-class (Separate Compartment), yen 2; First-class, yen 1.20; Third-class, yen 60. The distance from Ueno to Kumagai is 38 miles.

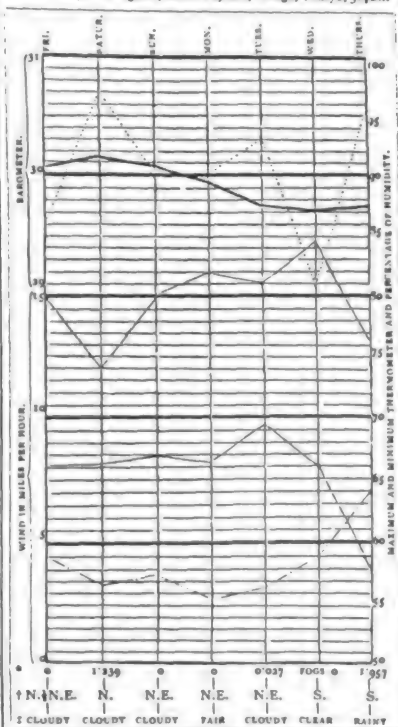
SUNDAY CHURCH SERVICES.

Christ Church : 11 a.m. and 5.30 p.m.
Union Church : 11 a.m. and 8 p.m.
Roman Catholic Church : 8 and 9.30 a.m.
English Church, No. 12, Sakaicho, Shiba, Tokyo : 11 a.m.

METEOROLOGICAL REPORT.

FOR WEEK BEGINNING FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 14TH, 1883.

Observatory of Daigakuji, Moto-Fujiicho, Hong, Tokyo, Japan.



REMARKS.
Heavy line represents barometer.
Light continuous line—maximum and minimum thermometers.
--- represents velocity of wind.
--- represents percentage of humidity.

The barometer is reduced to the freezing point and to the level of the sea.

* Rain in inches. † Direction of Wind. ‡ Weather.
Maximum velocity of wind 22.4 miles per hour on Tuesday at 3 p.m.

The highest reading of the barometer for the week was 30.142 inches on Friday at 9.27 p.m., and the lowest was 29.671 inches on Wednesday at 3 p.m.

The highest temperature for the week was 84.3 on Wednesday, and the lowest was 58.3 on Thursday. The maximum and minimum for the corresponding week of last year were 83.0 and 60.0 respectively.

The total amount of rain for the week was 3.223 inches, against 1.489 inches for the corresponding week of last year.

It has been found that the freight cars on the Tokyo-Kumagai railway could not carry the amount of merchandize sent in for transmission. The directors, in consequence, have had to borrow six cars from the Railway Bureau. The construction of new cars is being pushed forward.

The expenses of H.E. Ito and suite during their tour abroad, amounted to yen 55,000.

The officers of the American man-of-war now lying in Yokohama will shortly be received in audience by His Majesty the Mikado.

Tattooing has become very popular in China, and the services of skilled Japanese have been secured. At the time of the Restoration it was abolished in Japan, and those who practiced the art lost their livelihood. It will be a matter for rejoicing to them that China opens a new field for their employment.

The total amount of exports and imports at all the open ports for July last were as follows:—Imports, yen 2,773,281.91; exports, yen 2,666,480.89; excess of imports, yen 106,801.02; The customs revenue from various sources, was yen 128,411.35.—*Hochi Shimbun*.

LATEST SHIPPING.

FREIGHTS.

During the past week we have had the new Union steamship *Selebria* from London, and the *Strathmore* from Antwerp and Glasgow, with general cargoes. For New York the *Strathleven* and *Galley of Lorne* are advertised for the 26th instant and the *Benarty* with quick dispatch. For London the *Cardiganshire*, expected about the 26th instant, will probably be dispatched very shortly thereafter. Coastwise, no change can be reported, everything being intensely dull.

ARRIVALS.

Gloaming, British ship, 1,498, R. F. Densmore, 13th September.—New York 15th May, 52,900 cases Kerosene Oil and General.—China and Japan Trading Co.

Niigata Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,097, John C. Hubbard, 15th September.—Hakodate 13th September via Oginohama, Mails and General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S. S. Co.

Galley of Lorne, British steamer, 1,384, Pomeroy, 16th September.—Kobe, General.—Smith, Baker & Co.

Kworio Maru, Japanese steamer, 482, F. Creighton, 16th September.—Yokkaichi 15th September, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S. S. Co.

Selebria, British steamer, 1,992, S. Fowler, 16th September.—London via Hongkong 8th September, General.—Smith, Baker & Co.

Wakanoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,342, A. F. Christensen, 16th September.—Kobe 15th September, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S. S. Co.

Taganoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 448, Matsumoto, 17th September.—Yokkaichi, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S. S. Co.

Hiogo Maru, Japanese steamer, 896, R. N. Walker, 18th September.—Kobe 16th September, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S. S. Co.

Shima Maru, Japanese steamer, 800, 18th September.—Kobe via Yokkaichi, General.—Kiyodo Unyu Kwaisha.

Seirio Maru, Japanese steamer, 329, 19th September.—Yokkaichi, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S. S. Co.

Tanais, French steamer, 1,750, Vaquier, 19th September.—Hongkong 12th September, Mails and General.—Messageries Maritimes Co.

Tsukushi Kan, Japanese ironclad, Captain James, 19th September.—England via Nagasaki 15th September.

Strathleven, British steamer, 1,588, C. W. Pearson, 20th September.—Yokosuka.—Adamson, Bell & Co.

Tokio Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,146, R. Swain, 20th September.—Shanghai and ports, Mails and General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S. S. Co.

Tsuruga Maru, Japanese steamer, 780, Dithlefsen, 20th September.—Kobe 18th September, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S. S. Co.

City of Rio de Janeiro, American steamer, 3,548, W. B. Seabury, 21st September.—Hongkong 14th September, Mails and General.—P. M. S. S. Co.

Taganoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 448, Matsumoto, 21st September.—Yokkaichi, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S. S. Co.

Kanagawa Maru, Japanese bark, 1,150, Eckstrand, 21st July.—Nagasaki, Coals.—Mitsu Bishi M. S. S. Co.

Strathmore, British steamer, 1,384, L. White, 21st September.—Antwerp and Glasgow via Shanghai 13th and Kobe 19th September, General.—Adamson, Bell & Co.

Sukune Maru, Japanese steamer, 475, Makiyama, 21st September.—Hakodate, 18th September, General.—Kiyodo Unyu Kwaisha.

Takasago Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,229, C. Young, 21st September.—Hakodate, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S. S. Co.

Alex. McNeil, American ship, 1,088, T. F. Sproul, 22nd September.—New York 13th April, 37,600 cases Kerosene.—Smith, Baker & Co.

DEPARTURES.

Seirio Maru, Japanese steamer, 459, G. R. Nirei, 15th September.—Yokkaichi, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Strathleven, British steamer, 1,588, C. W. Pearson, 15th September.—Yokosuka.—Adamson, Bell & Co.

Kashgar, British steamer, 1,515, W. J. Webber, 16th September.—Hongkong via Kobe and Nagasaki, Mails and General.—P. & O. S. N. Co.

Wakanoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,343, A. F. Christensen, 17th September.—Kobe, Mails and General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Kworio Maru, Japanese steamer, 618, F. Creighton, 18th September.—Yokkaichi, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Taganoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 448, Matsumoto, 18th September.—Yokkaichi, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Genkai Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,917, G. W. Conner, 19th September.—Shanghai and ports, Mails and General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Mary Winkelman, American bark, 505, H. O. Alberg, 19th September.—San Francisco, Tea and General.—Mourilyan, Heilmann & Co.

Niigata Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,096, Hubbard, 19th September.—Hakodate via Oginohama, Mails and General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Seirio Maru, Japanese steamer, 591, G. R. Nirei, 19th September.—Yokkaichi, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Hiogo Maru, Japanese steamer, 896, R. N. Walker, 20th September.—Hakodate, Mails and General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Sophie, Russian brig, 270, Sandwike, 20th September.—Fishing stations in North.—F. Retz.

Richmond, American flagship, 14 guns, 300 men, 2,700, Captain J. S. Skerrett, U.S.N., 20th September.—Yokosuka.

Shima Maru, Japanese steamer, 230, S. Okuma, 21st September.—Kobe, General.—Kiyodo Unyu Kwaisha.

Taganoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 448, Matsumoto, 21st September.—Yokkaichi, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Slaut, Norwegian bark, 581, C. Hannestad, 22nd September.—Nagasaki, Ballast.—Captain.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per Japanese steamer *Niigata Maru*, from Hakodate via Oginohama:—Rev. and Mrs. Thompson and 3 children, Mr. and Mrs. Oko, Mrs. Isobe, Miss Benton, Messrs. Kuki, Watanabe, Kamitsu, Kubota, Matsubara, Matsuoka, Sahara, Okazaki, and Sahara Kotaro in cabin; and 132 Japanese in steerage.

Per British steamer *Galley of Lorne*, from Kobe:—37 Japanese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Kworio Maru*, from Yokkaichi:—3 Japanese in cabin; and 100 Japanese in steerage.

Per British steamer *Selembria*, from London via Hongkong:—Paymaster Whitehouse, U.S.N., in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Wakanoura Maru*, from Kobe:—Mr. T. Hake, and 4 Japanese in cabin; and 67 Japanese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Hiogo Maru*, from Kobe:—Messrs. Hunter, Reimers, and 3 Japanese in cabin; and 71 Japanese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Shima Maru*, from Kobe via Yokkaichi:—28 Japanese.

Per Japanese steamer *Seirio Maru*, from Yokkaichi:—1 Japanese in cabin; and 75 Japanese in steerage.

Per French steamer *Tanais*, from Hongkong:—Monsignor Osoul and Rev. Père Guenin in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Tsuruga Maru*, from Kobe:—4 Japanese in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Tokio Maru*, from Shanghai and ports:—Mr. and Mrs. Suzuki, Mrs. Simpson and child, Miss R. Gillingham, Madame Montore, Captain Mogi, Messrs. W. Lang, J. de

Ryke, A. Reimers, Hirayama, Mayeda, and Higuchi in cabin; and 1 European, 7 Chinese and 240 Japanese in steerage. For Liverpool: Mr. E. H. Renney in cabin.

Per American steamer *City of Rio de Janeiro*, from Hongkong:—For San Francisco: 193 Chinese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Taganoura Maru*, from Yokkaichi:—120 Japanese in steerage.

Per British steamer *Strathmore*, from Shanghai: 9 Japanese.

Per Japanese steamer *Sukune Maru*, from Hakodate:—25 Japanese.

Per Japanese steamer *Takasago Maru*, from Hakodate:—Messrs. A. J. W. Allen, E. Ravenshill, and 6 Japanese in cabin; and 153 Japanese in steerage.

DEPARTED.

Per Japanese steamer *Genkai Maru*, for Shanghai and ports:—Governor Hara, Mrs. J. W. Hall and infant, Mrs. Cock Manchin and child, Messrs. M. Salamon, A. K. Travers, L. Nottel, A. H. Perkins, H. C. Hubbell, F. Naudin, A. H. Little, W. Hubbard, H. H. Seck, Shida, Hikabe, Horibe, Hori, and Li in cabin.

CARGOES.

Per Japanese steamer *Genkai Maru*, for Shanghai:—Treasure, \$1,000.00.

Per Japanese steamer *Tokio Maru*, from Shanghai and ports:—Treasure, \$58,400.00.

REPORTS.

The Japanese steamer *Niigata Maru*, Captain J. C. Hubbard, reports leaving Hakodate on the 13th September with hard strong gale and heavy rain squalls; barometer 29.34; arrived at Oginohama on the 14th at 9 a.m. and left again at 4 p.m. with strong N.E. wind and heavy rain, to Inaboyesaki; thence to port fresh northerly wind and fine weather. Left in port at Hakodate H.B.M. *Zephyr*, British S.S. *Tyne*, barks *Alice Mary*, *John Potts*, and *Hilda*, loading for Shanghai. British bark *Still Water*, loading for San Francisco, and American schooner *Falcon* ready to sail for same port.

The Japanese steamer *Kworio Maru*, Captain F. Creighton, reports leaving Yokkaichi on the 15th September, at 7 p.m. with light northerly winds and fine weather throughout the passage and no ships outside all the way.

The Japanese steamer *Wakanoura Maru*, Captain A. F. Christensen, reports leaving Kobe on the 14th September, at 6.30 p.m. with light northerly winds and cloudy weather to Oo-sima; thence to port strong north-easterly winds and thick rainy weather. Arrived at Yokohama on the 16th September, at 8.30 a.m.

The Japanese steamer *Taganoura Maru*, Captain Matsumoto, from Yokkaichi, reports having experienced smooth sea and light winds during the first part of voyage, and on the latter strong head winds.

The Japanese steamer *Hiogo Maru*, Captain R. N. Walker, reports leaving Kobe on the 16th September, at 6 p.m. with moderate weather and north-easterly winds throughout the passage.

The Japanese steamer *Tsuruga Maru*, Captain Dithlefsen, reports leaving Kobe on the 18th September, at 6 p.m. with light variable winds and fine weather throughout the passage. Arrived at Yokohama on the 20th September, at 10.15 a.m.

The American steamer *City of Rio de Janeiro*, Captain W. B. Seabury, reports leaving Hongkong on the 14th September, at 6.15 p.m. with light winds and fine weather throughout the passage.

The British steamer *Strathmore*, Captain L. White, reports having experienced strong head winds.

MEN-OF-WAR.

Fuso Kan, Japanese ironclad, 12 guns, 1,340, Inouye, 28th August.—Yokosuka 28th August.

Kongo Kan, Japanese corvette, 13 guns, 1,341, Captain Aiura, 22nd May.—Yokosuka.

Tsukushi Kan, Japanese ironclad, Captain James, 19th September.—England via Nagasaki 15th September.

SHIPPING IN YOKOHAMA.

STEAMERS.

City of Rio de Janeiro, American steamer, 3,518, W. B. Seabury, 21st September.—Hongkong 14th September, Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.

Galley of Lorne, British steamer, 1,384, Pomeroy, 16th September.—Kobe, General.—Smith, Baker & Co.

Godavery, French steamer, 1,049, Du Temple, 31st August.—Hongkong 25th August, Mails and General.—Messageries Maritimes Co.

Selembria, British steamer, 1,992, S. Fowler, 16th September.—London via Hongkong 8th September, General.—Smith, Baker & Co.

Strathleven, British steamer, 1,588, C. W. Pearson, 20th September.—Yokosuka.—Adamson, Bell & Co.

Strathmore, British steamer, 1,384, L. White, 21st September.—Antwerp and Glasgow via Shanghai 13th and Kobe 19th September, General.—Adamson, Bell & Co.

Tokio Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,146, R. Swain, 20th September.—Shanghai and ports, Mails and General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Tanais, French steamer, 1,750, Vaquier, 19th September.—Hongkong 12th September, Mails and General.—Messageries Maritimes Co.

SAILING VESSELS.

Alma, American schooner, 35, Tibbey, 17th November.—Hakodate 8th November, Furs.—J. D. Carroll & Co.

Black Diamond, German bark, 585, Folley, 20th September.—Puget Sound, Lumber and Salmon.—P. Bohm.

E. von Beaulieu, British bark, 353, 20th November.—Nagasaki 7th November, Coals.—A. Clark.

Gloaming, British ship, 1,498, R. F. Densmore, 13th September.—New York 15th May, 52,900 cases Kerosene Oil and General.—China and Japan Trading Co.

Guam, British 3-masted schooner, 294, Marns, 23rd August.—Takao 2nd August, Sugar.—Master.

Pearl, American bark, 536, R. Howes, 28th May.—Nagasaki, 20th May, Coals.—Jardine Matheson & Co.

Sagitta, British bark, 579, Taylor, 9th September.—Newcastle, N.S.W. 17th July, Coals.—Frazar & Co.

W. H. Lincoln, American ship, 1,684, M. J. Dally, 7th September.—New York 25th May, 63,000 cases Kerosene Oil and General.—Order.

VESSELS FOR JAPAN.

SAILED.

Adam M. Simpson, 1,524—Philadelphia 5th May.

Aeglesea—Cardiff, 1st July.

Annapolis, British bark, 914—New York 10th July.

Antoinette, British ship—Philadelphia 21st April.

Cambodia, British steamer—Liverpool 2nd June.

Clarissa B. Carver, ship—New York 6th June.

Cross Hill, British ship, 1,019—Cardiff 2nd June.

Edward May (Shanghai), American bark, 928—New York 29th May.

Haddon Hall, British ship, Leighton—Middlesbrough 19th April.—Passed Anjer 3rd August.

Hercules, American ship, 1,332—New York 31st May.

Jennie Harkness (Yokohama and Hiogo), American bark, 1,373—New York 14th July.

Loretta Fish, ship—New York 7th June.

Metupelia, British steamer—Antwerp, 21st July.

Paul Jones (China or Japan), American ship, 1,257—New York 17th March.

Polynesian, British ship, 1,294—New York 1st February.

San Joaquin, ship—New York 9th May.

Sattara, British bark—Antwerp via Middlesbrough 11th April.—Passed Anjer 1st August.

Syren (China or Japan), American ship, 875—New York 9th December.

Tecumseh, American ship, 1,309—New York 31st March.

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

During the week there has been a fair current business in Yarns, but there has not been so much demand for Shirtings, and the Market closes very quiet. Other Goods call for no special remark. In Metals, there has been a fair business but with no improvement in prices.

COTTON YARNS.

| | PER PICUL. |
|----------------------------------|------------------|
| Nos. 16 to 24, Common to Medium- | \$25.00 to 28.50 |
| Nos. 16 to 24, Good to Best - | 29.25 to 30.00 |
| Bombay, No. 30, Good to Best - | 25.25 to 28.50 |
| Nos. 28 to 32, Common to Medium- | 30.50 to 31.50 |
| Nos. 28 to 32, Good to Best - | 32.00 to 35.00 |
| Nos. 38 to 42 - | 35.00 to 37.00 |

COTTON PIECE GOODS.

| | PER PICUL. |
|---------------------------------------------------|----------------------|
| Grey Shirtings—31 1/2, 38 1/2 to 39 inches - | \$1.70 to 2.15 |
| Grey Shirtings—38 1/2, 38 1/2 to 45 inches - | 1.92 1/2 to 2.42 1/2 |
| T. Cloth—7 1/2, 24 yards, 12 inches - | 1.42 1/2 to 1.50 |
| Indigo Shirting—12 yards, 44 inches - | 1.55 to 1.70 |
| Prints—Assorted, 24 yards, 30 inches - | 1.10 to 2.40 |
| Cotton—Italians and Satens Black, 32 inches - | PER YARD. |
| Turkey Reds—2 to 2 1/2, 24 yards, 30 inches - | 0.07 to 0.09 |
| Turkey Reds—2 1/2 to 2 3/4, 24 yards, 30 inches - | PER PICUL. |
| Turkey Reds—2 1/2 to 2 3/4, 24 yards, 30 inches - | 1.15 to 1.35 |
| Turkey Reds—3 1/2, 24 yards, 30 inches - | 1.35 to 1.55 |
| Turkey Reds—3 1/2, 24 yards, 30 inches - | 1.70 to 1.82 1/2 |
| Velvets—Black, 35 yards, 22 inches - | 5.00 to 6.75 |
| Victoria Lawns, 12 yards, 42-3 inches - | 0.65 to 0.75 |
| Taffetas, 12 yards, 43 inches - | 1.75 to 2.05 |

WOOLLENS.

| | PER PICUL. |
|----------------------------------------------------|----------------------|
| Plain Orleans, 40-42 yards, 32 inches - | \$1.80 to 5.25 |
| Figured Orleans, 39-41 yards, 31 inches - | 3.25 to 4.00 |
| Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches - | 0.18 to 0.28 |
| Mousseline de Laine—Crape, 24 yards, 31 inches - | 0.15 1/2 to 0.16 1/2 |
| Mousseline de Laine—Itajime, 24 yards, 31 inches - | 0.15 1/2 to 0.26 |
| Mousseline de Laine—Yuzen, 24 yards, 31 inches - | 0.30 to 0.37 1/2 |
| Cloths—Pilots, 54 @ 56 inches - | 0.30 to 0.40 |
| Cloths—Presidents, 54 @ 56 inches - | 0.40 to 0.50 |
| Cloths—Unions, 54 @ 56 inches - | 0.30 to 0.55 |
| Blankets—Scarlet and Green, 6 to 5 1/2, per lb - | 0.35 to 0.40 |

IRON.

| | PER PICUL. |
|---------------------------------|----------------|
| Flat Bars, 1 inch - | \$2.50 to 2.90 |
| Flat Bars, 1 inch - | 2.80 to 3.00 |
| Round and square up to 1 inch - | 2.80 to 3.00 |
| Nailrod, assorted - | 2.15 to 2.60 |
| Nailrod, small size - | 2.85 to 3.15 |

KEROSENE.

Sales during the past week consist of 12,000 cases Devoe at \$1.60 and 7,000 damaged cases at auction, realizing from \$1.30 to \$1.40. Deliveries during the same period have been 28,500 cases. Stocks consist of about 781,000 cases in fair hands of sold and unsold Oil.

| | PER CASE. |
|----------|-----------|
| Devoe - | \$1.60 |
| Comet - | 1.59 |
| Stella - | 1.50 |

SUGAR.

With little or nothing doing, prices have undergone no change.

| | PER PICUL. |
|-----------------|----------------|
| White, No. 1 - | \$7.50 to 8.00 |
| White, No. 2 - | 7.00 to 7.50 |
| White, No. 3 - | 6.75 to 7.00 |
| White, No. 4 - | 6.00 to 6.50 |
| White, No. 5 - | 5.00 to 5.20 |
| Brown Formosa - | 4.50 to 4.60 |

EXPORTS.

SILK.

Business has continued on the same scale with but a day or two in which little was done. Sellers are disposed to be current, and again 700 piculs have been settled during the week under review at rather under previous rates. Arrivals are plentiful, and Stock of all kinds is now 4,200 piculs. Export to date is 6,523 bales, against 6,592 bales at same date last year, and the French and American mail steamers leaving 23rd have about 1,000 bales engaged. Coarse book Silks from Sodai and Yechizen districts have once more appeared, and are enquired for at prices which should prove remunerative to the producer.

Hanks have been freely taken the last few days at a reduction of \$5 to \$10. We note Tomiyoka at \$517 1/2, Shinshiu \$515, Omama \$510, and Chichibu and Annaka \$490. The demand continues, and prices tend in favor of buyers.

Filatures.—These show some weakness, although Settlements have been plentiful on basis of Nihon-matsu \$650, Rokosha \$640, Tokosha \$637 1/2. (A second parcel nearly all green color since done at \$630). Good Shinshiu kinds \$620, Koshu \$600, and Mino and Hida \$580.

Re-reels.—These find buyers for the better kinds. Fan chop \$620, Tortoise \$615, and Five Girl \$610. Common kinds neglected.

Kakedas.—Better kinds offered at a reduction of \$10; lower sorts command late rates. Hamatsuki, Sodai, Yechizen, and Taysam kinds generally are strong at full rates.

| | QUOTATIONS. |
|--------------------------------------|--------------|
| Hanks—No. 1 1/2 - | \$515 to 525 |
| Hanks—No. 2 (Shinshu) - | 510 to 520 |
| Hanks—No. 2 (Maibash) - | 505 to 510 |
| Hanks—No. 2 1/2 - | 480 to 490 |
| Hanks—No. 3 - | 450 to 470 |
| Hanks—No. 3 1/2 - | 420 to 440 |
| Filatures—Extra - | 640 to 650 |
| Filatures—No. 1, 10/13 deniers - | 630 to 640 |
| Filatures—No. 1, 14/16 deniers - | 630 to 640 |
| Filatures—No. 1 1/2, 14/17 deniers - | 610 to 620 |
| Filatures—No. 2, 10/15 deniers - | 600 to 620 |
| Filatures—No. 2, 14/18 deniers - | 600 to 610 |
| Filatures—No. 3, 14/20 deniers - | 570 to 580 |
| Re-reels—No. 1, 14/16 deniers - | 610 to 620 |
| Re-reels—No. 1 1/2, 14/17 deniers - | 600 to 610 |
| Re-reels—No. 2, 14/18 deniers - | 580 to 590 |
| Re-reels—No. 3, 14/20 deniers - | 560 to 570 |
| Kakedas—Extra - | 620 to 630 |
| Kakedas—No. 1 - | 590 to 600 |
| Kakedas—No. 2 - | 550 to 560 |
| Kakedas—No. 3 - | 520 to 530 |
| Hamatsuki—No. 1, 2 - | 480 to 490 |
| Hamatsuki—No. 3, 4 - | 460 to 470 |
| Sodai—No. 2 1/2 - | 440 to 450 |

TEA.

The activity in our Tea Market reported in last issue has been well sustained throughout the interval, and about 2,650 piculs have been settled, comprising mostly Medium, Good Medium, and Fine sorts, with some lines of Finest and Choice Teas. Market at the close has a strong upward tendency for Teas grading above medium. Total arrivals for the season are 134,809 piculs, against 143,103 piculs at the same period last year. Estimated Stock in Yokohama is about 4,600 piculs. The American bark *Mary Winkelman*, sailed for San Francisco on the 18th instant, took 13,072 packages Tea for California; the pounds will be given in our next report. The British steamers *Galley of Lorne* and *Strathleven* are on the berth for New York, via Shanghai, China ports, and Suez Canal. Both are expected to leave this port on the 26th instant. The steamship *Bewarty* (to arrive) is advertised to follow at an early date. Rate of freight is 45 shillings per 40 cubic feet. The overland rates for Teas via San Francisco remain as previously reported.

| | QUOTATIONS. |
|---------------|--------------|
| Common - | \$ 9 & under |
| Good Common - | 11 to 13 |
| Medium - | 14 to 16 |
| Good Medium - | 17 to 20 |
| Fine - | 22 to 25 |
| Finest - | 27 & up'ds |

EXCHANGE.

A fairly large business has been done in Private Paper during the week, and the demand for Bank Bills has been above the average. During the last few days rates have remained steady, and they close firm at the following quotations:—

| | |
|-------------------------------------------|--------------|
| Sterling—Bank Bills on demand - | 3/8 |
| Sterling—Bank 4 months' sight - | 3/8 1/2 |
| Sterling—Private 4 months' sight - | 3/8 1/2 |
| Sterling—Private 6 months' sight - | 3/9 |
| On Paris—Bank sight - | 4/64 |
| On Paris—Private 6 months' sight - | 4/75 |
| On Hongkong—Bank sight - | Par. |
| On Hongkong—Private 10 days' sight - | 1/2 o/o dis. |
| On Shanghai—Bank sight - | 7 1/2 |
| On Shanghai—Private 10 days' sight - | 7 1/2 |
| On New York—Bank Bills on demand - | 89 |
| On New York—Private 30 days' sight - | 89 1/2 |
| On San Francisco—Bank Bills on demand - | 89 |
| On San Francisco—Private 30 days' sight - | 89 1/2 |

KINSATSU QUOTATIONS.

The following table shows the rate of the day, and the fluctuation during the past week:—

| | |
|---------------------------------|---------|
| Monday, September 17th | 118 1/2 |
| Tuesday, September 18th | 118 1/2 |
| Wednesday, September 19th | 118 1/2 |
| Thursday, September 20th | 118 1/2 |
| Friday, September 21st | 118 1/2 |
| Saturday, September 22nd | 119 |

IMPORTANT NOTICE.

SMALL CAPITALISTS, wishing to establish a business, should see if there is an opening for a Mineral Water Manufactory in their District. All information and recipes for the purpose of making Lemonade, Soda Water, &c. is given, previous knowledge is not necessary. The demand for these drinks is so much on the increase in all parts of the world, that the outlay for the machinery in all cases leads to a profitable and safe business. Catalogue forwarded free, on application to

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May 1st, 1883.

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May 1st, 1883.

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NOTICE.

THE "JAPAN DAILY MAIL" is now the largest newspaper published in Japan. The paper is issued every morning and immediately delivered in the Settlement and Bluff.

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|------------|-------------|------------|-----------------|
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JOSEPH GILLOTT'S STEEL PENS. Medal,
JOSEPH GILLOTT'S STEEL PENS. Paris,
JOSEPH GILLOTT'S STEEL PENS. 1878.

May 1st, 1883.

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PERFUMERY,**

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ESTABLISHED 1799.

Printed and Published for the PROPRIETOR, at 72, Main Street, Settlement, by JAMES ELLACOTT BEALE, of No. 106, Bluff, Yokohama.—SATURDAY, September 22, 1883.

THE Japan Weekly Mail,

A REVIEW OF
JAPANESE COMMERCE, POLITICS, LITERATURE, AND ART.

No. 22, VOL. I.]

YOKOHAMA, SEPTEMBER 29TH, 1883.

[£24 PER ANNUM.]

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The Japan Weekly Mail.

"FAIS CE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL," must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith. It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 29TH, 1883.

WEEKLY NOTES.

THE prospects of an unusually plentiful harvest, and the exceptionally low price of rice, warrant us in looking forward to considerable exportations of that staple in the near future. The condition of the agricultural classes in Japan is very different to-day from what it was three or four years ago, and this continued fall in the value of rice will not improve matters, however welcome a fine crop may be. On the other hand, since the causes of the fall are currency contraction and a gradual advance toward conditions which will render the resumption of specie payments possible, there is nothing in the prospect that need alarm us. A large export of rice would, by bringing specie into the country, greatly facilitate the only measure which can restore Japan's foreign commerce to a sound basis. In view of this contingency it might be worth the Government's while to consider whether consignments of rice sent to London on account of the Treasury are the best means of realizing specie for the reserve fund. It is the opinion of shrewd business-men that public sales in Japan would be a more profitable and far less hazardous method of disposing, in part at all events, of the stock destined for foreign

markets. Rumour says that transactions undertaken on Government account during the past season were not as successful as they might have been had not incompetent or reckless foreign agency been substituted for the methods previously employed. However this may be, it seems pretty plain that by inviting public tenders for the stocks of rice to be sent forward Japanese financiers would be enlarging their field of operations in a way that could not fail to be beneficial. There would be no obligation to accept any tender. The Government might reserve to themselves the right of shipping the staple on their own account if the offer made on the spot were not sufficiently advantageous. There is not much in past records to recommend the system hitherto pursued, and it may be confidently asserted that, if circumstances compel the Government to engage in commerce, the more openly and expeditiously their transactions can be conducted, and the fewer agents they employ, the better will it be both for their own reputation and for the pockets of the Japanese.

WE learn from a Japanese newspaper that Mr. Sudzuki Kawanichi, secretary to the Japanese Legation in Paris, who disappeared from his post several months ago simultaneously with the disappearance of a considerable sum from the Legation funds, has recently given himself up, and is now on his way to Japan under police escort. Mr. Sudzuki's story is not without elements that enlist pity. It appears that, finding he had overdrawn his account to the extent of some five thousand francs, he was persuaded, in an evil hour, to try and recoup that amount by transactions in stock. The inevitable consequences were fresh losses and new speculations, until at last the deficit in the fund, became so large that the unfortunate defaulter saw nothing for it but flight. Presumably Mr. Sudzuki carried away sufficient funds to support him for a time, but the exact amount of his defalcations is not publicly known. It is stated at seventy-five thousand francs by the journal which reports Mr. Sudzuki's return, but we believe that a hundred thousand would be nearer the truth. Belgium is said to have been the refuge of the Secretary during the period of his disappearance from Paris.

Apropos of the unfortunate affray which took place recently between Chinese opium smokers and the Japanese police in Nagasaki, it may be well to correct a false impression apparently prevalent that the Nagasaki police alone are

armed with swords. The truth is that, in accordance with a recent proclamation, the police throughout Japan now carry these weapons. We believe that the immediate cause of this innovation was the murder of three or four constables by a band of thieves near Tsukiji, but it had been evident for some time that the police must be provided with a better means of defence than a club, inasmuch as the lawless characters they had to deal with were generally armed with daggers, sword-canes, and concealed weapons of various sorts. There is not apparently much to choose between swords in the hands of Japanese, and revolvers in the hands of European, police, but the trouble is that police are a comparatively new institution in this country, and one is inclined to doubt whether they are yet thoroughly conversant with the first duty of a peace-officer, namely, self-restraint; or whether they have entirely disabused themselves of a notion that the office of constable involves the performance of magisterial functions. This Nagasaki affair comes at an unfortunate time, because the charges of cruelty preferred against the police in connection with the Fukushima conspiracy are still fresh in the memory of the public and still await refutation or investigation. We learn, however, from the vernacular journals that two of the men recently condemned for participation in this conspiracy are soon to be tried on another charge, that of libelling public functionaries, so that the facts of the case will doubtless be thoroughly sifted at last. Meanwhile we observe that five policemen in Osaka have each been sentenced to six months imprisonment with hard labour and to a fine of ten yen for ill-treating prisoners. A few judgments of this sort would soon teach the police that in adopting new codes of criminal procedure the Government had no intention of suffering the spirit of their reforms to be defeated by barbarous agents.

THERE seems to be little doubt that the policy of France towards China has recently undergone a marked change. The appointment of M. Pâtenôtre, formerly chargé d'affaires at Peking, to represent the Republic in China, is the last, and not the least significant, of the events which indicate this modification. M. Pâtenôtre's policy is understood to be based on the lines laid down formerly by M. Bourée, and adopted, so far as we can judge, by M. Challemel-Lacour at the recent negotiations with the Marquis Tsêng. M. Tricou thus disappears from the arena of Orien-

tal politics, and his exit will be universally regarded as a new promise of peace. We do not question his diplomatic talents, but they seem to run in a groove not parallel with the interests of Europeans in the East. At all events his mission to China has been little short of a fiasco. His programme of menace and bluster only had the effect of eliminating him altogether from the controversy. That astute old statesman, Li Hung-Chang, finding that to continue the discussion in China involved the introduction of such a thronomic element, changed the *venue* to Paris, where, under the able management of the Marquis Tseng, affairs soon assumed a healthier complexion. The horizon is not yet quite clear, but with M. Challemel-Lacour at Vichy and M. Tricou under orders for home, things look decidedly hopeful.

THE *Statistical Gazette* says that the number of officers in the various Government Departments in 1881 was 39,615, while the number in the various cities and prefectures was 38,625, making a grand total of 78,240. The same authority puts the aggregate salary of these officers at 1,077,970 *yen* per mensem, which gives an average of something less than fourteen *yen* each per month; or, at the rates of exchange then ruling, about £19 per annum. If these figures be correct the salaries of Japanese officials are small enough, though their numbers are respectable.

THE scheme of dredging Tokijo Bay within the forts at Shinagawa seems to be again seriously contemplated. We have heard so much of this during the past three years that the rumour arouses little interest; but on this occasion it is to be observed that the prospectus of the Committee appointed by the Tokijo Municipality to report upon the work, recommends a plan so inexpensive and yet apparently so effective that the chance of its being carried out are not so remote as they used to be. Briefly stated the plan consists in uniting the two channels by which the waters of the Sumida River traverse the distance between its mouth and the forts. Of these channels the principal runs in a tortuous line along the shore from Hama-goten towards Shinagawa, while the so-called Eastern Channel trends eastwards and passes out between the second and third forts. It is proposed to divert the waters of the former into the latter, by which means a minimum depth of six feet at ebb tide and eleven feet at the flow will be obtained. Vessels of more than a thousand *koku* burden, and ships of four or five hundred tons will thus be enabled to reach the Sumida River. If this project be carried out, it will doubtless add largely to the prosperity of Tokijo, though it will still leave much to be desired.

PROBABLY no year in the present century can show such a terrible record of catastrophes as 1883. The accounts from Ischia and Batavia are sufficiently appalling to hide all minor disasters, yet those whose resources bear any reasonable proportion to their charitable impulses

will do well to read the story of the desolation wrought by the recent floods in the country round Peking. A memorial has been forwarded to the throne by the Governor and Governor-Adjoint of the Metropolitan prefecture, and its harrowing details are thus epitomized by the *North China Herald*:—

No fewer than thirteen departments and districts reports that the postal roads are flooded. At Tung-chou the river experienced a sudden rise of more than ten feet, which caused a dangerous overflow; the Peking Canal also burst its banks, while at San-ho the mountain torrents rushed down with such violence that the country for miles around was transformed into one vast lake, overturning houses and drowning the inhabitants by scores. Two rivers, the Yün Ho and the Wu Ho, broke bounds, and joining their forces were transformed into one overwhelming flood, covering the country with a huge sheet of water as far as the eye could reach. A similar disaster occurred elsewhere, and terrible were the stories of death and misery which now began to come in from all sides. There is a city of the second rank called Pao-ti Hsien, the situation of which is peculiarly unfortunate at such seasons, as it is the meeting-place of numerous rivers. At this point of convergence all these streams rose above their embankments, which, in spite of the strenuous efforts of the inhabitants, were soon carried away by the force of the waters. Numbers of villages were soon submerged, and all the crops in the neighbourhood entirely ruined. With as much haste as the circumstances permitted, enquiries were set on foot, which elicited the fact that the wholesale destruction of crops and annihilation of villages by no means represented the entire mischief done. Whole families, consisting of scores of people, seeing nothing but death before them, lashed themselves together with ropes in order to avoid being separated, and to ensure their all being drowned together. Many of the petitions that are now pouring in are for aid to the living to bury their dead; others ask for food, others for shelter, some again for the means to go away to less dangerous regions as soon as the floods subside. The memorialists say that so piteous a disaster has not occurred for the last fifty years. A Tao-t'ai who has lately returned from Tientsin to the Capital adds his testimony to the truth of these sad tales. Starting on the 6th of August, he says that the floods were then so high as to make it quite impossible to tell whether his boat was in the channel or no. He further makes the startling statement that "hundreds and thousands of villagers congregated on the banks of the river, besieging his boat, which was stopped more than twenty times by their appeals for assistance. Each party came clamouring with its tale of woe, until, says the Tao-t'ai, the pitiful sights he witnessed and the stories of sorrow he heard were more than he could bear. The Memorialists conclude by urging the necessity of affording prompt relief, otherwise, as they point out, the Capital will probably have another invasion of starving refugees, similar to that which took place seven years ago.

It is announced that the new buildings for the principal police station in the Kanagawa Prefecture will soon be commenced. The site chosen is No. 3, in the first ward (*Ii-chō-me*) of Honcho-dori, and the cost of the building is to be twelve thousand *yen*. It is time that active steps were taken in this matter. The present Central Police Station was built many years ago, even before the issue of the Revised Penal Code, which was superseded by the Codes that came into operation on the 1st of January, 1882. The arrangements of the Station, the cells, &c., consequently represent executive conditions different from those now existing. At the same time a careful examination of the place shows that in many respects it serves its purpose very well. The cells, with the exception of those where drunken prisoners are temporarily confined, are spacious and airy, and the rooms for conducting examinations are conveniently disposed. The two lock-ups for the detention of foreign prisoners have more pretensions to solidity and comfort than the

other parts of the building, but what they gain in these respects they lose in coolness and ventilation. Recently, when some philanthropists undertook to champion the cause of certain sea-side Phrynes against the police, occasion was seized to ventilate a story about a naked lunatic who had been confined, it was stated, for several days, if not weeks, at the Central Police Station in a cell, nine feet by six, open to rain, wind, and sunshine. If any of our readers will be at the pains to visit this cell they will find that it is a small and comfortless place in truth, but that it is not open to the rain,—on the contrary, its chief fault is that it is not open enough—and they may also learn on enquiry that the man confined there was an exceedingly violent lunatic, whose chief idiosyncracies were that he declined to wear any clothes, tearing off everything put on him, and that he thought his mission upon earth was to be an incendiary. Indeed he did succeed once in shutting himself up with a kerosene-lamp, and reducing a side of his cell to charcoal before he was discovered. It is unfortunate but not inexplicable that special arrangements do not exist for lodging and maintaining these sort of characters on a comfortable scale. We believe, however, that the Kanagawa Prefecture is not provided with a lunatic asylum. Madmen whose violence brings them into conflict with the myrmidons of the law, are only confined at the Police Station until their friends come to remove them. The nude incendiary in question appears either to have been without friends or to have made himself so obnoxious that nobody was willing to take charge of him. The police were thus obliged to keep him for several days, and, as no arrangements existed at the station for such a contingency, he did not fare as well as could have been desired. The treatment of lunatics and the establishment of lunatic asylums (*Futenbiyō-in*) are matters which have only recently begun to receive proper attention in Japan.

NOTES.

THE telegraph on Monday brought us welcome news. Perhaps the most favorable item is the intelligence of M. Challemel-Lacour's temporary elimination from the controversy. That Minister and his lieutenant at Shanghai have always seemed to us the most impracticable factors in the problem. It has been said of M. Challemel-Lacour that he is too clever to be the slave of his impetuous disposition, but though this may be generally true of his conduct in European politics, one cannot help thinking that the restraint he is obliged to put upon himself at home prompts a compensatory recklessness abroad. Certainly his treatment of China's claims, the just and the frivolous alike, has been unworthy of France, especially of republican France. The *Spectator* appears to supply the key to his Oriental policy when it recalls his ethical doctrine that "it is a great imperfection in a statesman to push mere conscientious scruples too far, and to be incapable

of sacrificing his moral delicacy to his aim." We may say with confidence that the attempts made at this end of the world to embroil Japan in a trouble which does not at all concern her, were not impeded by any excess of moral delicacy. Unless the public has been greatly misinformed, M. Jules Ferry would have adopted towards China a demeanour very different from that of his successor, and the fact that the negotiations have been entrusted to his charge implies a return to the much maligned policy of his former mouthpiece, M. Bourée. This result may chagrin some of the Jingoes whose voices have been so lusty of late, but it will be regarded with unqualified satisfaction by all moderate men. That France should successfully carry through her programme in Tonquin and bestow the blessings of prosperity and security on the whole of Cochin China, is a consummation to be devoutly desired, not more on behalf of the cause of civilization than for the sake of the benefits such a result would certainly confer on British commerce in the East. But if that programme could only be achieved at the cost of adding fresh bitterness to China's present mood, and casting upon all Western reputation in the Orient a general shadow of injustice, then, indeed, to pursue the scheme would entitle France to something very different from gratitude.

The reported recommendation of the French press that the expeditionary force in Tonquin should be a single command, may be read as a preface to the telegraphic information we published on Friday morning. That information was to the effect that, owing to a reverse which the French had sustained at the hands of the Black Flags as well as to the insufficiency of the forces at his disposal, Admiral Courbet had suggested the advisability of treating separately with the so-called "pirates of the Red River," and that this suggestion having been opposed by M. Harmand, the *entente cordiale* between the civil and military authorities was disturbed. The recommendation of the French press seems to indicate that differences of opinion had already arisen between the military and naval commanders,—an accident which, judging by English experience, might almost have been predicted. Up to the present there has been about the Tonquin campaign this peculiarity, that it has been essentially an affair of the two services. Army and navy have taken an equal share in nearly every operation, and it may be accepted as an axiom that when army and navy try to take equal shares in anything for any length of time, they invariably fall out. Possibly the language of the Paris journals does not admit this interpretation, but at all events Admiral Courbet's nomination to the sole command will be regarded as a wise measure in military circles; though, his recently reported relations with M. Harmand render the appointment less happy than it might have been. The idea of treating separately with the Black Flags does not immediately explain itself. It will doubtless be remembered, however, that by the

terms of the treaty recently concluded at Hué, France took upon herself the whole responsibility of sweeping away these brigands. She was of course entitled to claim the assistance of the Annamite forces, if she pleased, but it is doubtful whether French troops could derive much assistance, under any circumstances, from an alliance with such braves as those of Annam. General Rouet's contingent of Yellow Flags, under the command of Colonel George, appear to be working in a resolute, soldier-like way, but it has cost much trouble to lick them into shape, and we may be sure that a little of such warriors goes a long way. The task, then, which the French had to perform was to occupy sundry posts in the delta of the Red River and to clear away the pirates that infest its upper waters from Sontai to Laokai, while the troops available for this purpose numbered, approximately, 2,500 men, the remainder of the expeditionary force being required for operations in the neighbourhood of Hué. It is obvious that these means were totally inadequate to the proposed end. A considerable fraction of the little army had to be detached on garrison duty, and the rest was required to push inland from Sontai, entangling itself in a mountainous country and leaving behind it a line of communications more and more difficult to defend. We cannot be surprised that only the first part of this programme—the occupation of the delta of the Red River—has been accomplished up to the present. The attempt to push inland has of necessity been prefaced by an attack upon the positions occupied by the Black Flags between Hanoi and Sontai, but of the three attacks actually reported, though all are claimed as successes, not one has fully accomplished its object. The Black Flags seem to be just as strongly posted as ever. Under these circumstances Admiral Courbet may well think that instead of persisting in a war of extermination with inadequate forces, it would be wiser as well as more humane to recognise some of the rights which the Black Flags claim, as for example, the right to exist. We are unwilling to admit this hypothesis, for no conjuncture easily conceivable, could reconcile Frenchmen to the spectacle of a French Commander entering into treaty relations with a band of brigands and pirates. Nevertheless strange embarrassments do present themselves when men begin to build without sitting down to count the cost.

SIR HARRY PARKES has been welcomed with great enthusiasm in Shanghai. A Reception Committee, composed of various nationalities, was appointed to conduct the arrangements, and, as is usual in the East, failed to give satisfaction. No gun was fired nor any efficient measures devised to give notice of the new Minister's arrival, so that many persons who desired to be present were prevented from attending. A large number of the residents appear to have waited at the Mitsu Bishi Company's pontoon from the time the *Tokio Maru* was first signalled, until the long delay in her arrival sent them home wearied out. Never-

theless, about seventy gentlemen assembled finally at the wharf, and received Sir Harry with ringing cheers. After this an address was delivered by the Reception Committee, and Sir Harry replied in excellently chosen terms, laying special stress on the amicable sentiments with which he was inspired towards the Chinese. "I will not hesitate to add," he said in conclusion, "that while I shall steadfastly strive to protect the rights and interests entrusted to my care, I shall also earnestly endeavour to cultivate the most friendly relations with this Government, and I confidently trust that that feeling will be reciprocated, and that it will not fail to lead to beneficial results." It is to be hoped that these good intentions may not be defeated by circumstances. China's foreign relations are not in a happy condition, and to better them perceptibly something more than diplomatic tact will be found necessary. The Shanghai address of welcome alluded to that "interesting country" Japan and the "troublesome times" she passed through during the term of Sir Harry's Office, but it may well have occurred to Sir Harry himself, when the news of the Canton riots reached him five days later, that the problem he has to deal with now is very different from that which occupied his attention here. For many years it has been quite unnecessary to reckon with the anti-foreign factor in Japanese politics. We do indeed occasionally hear this or that real or imaginary proceeding of the Government attributed to the old spirit of hostility, and if the public were disposed to believe half the chimeras conjured up by professional growlers, it would follow that our tenure in Japan is of the frailest description. But even these perpetual exhibitions of abusive injustice fail to awaken any unfriendly rejoinder. Were it reported to-morrow in a Yokohama newspaper that foreigners travelling in the interior had been subjected to indignity on account of their nationality, we doubt whether the tale would be thought worthy of credence even by those gentlemen who make a trade of collecting, embellishing, and ventilating every rumour unfavorable to this country's reputation. Looking a little further, too, it will be seen that the history of our intercourse with Japan is not darkened by any incident comparable with the recent Canton riot. Never at any time have foreigners been made the object of a popular outburst. So long ago as 1865, we find it recorded in the English local journals that the feeling of hostility to Westerns, which from time to time found such fierce expression, was absolutely confined to the military classes and awoke no echo, however faint, among the people. But in China it is the people who are always ready to take fire: it is the people who stone and burn and kill, under provocation in itself so trivial as to be unanimously significant of the virulent disposition that finds such pretexts sufficient. Fifteen foreign houses wholly or partially burned, several others looted, and property to the value of a million dollars destroyed, all because a Portuguese watchman was the direct or indirect cause of a Chinaman's death by drowning—this

is a record that suggests some inconsistency between cause and effect. It is true that the demeanour of the official classes is more gravely courteous, but probably there is not a man of them who doubts that his country is a heavy loser by her foreign commerce, and truly there is some reason for this faith, seeing that China expends in the purchase of Indian opium every year more than half the whole amount she derives from the sale of her exports. Something like despair of the future steals over ones mind at the aspect of this colossal nation, with its hundreds of millions of units every one steeped to the lips in hatred of the "foreign devils." How long will it be before this giant prejudice falls to pieces under the tiny taps we are able to deliver here and there at the hem of his garments?

"EVERYTHING is now perfectly quiet," wrote a gentleman from Canton on the third morning after the riot, "but the beautiful little settlement has assumed, at the lower or eastern end, a sadly desolate and ruined appearance." There is between our settlement of Yokohama and the Shamien at Canton a certain affinity in that the antecedent conditions of both were equally unprepossessing. Few, even of the oldest residents, can recall the time when the site now occupied by the handsome houses, solid godowns, and wide streets of Yokohama was a mere tract of marshy ground, watered by numerous tidal creeks, remote from any of the great towns or villages of the empire as well as from the principal arteries of traffic, and presenting no favorable feature except its accessibility from the sea. But the Shamien, at first sight, was even worse. In 1857 it was "a mud flat typical of all that was filthy, unsavoury, and dissolute; covered with long, lowering decrepit sheds of wood and bark, tottering on grimy piles above the stagnant swamp, which constituted the most loathsome haunts of vice; whilst between and around these buildings crowded hovels inhabited by lepers, mendicants, and thieves of the most miserable class." Yet all this ugliness could not conceal the facts that it lay in immediate proximity to the Western Suburb, where the Chinese wholesale trade was centered, and where all the principal native merchants and brokers had their residences, and that it looked out on the broad deep channel of the Macao passage, whence the cooling breezes of the monsoon are wafted uninterruptedly in summer. Lord Elgin and his advisers appreciated these advantages sufficiently to choose the site in preference to any other, and after two years' labour and an expenditure of \$325,000—of which four-fifths were defrayed by the British, and one-fifth by the French Government—the mud-bank was converted into a habitable island. The competition for lots on the English portion was so keen at first that most of the original outlay was recovered, but the part assigned to the French Government found no purchasers. The importance of Canton as a trade centre never realized the expectations formed of it, but this did not prevent the embellishment of the Shamien,

which, with its splendid roads, banian-shaded bund, and superb prospect is certainly the most desirable of all the foreign settlements in the East. The correspondent of the *North China Herald* might well lament, therefore, the sacrifice it has suffered at the hands of Chinese roughs, more especially as it appears tolerably plain from the intelligence which has reached us, that but for the restraining influence of the Consuls, the foreign residents would soon have found means to drive out the cowardly mob of thieves and incendiaries.

On the 1st August the French Government sustained a defeat in the Chamber in relation to the connection of Saigon with Tonquin by a submarine cable, for which urgency was declared. M. Blancsubé, the Cochinchina Deputy, exhorted the Chamber not to ratify the Convention passed by the Government with the English Eastern Extension Telegraph Company for the laying of the cable in question. Everyone must approve the project, but no one could approve the installation of an English Company in a region that had become French. The Government, it was true, stipulated that half the employés should be French; but such a guarantee was absolutely illusory, and could not prevent breaches of confidence. The Minister of Marine had, more than once, had proof that the English were acquainted with his cipher. The colony of Cochinchina had offered for itself and Tonquin to pay half the subvention and to advance one-fourth the cost of providing and fixing the cable. A cable on French soil must be French.—(Applause.) The Minister of Marine, in reply, said the English Company had offered far better conditions than the colony. All the conditions of the arrangement had been closely scrutinised, and the Government must maintain their proposal. The Chamber divided, when the Government Bill was rejected by a majority of 218 to 183. The announcement of the numbers was received with cheers, mingled with expressions of disapproval. M. Blancsubé laid upon the table a motion for the establishment of a French cable between Cochinchina and Tonquin. This was sent to the Committee.

With regard to a rumour current here that the \$25,000 offered by the Government of the Straits Settlements to the fund being raised for the relief of the sufferers by the recent events in the Straits of Sunda, had been refused, we are informed that the Netherlands Indian Government has not only accepted this sum with thanks, but the necessities of the case are such that large sums are still required to carry out the scheme of relief intended.

From the *Annuaire de la Ville de Paris* for 1881, recently published, we learn how comparatively few residents in Paris are Parisian born and bred. Indeed, out of every 1,000 inhabitants only 322 are born in the metropolis, while 38 come from the other communes of the department, 565 from the various departments or colonies, and 75 from foreign countries. Other Continental capitals do not contain so

many foreigners as Paris; Berlin only possesses 13 out of 1000, and Pesth but 14. At the time of the census of 1881 there were in Paris 45,281 Belgians, 31,190 Germans, 21,577 Italians, 20,810 Swiss, 10,789 English, 9,250 Dutch, 5,957 Americans, 5,786 Russians, 4,782 Austrians, and 3,616 Spaniards. The German element has very largely increased since 1876, at which period they only numbered 19,024. It is most abundant in the outer arrondissements of the city, and particularly in the nineteenth. Then Dutch and the Belgians (the latter numbering but 34,192 in 1876) are found indiscriminately throughout Paris; the Swiss are powerful in the commercial localities; the Italians, who have almost doubled since 1876, in the eleventh and neighbouring arrondissements; while the English chiefly inhabit the eight, sixteenth, and seventeenth. Foreigners have, as a whole, increased from 119,349 in 1876 to 164,038 in 1881, and formed nearly a fifth part of the total increase of the city.

THE town of Haiduong, recently occupied by the French in Tonquin, is the capital of the two provinces of Haiduong and Kuan-yen. It lies upon the Taibing, a river whose general course is parallel to that of the Songkoi (Fleuve Rouge). These two provinces were governed by the Tung Duc, who had his official residence at the city of Haiduong. In the operations against this place the French took as their base Haiphong, which lies at the mouth of a northern branch of the Taibing. It was known that the Annamites had evacuated Haiduong and intrenched themselves in a new position on the opposite bank of the river. The expeditionary force was under the command of Lieut.-Colonel Brionval, and the general direction of the operations was entrusted to M. Marquis, formerly Administrator in Tanan. No opposition was encountered. Indeed, the Annamite troops had taken their departure three days before, and all the local officials having followed their example, the greatest disorder prevailed. It appears that not only the standing rice but also large quantities of stored grain have been destroyed by the floods, which assumed, this year, unparalleled dimensions. The prices of all necessities, especially rice, have risen largely in consequence, and no sooner did the citizens of Haiduong realize the fact that the Government's rice magazines were unguarded, than a general rush was made for the precious grain. The French were just in time to check this pillage. They succeeded, also, in finding most of the fugitive officials, and after re-instating them, the troops crossed the river and proceeded to attack the position recently occupied by the Annamites. Here some slight show of resistance was made, but after a few shots the enemy retreated. The expeditionary force was now re-embarked and carried to Kuan-yen, which was surrendered after a short parley. These operations have placed the French in possession of the whole Eastern portion of Tonquin.

Meanwhile the attempts to push northward up the Red River are not very successful. Another

sortie was undertaken from Hanoi on the 1st instant. Eight hundred French troops, accompanied by the contingent of Yellow Flags under Captain George, embarked at Hanoi on the 31st of August, and ascended the Red River to a place called Palan, whither they had been preceded two days before by a reconnoitring party consisting of three companies—one French and two Annamite. The point of attack was the village of Phong, which lies next the River Dai, a branch of the Red River. The French plan seems to have been to descend the Dai, so as to place themselves in rear of the village, and in this they were successful, though it appears doubtful whether anything was gained by the operation. Early on the morning of the 1st instant the assaulting column moved forward, its total force being about 1,500 men, the Annamite auxiliaries, of course, included. The enemy was discovered strongly posted at a village called Thong, which is surrounded by thick cover. The difficulties of the country seem to have been very great, and may be taken as an example of what the French have to expect in future operations. There was only one road, and that so narrow that to march by it the column was obliged to assume a formation eminently unfitted for the delivery of an assault. Under these circumstances there was no resource but to deploy the troops in the paddy fields on either side of the path, the result being that the men had to fight for hours up to their waists in mud and water. Despite these disadvantages and in the face of a galling fire, they pushed forward resolutely, and ultimately drove the Black Flags from Thong. The following day (2nd instant) the advance was continued to Phong, where no serious resistance was offered. The loss of the Black Flags in these affairs is not stated, but there appears to be no doubt that they fought with great courage and resolution, not hesitating even to engage the French at close quarters. Indeed, the correspondent of a Hongkong journal says that the French, after three days' fruitless fighting, retired to Hanoi, in consequence of the arrival of a second body of Black Flags numbering 5,000 men. We, however, follow the account of the French themselves. The casualties on the side of the expeditionary force were fifteen killed and forty-five wounded. Among the former were three or four officers. The immediate consequence of these operations is that the country north of Hanoi, as far as the River Dai, has been cleared of the Black Flags, but the French do not appear to have taken any adequate measures for securing this district against fresh incursions of the brigands. The attacking column retired on Hanoi after the capture of Phong, taking with it some twenty prisoners, who are said to have been slaughtered *en route*. It is probable that the disaster subsequently sustained by the French—according to our telegrams of the 20th instant—was the result of an attempt to push on to Chun-tei and Songtai. Until the latter place is captured and occupied the campaign against the Black Flags can scarcely be said to have commenced. Mean-

while it is asserted that the Chinese troops, fifteen thousand in number, who crossed the frontier at Mongkai, have not yet entered Tonquin, but are stationed at Chack-chao, a village separated from Monkai by a river only. The story that this force is intended to be employed against the Black Flags does not command credence. It will be remembered that the destination of the fifteen thousand was said to be Haiduong, a place which was never in the possession of the Black Flags, but which, as the chief town of the two northern provinces of Tonquin, there was every reason to defend against the French. If the Chinese really contemplated a campaign against the Black Flags, their obvious course would have been to march by the direct route—one of the only two respectable roads in Tonquin—to Hanoi. What seems more probable is that they have been moved across the frontier, not with any design of immediate employment, but merely as a menace, to be subsequently interpreted according to circumstances.

The stories of French successes in Tonquin lose nothing in the telling. *The Times* correspondent telegraphed to that journal from Hongkong, on the 22nd of August, the following message:—

Hai Ziuong, Tonquin, has been taken by the French. They captured 150 cannon and \$50,000 of Annamite cash. The Annamites fled in disorder into the interior. The place was taken by assault, the attack being so sudden and well conducted that the Annamites had no time even to spike their guns or carry away their treasure. An official despatch received in Paris confirms the news.

The truth is, as we have seen, that the Annamites had abandoned Haiduong two days before the French reached it.

THE more we learn of the operations at Hué, the more inexplicable by any of the ordinary rules of warfare does the disparity of the losses on the side of the victors and the vanquished appear. After the combat the French buried the corpses of seven hundred Annamites, and estimated the number of those already buried at four hundred. In addition to this, three hundred prisoners fell into the hands of the victors, who, in the course of three days fighting, had two men wounded! Yet we are told that these unfortunate Cochinchinese, who must have been slaughtered like so many sheep, fought "*avec un courage remarquable et digne d'un meilleur succès*." As to their courage, there can only be one opinion. If they suffered these terrible losses in fair fight, inflicting, all the while, absolutely no injury upon their assailants, it is difficult to know which to admire more, their pluck or their endurance. But it is difficult, also, to conceive that there can have existed any necessity for such a wholesale butchery.

We learn, from the *Saigon Independent*, that when the terms of the Franco-Annamite treaty were under discussion at Hué, after the capture of that city, the Annamites stipulated that special mention should be made of Annam's position *vis-à-vis* China. Accordingly a

clause was inserted declaring that neither France nor Annam should recognize in the future any claims of suzerainty which China might advance; France, on her side, undertaking to defend Annam against all attempts on the part of the Court at Peking to revive these old-fashioned pretensions. In consequence of this arrangement, Admiral Courbet is said to have issued orders that in case of the arrival of the Chinese man-of-war which was expected to appear shortly carrying a mandarin charged with the duty of investing the new King of Hué, she should be immediately attacked by the French squadron. We never believed that France had any just title to pursue her policy of aggression in Annam, but we could scarcely have supposed that her case was so hopelessly vicious as a recourse to such subterfuges implies. As for the story that an order so grotesquely unjustifiable was ever issued, we can only wonder that any one should be found credulous enough, or sufficiently careless of Admiral Courbet's reputation, to circulate it.

The Annamites were converted into a French mouth-piece in another matter also. They "demanded" that in the event of Vinh-Phuoc, the chief of the Black Flags, falling into the hands of the French, he should be executed, not at the place of his capture, but at Hué, under the eyes of the principal mandarins, and that a certain number of his followers should be executed at the same time. By this method, and this method only, said the repentent Annamites, can it be proved that Annam has for ever ceased to make use of such auxiliaries. No one will be disposed to deny this. After the Black Flags are executed there will be no danger of their future appearance in the rôle of Annamite allies. But if the French commander proposes to execute soldiers merely because they have the audacity to fight against him in defence of their own lives, his inhumanity will not be effectually condoned by the fact that he is obeying Annamite suggestions. The Annamites may have violated their treaty with France by making use of the Black Flags against her, but it looks a little like reversing the rules of propriety to kill the Black Flags for the sake of establishing Annamite repentance. We should think that the more reasonable step would be to kill the Annamites. For the present, at all events, we may be permitted to doubt that such barbarous designs are seriously entertained by French officers.

SOME excitement appears to have been caused in Hongkong by the arrival of the steamship *Afghan* from Swatow with cholera on board. It appears that though the *Afghan* came direct from the infected district, she was allowed to lie for nearly thirty hours in the harbour, openly communicating with the city. During that time four deaths occurred on board,—one European and three Chinese—after which, the officials, discovering her condition, caused her removal to the quarantine anchorage at Stonecutters' Island. Subsequently six more victims succumbed to

the disease, and eleven others were landed to be treated on shore. The *Afghan* had 600 Chinese passengers. She was ultimately permitted to depart for Singapore, whither intelligence of her condition doubtless preceded her, and where, we presume, she is now concluding her period of quarantine. Nobody seems to know, however why she was allowed to put to sea at all under such circumstances, unless, indeed, the medical men thought that the best chance of saving the rest of her people. It is also stated that another steamer, the *Kwang-tung*, direct from Swatow, was allowed to come at once to the wharf, and that the quarantine flag was not hoisted before her passengers had landed and gone their ways. Whatever these rumours may be worth—and we are by no means disposed to accept them without reserve—it is plain that Swatow has not ceased to be a source of apprehension, and that the time has not yet come for relaxing precautions in the case of vessels arriving thence.

THE amount of metal and coal produced from the various mines in the Empire during last year was as follows:—

| PRODUCE. | GOVERNMENT MINES. MOMME. | PRIVATE MINES. MOMME. |
|-----------------|-----------------------------|--------------------------|
| Gold | 50,256 | 19,456 |
| Silver | 1,286,869 | 1,136,414 |
| Copper | 88,174,000 | 1,149,632,000 |
| Tin | — | 3,112,000 |
| Lead | 35,112,000 | 34,073,000 |
| Iron | 157,248,000 | 2,655,813,000 |
| Steel | — | 253,220,000 |
| Antimony | — | 172,048,000 |
| Manganese | — | 31,540,000 |
| Sulphur | — | 466,881,000 |
| Kerosene | — | 992,621,000 |
| Coal | — | 192,588,335,000 |
| Clay | — | 5,492,821,000 |

THE *Maru Maru Shimbu* has a skit upon the patent medicine vendors and saké brewers who have now to pay increased imposts to the government. They are represented by two figures left prone upon a battle-field, and are supposed to be posthumously complaining that they have been cleft in twain.

WE read in the New York *Nation* that Judge Nelson has delivered an opinion in the case of a Chinese laborer, Ah Shong, which introduces a new complication into the working of the Act of 1882. Ah Shong, is a ship-carpenter, born in Hongkong since it became a British colony, and consequently a British subject. Judge Nelson holds that he is, properly speaking, a British and not a Chinese laborer; or, in other words, that "Chinese," as used in the Act, refers to nationality and not to race. "This decision exempts from the operation of the act the population of Hongkong (about 100,000), and will make it necessary for the officers of the Government to be cautious whom they exclude from our ports. The reasoning on which the decision is founded is very simple and conclusive. The Act was passed nominally to carry out certain treaties made by the Emperor of China. Now the Emperor makes treaties only with regard to his own subjects, and not those of Queen Victoria. Hongkong was clearly overlooked by the reformers who passed the

Anti-Chinese Law, and the decision makes the Anglo-Saxon future on this continent dismal indeed. There is nothing that the *Nation* can see to prevent the 100,000 Mongolian "lepers" who inhabit Hongkong "from coming over in a body and settling in our midst, and perpetuating here those disgusting habits of thrift, industry, and self-denial which have created such alarm among the statesmen of the Pacific slope."

WHAT'S in a name? Much more, often, than meets the eye; especially if the name be one interwoven with the history of a powerful State, or the possible symbol of a nation's policy. Its arrangement, expansion, contraction, or even its orthography, may possess a significance not readily suspected by the uninitiated. Diplomatic disputes are on record, the origin of which was the apparently trifling question whether a French monarch should be addressed as "Lewis," instead of "Louis." The great Corsican is suspected of having altered the date of his birth, in order to ultimately justify him in writing himself Bonaparte, rather than Buonaparte. Within the past few days a statement referring to a recent action of the Orléans leader, the Count of Paris, has been copied from foreign sources into Yokohama newspapers, in which it was noticeable that the prince was represented first as signing himself "Louis-Philippe," and afterward, "Philippe." The difference will seem unimportant to many, and possibly it is so; for it may be an accident of omission, or due merely to a typographical error. But if it should transpire that the word Philippe was deliberately used, in place of the more familiar Louis-Philippe d'Orléans, the change would have a serious meaning. Everyone is aware that the Count of Chambord's death has brought the head of the Orléans family into new prominence as a candidate for the throne of France, and that the old "Legitimist" party are now supposed to have transferred their support to the grandson of the last *de facto* king of the French. Some doubts have been cast upon this conclusion by the rumour that the Count of Chambord's will contained stipulations to which the Count of Paris could not subscribe, and that the late prince's choice of an heir would consequently fall upon one of the Spanish Bourbons. Considerable colour has been given to these doubts by the absence of any representative of the Orléans house, on the occasion of the funeral at Frohsdorf. The Countess of Chambord, acting, presumably, in compliance with provisional instructions left by her husband, decided that the Count of Paris should not be the "chief mourner" at the final ceremony. A circumstance so unexpected could not fail to disturb the confidence created by the renewal of friendly relations before the death of the Bourbon prince, nor to provoke fresh inquiry as to the sincerity of the alleged reconciliation. Whatever may be the subsequent action of the party representing the intimate feelings and ideas of the deceased, it will hardly be possible for the Orléans chief to maintain hereafter the absolute impassibility which has

characterized his course for the last ten years. He has shown himself desirous to win the favour of legitimists by every practicable means, and has even incurred the risk of much personal discomfort and of pecuniary loss, in order to take his stand as the acknowledged centre of all Royalist pretensions. Having gone so far, he cannot now give way before what seems only a posthumous manifestation of obstinate caprice. Even if his ambition were more sluggish than it is generally acknowledged to be, the well known energy of his wife would have its influence once more, as at many critical moments in the career of the family. If it prove true that the nearest relatives of the Count of Chambord are plotting to throw him aside, nothing will be more natural than to find him using every means in his power to baffle them, and make his own position secure. And here comes in the possible question of his adoption of a title which shall carry with it other suggestions than those of the name by which he has thus far been known to the world.

The hereditary hatred of "Legitimists" for the House of Orléans rests upon no fanciful basis. Treachery, cruelty, fraud,—nameless infamies which are only awaiting a convenient interval to take their place in history,—have loaded the Orléans line with memories too bitter to be easily stifled. It is true that no responsibility for these evil deeds attaches to the Count of Paris, individually; but he has indirectly profited by them, while living members of his family have been immediate gainers from atrocious crimes perpetrated by Orléanists upon Bourbons, hardly a generation since. It needs a life of constant care and discretion to preserve the present head of the Orléans branch from a share in the obloquy with which the Legitimists regard his predecessors. The very name of Louis-Philippe is a horror to the ultra-loyalists of the old school. This being the case, it may reasonably have occurred to that sovereign's heir, to consider the expediency of dropping enough of the grand-paternal patronymic to deprive it of its offensive peculiarity. That the point has been discussed, all students of current French politics are well aware. It happens that, if such a plan should be decided upon, two courses are open for selection. The Count of Paris may look forward to reigning as Louis XIX., or as Philippe VII. By signifying such an intention, at the present time, he would perhaps alienate the more devoted Orléanists, but it has commonly been observed that the majority of that party are less likely to be swayed by motives of principle or sentiment, than by material considerations. Those among them who are susceptible to delicate prejudice, might better reconcile themselves to Philippe, a name which has never been borne by any Bourbon, than to Louis, which has been the name of every Bourbon king but two—the first and the last. The question to be settled by the Count of Paris and his counsellors is whether such a concession as the relinquishment of the name of Louis-Philippe would be sufficient to

counteract the injunctions of the Count of Chambord's will,—whatever those may be—without producing an injurious effect in other quarters. Looking at these various contingencies, and having in view the uncertainty in which the Chambord succession is enveloped, speculation as to the precise signature attached by the Count of Paris to a family proclamation is not entirely thrown away. As we have remarked, one despatch says it was "Louis-Philippe;" another, "Philippe." We shall soon know which was correct.

To announce that he chooses to be known henceforth as Philippe d'Orléans is not necessarily to proclaim that he means to bestir himself more eagerly than before in pursuit of regal honours. It may, and probably would, indicate simply a resolution to identify himself thoroughly with the Bourbons, and to leave no room for doubt of his design to claim the inheritance on the broadest grounds,—as the son and heir of France; not of Orléans, certainly,—nor, exclusively of Bourbon. If powerful exertion were required to secure the crown, it is not likely that the Count of Paris would go far, of his own impulse, to win it. But he has active instigators around him, ever watchful of opportunities, and fertile in devices. Two of his uncles have all the ambitious tendencies of their father, and one of them, the Duke of Aumale, possesses a mine of wealth with which to support his projects. He has no children, and the money which came to him in a way he would be glad to forget, will be at the service of his house, whenever needed. The most animated of the Count's advisers, however, is said to be his wife, to whose inspiration is credited every forward step he has ever taken. Her persuasions, it is reported by those best entitled to belief, brought about the family reunions at Frohsdorf, beginning in 1873, and ending only with the Count of Chambord's death. To her is attributed the ingenious idea of mortgaging the greater part of the Orléans property in France, to nearly its full value, so that in case of confiscation by the Republic, the loss to the present owners would be comparatively small. It has even been whispered that the negotiations now declared to be in progress between confidential Orléans agents and Don Carlos,—negotiations which are talked about all over Paris, though withheld from newspaper notoriety, and which are presumed to have grown out of the discovery of awkward clauses in the Chambord testament,—are the fruit of her busy brain. But these are details of secondary importance. Perhaps the attitude and aspirations of the princes themselves do not count for much, when the frigid inertia of the principal figure in the group is weighed against them. But it is certain that if all who bear the name of Orléans could be united in one bold purpose, the rulers of the Republic would speedily find their attention fixed upon domestic objects of greater magnitude than the slaughter of a horde of wretched outcasts in Annam, or the ruthless extinction of a growing and promising civilization in Madagascar.

Among American telegrams to hand by last mail is the following, reproduced literally and verbally:

THE JAPAN EMBASSY.

WASHINGTON, August 31st.—The Japan Embassy has sailed for San Francisco in the steamer *Arabic* from Yokohama. It is composed of Nim Yung, I. K., nephew of the King of Corea, and Hong Yang Shill, son of the Prime Minister, and their suite, including Peyton Jourdan, a citizen of the United States, who has been appointed Foreign Secretary. Instructions have been given for free entry to their personal effects.

One knows pretty well here what this paragraph means, and yet the question obtrudes itself "why such astonishing carelessness on the part of an enterprising and lavishly expensive press?"

The answer is that the American press has outgrown its proper development. In its greed for news it swallows all and assimilates and digests little. Editors are bewildered in catching catch-words and forming headings. All copy that comes to them from their centres of information, in telegraphic form especially, is copy to be given to the printers *instantly* and without editing. For instance, in a long succession of despatches anent the trouble in Annam, Mr. Tricou is "Mr. Tryon." Admiral Pierre, of Tamatave fame, is in the same papers Admiral Asnières, Desnière, or anything that the combined perversity of telegraphist and compositor can construct out of a fortunately limited alphabet.

THE *Auckland Weekly News* is evidently a strong believer in the feasibility of silk culture in New Zealand, and the profits to be derived from its successful establishment in that country. In a recent issue it calls for the immediate planting of mulberry trees in every direction, and foresees the time when cocoons will be produced by the ton. The one thing to do at present, it says, it not to bother about prices or how to prepare the articles for market, but to plant the requisite trees by the hundred around every home in Auckland province, where the conditions of growth are suitable, "and the time will come when these will prove veritable mines of wealth—mines of wealth and comfort."

IN accordance with Notification No. 13 of the Privy Council, a 'Traders' and Merchants' Association (*Rengo-sho-ko-giyo Kwai*) has been established in Tokiyo under the presidency of the Metropolitan Governor. More than one hundred persons were present at the first meeting of the association. Mr. Yoshikawa explained that the expenses of individual membership would be small and the advantages many. The rules drafted are on the universal pattern adopted by Western trade societies.

THE culture of the silk-worm, and silk, spinning and weaving, were introduced into Spain at a very early date, and were formerly a source of great wealth to the nation. In the twelfth century one thousand weavers were engaged in Almeria in the manufacture of goods entirely composed of silk. Grenada was celebrated for its damasks and velvets. In Seville there were 60,000 looms working. Under the Moorish

king Aben Alamahr, who reigned in 1248 in Granada, it is said that Moorish silk goods were preferred to those of Syrian make. The observations made as to ancient Spanish weaving are confined, it is remarked, by the specimens of Moorish tissues of modern production which were exhibited in Paris in 1867. In these, geometrical ornamentation seems to have been carried out in much the same way as it was a thousand years ago. The decadence of this once flourishing industry was brought about by the destruction of many rich cities, and by the introduction of laws restraining luxury in dress. Spain suffers even at the present time from the short-sighted legislative enactments of the middle ages on this point.

We have received the August number of the *American Silk Journal*, a quarto magazine devoted to the interests of the American Silk industry. The opening paragraph refers to the invention, previously alluded to in the *Japan Mail*, of Mr. F. W. Sewell, Jr., a young New-Yorker resident in Lyons. His process is to reel silk automatically, and as he has received the gold medal of the Academy of Sciences, Belles-Lettres, and Arts of the sunny Southern French metropolis, we may conclude that he has successfully solved the problem he proposed to himself. The Lyons correspondent of the *Silk Journal* records that in presenting the medal the President of the Society said:—

You are aware, sir, that France is very hospitable, and receives with pleasure every new industrial invention.

She is pleased to encourage genius wherever found, and she makes no distinction of nationality and clime in awarding merit wherever it truly belongs.

Your remarkable discoveries for the automatic reeling of silk is of peculiar importance, especially to the great Lyons industry, of which Frenchmen are justly proud; and believing that your electric filature, though it may have been intended at first for the great nation for whom we have so much sympathy, may prove of universal benefit in reviving the drooping industry of silk, the Academy has awarded to your genius the recompense which was founded by Prince Lebrun.

So long as labor is so cheap and dexterous as it is in Japan, "automatic silk reeling" is not likely to become an important factor in the industry of this empire; but for American and many European countries it cannot fail to be a great boon.

Nor the least interesting event connected with the recent fight between Chinese residents and Japanese police at Nagasaki, is the action taken by the Chinese Coroner. It appears that an enquiry was held at the Chinese Consulate into the circumstances attending the death of Wai Egno, the man who was stabbed by the police, and that the Acting-Consul, in performance of his duties as Coroner, proceeded to empanel a jury of four Chinese, and to examine witnesses exactly as an European Coroner would have done. In the account of the inquest published by a Nagasaki journal, nothing is said as to whether an oath was administered either to the jurors or the witnesses, an omission which, having regard to the very complicated process of "swearing" employed in a Chinese Court, seems to imply that nothing of the sort was done. Indeed it may well be conceived that the Coroner, Mr. Koh Wan Tsin, was not well posted in the details of the ceremony he undertook to conduct, inasmuch as

Chinese judicial annals contain nothing that could have been taken as a precedent. Perhaps to this cause also may be attributed the singular fact that no attempt was made to procure any evidence beyond that of the Chinese engaged in the affray, directly or indirectly, and of the doctor who attended the deceased. Without the testimony of the police it was impossible for the jury to arrive at an intelligent understanding of the case, and we cannot help regretting that Mr. Acting-Consul Koh disfigured his otherwise excellent conception by an omission so fatal. His charge to the jury shows, however, that he was by no means in that condition of mental calm essential to the thorough performance of judicial functions. His speech, as reported by the press, was as follows:—

Gentlemen,—You represent the leaders of your respective societies, and I represent the Government of China here. What concerns you concerns me, and vice versa. When matters of great importance occur,—matters of life and death,—it gives you ample opportunity to shew your loyalty and patriotism. I am not surprised at the strong feeling of our people in Nagasaki, over the unfortunate young man's most cruel death. You attended the preliminary inquest, saw deceased's wounds, and heard the eminent doctor's opinion at the Hospital. You have now heard all the evidence as regards the origin of the murder, how deceased was slain, by whom he was slain, and with what weapons he was slain. You have furthermore heard the Doctor's report of the fatality of deceased's wounds and his opinion in regard to his death. Now it becomes my duty to command you to pronounce before this Court your opinion as to the cause of deceased's death.

The jurors doubtless understood what loyalty and patriotism had to do with their finding, but by outsiders the riddle is not so easily read. Much, too, as Mr. Koh's preliminary arrangements will be applauded by all admirers of that relic of barbarism, trial by jury, his notions of the language a coroner ought to employ, as well as of the value of evidence, will not receive equal commendation. That the dead man had met with a cruel and unmerited fate was sufficiently apparent to rouse the indignation of his countrymen, but "as regards the origin of the murder"—for such was the term used by the Acting-Consul—there was absolutely no evidence, except that of a Chinese who said that "whatever may have been the primary cause of the attack, he truly believed deceased was innocent and free from blame." It would seem, however, that the jurors were very staid and sensible gentlemen. Despite the Coroner's inflammatory address they confined themselves to a simple statement that "the deceased's death was solely caused by the two wounds inflicted upon his body by a detective and a police officer." On the whole, the proceedings at this inquest reflect much credit on the Chinese community of Nagasaki, and we only regret that Consul Koh's first essay in the direction of trial by jury should have been marred by some inefficiency and a slight display of intemperance.

NATIVE silk-men, says the *Echo du Japon*, yielding to an impulse "from above," are about to attempt once more to vindicate their commercial rights, "which no one has ever disputed," by direct export. Much harassed by the attempts at direct export made in 1879, 1880, and 1882,

many of the victims who had suffered, even to the extent of loss of their property hypothecated to schemers, swore that they would never again be taken in the same snare. Ruin was the lot of country producers and speculators, while the privileged corporations of brokers in Yokohama and Tokiyo realised the profits of their commissions on ventures to Lyons, Marseilles, Milan, and London. And in spite of these checks, and taking advantage of the large advances, 90 per cent. it is said, granted by the State, people are preparing, at the expense of new victims, to send heavy consignments of silk to all the markets of Europe and America. Our contemporary further states that already some foreign firms, competing for the confidence of native merchants, have sent some consignments on account of the latter; for it is now as ever the foreigners who, after having acquired, or rather believing that they have acquired, that confidence, impel the Japanese in this route of direct export, in the hope of being appointed go-betweens in large operations, which are generally disastrous to the proprietors of the wares, but always profitable to those that have nothing to do but receive their commissions. Thus foreigners naturally only think of deriving benefit from a situation which they have in part created; and for which they can hardly be blamed. "Each one for himself in this world!" But we any be perfectly convinced that they will only earn the temporary advantages of the trial consignments which have been confided to them, the account-sales that they deliver to their friends being but baits to present to future shareholders in some new *Kwaisha*, whose only aim is to dispense with the agency of foreigners. The Japanese, continues the French critic, being too little scrupulous and not sufficiently men-of-business to understand that foreign merchants consider the best part of their capital a reputation for honesty, represent them—the strangers—as acting faithlessly, rendering false accounts, and telling their dupes that, "even with the intermediary agency of foreigners they (the Japanese) will do well so long as they furnish the funds;" and then, with the usual loquacity of go-betweens, they dazzle and intoxicate with false hopes the wretches they are about, with malice prepense, to ruin. And still, says the French writer, nothing can hinder this fourth attempt at direct export which has not only been decided upon but has been virtually commenced. It only remains to await with patience the results, which for a time may injure foreign exportation hence to the already crowded markets of Europe and America, but which "indicating another calamity to Japan's commercial annals will perhaps put a stop to imprudent experiments, the result of pride and ignorance."

We presume that our French contemporary has good authority for the charges he prefers against foreign merchants, but we confess that we find some difficulty in endorsing his opinions. It was pointed out two years ago in the columns of this journal that direct trade was then the dearest object of Japanese merchants, and that the additional profits they hoped to realize by eliminating

foreign go-betweens were even less powerful incentives than a romantic ambition to establish Japan's reputation for independent ability. In this latter mood unprincipled speculators have doubtless found an excellent opportunity; but we believe that the losses Japanese merchants have incurred through enterprises in which foreign agency was employed are trifling when compared with the losses they have suffered by their own ill-advised attempts to be absolutely independent. The term "direct trade" as employed here is at best anomalous, but it becomes ridiculous when applied to a commerce conducted on the lines our contemporary indicates. Admitting the term, however, there are only two reasons why consignments sent forward through foreign agents on Japanese account should not be successful,—always premising that trade conditions are tolerably favorable—and those reasons are, dishonesty or incompetency on the part of the agents, and a failure on the Japanese side to prepare their goods properly. The former contingency we need not seriously consider, for if Japanese merchants have the misfortune to get into bad hands, they have to blame their own faulty selection alone. Foreigners who would conduct any business entrusted to them with the strictest integrity and in the ablest manner are to be easily found in Yokohama. The prime cause of the disasters hitherto incurred is that goods virtually unsaleable except at a loss are recklessly placed upon the Western markets, in competition with goods properly prepared and certified by experts of established reputation. Even if Japanese silk inspectors—to take an important example—were fully competent to sort and describe silk for export to America and England, their descriptions would be comparatively valueless in the eyes of a buyer who had not learned to trust them. It may be said that the way to win confidence is to prove that one deserves it, and that if Japan allows herself to be deterred, by fear of loss, from making the attempt, she must be content to be perpetually regarded as incompetent. That is indisputable, but we cannot help thinking that by persisting in her present courses she is more likely to deter than to invite confidence. In the case of her tea, she quietly follows a system which offers no premium whatever to individual effort, but on the contrary provides every facility for fraud and adulteration; while, in the case of her silk, she obstinately continues to send forward parcels so mixed and untrustworthy that an ordinarily prudent buyer is compelled to leave himself the widest possible margin for dishonest contingencies. Surely the Japanese ought to have discovered ere this that the way to conduct direct trade successfully is, not simply to exclude foreign agency because it is foreign, but to place the trade upon a basis so sound and trustworthy that its conduct will be easy to any one. The chief function of the foreigner at present is to eliminate abuses with which this country's commerce is encumbered by the Japanese themselves, and the first object of the latter, if they desire to be independent, is to correct those abuses. These things are so

plain that they resemble platitudes, but from the Japanese their truth appears to be still hidden.

A COMPETITIVE trial of skill in the concoction of sprightly libels would entitle certain Japanese journalists to a first class certificate. The Canton riots have supplied these gentlemen with a new occasion to instruct the public. They have discovered the full true and particular cause of that unfortunate affair, and half the population of Tokiyo is now in possession of the discreditable facts. Journalistic romancers being not less versed in the art of circumstantial interpolation than social Munchausens, the editor of the *Yomi-Uri Shimbun*, who is responsible for this newest *canard*, is careful to preface his narration with a scrap of ethnological information which constitutes the "circumstance" of his fable. At Canton, he tells us, there is a class of persons corresponding to the Japanese *I-ta* of former times, outcasts who are not allowed to intermarry with respectable citizens or to enjoy any rights of social equality. These pariahs are called *Tanko*, a term with which residents in China are familiar as the appellation generally applied to boat-people. The ideograph *tan* certainly has an abusive signification, and in Canton the name *Tanko*, as applied to the river population, refers to their supposed affinity with the aboriginal Miaotsze. These *Tanko*, the *Yomi-Uri* goes on to explain, are required to stand aside with bowed head when they encounter by the way anybody not of their own denomination, and generally to demean themselves in such a fashion that the world may be cognizant of their abject condition. Since the advent of westerns, however, the *Tanko* have enlarged their social circle. The "foreign devil" is fond of female society, and since no Chinese lass with any sense of self-respect will receive his addresses, he is fain to fall back upon ladies of the *Tanko* species. The fair ones thus elevated—as they themselves imagine, though to the true-hearted Celestial it is only a case of *similia similibus*—give themselves airs; walk the road as if they had a right to be there and in many other respects grow unbecomingly uppish. Conservative morality is gravely shocked by this public scandal, and though the general sense of indignation is held in check by an uneasy recollection of the sacrilegious dimensions formerly attained by European wrath, the *Tanko* damsels do not have a nice time of it when they go shopping in the city. They revenge themselves, however, after a fashion, by practising a doubly demonstrative strut and occupying twice as much road as usual when they take the air under the protection of their foreign consorts. It happened, the other day, that a hot-blooded Chinaman, shocked beyond endurance by the flippant bearing of one of these young ladies, reviled her pretty freely in the Cantonese dialect. She immediately interpreted the scoffer's language to her companion, who, being for his part, wont to comprise all Chinamen under the scornful heading "pig-tails," drew a revolver and shot the foul-mouthed person dead, with the intention, it

is presumed, of merely frightening him. The friends of the deceased were unreasonably inquisitive about this affair. They wanted to frighten the Englishman after the same fashion and see whether the shock would have a cogitate effect. But he flatly refused to enter into the spirit of the experiment, and even went so far as to offer \$300 to be excused. The Cantonese now became sarcastic. Three hundred dollars were all very well in the abstract, they said, but suppose a Chinaman frightened an Englishman to death with a pistol ball, would three hundred dollars smooth away the consequences? The other, construing this into a desire to proceed to extremities on a large scale, put himself in position to frighten somebody else, but the Cantonese raised a shout of "Ta-ta," and went for the foreign settlement at large. This is the version, full true and particular, of the *Yomi-Uri Shimbun*. Our readers will be glad to substitute the real facts for the fables they have hitherto credited.

WE have been asked to state that owing to an accident the Japanese music published in the June number of the *Chrysanthemum* was not accompanied by a historical notice which adds largely to the interest of the piece. It appears that the music is one of the classical Japanese airs, known as the *Imayo Yamato no uta*, which were only used at the performance of *Ō* festivals before the Mikado, and that it was composed at least 300 years ago. The Japanese are fairly familiar with it. Its adapter desires to call attention to the fact that by observing the slurs throughout, it may be sung as an 8 of 7-5 hymn time—to which use its historical associations offer no apparent objection.

A DISTRESSING tragedy was enacted at a foreigner's residence on the Bluff, near the Police Station last Wednesday evening at eight o'clock. The master of the house during a recent trip in the Hakone range had engaged the services of a waiting-maid from a well-known hotel. He being a comparatively new arrival in the country, was ignorant of her antecedents. She had barely been installed in his house when she was visited by a male fellow servant from the country hotel, who obtained in the master's absence an interview with her near the gate of the compound, where after a few seconds of stormy reproach he stabbed her to death with a kitchen knife, nearly severing her head from her body.

THERE has been established in Tokiyo a Japanese Society of Health with the object of promoting hygienic reforms throughout the country. The Committee, which consists of twenty-three gentlemen, includes the names of several well known senators and scientists; and judging from the prospectus which has been issued, the members contemplate devoting themselves to improvements not alone in the "medical treatment of the sick and care of the poor," but also in the food, clothing, and fashions of life of their countrymen. They recognise that social conditions are undergoing great

changes from the contact of a new civilization, and that occupations requiring more mental than physical labour are multiplying year by year in Japan. Under these circumstances they see that some effort is required to adopt improved systems of practical hygiene, and they justly consider that in such a matter the Government must not be left to work alone. Their programme, as stated by themselves, is "on the one hand to spread the knowledge of hygiene and public health, and on the other, to further the sanitary efforts of the Government, by discussing and by determining the best means for maintaining and improving the health of the Japanese people and for prolonging human life." The subjects which the Standing Committee is intended to investigate are:—

| | |
|------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------|
| Public Health. | Infections or Contagious Diseases of Epidemic Nature. |
| Private Health. | Statistics. |
| School Hygiene. | Sanitary Legislation. |
| Prison Hygiene. | Fluctuation in Price. |
| Military Hygiene. | Demand and Supply of Commodities. |
| Naval Hygiene. | Civil Engineering. |
| Sanitary Police. | Industries. |
| Hygiene of Occupations. | Meteorology. |
| Hygiene of Mind. | Geology and Geography. |
| Medical Science. | Natural History. |
| Pharmacy and Materia Medica. | Charity. |
| Chemistry. | Cattle Epidemics. |
| Protection of Infant Life | |

The annual subscription is fixed at two *yen*, and the officers of the Society are not to receive any salaries. The movement deserves universal sympathy; and we trust that it may obtain an early and ample measure of success.

THE fire in the Miike Coal Mine is reported (yesterday) by telegraph to be unextinguished. Forty-two men, including convicts from the Government prison are missing; many others, half poisoned by choke-damp, are under medical treatment. Many horses employed in the mine have perished since they were dragged to the top of the pit.

AN article in the *Kagoshima Shimbun* deprecates fencing and other athletic exercises at the expense of erudition. So far good; but neither should the health of the body be sacrificed to that constant and poring study which is too much encouraged in Japanese seminaries and colleges to the destruction of many bright and promising intellects and lives.

WE have been furnished by the Clerk of the Course with a copy of the Nippon Race Club Training Regulations, which are as follows:—A plan of the paddock will be found in the Coffee-Room, and all stalls that have been allotted shall be considered private; further allotments can be obtained from the Clerk of the Course on written application. The outer course will be open every day from 5.30 to 8 a.m. and from 3 p.m. until dusk. The grass course may be opened at the discretion of the Clerk of the Course (probably several days in each week, weather permitting) and due notice thereof will be posted in the Coffee-Room. Special permission for trials may be granted during closed hours on written application to the Clerk of the Course. Riders on the course shall go left hand

to the outside rails, and if they wish to pass other riders they must give timely warning by calling out *Abunai* to those ahead, who, on hearing the signal, shall give place by drawing towards the outside rails. *N.B.*—So long as other riders are on the course it shall not be allowed to go the reverse way except at a walking pace. Members are warned of the risks attending dogs on the course, or loose about the paddock and enclosure.

Among the curiosities of official correspondence, the following letter of the United States Minister Resident and Consul-General at Bangkok deserves a leading place. It will certainly occur to those who peruse it that its distinguished author must have been labouring under some cerebral excitement quite disproportionate to a cause so paltry as the communication of Messrs. Muller and Leckie. But if any such cause existed, it has not been made public. The correspondence appears in the *Hongkong Daily Press* exactly as we reproduce it below, and to add, if possible, to the burlesque, Minister Halderman's eccentricities are paraded, not by the gentlemen who were made the objects of his biting irony, but by his own colleague, the United States Consul at Hongkong. Can it be that Minister Halderman and Consul Mosby are proud of this marvellous despatch!

THE CASE OF THE SARAH S. RIDGWAY AT BANGKOK.

The following documents have been handed to us for publication by Colonel Mosby, United States Consul:—

(Copy.)

Bangkok, 13th August, 1883.

To His Excellency General Halderman, Minister for the United States of America, Bangkok.

SIR,—We beg leave to bring to your notice that seven Scandinavians, sailors of the American barque *Sarah S. Ridgway*, and now lodged in a Siamese prison, have been seen working in the street in chains, and that they are now still in prison in chains, of which fact we have personally convinced ourselves.

We beg most emphatically to protest against such unworthy treatment of our countrymen, which does not appear to be justified by circumstances and which would not be tolerated elsewhere.—We have the honour to be, Sir, your obedient servants.

(Signed) W. MULLER,
Consul for Sweden and Norway.
C. S. LECKIE,
Acting Consul for Denmark.

(Copy.)

Legation and Consulate-General of the United States.

Bangkok, Siam, 20th August, 1883.

To Mr. W. Müller, Consul of Sweden and Norway.

MR. C. S. LECKIE, Acting Consul of Denmark, Bangkok.
DEAR SIRS,—Now that the law has taken its course and the deserters from the American barque *Sarah S. Ridgway* have been placed on board where they belong, I beg to formally acknowledge the receipt of your "protest" of 13th instant.

Had I addressed to you a letter protesting against your methods of buying and selling rice, fish, and logs, enforcing collection of debts due you, and of other practices incident to your business as traders and merchants, you would probably have left it unanswered, on the ground that I was interfering with matters exclusively under your control.

For like reason might not I, without discourtesy, have declined to answer yours?

As I court the severest scrutiny in this business, I make reply, with request that you send copies of my two despatches to your respective Governments.

By solemn Treaty stipulations between Denmark, Sweden and Norway on one side, and the United States of America on the other, concluded respectively July 11, 1861, and July 4, 1827, it is mutually provided, in substance, that the "Consular Officer shall be the

judge and arbitrator of differences between master and crew concerning wages and the execution of contracts, "without interference from the local authorities," and that deserters from vessels shall be arrested and confined in the public prisons "without interference" in order that they may be sent back to the vessel to which they belong.

I submit that the effect of your pronounced partisanship herein, is to encourage insubordination on ship-board, to thwart the execution of the law; is an unauthorized and offensive "interference" in the business concerns of a friendly Power, and is therefore a violation of the spirit, if not the letter, of the solemn compacts referred to.

I did not object to your posing as champions of refractory seamen, however humorous the picture might be, whether intended for audiences at Bangkok, Stockholm, or Copenhagen, but I had the right to expect, that if you had a grievance, you would personally submit it to me, before trying to bring discredit upon me or my Government.

You could not have regarded the grievance as a crushing one, nor was your love for "your countrymen," as you were pleased to jocosely call these deserters, intense, else you would have released them on a five hundred dollar bail bond, as you were informed you might do at any time.

If I represented gallant and chivalric Nations like Sweden, Norway, and Denmark, whose subjects were "in prison in chains for reasons not justified by circumstances and which would not be tolerated elsewhere," I would not be content with paper "protests," but I would seek to liberate them by all lawful means at my command, and failing in so easy a duty, I should expect censure, if not dismissal, at the hands of my Government.

It is charitable to assume that you arrived at conclusions from *ex parte* statements, after hearing but one side of the story—an easy matter though not always a just one for a Consular Judge—but I, who heard both sides, in an impartial investigation, had greater difficulty, in reaching, what I believed to be a correct judgment.

I will briefly state the facts.

Seven seamen shipped at New York on the 15th March last for twenty-four months on the American barque *Sarah S. Ridgway* bound for Bangkok and other ports. Arriving here they asked me to order their discharge, on the ground of cruel treatment, admitting that the vessel was seaworthy, food, water, and medical treatment satisfactory. The master, two mates, steward and cook, deny on oath the charge of cruelty, and say the crew were humanely and kindly treated.

The men were ordered to return to the ship and to duty. They refused.

On application of the master, charging them with desertion, I commanded the acting United States Marshal and Prison Keeper to arrest and safely keep them, and to place them on board whenever the barque might be ready to sail.

The Prison Keeper, without suitable accommodation at the American Consulate, tried to obtain some at the British and French Consular jails, but failing therein, placed the men in the new Siamese prison, kept by His Royal Highness Prince Putaret, where they received every needed care and attention.

One day, and only one day, by mistake, they were put to light work, not in the street as you assert, but in the Prince's compound. Light manacles were placed upon them to prevent their escape, the Royal Keeper refusing to be responsible for them unless so shackled.

When sick they received medical care and attendance from Doctor Gowan, the King's physician, who certifies, that "their imprisonment has not been accompanied by any hardship beyond the deprivation of liberty; that the prison is decidedly more comfortable than that of the British Agency; that the irons were light and not heavier than was desirable as precautions against their escape; that the food was of good quality and ample in quantity."

To be satisfied that their wants were regularly supplied, I personally visited them in prison, and found them well housed, well fed, and well conditioned. They acknowledged to me their excellent treatment and their personal comfort.

If these be the facts in a nutshell, and I know them so to be, why this tempest in a tea-pot?

I have gone into details, that you and your Governments may have assurance, that seamen of whatever nationality, coming here under the American flag, shall have my watchful care and attention.

Bad men as well as good men go to the sea from Scandinavia. We are told that Satan once lived in Heaven. For two weeks past it has been my duty to deal with deserters who are not good men, yet I have administered to them the law as I found it, in sorrow, not in anger.

I am not without hope that they, once beyond the

bad influences that surrounded them here, may become better men, better subjects or better citizens.

I want, Gentlemen, the good opinion of the Powers you represent, but I want more to *deserve* it; and to that end, regardless of clamour or "protest," I shall labour, whenever opportunity may offer.

Respectfully, (Signed) JOHN A. HALDERMAN,
Minister Resident and Consul-General
of the United States.

A CORRESPONDENT writing to the *China Mail* from Canton regarding the late troubles there says:—The work of destruction on Shamien, so far as it went, was very thoroughly done, and seems to have been carried out quite systematically. There can be little doubt that the main object of the rioters was plunder, as they could, if they had desired to do so, easily have killed those foreigners who were unable to escape from their houses before the mob began their work. The present misfortune has not come upon us entirely unexpected, although we hardly thought the people would attack Shamien. In our daily intercourse with the natives we could see a great increase of disrespect; in addition to our usual title of "foreign devil," we heard frequently the expression *ta-ss*, to kill. So long as our Consuls have not the power to protect us from the people we may look for such outbreaks. Some time ago, you will remember, two foreign families were, without having given any provocation, attacked at Sai Tsui Shan, and narrowly escaped with their lives. Representations were made, and all the satisfaction those concerned have received is contained in the Viceroy's reply to the British Consul's statement of the affair—"I will enquire into the truth of this statement." If this were the only case of the kind, it would be unfair to draw a general conclusion, but it is only one out of many. On the other hand the killing of a Chinaman is a most serious affair, and the Chinese expect the foreigner's head to be at once cut off. If this be not done, the Chinese must have their revenge, even to the burning of Shamien.—Twenty men have been captured by the authorities in the act of selling goods stolen from Shamien; but the wonder is that no more have been seized. With such a quantity of foreign articles in the city, it ought to be the easiest thing in the world to capture several hundreds of the rioters.—The British Consul says he will issue no passports for the six months to come.

An attempt is said to have been made, on the night of the 27th instant, to break into the strong room of the Bank of Japan. It was frustrated by the vigilance of the Governor and his servants; but the would-be burglars made good their escape.

According to vernacular papers the police of Osaka are vigilant in their efforts to bring to justice Chinamen, there resident, who are thought to be in the habit of kidnapping Japanese girls for sale in other countries.

The discharge of the Jews accused in Hungary of the "ritual murder" of a Christian girl, after their acquittal, seems to have been a pathetic scene. They were received by their wives and

children in the presence of an immense crowd at the prison gate; but one of the women, the step-mother of the boy who testified for the prosecution, had become quite gray at the age of twenty-eight. The boy refuses to go back to his parents, as well he may, after having tried to send his father to the scaffold, and remains in custody of the Government, which must be much puzzled about the best plan of reforming him. There could hardly be a better illustration of the ferocity of the race hatred with which the Jews have to contend than the fact that, in spite of the utter breakdown of the case, and of its extraordinary malignity and wickedness, the mob attacked the counsel for the defence in the street, and, when he escaped, tried to wreck his house.—*Nation*.

THE flag at the United States Consulate flies at half-mast in mourning for the death of Judge Jeremiah Sullivan Black a great jurist of Pennsylvania, who for many years has been prominent before the American social and political public. The deceased gentleman was for many years Chief Justice, and afterwards Secretary of State under Mr. Buchanan. Some of his latest utterances, in an interview with a *New York Herald* reporter, are extremely pithy. Speaking of Jefferson Davis, for instance:—

Shutting his left eye tight, a well known habit of the Judge, and looking at your correspondent for full thirty seconds, Judge Black deliberately responded:—"From the length of time occupied in preparing his defence of secession, and coming from a man who had been pre-eminent in shaping American history, I expected something worthy of a man who had filled the offices of Congressman, Cabinet officer, United States Senator and President of the secessionist Confederacy, but—" (here the Judge took a long breath) "the thunder is all in the index."

With reference to Mr. Black's opinion as to the coming presidency the writer in the *N. Y. Herald* says:—

Branching off from secession history your correspondent made a wide stride by coming down to what most interests the American elector—the next Presidency—and to his question, "Do you think the democratic party will nominate the old ticket?" Judge Black replied that he hoped not. He would rather see it reversed—Hendricks and Tilden. He believed that Tilden might fill the office of Vice President creditably, and Hendricks would make an admirable President; but his choice was Hancock, he was for Hancock inside and out, right and left and under all circumstances.

"If nominated again would Hancock run better than in 1880?" was asked by your correspondent, and the reply was, "He would have to run better to be elected." In alluding to the campaign of 1880 Judge Black was very severe on the newspaper correspondent who gave publicity to a statement respecting the tariff alleged to have been made by Hancock, but which the Judge characterized as a lie cut from the whole cloth. He was even more pungent in his remarks respecting Senator Randolph, of New Jersey, in advising General Hancock to make a written statement concerning that alleged interview on the tariff. "Randolph is a high tariff man, and that ought to have disqualified him from giving advice to a democratic candidate for President," said the Judge taking another dainty chew of "fine cut," made from the choicest of Lancaster county tobacco, and ending the sentence with the remark:—"No man can be a good democrat who believes in a tariff for protection, and he has no right to advise a democratic candidate for President."

"Will the republicans nominate General Arthur?" The Judge hesitated a full minute and then replied with an emphatic "No. If Arthur should be nominated he would not stand the remotest chance of an election."

Judge Black's remarks on the tariff question are momentous. When asked what in his opinion would be the position of the two parties in reference to the tariff question in 1884, he said he thought the republicans would straddle the tariff question, as they always have done; that they would endeavor to have the democratic party commit itself to the same prin-

ciples of protection as the republicans professed, their object being to get both parties in such a position that they could appeal to the people for their support on the ground of being better protectionists than the democrats; but their plan would not work. In speaking of the democrats the Judge said that they must meet the tariff question boldly—it has become too broad for democrats to attempt to straddle; they must declare for a tariff for revenue only, adjusted to meet the demands of the government administration with strict integrity and in the most economical manner. All internal taxes must be abolished, and in order to make up the amount now collected as internal revenue the tariff must be reduced. "For instance," said Judge Black, "we now collect \$1,500 a year on woollen blankets. Reduce the tariff to ten per cent. *ad valorem*, and we would collect \$25,000,000 in duties on imported blankets. The same thing applies to barbed wire, carpets, clothing and every thing the poor man requires to wear or use in his house."

THE accompanying table, summarized in the *American Silk Journal*, shows the total yield of cocoons in Italy during the last three years:—

| Year. | Amount of grain cultivated. | Total yield of cocoons in kilos. | Average yield of cocoons per ounce of grain in kilos. |
|------------|-----------------------------|----------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------|
| 1880 | 1,710,390 | 41,674,109 | 24'24 |
| 1881 | 1,593,911 | 39,817,661 | 25'01 |
| 1882 | 1,336,452 | 31,623,112 | 23'66 |

The principal causes which affected the success of the yield of 1882 appear to have been Spring frosts, scarcity and bad quality of the mulberry leaves, and later, extreme heat when the worms were about to spin. The average price of cocoons in 1882 may be calculated approximately at the rate of 3 lire 70 cents. per kilo. for Japanese and other foreign breeds, and 4 lire 80 cents. per kilo. for Italian breeds. The total value of the yield, therefore, would amount to 128,845,738 lire, divided as follows:—

| | Kilos. | Lire Value. |
|-----------------------|------------------|-------------|
| Italian Cocoons | 10,747,022 | 51,535,705 |
| Japanese | 20,881,090 | 77,260,033 |

The condition of the silk trade during 1882 was not satisfactory; as, however, the fashion appears to be changing in favor of stuffs made entirely of silk, the future of the silk trade may, it is hoped, become brighter.

THE Shanghai Autumn Race Meeting will be held on the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd of November. A correspondent has kindly sent us a copy of the programme which comprises eight events for each of the three days.

CHINESE troops are still stationed near Sôul, and are said to be in better odor than before with the Korean populace.

A colony of Russian Jews have settled down in the State of Oregon, and are devoting themselves to agriculture. They have named their settlement New Odessa, and it is situated on the California and Oregon Railway, near Leland, in Douglas county. The *People's Gazette* of St. Paul's reports that the colony is likely to thrive.

The colonists are industrious husbandmen, and have already a flourishing trade in firewood, with which they supply the railway company.

MEMORIALS are said to have been addressed by the Japanese merchants of Yokohama praying for some Government measures that will steady the rate of exchange of silver and kinsatsu.

It is reported in the *Mainichi Shimbun* that the draft of the Commercial Code is completed, but that the law will not come into operation before the commencement of 1885.

THREE trading companies are reported to have been organized in Korea by members of the Government and distinguished citizens of high rank.

THE newly-appointed French Minister to the Court of the Emperor of Japan is Mr. Sinkiewitz, from 1873 to 1877 French Consul in Hongkong. He is expected to arrive here by the mail due on the 5th of October.

COMMENCING with the *Nagoya Maru*, which leaves here next Wednesday, the Mitsu Bishi mail steamers to Shanghai will be despatched at four p.m., consequently attention is directed to the alteration in the time of shipping cargo, signing, and so forth.

ACCORDING to the *Choya Simbun* the corpses of more than one thousand criminals, sentenced to death between 1869 and 1882, were handed over to medical schools for dissection.

THE *Fiji Shimpo* reports that the *Yechigo Maru* and two other war-vessels have been ordered to Korea.

It is rumoured, according to the *Fiji Shimpo*, that henceforward the offices of Privy-Councillor and Minister of State cannot be discharged simultaneously by the same person.

A SERIOUS riot is said by the vernacular papers to have occurred in the Mliike Mine on the evening of the 21st instant. Some of the convicts employed fired the mine with the result that about one hundred people were killed or injured. The conflagration is reported to be still unsubdued.

THE Chinese telegraph lines from Shanghai, which hitherto reached northwards only as far as Tientsin, have now been extended to Tung-chow, a town within twelve miles of Peking. Telegrams for the capital are sent forward from Tung-chow by courier.

THE steamship *Cardiganshire*, Captain Courtney from London, which arrived here on Thursday, encountered very heavy weather off Cape Gardafui, and in the gale a man was washed overboard and drowned.

MR. T. R. H. McCLATCHIE has been appointed H.B.M. Acting-Consul and Acting Assistant-Judge during the absence on leave of Mr. Russell Robertson, who sailed recently for San Francisco in the *City of Rio de Janeiro*.

THE LATE AFFAIR AT NAGASAKI.

AN affray which occurred at Nagasaki on the 15th instant between the Japanese police and some Chinese residents has excited much interest among the foreign communities at the open ports, and given rise to comment for the most part unfavourable to the Japanese. Up to the present the Chinese side of the case only has been placed before the public, but the evidence of the police, if not wholly untrustworthy, goes to show that the published version of the affair is so diametrically opposed to the truth as to deserve a description which we do not care to formulate. To understand the conditions under which the police acted it is necessary to refer to events which took place five years ago. In 1878 the Japanese Minister for Foreign Affairs informed the Chinese Representative in Tokiyo that, in order to prevent the use of opium in Japan, it would be necessary to invest the Japanese police with authority to enter the house of a Chinese resident and seize his smoking apparatus, &c., without waiting to procure a warrant from his Consul, provided they had trustworthy information of his malpractices. The Chinese Minister remonstrated against this exercise of authority, but the Japanese were unyielding in their assertion that no measure less expeditious or peremptory could suffice to prevent an evil against which they were determined to protect the people of their country at any cost. Finally a despatch was addressed by the Foreign Office to the Chinese Representative, in which this Government formally placed on record its resolution to pursue the indicated plan, basing its resolve and the right to execute it upon the first duty every government owes to its own subjects. To this despatch no answer was then, or has since been, made by the Chinese authorities, and their silence plainly justified the Japanese in pursuing the course contemplated. Instructions of the tenor indicated in the original despatch were accordingly issued to the police at all the open ports. It appears, then, that at 7.30 p.m. on the 15th instant, a detective, by name MINE SUSUMI, being on duty in Shintchi-machi, Nagasaki, observed and reported two Chinamen in the act of smoking opium in a house called SING-TAI, No. 24 Foreign Settlement. On receiving this intelligence the sergeant at the Police Station despatched four constables, with MINE as their guide, to arrest the smokers. The constables were armed with swords, as is the case with all Japanese police at present. The detective was unarmed.

On arriving at the house indicated, the police found two men smoking opium, and proceeded to arrest them, at the same time seizing their pipes and other apparatus. So far, we may accept the facts without question, but from this point the Chinese and Japanese accounts diverge so completely that it becomes necessary to consider them separately. Let us take the former first. It amounts to this:—A Chinaman, by name CHUN DAI CHUE, was smoking opium at about 8 o'clock p.m. on the 15th instant, when WAI EGNO, a lad aged 17, came in to pay an account of twenty yen. WAI was invited to take a pipe, but he had scarcely lain down and commenced smoking when four Japanese constables in uniform and two detectives in plain clothes, entering the shop, proceeded to possess themselves of the smoking apparatus, and to search for opium. CHUN DAI, according to his own account, "told the officers they had no right to come into his house and take away his property without a warrant from his Consul." Upon this they proceeded to arrest him, but he "resisted and was then thrust down on the floor until his face touched the ground, and was held in that position." He, therefore, saw nothing of what subsequently happened, but was of opinion that WAI EGNO offered some resistance to the proceedings of the police because his money was being taken. Whether or no this were the case, CHUN DAI presently heard the order given to "draw swords," and immediately afterwards his visitor WAI "cried out that he was slain." There were upstairs at the time three Chinese—observe that we follow always the Chinese version. Their attention was attracted by cries of "Murder! murder! murdered by the police." Running downstairs, they found the lad WAI "lying on the floor insensible." The new arrivals conducted themselves with uniform forbearance. One "asked what was the matter?" another "tried to ascertain the reason of the attack," and the third "tried to grasp the hand of a policeman to prevent him using his sword." The enquiry of the first was answered by a wound in the arm-pit, that of the second by two wounds; and the interference of the third resulted in a cut on the wrist. None of these men could say why WAI had been stabbed, but a Chinese, WOO MOA, who happened to be passing, deposed as follows:—

On the evening of the 15th day of the 8th month, about 8 p.m., I was passing No. 24, Shintchi, and saw the attack made upon the occupants of the Sing Tai store (Chinese), by four Japanese policemen in uniform and two detectives in plain clothes. I saw one of the detectives stab deceased in the chest with a dagger, whereupon deceased called for help and turned towards the door, but was immediately followed by one of the

police, who made a thrust at him with his sword, striking him in the back as he was in the act of fleeing. Deceased received two wounds from different officers. Whatever may have been the primary cause of the attack, I truly believe deceased was innocent and free from blame. I know that deceased was sent to No. 21 by his uncle, for the purpose of paying an account, —as it is customary for all Chinese to settle their accounts before the expiration of the 15th of the month,—and as the proprietor of the house invited him to smoke a pipe of opium, he lay down and placed his money (about yen 20) under the opium platter. When the police were seizing the opium apparatus, they seized the money also, which caused deceased to remonstrate and resist what he no doubt considered an illegal act, and while in the act of resisting he was most unmercifully killed. What I have said is true, and I have only dared to tell what I actually witnessed.

This witness, it will be observed, was not in the shop where the scuffle is said to have occurred. He was passing by; and in his original statement he declares his "true belief" that "whatever may have been the primary cause of the Police's attack," his countryman was "innocent and free from blame." Questioned further by the Chinese Coroner, the following dialogue took place:—

Q.—Was the front wound made by an uniformed officer?

A.—No; it was done by an ununiformed officer.

Q.—Did you see whether the wound was inflicted with a dagger or a sword?

A.—It was inflicted with a dagger.

Q.—Did you see how the second wound was made?

A.—I did; an armed policeman made a thrust at deceased's back as he was in the act of running away.

Q.—Do you know what caused the officers to use their swords and daggers?

A.—I think it was because when the officers seized the opium apparatus they found some money lying near, which they seized also, when of course an altercation arose, and in a moment later the police drew their weapons and used them freely.

WOO MOA, in his last answer, admittedly speaks from conjecture. He thinks that WAI EGNO tried to prevent the police from seizing his money, but of his own observation he can say nothing. Of one thing, however, he is quite sure, namely, that the first stab was inflicted by an "ununiformed officer," and the second by an "armed policeman." Now the ununiformed policeman,—i.e. the detectives—do not carry swords. It would appear, therefore, that WAI EGNO's first assailant must have taken one of his comrade's weapons to make the attack. This point, trivial as it seems, will presently be found to possess some importance.

Summing up the direct evidence, our result, then, is—that six policemen, four armed and two unarmed, entered a Chinese shop; found two men smoking opium there; seized one of them, threw him down and held him with his face to the ground; drew their swords and stabbed the other to death because he ventured to remonstrate against the confiscation of some money which belonged to him; and finally wounded three Chinese who, coming downstairs, tried to ascertain the cause of the disturbance and to stop it. It would be difficult to bring against any party of

officials a charge of more unjustifiable and violent conduct.

Then remain the testimony of two witnesses. The first, WAI'S uncle, deposed that at 8 p.m. he "*heard a disturbance in the street,*" and shortly afterwards was "informed that his nephew had been killed by Japanese policemen *in the house, No. 24, Shinchu.*" He "*ran to the scene of the disturbance* and found that WAI had been stabbed in two places." Here, for the first time, we hear of a *disturbance in the street*. It appears to have been a disturbance of sufficient dimensions to be audible at some distance. Here, too, it may be well to recall the concurrent testimony of the Chinaman who, on coming down stairs, "found WAI lying on the floor insensible."

The last witness is Dr. RENWICK. He said:—"On the evening of the 15th, about 8.45 p.m., I was called to see deceased, WAI EGNO. I found him in one of the streets of Sinchi, and seeing he was very ill, directed that he should be removed immediately to the hospital. There, on examination, I found he had sustained a wound one inch and a half in length, in front of the chest on the left side, from which the peritoneum was protruding about as large as a pigeon's egg. This wound was situated about two inches below the border of the tenth rib, and one inch from the median line. There was also a wound behind, at the lower border of the tenth rib. This wound penetrated the lung, and was the immediate cause of death. On the following day, I examined the corpse, and formed the opinion from examination that the two wounds were distinct. Deceased had evidently been stabbed twice, once in front and once behind. The latter wound gave rise to severe internal hemorrhage and emphysema, which resulted in death."

We learn here that WAI EGNO was *lying in the street* at 8.45 p.m. having been stabbed at about 8 o'clock. How did he get into the street? When we last heard of him he was lying insensible on the floor of the shop No. 24. We observe, too, that though these six policemen went to Shinchu with the express design of arresting two Chinese, they did not succeed in arresting anybody. How were they prevented?

Turn now to the story told by the police. Arrived at the shop, they found two middle-aged men smoking opium. Neither of them was WAI EGNO. These men they arrested, seizing, at the same time their smoking apparatus, but no money. The smoking apparatus was entrusted to one of the constables with instructions to carry it

at once to the Station, while the three remaining constables, assisted by the detective, followed with the prisoners. The party in charge of the latter had scarcely proceeded twenty yards when they were attacked by a mob of twenty or thirty Chinese, armed with clubs and various other weapons. In the scuffle that ensued, two of the policemen, a constable and the detective, were knocked down, trampled upon, and badly wounded. The detective, fearing for his life, as well as for that of his comrade who was lying beside him, succeeded in drawing the latter's sword from its scabbard, but the weapon was immediately grasped by the Chinese who tried to wrest it from the detective. Another constable seeing this, and thinking that, if the Chinese obtained the sword they would use it with fatal effect, struggled to the detective's side and endeavoured to protect him. Meanwhile, the third constable had hastened to the Station for assistance, and a sergeant and seven constables were despatched to the scene at once. These men, on their arrival, found the detective and one constable badly hurt, but the latter had recovered and sheathed his sword. The mob, carrying the rescued men with them, had begun to retreat, and an unsuccessful attempt was made to recover the prisoners. Finally, the Chinese consular constable appeared, and succeeded in preventing further violence on the part of his countrymen.

According to this account, the affray took place, not in the shop but in the street, and WAI EGNO was not one of the opium-smokers but one of their rescuers. That he had been stabbed in the scuffle there can be little doubt. The testimony of WAI'S uncle, who "*heard a disturbance in the street,*" and of Dr. RENWICK, who found the deceased "*lying in the street,*" tallies with the story told by the police, but does not tally with the story told by the Chinese. It is obvious that one or other account must be absolutely false, and in the absence of collateral evidence the public can only accept the version which seems more consistent with probability. In the one case we are asked to believe that six policemen, confronted by a lad of seventeen who remonstrated against the seizure of some money which belonged to him, drew their swords, by order, and stabbed the youth first in front and then behind as he was running away. Constables who could act thus must have been under the influence of a ferocious and unreasoning mania for bloodshed. In the other case, we are asked to believe that three constables and a detective, escorting two Chinese prisoners, were set upon by a Chinese mob, and their prisoners rescued, and that in the scuffle, two of the constables were severely hurt, three Chinese slightly wounded and one stabbed so that he afterwards expired. There can be little doubt as to which version will seem more probable.

MR. ITAGAKI ON HIS TRAVELS.

THE Liberal leader, Mr. ITAGAKI, has made his return from Europe the occasion for an address to his supporters, setting forth the result of his experiences and impressions in foreign lands. Mr. ITAGAKI is perhaps the most fortunate of all the statesmen who were associated in the great work of mediatizing the Government of his country. Those of his colleagues who have survived the perils created by their patriotism, now occupy offices more or less exalted, and, from a vulgar stand point, enjoy rewards such as seldom fall to the lot of political agitators. As reformers their efforts and achievements will bear to be judged by any standard, but time, as was inevitable, has begun to wear out the armour of their reputation. The nation sees them to-day sitting in high places erected by themselves, and public opinion, always ready to misconstrue and misinterpret, inclines to deem them too selfishly content with their personal good-fortune to be seriously concerned about that of their country. Mr. ITAGAKI has been happy enough to find himself in a position comparatively beyond the reach of these evil reports. His secession from the Cabinet eight years ago was the direct consequence of a question which, had it been solved according to his instincts, must have launched his country upon a career of perilous and profitless warfare. It is not on record that he differed from his colleagues on any fundamental points of internal policy, or that a desire to precipitate the progress of reform made his tenure of office impossible. But it so chanced that the moment of his retirement was eminently favorable to the latter interpretation, for it was the moment when the evil reports alluded to above first began to gather strength and substance. He was thus enabled to accept the rôle of a Liberal leader without seeming to be associated with either the supposed self-seeking of his old colleagues or the corrupt ambition of his new. Subsequently, during the Satsuma Rebellion, his neutral attitude showed him to be above the influences that sway ordinary agitators, and during the years that have since elapsed, his reputation both as a single-hearted patriot and an earnest reformer has steadily passed into an article of national faith. Nothing, therefore, can be more interesting to students of modern Japan than the impressions imparted to such a man by his first direct observations of Westerns and their ways, and the *Hochi Shimbun* deserves gratitude for the full, and seemingly

accurate, version it has published of Mr. ITAGAKI'S lecture.

It will doubtless occur to our readers when they peruse the translation which we produce elsewhere, that Mr. ITAGAKI does not confine himself to his own personal experiences. Now and then he makes manifest excursions into the regions of hearsay and political literature, the result generally being an unfortunate medley of error and prejudice. He is frank enough in his description of the bigoted conservatism of which even he was a victim in former times. Indeed, he could well afford to be frank, for if that conservatism was not true patriotism, it was at least the creed of all reputed patriots. But we are very much disposed to think that the notions he formed of the outer world when "books and rumour" were his only guides might compare not unfavorably with the notions he garnered on his eight months' tour. His education in "the age of seclusion" taught him that foreign nations contemplated nothing beyond their own aggrandizement, and that their political agents, in the guise of religious propagandists, went about plotting programmes of treacherous aggression. This false lesson he has now exchanged for a persuasion that "Westerns, in their dealings with the East, have arrogated to themselves the position of feudal nobles, treating Asiatics as their slaves;" that, while "boasting the possession of the principles of liberty and equality, they persist in the exercise of those principles of feudality for which they formerly expressed so profound a hatred," and that "they treat Orientals cruelly and contemptuously." To all this, as a concrete description of Occidental behaviour in the Orient, we have not a word to say. It is quite true that, in a majority of cases so large as to constitute the rule, the apparent treatment Eastern peoples receive at our hands cannot be reconciled with the principles we profess to take as our guides. But it is equally true, as Mr. ITAGAKI himself tells us, that "Occidentals in their native lands appear to possess characteristics quite distinct from those that mark them in the East," and that "at home they do not inflict wrong and injustice upon Asiatics, nor do they disregard all rules of right to advance their egotistical designs." Now with these two assurances in his mind—the assurance that the individual and collective characteristics of Westerns in the East are arbitrariness and overbearance, and the assurance that their individual and collective characteristics at home are exactly the opposite—Mr. ITAGAKI might surely have

arrived at an estimate more faithful to the truth than the one he laid before his party in Osaka. He might have seen that foreign relations with the Orient derive their character less from the disposition of those that direct them than from circumstances in a measure beyond control. The contact between the East and the West is not the outcome of a mutual *rapprochement*: it is brought about solely by the overflow of Western enterprise and energy. The so-called 'pioneers of civilization' are worthy descendants of the types that flourished in the Elizabethan era—men who are ready for the most part to be honest and honorable, but who have no tenderness for incompetence, nor any shadow of respect for those forms of humanity which their training and traditions have taught them to regard as semi-developed. Their virtues are all of the positive, if not of the aggressive, type, and they have neither leisure to contemplate, nor disposition to appreciate, the negative qualities, such as patience, self-control and serenity, which retrieve but do not hide the inertness, levity, and insincerity of Oriental character. What Mr. ITAGAKI sees in Japan, as well as what he saw on his recent tour, is the conflict of these idiosyncracies. Europeans and Americans do not deliberately adopt arbitrary and oppressive systems in their intercourse with Orientals. But neither do they come to the East with any intention of adapting themselves to the systems they find there. Their faith in themselves and in the civilization they represent is so firm that they cannot afford to be tolerant. What refuses to be reconciled with their notions, they condemn; what interferes with the pursuit of their purposes they trample under foot. Such conduct unquestionably offers many rude and repellant features, but Mr. ITAGAKI himself explains, if he does not justify, it, when he says that the Japanese "simply have to follow the example of civilized nations, in regard to politics, law, and science, adopting what they find perfect therein, and generally striving after perfection." Is it quite reasonable to expect that those who set political, legal, and scientific standards should treat as equals those who adopt them? Then, indeed, they would be furnishing another example worthy of universal imitation, but, at the same time, they would be accomplishing something beyond any previous achievement of human nature. This consciousness will, we imagine, mitigate the consternation of Englishmen when they hear their country called "the abuser of freedom" by the leader of Japanese

Liberals. England has contributed a larger share than any other nation to that overflow of enterprise and energy which inundates the Eastern Hemisphere, and it is not strange that Englishmen should consequently incur a proportionate amount of public criticism. But criticism so inaccurate as that of Mr. ITAGAKI can only convince those that desire to be credulous. As a contribution to history, he tells us that "Hongkong is a place under British jurisdiction, and that the Chinese residing there are registered as British subjects." But he tells us, also, that "a mere glance at the life of the Chinese residents proves how utterly indifferent they are to England's encroachments upon their territory;" that "they seem to regard the aliens as compatriots, and trade with them on friendly terms." This involuntary testimony to the true character of English government in the East is an amusing corollary to the proposition which precedes it. A political indifference which takes the form of intercourse so friendly as to suggest a common nationality contrasts strangely with the bitterly anti-foreign spirit that seems to prevail elsewhere in China, finding occasional expression in outrages such as that recently reported from Canton. Had Mr. ITAGAKI taken the pains to inform himself, he would have learned that the island of Hongkong is English territory, definitely ceded to Great Britain in 1842; that the Chinese residing there receive the full measure of British protection during their residence, and appreciate the privilege so keenly that their numbers grew from seven thousand, in 1842, to a hundred and thirty thousand in 1880, and that a village which at the former date consisted of only two hundred hovels and served chiefly as a resort for pirates, has now attained the dimensions of a thriving city with schools, established by the British Authorities and English missions, at which two thousand Chinese children receive education. These are not very cruel evidences of English oppression, nor will the histories of Ceylon, Singapore, and India be found better witnesses on Mr. ITAGAKI'S behalf.

But still, after all, it is a profitless and unnecessary task to vindicate Western reputation before an Eastern tribunal. We frankly admit that the traits of European character which are chiefly apparent in Japan may well convey an unfavourable impression to superficial observers, but it might have been hoped that Mr. ITAGAKI did not belong to the latter category.

Some valuable experiences he has evidently brought with him from the West. He has been able to contrast honestly what he left at home with what he found abroad, and to recognise the fatally petty, penny-wise-pound-foolish, spirit which obstructs the growth of Japanese commerce. He has been able also to discern the cruel disadvantages under which this country labours for lack of good roads and transport facilities in general, as well as to appreciate the imperative necessity of fostering a spirit of independent enterprise among the people. The old creed of his party—a creed which has received the emphatic allegiance of Mr. FUKUZAWA—that to obtain justice a nation must be strong enough to command it, seems to have laid firmer hold of him than ever, nor could any different result have been anticipated, seeing that the conduct of every Western nation is a practical endorsement of the principle. He does not make more political capital out of his experiences than might have been reasonably expected; nay, indeed, his language leads one to think that he is content to accept the celebrated Rescript of 1881 as a sufficient and satisfactory prospect of reform. It may be that among his newly gained experiences is a true perception of the education a nation must complete before it can hope to profit by constitutional forms of government. If this is the faith underlying his statement that the Rescript convening a national assembly seven years hence is a recognition of the country's needs, we may assume that political agitation is disarmed for the moment. Frankly speaking such a result is not desirable. Japanese bureaucrats are neither more patriotic nor less sensible of the sweets of Office than bureaucrats anywhere else. To keep them faithful to their promise is the function of their political opponents, not less than to educate the people for the reforms that promise contemplates. Mr. ITAGAKI appears to imagine that the chief aim of his party should be to remodel the form of his country's Government, thus falling into the unfortunate error of supposing that social conditions are the outcome of political institutions. But, on the whole, we may hope that his European tour will be found to have increased his influence for good, and to have inspired him with fresh zeal for a cause which deserves sympathy and support.

THE LATE PRINCESSES.

IT is not without reluctance that we recur to the sad events which recently threw this nation into mourning—the deaths of the two infant daughters of the EMPEROR. The little Princesses—who fell victims to the same malady within forty-eight hours of one another—were aged two years, and nine months, respectively. The elder, the Princess SHIGE, expired on the 7th of September, and the younger, the Princess MASU, on the 9th. During the past ten years seven children have been born to His MAJESTY and of these only one survives—Prince HARU, now in his fifth year. Of the two eldest, who were born in 1873, one lived only a few hours, and the other, not more fortunate itself, was also the cause of its mother's death. Three years afterwards the Princess UME died at the age of 18 months, and was followed to the grave the following year by her infant brother, Prince TAKE. This unhappy series of bereavements, while exciting the deepest commiseration and sympathy throughout the nation, ought to suggest reflections which in former days would scarcely have presented themselves and certainly might not have found expression. The enervating effects of Japanese etiquette are nowhere so marked as in the Imperial Household. It is true that the life of the EMPEROR himself has undergone a complete metamorphosis since the days when to put his foot to the ground or to show his face in public would have been an act of sacrilege. His MAJESTY now attends the meetings of his Privy Council, sits his horse at a review or takes his part in a hunting expedition with almost as little ceremony as an European Sovereign. But this happy change has not extended to the ladies of his household. The EMPRESS, indeed, no longer lives secluded. She holds her levées, distributes prizes at girls' colleges, encourages the silk industry by engaging in it with her own hands, and goes about so freely that the people of Tokiyo have become quite familiar with her beautiful face and winning ways. Unfortunately, however, the EMPRESS has no child. Those enumerated above were the offspring of the Imperial concubines (*Gontenji*), five in number, ladies selected from the highest ranks of the nobility and brought up according to the strictest codes of Japanese etiquette. What that imports is that from childhood to maturity every principle of sound hygiene is disregarded; exercise is unknown; rules of diet do not exist; all the healthier instincts of mind and body alike are suppressed. The

natural result is exceeding frailty of physique; frailty which, if it does not altogether deprive these ladies of a mother's joy, is, at any rate, transmitted to their children. Nor does the mischief end here. For while the EMPEROR and EMPRESS themselves are emancipated, for the most part, from the restraints that made the lives of their ancestors a dull mechanical routine of unwholesome seclusion, the infancies of the Imperial Princes and Princesses are still surrounded by influences fatal to healthy development, whether moral or physical. Etiquette provides for each a different establishment, and requires that the mother should live with the youngest; etiquette forbids that a Royal scion should be allowed any of the freedom which nature prescribes for infant happiness; etiquette goes so far as even to interfere with the functions of the nurse, the result being that the poor little infant, already half killed with care, derives its nourishment from five or six different sources in the course of a twelvemonth. A child of naturally robust constitution might endure even this treatment, but for a child so frail that the most favorable conditions could scarcely ensure its survival, the chances of arriving at maturity are one in a thousand.

In these facts is to be found a most interesting illustration of the nature of Japanese progress. Side by side with innovations which have freed the lives of the EMPEROR and EMPRESS, from the painful duress of antique fashion, may be observed an unreasoning conservatism which condemns the childhood of their successors to sit in the same stocks of punctilio. It is known that these unnatural systems of education will be found quite inconsistent with the conditions of the Princes and Princesses' maturity, yet the idea of modifying the former to suit the change in the latter does not appear to have suggested itself. The truth is that, among all the wonderful metamorphoses which foreign intercourse has effected in Japan, the household life of her people remains just as it was twenty-five years ago. In some respects, as, for example, simplicity and cleanliness, the advantage is not with Western habits; but, on the other hand, the custom of sitting and sleeping on the ground; the flimsy construction of the houses; the defective sanitary arrangements, and the total disregard of outdoor exercise, are defects which seriously impair the

national physique and inspire a fear that so long as the progress of reform is checked in this direction the Japanese will be handicapped almost out of the race they have entered upon so lately and with so much earnestness.

On the whole it might have been anticipated that the influence of Western example would penetrate latest into the domestic life of the Japanese. But the question that presents itself uneasily is—are there even yet any evidences of a change? Very remarkable has been the rapid growth of popular faith in European medical science. Rumour says, we know not how correctly, that the EMPEROR himself is still a believer in the practice of the old Chinese school, but if so, His MAJESTY'S fellow-thinkers are not multiplying. The days are past when the hesitancy of the public mind in this particular used to be expressed by the punning proverb:—*Isha ga ronjiru Wa-kan-ran*. Very rarely, indeed, do we now find a person among the educated classes who, in times of illness, hesitates to consult a student of Western medicine. Rarer still, however, are those who recognise that the chief function of medical science in the Occident consists in prescribing rules by observing which the use of medicine may be avoided. Among the upper classes the laws of nature are still everywhere subordinated to a code of conventionalities which can only be obeyed at the cost of health and strength. This is especially true of Japanese ladies. In their eyes nothing, for example, could be more vulgar or less rational than to take exercise for the sake of exercise. One can understand, indeed, that the connection between a mother's stamina and the physical, if not the moral, development of her offspring is apparently too remote to disturb speedily customs which have almost crystallised into instincts. But we cannot so readily reconcile Japan's quick appreciation of the arts and sciences we have been able to offer her with her almost total indifference to the conditions under which they have been cultivated. She shows no hesitation about multiplying her educational burdens a hundred fold, yet she is content to ignore the devices experience has prescribed for enduring those burdens. We wonder how much time must still elapse before reform takes this direction. Such untoward events as those which have saddened these autumn days ought to shock the nation out of its lethargy.

TRANSLATIONS FROM NATIVE JOURNALS.

MR. ITAGAKI ON HIS FOREIGN TOUR.

(Translated from the *Hochi Shimbun*.)

A meeting of liberals from the various provinces of Kwansei was held on the 20th of August at the Jiyutei Hotel in Osaka. Mr. Itagaki being present, some of the members requested him to expound his views on the condition of the European States through which he had travelled. Possibly he has already spoken on that subject while he was residing in Tokiyo; but we have not seen any account of a discourse from his lips. However, the lecture delivered at the Jiyutei Hotel, familiarises us with his opinions. Mr. Itagaki spoke as follows:—

Gentlemen:—You have kindly invited me to this grand gathering; and I hardly know how to thank you for the honor you have done me. As some return for your goodness, however, I will say a few words expressive of my pleasure in being able to praise the constant assiduity of the Constitutional Imperialists in spite of the dissolution of the party: on the subject of the enthusiasm of our fellow-liberals in Osaka: their zeal in crossing rivers and mountains in order to be present at this meeting; and, generally, your virtue in adhering to our principles of liberty. I am not eloquent; and your meed of commendation must needs be inadequately rendered by me. I believe that you have invited me with the idea that I am ever your faithful friend. My fear is that I have not all the qualifications necessary to realize your hopes; but since I have become imbued with some new ideas, during my tour in Europe, the result of my patriotism, I will expose them to you as some small return for your gracious consideration. I shall bring before you material for discussion, gathered during my travels, which I hope may be of use for the promotion of our own interests and those of our country. Should you think me mistaken in my employment of these data, in my deductions therefrom, or in their final application, I beg you not to hesitate to criticise me and help to rectify my errors. Possessed of small ability, I have lately travelled through England and France, with the result that my investigations into the conditions of these civilized nations have aroused in my mind many new impressions on abstract and concrete subjects alike. It will take me a long time to make you familiar with all these fresh sentiments of mine. When, from Tokiyo, I accepted your invitation, I pondered how best I might be able to make you some recognition of your generous behaviour. The thought occurred to me that it might not be amiss to lay before you some account of my foreign voyage, noting the most important impressions produced upon my mind, such as suggestions for the rule of our personal conduct, the education of our children, and the proper course to be adopted by the thirty-five million of our people. I have not prepared any scheme of my address, so the subjects upon which I may have to speak to you may be manifold; and I may happen to utter inadvertencies, redundancies, and ill-selected phrases. In such case I pray you to ask me any questions you please as soon as I shall have completed my discourse, in order to throw light upon anything obscure in it. As I have already stated, the materials upon which I have formed my opinions

are abundant. After my departure from Yokohama I traversed the ocean; and from the moment of my arrival in a port I devoted all my energy to the study of the customs and politics of the inhabitants. I am not acquainted with your past histories; but I must remind you that I, at least, was educated in the age of seclusion, while the reins of power were still in the grasp of the Tokugawa. Only after the restoration had I any opportunity of intercourse with the foreigners who had visited our empire. And then, not only did I decline to enter into any relations with them, but the social conditions of the time prevented me from relinquishing the ludicrous habits of yore. Books and rumour were the only sources from which I derived any idea of the conditions of the countries of Europe and the continent of Asia. Practical experience has since taught me that notions thus formed must be more or less erroneous. The first port where I landed was Hongkong, a place under British jurisdiction. The Chinese residing there are registered as British subjects. A mere glance at their life proves how utterly indifferent they are to England's encroachment upon their territory. They seem to regard the aliens as compatriots, and trade with them on friendly terms. They may occasionally complain of measures which they think encumber them in their toil for a living; but they are supremely lethargic as regards any political subject, just in the same way as the Japanese are careless as to the prosperity or decay of their empire, and limit their ambition to their own advancement whether in the fields of agriculture or commerce. It is strange that cruelty should be so frequently employed as it is by foreigners in their dealings with the Chinese. What vast privileges were formerly enjoyed by the nobility, but suppressed by the European peoples in their intense rage against tyranny! Have not those nations proclaimed that class oppression is the acme of injustice; that the mighty must not trample on the feeble? Yet they have imported the old masterful system into China, whose people they treat most harshly. Truly may it be said of them that, while they abhor despotism on the one hand, they adore it on the other. They have established in Asia a class, as it were, of nobles, enjoying special privileges, the while they proclaim they are a nation each one of whose members enjoys equal rights with the other. In other words, dealing with the East, Westerns have arrogated to themselves the position of feudal nobles, and treat Asiatics as their slaves. Governor Hennessy appreciated this, and as President of the Legislative Assembly proposed the admission of some Chinese to that body. The suggestion caused a great outcry in Hongkong among the English, who contrived to effect their Governor's recall on the ground of incompetence. England has long been counted the sanctuary of liberty. Seeing what we see, we may dub her now the abuser of freedom. Arrived in Saigon, I found that place under Gallic dominion. The territory is rich in fertile plains and is regarded by the French as a convenient gateway to the recesses of the Oriental Continent. In Singapore and Ceylon, both British-ruled Indian provinces, the feature that struck me as most characteristic in either island was the abjectness of the indigens, who live in a state of voluntary servitude. And, however patriotic and persevering some of them may be, they will be unable to remedy the evils consequent upon such a state of affairs; for people and parties are so classed as to render impracticable the adoption of any improvement. The dependence of the natives must augment instead of diminish; and there is no apparent pos-

bility of the decline of British influence. I regret to have to say that the natives of the two islands have to work hard as the slaves of English rulers. Incidentally it is worthy of notice that Ceylon is the birth-place of Shaka, and the focus whence has radiated the world's civilization; but, alas, naught remains to recall the ancient glory of the Immortal's country. Quitting Ceylon, I next touched at Aden, in Araby—a place which is best known as "Hell" by the inhabitants on account of the sterility of the soil and aridity of the climate. Nevertheless, as it possesses a convenient harbor, it is much frequented by such Europeans as propose to travel to Western or Eastern Africa or to Eastern Asia. Hence Aden is a place of great importance to Europe. We must observe from the foregoing to what extent Asia has been invaded by Europeans, who, seizing for themselves the position of feudal lords, employ the territories mentioned as fortresses whence they can command the services of Asiatics. Is not this to be deplored? Passing through the Red Sea and the Suez Canal, I attained Port Said at the Western extremity of the Isthmus. This place formerly belonged to Egypt, but is now a dependency of Turkey; and, notwithstanding, its social condition is far ahead of that of the Indian territories just referred to. Crossing the Mediterranean I came to Naples, which, I had been told some time ago, had lost its trade, fallen into poverty, and become a den of miserable wretches, through the tyrannous Government under which it formerly had groaned. But I remarked no Chinese types there: the harbor was crowded with mighty men-of-war: docks and batteries are of the solidest description; while the dwellings on the shore, scaling the sky, rival each other in grandeur, and present a view of incomparable beauty. Here we realize that we have, at length, entered a civilized country as we glance landward from our anchored vessel. Marseilles, when I saw it, I thought must be the centre of civilization. It is French; and, being open to all foreign commerce, ever presents an appearance of wealth and activity. Thus far, in my journey, of the material that I collected for consideration much tended to bring bitterness to my heart. To what do I specially allude? To the social conditions of some of the civilized nations. Boasting the possession of the principles of liberty and equality, they persist in the exercise of those principles of feudality for which they formerly expressed so profound a hatred, and treat Orientals cruelly and contemptuously. After all, this is the result of their inability to pursue a similar course in their own countries. Seeking the aggrandizement of their selfish interests they push their way to the East, where they attain their aims in defiance of reason and justice. As regards their sentiments toward Japan, the fact is that the middle and lower classes of their society are ignorant of her very existence, regarding all the yellow race generally as Chinese. In some respects this is not inexplicable. In times of old, our own people called all foreigners *To-jin* (Chinese of the *To* dynasty), while even now we style Europeans and Americans indiscriminately *I-jin* (barbarians). Hence there is an excuse for foreigners in European countries being ignorant of the position of Japan, the neighbor of that China which occupies the greater part of the area of Asia. Occidentals in their native lands appear to possess characteristics quite distinct from those that mark them in the East. At home they do not inflict wrong and injustice upon Asiatics, nor do they disregard all rules of right to advance their egotistical designs. But still, even

there, race differences create difficulties: religious differences promote a divergence of sentiment. Japanese are condemned as heathen by Europeans; and, in their turn, Japanese proclaim Christianity a vile cult. Even a superficial knowledge of our people manifests that they have not yet relinquished all the habits of their barbarism. Religion has great influence; and each sect adores its own creed, and despises all others. No wonder that religious discord obtains between nations. But, to return to Europe. Law, literature, and other attributes of enlightenment have there been brought to perfection; so much so indeed that our people can have no idea of their progress. Of all religions, Christianity is the most influential; and it is not altogether unreasonable that a nation believing in it should condemn those which do not. But the majority of the inhabitants of civilized countries profess Christianity, and say that they conduct their politics according to its doctrines, but they do not so; and, therefore the constitution of their society is imperfect, in which state it must remain, because the administration cannot be entrusted to one sage, but must be carried on in accordance with precedent, and step by step with the national progress. Politicians have to act in harmony with the wish of the majority of the people, not of a few intelligent persons but of the ignorant masses, which are mostly composed of the lower classes. And thus, even the more exalted members of society are unable to disregard the prejudices of race and religion, if they desire to please the vulgar. They must adopt a special policy with relation to the East; and, as many nations of Asia are still in a state of barbarism, they wrongly place Japan in the same category with them. I will proceed to illustrate this. Let us suppose the case of a barbarous State. Although it may possess, perhaps, a few wise men, it must still be called uncivilized so long as the mass of the people is sunk in ignorance. And whatever progress Japan may have made, and whatever wisdom some of her people may have acquired, she cannot escape the imputation of barbarism. But the progress of Japan will not alone suffice to bring about the revision of existing treaties. Europeans in the East devote their time and labor to the sole promotion of their own interests; and those who remain at home know nothing of the actions of their countrymen hereabout, save through what the latter say or write themselves and through the newspapers. For this reason their ideas on the subject are very inaccurate. Again barbarism is the characteristic of Turkey, Egypt, and Persia, coming Eastward from Europe. Before the revision of Turkey's treaties with the Western Powers is effected, we cannot hope for such a proceeding in Japan. Amendment of the conventions here [the lecturer refers specially to the abolition of extraterritoriality] would necessitate a similar measure in Turkey and Egypt. If I am not mistaken in my foregoing inference, it is, as will be seen, most probable that Japan will not be able to effect the revision of her treaties. Certainly no ordinary method will accomplish her object; and, therefore, she must adopt an extraordinary one. I will endeavor to show what that should be. I will premise that it is not of my devising, and will not have to be tested for the first time. We shall simply have to follow the example of civilized nations, in regard to politics, law, and science, adopting what we find perfect therein, and generally striving after perfection. We must first introduce extraordinary reforms into our Government in such a manner as to astonish foreigners, and at the same time enlist their sympathies. The constitution must

be so arranged that they will willingly abandon their claim to extraterritorial privilege. Our only alternative is so to strengthen our navy, and maintain a warlike spirit throughout the country, that we shall be able to hold our own with aliens and compel them to conclude treaties with us in the event of war breaking out between their nations and ours. I am fully convinced that existing treaties will never be revised until one of these plans of reform, civil or military, is adopted. I will show how it is possible to accomplish our ends by force. I have heard that in France there are 498 war-vessels, large and small, including 58 ironclads; in England 243, including 48 ironclads; in Russia 223, including 30 ironclads, which are divided into three fleets. As to Italy, it may be said that she is recognised as a fertile country of recent development, attracting the envy of other European States; while the populace appear to devote their best energy to the consolidation of the kingdom. A late Minister of Marine insisted upon the necessity of Italy possessing the mightiest man-of-war in the world, for the protection of the country; and the result was the construction of a vessel at a cost of more than ten million dollars. Italy has many other war-ships, large and small, and others are in course of construction. Yet when the Bill providing for the building of strong and large vessels was submitted to the National Assembly, it was strenuously opposed by one party of the House on the ground that, the country being a peninsula and requiring a long line of coast defence it were better to provide a number of smaller vessels than a few of extraordinary size and strength. However the majority approved the proposition to construct an enormous ironclad, and enabled the Minister to carry his project into effect. He resigned his post shortly after the decision of the Assembly, and was succeeded by one of his political opponents, who, nevertheless had to bow to the popular will, and have the ship decided upon constructed. In the meantime private opinion in certain places was strongly in favour of providing a large number of ordinary vessels in lieu of a small number of big ones. For myself, I am inclined to the idea that, as Italy is a peninsula, and surrounded by many great and powerful nations—a fact which necessitates vigilant measures of defence at numerous points—it would be well to provide several vessels of light build; and that, by contrast, a few ships of uncommon power should form the navy of our own country, inasmuch as our people can hardly be relied on for sea-combats, although their bravery and endurance would render them able to overcome any enemy that they could encounter on dry land. Our country is not adjacent to any powerful rivals; and even France and England could not land and manœuvre their troops with promptitude and ease here, at so great a distance from those countries, even though they may possess in the East their fortresses of Saigon and Hong-kong respectively. However poor Japan may be, it should not be impossible for her to purchase a few strong war-vessels such as those alluded to. And should our martial preparations be in that direction, so as to render us able to take part in a naval struggle, foreigners will respect our attitude and consent to the revision of our treaties. Failing such a plan, a blameless system of government must be organized, and a righteous constitution established, so that foreigners may be surprised, and thus compelled to approve our proceedings. Without one of the alternative measures here outlined, the amendment of the treaties is past hoping for. For we must admit that government

reform is impracticable, and a constitution on an European model unattainable, so long as the Empire is left in its present condition, without the rudiments even of a National Assembly. Is it then possible to encourage a warlike spirit by a system of naval extension? In reply to this question, we may state that our Emperor has already decreed the establishment of a National Assembly; and our people have made remarkable progress in knowledge. It would now, therefore, be impossible to control them by a despotic policy, and to compel them against their will to fight with foreigners. And if they would not obey the orders of their Government the latter would have to adopt coercive measures, which could only be carried out by the military or the police. Civil disturbances would ensue, to the exhaustion of our force by domestic strife, and its weakening against foreign aggression, while the same cause would necessitate the augmentation of the army and police forces, which could only be effected at considerable expense. While I was travelling in England I saw the volunteers under arms. This corps is composed of private citizens commanded by officers of their own selection. They present a very valiant appearance. Young and old, men and women, assemble to witness their manoeuvres, and hold them in the highest respect: obviously they are proud of possessing such a force. The volunteers are intended to protect the nation from foreign aggression: to maintain the constitution from internal peril; and generally to safeguard the entire populace. The system compels our admiration. If in Japan we could organize such a body we could reduce our standing army, save expense, promote harmony between Government and people, and extend our military organization for defence against peril from without. I am convinced that the civil and military systems should be linked together. During my stay in France I visited Mr. —, a man of high scientific attainments. He enquired what impression European institutions had produced upon me. I replied that, as my sojourn had been of very short duration, I was hardly qualified to form an opinion; but that I thought political progress had not been so great as that made in the standard of living. He remarked that I had struck the right nail on the head; and added that one of his friends had lately published a book upon the subject. As a rule the rich classes are well educated; and the working classes pull together and achieve great results. Their houses, food, and clothing are of excellent kinds. Farmers, manufacturers, and merchants are all men of high calibre. Even in remote villages you may see a volume of smoke ceaselessly issuing from some tall chimney towering above a factory. Wherever I went I saw fine houses, and met men of wealth and wisdom. I travelled along good roads solidly constructed to facilitate the transport of merchandise; and even where there is no natural water-way canals are cut for the same purpose. In short, human power has entirely vanquished, and applied to its own uses, the forces of nature. As regards politics, what ought to be left alone is officially interfered with. Municipal functions are usurped by the Central authorities. Political parties are moved by absolutely selfish motives. The French Chamber of Deputies voted the expulsion of nobles from that body. The British Parliament denied the right of one B. adiaugh to sit therein because he refused to take an oath. Such proceedings seem childish. In Japan the standard of living is very low as compared with political attainments. We have Assemblies in every rural district; and the whole Administration

is on the eve of improvement. But, I repeat, the standard of living is very low. In commerce our merchants are but peddlers, and we have no factories in the proper sense of the term. This is the result of want of coöperation between labor and capital. We have no big merchant or company. Falsehood is the favorite weapon employed by Japanese traders, who prey upon each other. Such a condition of affairs is nothing else than a barbarous fight. Our political progress has totally eclipsed our standard of living; and yet the latter appears to have been the outgrowth of the former—which result is the very reverse of the ordinary course of things. The influence of a bureaucratic government pervades all classes of our society; and its political system has depreciated the standard of living. How then shall we restore society after its decline? Some persons of ordinary intelligence say that the best plan consists in the encouragement of various industrial enterprises. I hear some such expression morning, noon, and night, but I do not concur in the opinion. To restore health to our decrepit society, and to place it in a fair road, it is necessary first to ameliorate the system of administration and abandon the policy of interference. It is in recognition of this that our Emperor issued his rescript, convening a National Assembly for 1890 and ordering the establishment of a Constitutional Government. If the work of improvement be thoroughly effected, and the evils arising from interference be removed, the activity and power of society will be increased, according as its members obtain a right to participate in the management of the political affairs of the nation. On the other hand, if we observe the march of politics in Europe we shall see that the wealthy classes often sacrifice their means to support the views of some able statesman, while the ignorant are willing to listen to the advice of the learned. In such circumstances it is easy enough to introduce reforms into the Government by the influence of society. Mr. —'s opinion respecting the amelioration of political evils bear also upon these points. He maintained that the nineteenth century was the era most favorable and mature for the adoption of improvements. Europeans are commonly disposed to risk their lives for the benefit of the community; and are generous in spending their money. This may, perhaps, be due to the conviction that the chance of gain exceeds that of loss. Japanese character is totally different. Japanese fail to realize that the promotion of the public advantage is really the advancement of their own; or that the protection accorded by society at large is much more valuable than that granted by a portion of it only. From all this I think it is clear that the introduction of reforms into Japan is extremely difficult. Our society is without influence. Should one even succeed in organizing a political party, the movement has no extension, and the members attain to no depth of intimacy. People seem to imagine that protection can only be obtained from the ruling classes; and both agricultural and commercial communities are utterly ignorant of the strength to be obtained by the union of capital and knowledge. They are content to act alone; or at best all the principal firms and manufactories are almost without exception under the ægis of the Government. Is it not matter of grave regret that our people should be satisfied with trumpery achievements, and remain ignorant that, with a little more exertion, they could attain much greater happiness than now falls to their lot? Some may remark, here, that it is primarily imperative to raise the standard of living, in

order to ensure any national progress; but this is but a superficial notion. As the political condition of the country is at the root of the evil, that must be amended first. Rousseau said that "the people are the belly of the body corporate, the Government is the head. If the stomach is healthy the brain will be cured." This is mainly true. Europeans with their strong stomach have cured the brain, and arrived at their present stage of constitutional development. In our own case the people have an unhealthy head which has deranged the stomach. Hence it is essential that the head should be first cured. In my opinion those who advocate, as the most important measure, the encouragement of industries are illogical. Our political system must be regenerated; for when the head is sound the stomach will be in health. In a word, good legislation will improve the standard of living. Therefore, it is my earnest hope that you will take the greatest interest in politics, exerting yourselves to comply with the wishes of our beloved Sovereign, and working upon the foundation whereon to build a good constitution. When that is completed we shall obtain treaty revision without further difficulty, and do away with the aggressive attitude of Europeans in the East.

THE IMPROVEMENT OF THE BAY OF TOKIO.

(Translated from the *Krisai Zasshi*.)

The proposed improvement of the Bay of Tokio is of great importance to commerce. The present prosperity of trade in the capital is due to the existence of this Bay, and so it must be the case in future too. If the improvement in question is so carried out that large vessels may effectually enter the Bay, and if it becomes unnecessary to resort to small boats for the transport of tea and other commodities to the great ships, it must necessarily follow that the proposal to construct docks in Shinagawa will be approved. But if we assume that the Bay is unfit for the anchorage of large ships, then it will become necessary to establish docks in the neighbourhood of Shibaura, by constructing dikes to deepen the stream of the branches of the River Tone. Either scheme may be adopted according to the use made of the Bay.

The report of a competent surveyor who surveyed the gulf shows that it may be arranged for the anchorage of fairly large vessels, the water being fourteen feet deep even at ebb tide. In the vicinity of the Yetai bridge, the depth is not less than twenty feet, and therefore if suitable measures are adopted to draw the water into the stream, it will not be a very difficult matter to maintain the depth always at ten feet. That the main outlet of this stream gradually becomes shallow must be due to the fact that it is divided into several branches so that the water cannot be kept constantly in any considerable volume. The river Sumida which flows through Riyogoku is divided into two streams at its outlet, near which the Hama Palace stands. The stream which flows along the land is called the main channel, and the other flowing eastward, is called the middle channel. The latter being shallower by two or three inches as compared with the former, the main channel is generally preferred for the entry or clearance of vessels. But since this channel flows in tortuous directions, there is great difficulty in passing it; and accordingly, when the work of dredging is to be carried out, it is advisable that the main channel should be closed to let its water run to the middle channel and discharge between the

second and fifth batteries. Thus the passage of ships can be effected without constant turns as is necessarily the case with the main channel, while there will always be abundant water. According to this scheme, the depth of water can be maintained at seven feet without dredging; nevertheless it is worthy of notice that the two channels referred to unite between the second and fifth batteries, with water to the depth of six feet at ebb-tide.

Therefore dredging is not necessary; but, passing through a space between the two batteries, we remark that the stream runs in two directions, namely westward and eastward, and the channel is therefore so shallow that vessels can hardly pass through it. In these circumstances, it is necessary to erect a stockade four hundred feet in length, so that all the branch streams may run to the channel between the first and fourth batteries. It must be noticed, however, that the channel which flows between these two batteries is not tributary to the river Sumida, but that the high tide which generally passes between the second and fifth batteries ebbs through it. The channel, therefore, becomes extremely shallow at intervals. If, however, the lower part of the river is made to flow toward this channel, the depth of water may be maintained at six feet, and ships may easily enter. The river Sumida, popularly known by the name of the Riegoku river, may be regarded as one of the best streams in the Empire, when we consider that the bed does not consist of sand and stones, and has remained without change for many decades. In the beginning of the epoch Meiji, the Naval Department dredged the river which since remains in its improved condition to this day. From these facts we may infer that when it is once dredged, it may be left without further dredging for many years. Should proper measures be taken to unite the other tributary streams with the channel, it is not impossible to maintain the depth of the water at more than ten feet, just as is the case with the neighbourhood of the Yeitai bridge and Ishikawajima.

The above is the prospectus on which the decision of the Tokiyo Assembly was based. It is generally calculated that, if the water is six feet deep at the ebb-tide, it will be about eleven feet at high tide. This being the case, the channel may be passed by Japanese vessels of more than a thousand *ton* burden, and by foreign ships of four or five hundred tons. Their draught may differ according to the nature of their construction, but it is generally believed that where the water is eleven feet deep, vessels of about seven hundred tons burden, like the *Shinagawa Maru*, can enter without difficulty. Should this be the case the passage will be easy for some of our fleet,—namely, the *Iwaki Kan*, 303 tons; *Mashun Kan*, 200 tons; the second *Teibo Kan*, 125 tons; *Raiden Kan*, 240 tons; *Chiyoda Kan*, 158 tons; *Settsu Kan*, 358 tons; *Ishikawa Maru*, 202 tons; *Hosho Kan* 184 tons. Thus our Navy would enjoy remarkable facilities.

The same advantage is afforded to our merchantmen. Hitherto ships have been obliged to anchor behind the batteries, on account of there being great difficulty in entering the Bay of Tokiyo. Boats have been resorted to for discharging cargo and transporting it to Shinagawa, or Shinbori, or Koamicho,—a distance of about three miles; and even this could not be done except when the sea was perfectly calm. Nevertheless, should we succeed in carrying out the foregoing scheme, vessels of more than a thousand *ton* and less than four hundred tons burden will be enabled to lie at anchor so near the land that it will not be necessary to have recourse to boats. If large vessels are enabled to

effect their entry to the channels, it necessarily follows that docks should be established at Teppodzu or at the extremity of Ishikawajima, for the channel between the Yeitai bridge and Ishikawajima cannot fail to shoal. Should we succeed in our scheme, it is most likely that Tokiyo will acquire the reputation of an Oriental emporium, and that not only will vessels swarm there, but we shall see innumerable docks constructed along the creeks. At all events, if ships of five or six hundred tons burden are enabled to enter the channel, it will not be a matter of great difficulty to undertake commercial transactions on a large scale.

Marine communication is far more important for an emporium than any facility by land. The Bay of Tokiyo appears to have lost its utility in some measure; but considered in regard to the means of transporting goods, it is recognized as affording greater facilities than the Tokaido and Nakasendo together. In the localities traversed by these roads, railways have been constructed, and it only remains to improve the Bay, should we desire to secure the prosperity of the commerce of Tokiyo. The fact that the gulf has become exceedingly shallow has long been mourned by the intelligent classes, and we have now to approve with great pleasure the decision of the Tokiyo Assembly in favour of dredging the Bay.

SPECIAL COMMISSIONERS TO FOREIGN COUNTRIES.

(Condensed from the *Fiji Shimpō*.)

We have recently commented upon the advisability of despatching Commissioners to foreign countries, and advised the Government to favor our scheme. Many letters have since been sent to us approving our notion, and the subject has been discussed before the Tokiyo Political Society. Therefore we will now consider it more at length. Successful enterprises are seldom achieved without great difficulty; and, as a rule, they are after all only partially successful.

[Following this line of argument, the writer comes to consider the scheme of sending special commissioners to Europe].

A man in Tokiyo looking at Mount Fuji or Tsukuba, may imagine that he is looking at an inverted fan with the beauty outlined of a virgin's eyebrow. The ascent at that distance appears as easy as climbing some grassy knoll; and he walks towards the mountain. When he approaches its base he finds that it is neither like a fan nor as beautiful as the ideal eyebrow. Rocks and stones obstruct his progress. He is whelmed in wonder at the real size of the mountain, and finds a parallel in human affairs, which at the distance appear easy of achievement, but when really dealt with are as difficult as mountains to surmount.

Officers of the rank of *shokunin* should be appointed to the special mission to foreign lands—gentlemen below the status of Ministers of State and Privy Councillors. These higher officials cannot be spared from their offices. If Councillors and Ministers are to be sent, then others should be appointed to discharge their functions, or their number should be increased so that there may be a certain number, say three, available for foreign travel. Some objectors may suggest, from their agricultural experience, that there should be a due rotation of crops, as for instance that where egg-plants were grown last year grain should be cultivated

this year. But this rule does not apply to politics and bureaux where officers require long training to be able to discharge their duties.

The writer then enters into the question of finance. With fifteen foreign commissioners salaried at *yen* 10,000 each the total expense to the country would not exceed *yen* 150,000. Even double that amount would not be excessive, provided that suitable representatives were obtained.

YOSHITSUNE.

The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* has received the following story from an antiquarian. "The Chinese Emperor Genghis Khan is the descendant of Kurohangwan Yoshitsune the progeny of Seiya Genji. This is confirmed by a recent event which has led to the removal of any uncertainty. In the beginning of the Tokugawa régime, when the powerful warrior Sonseiko mustered a large army in the southern part of China and caused great trouble to the Chinese Government the latter sent a special envoy to Japan to communicate the fact that the ancestor of the Chinese Emperor was a Japanese, and that, therefore, intercourse between the two countries should be encouraged, and that relations between the Emperors of the two nations should be brotherly. The Chinese Government was rendered thus amicable by the fear that as Sonseiko's mother was Japanese, Japan would assist him in humiliating China. The Ambassador brought with him a letter and gifts, including a picture of the Japanese armour said to have been worn by Genghis Khan. A copy of this picture was preserved by the Bakufu, and was lately presented to the Imperial Household Department by the Tokugawa family. The *Akita Nichi Nichi Shimbun*, in a recent issue, has published the following account from the pen of Mr. Komatsu, a Confucianist, concerning the same story:—In the course of my researches into old books, I found the Kokugaku Bogu, by Mori Sukeyemon and the Zensho Shusei Zenbu (consisting of ten thousand volumes) published in China. In the era of Horeki, a Chinese, by name Wo Shobu, brought them hither where they have since been kept. Of the numerous volumes in question, one hundred and thirty books had the title "Shukan." This series contains the autograph preface of the Chinese Emperor Yoseitei, in which he declares himself to be a descendant of Minamoto Yoshitsune (Gen-gi-kei or Genghis Khan). This remark a Chinese scholar named Chinrio Goshimpu had seen, but regretted that he did not see the title "Shukan." He recorded the fact in the Keirin Manroku. Ito Rankiyo and Chi Keiki (a Buddhist priest) record in their works that, in May of the third year of Meiwa, the new edition of "Zusho Seisho" was brought to Japan. It consisted of nine hundred and ninety-six volumes, and was revised by Tensho-hoshi. Thirty volumes were "Shukan" and in the preface to the thirteenth volume, the Chinese Emperor Kauriu describes himself as a descendant of Genghis Khan. I have communicated this fact to the Shibunkwai in order to ask the opinion of its members. Mr. Gamo wrote to the Chinese Minister, who has denied any lineal connection between Minamoto Yoshitsune of Japan and King Gen of China. But my belief is fully confirmed by the account recently published in the *Akita Nichi Nichi* in which reference is made to the Kiushiu Resho-den. There is no doubt in my mind that Kin Gen corresponds with Yoshitsune."

JAPANESE NATIONAL CHARACTERISTICS.*

In perusing histories written by Europeans, I have often come across the expression "the gorgeousness or splendour of an Asiatic," or "the despotism and self-indulgence of an Asiatic." It is true that the Asiatics referred to are those that are found on the west side of the river Indus, and therefore the Asiatic found on the eastern side of the Himalayas is not included. Nevertheless the characteristic mentioned above is common enough east of the Dardanelles. East of the Himalayas we find a number of different countries whose inhabitants do not belong to the same race of human beings. It is not surprising that in these countries national characteristics should vary considerably. But yet, speaking generally, where despotism prevails, and the inhabitants are unable to escape its effect on their minds, their national characteristics are a result of this form of government, and a state of things is established similar to that instituted by Sei in the Shin province (of China) in ancient times, in which honours are heaped on the upper classes to the depreciation of the lower.

This has been the case with us. For the space of 2,535 years the royal line of Jimmu Tenno has furnished us with Emperors, who have succeeded each other in regular order, age after age, and the people have looked up to their rulers with profound reverence and have looked upon themselves as slaves. The spirit of servile submission has been worse here than in China. Since the middle ages for nearly 700 years, we have all been subjected to military rule, our people have fallen into the hands of the warlike retainers of the *daimyos*, and the whole country has been split up into feudal territory; during the whole of this time the spirit of the servility has been nurtured, retainers have had their retainers, and slaves their slaves; swash-bucklers have gone swaggering about the country, lording it over the classes beneath them, and farmers, merchants, and mechanics have been liable to be cut down at any time. The national government all this time was nothing more or less than military government. Is it surprising then that the minds of the people have become imbued with a spirit of obsequiousness?

Since the abolition of feudalism and the institution of the new régime these has been an immense improvement in the mode of conducting the government, and the people have gradually become accustomed to the new order of things; yet seeing it is not long since the new form of government was adopted, notwithstanding the fact that those in power have inclined more and more to the side of leniency in their dealings with the people, and that popular opinion is on the side of liberty, it is not surprising that our people should not be able to return all of a sudden to that spirit of freedom which is the normal condition of the human mind. If the revolutions which history records are to be a guide to us in this matter, we cannot expect this change to take place rapidly. The old men are no lovers of change; and as for the young men a change in outward appearances only seems to satisfy them.

We cannot say that this spirit of obsequiousness is to be traced to the influence of the Government alone. There are two other causes which have

helped to add to its intensity. One of them consists in a transition which has taken place from the view expressed in the 'Shinju' of Confucius, to the tenets of the school of Tokugawa Mitsukune. The other consists in the sentiments and principles expressed in such works as the *Sanju ichi monji* of Keijin Yajori of Osaka, being replaced by the teaching of Norinaga's *Ginyojin-gaigen*.

We may say then that one cause for the obsequiousness of the native mind not improving is historical, and is to be traced to the nature of those charges which have taken place in the Government; and that another is rational, consisting in a thorough permeation of the minds of our people, with teaching and principles whose tendency is in the direction of obsequiousness. By means of these influences, then, the spirit of servile submission has become a confirmed characteristic of the popular mind, and it is not to be supposed that a change for the better can take place all of a sudden. We may say, then, that this characteristic is one of those national traits of character which is partly moral and partly political in its nature, and that the effect it has upon the mind is to lead men to remain quiet under oppression and to look upon themselves as the slaves of those who are set in authority over them.

Beside the afore mentioned characteristics there is one that may be called a local peculiarity. Whether indeed it does take its origin from the nature of the soil I am not able to say. Without, however, claiming to do that which at present, owing to the obscurity which enshrouds its origin, it seems to be very difficult to do—give this trait in the national character a suitable name—I shall for the present designate it as a local characteristic. Speaking of the national characteristics in a general way we note that there are two things which are conspicuous as national peculiarities. One is fidelity: the other, complaisance. It was the spirit of fidelity as we may see by referring to history, that kept our ancestors from committing the cruelties that were perpetrated in China; though it cannot be denied that there have been some exceptions to this, such for instance as that of the Yoshitomo family, when members of the same household were warring against each other.

Again the spirit of complaisance (notwithstanding the fact that there have been such men as Ashikaga Yoshinori) has preserved our people from doing things that have been done in China. If these two characteristics be looked for in every man we meet, they will not be found. Yet, if we speak of our characteristics in a general way, these two good qualities will be found, as a rule, in the hearts of my fellow-countrymen. Motoori Norinaga refers to the spirit of complaisance in those lines of his. "If any ask what is the nature of the Yamato native mind, say his like the mountain cherry tree whose fragrance in the summer time fills the balmy morning air." Here we see how Norinaga looked upon the spirit of which I am here speaking as one of the most marked of our national characteristics. Apt indeed is the illustration he makes use of. Although fidelity and complaisance are virtues which when found in their integrity are most excellent, yet the abuses to which they are liable are numerous, and the extremes to which they may be carried worthy of serious consideration. To speak more minutely fidelity carried too far leads to cruelty. So that if, ride by side with the two words fidelity and cruelty, we place the words cleverness and stupidity; there are times in which stupidity will be found in

combination with faithfulness, and these will be times in which cleverness will be found in combination with cruelty; yet as a rule it is only when those who possess this virtue are uneducated that it degenerates into folly.

The opposite of complaisance is obstinacy. If we put these two words one over against the other, and if we put under these two words power and right, and write easy to lose or difficult to lose, alongside of each, placing the character for easy on the side of complaisance and the character for difficult on the side of obstinacy, (in doing this we shall be arranging the characters as they usually are arranged), it will appear that the nature of complaisance is to lead those who possess this quality, to lose their power and forego their right; Yet at the same time the same quality assists them in gaining other rights in the place of those they have lost.†

These local peculiarities of which I have been writing are closed allied to and dependent on these characteristics, which I have designated moral and political; and it is by a combination of the two classes of qualities that what is called the National Character is produced.

Now where there is a despotic Government, if there are people to serve under it, the people hold in high esteem the despotic Lord and look upon themselves as slaves. If a spirit of complacency characterizes their daily conduct, and fidelity is manifested in the performance of their duties, what state of things can better suit the purposes of those who are interested in maintaining in its integrity a despotic government? This is just how things were in this country until very recently. In these days the spirit of fidelity was manifested by Samurai, who shewed their gratitude for the blessings inherited from their progenitors, by killing their enemies; and there were men who rushed into battle regardless of consequences and threw away their lives in noble style whilst fighting against their enemies. But as for the farmers, merchants and mechanics, they thought it quite useless to make any resistance to the will of their superiors. As the saying goes, "a child's cry and a Daimyo's are alike unreasonable, and alike incapable of being overcome."

Although it has been the virtue of our illustrious Emperor that made the great work of introducing a new form of government an easy matter, yet the spirit of submission in the people conducted very considerably to the smoothing of difficulties that lay in the way of its institution, and caused it to be received with respect when it was actually inaugurated.

Although, then, the national spirit of which I have been speaking was, under a despotic government, a most excellent thing, on the commencement of Foreign Intercourse and the loosening of that cord (of despotism) with which the people had been bound so long, on the dawn of the age in which physical strength had to give way to intellectual power, it could no longer hold its ground. It was followed, as Fukugawa has pointed out, by a spirit of listlessness and lethargy. And now, in attempting to establish anything of the nature of a representative form of government, there is no greater difficulty to compete with than this spiritless condition of the people.

Recurring again to the spirit of servile submission to authority, which characterizes so many of our

* Translated from a book entitled 西先生論集 a collection of the writings of Nishi Sensei. 1st edition, 1830; 2nd edition, 1882.

† The original is somewhat obscure here, but clearer than the translation owing to the dexterous use made of Chinese characters, which help the reader to apprehend the author's meaning.

people, I would illustrate my meaning by a reference to the human body. And I would remark, that the condition to which I refer is not the condition of one who possesses a body in its normal state, strong and robust as it is received from nature, but rather the condition of some rich man's child who has been brought up in retirement, where in some grand palace he has strutted about at ease with his long sleeved coat and his fine trousers. So long as such an one lives in retirement with ample means to fall back on, he may do very well, but if there comes a time when his emoluments are taken away, and an age in which he is obliged to use the pickaxe and handle the plough, at such a time it is very doubtful whether the body that has been so carefully protected, so voluptuously nurtured, will stand the work it is called upon to accomplish. No! it must have been supplied to it, and its limbs be strengthened till they become stout and robust, before it can attain to that normal state of health and strength that nature designed it to possess.

Whilst then the national spirit is on the whole just as I have represented it to be—speaking generally it is the chaos, as 莊子 Soji (Chuang Tse) represents it, that is not carved into order; and in the carving of this chaos into order, (even if as Soji says it dies in 7 days), in the restoring of our people to their normal state of health and strength, the great instrument to be made use of is instruction in law. On this subject I have a great many ideas which lie in their undeveloped state within my brain, but rather than prolong a paper, which already too much resembles the long rambling discourse of one who is unskilled in the art of speech, I will defer its discussion to some future occasion.

† The passage referred to will be found at the end of the section called 應 王's translation of which will be found on p. 97 of Balfour's 'Divine Classic.'

NOTIFICATION No. 40 OF THE PRIVY COUNCIL.

It is hereby notified that a Branch of the Imperial Household Department has been established in Kiyoto.
September 22nd, 1883.

SANJO SAN'EYOSHI,
First Minister of States.

MAIL STEAMERS.

THE NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From Hongkong, per P. M. Co. Wednesday, Oct. 3rd.*
From Shanghai, } per M. B. Co. Thursday, Oct. 4th.†
Nagasaki, & }
Kobe }
From America, per O. & O. Co. Thursday, Oct. 4th.‡

* City of Tokio left Hongkong on September 25th. † Left Shanghai on September 26th. ‡ Arabic left San Francisco on September 15th.

THE NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For Hakodate, per M. B. Co. Monday, Oct. 1st.
For Europe, via }
Hongkong, per P. & O. Co. Wednesday, Oct. 3rd.
For Shanghai, }
Kobe, and } per M. B. Co. Wednesday, Oct. 3rd.
Nagasaki }
For America, per P. M. Co. Saturday, Oct. 6th.

The arrival and departure of mails by the Occidental and Oriental, the Pacific Mail, and the Peninsular and Oriental Companies, are approximate only.

SUNDAY CHURCH SERVICES.

Christ Church: 11 a.m. and 5.30 p.m.
Union Church: 11 a.m. and 8 p.m.
Roman Catholic Church: 8 and 9.30 a.m.
English Church, No. 12, Sakaicho, Shiba, Tokiyō: 11 a.m.

METEOROLOGICAL REPORT.

FOR WEEK BEGINNING FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 21ST, 1883.

Observatory of Daigaku, Moto-Fujicho, Hongō, Tokiyō, Japan.



REMARKS.
Heavy line represents barometer.
Light continuous line—maximum and minimum thermometers.
--- represents velocity of wind.
--- percentage of humidity.
The barometer is reduced to the freezing point and to the level of the sea.
* Rain in inches. † Direction of Wind. ‡ Weather.
Maximum velocity of wind 9.9 miles per hour on Monday at 3 p.m.
The highest reading of the barometer for the week was 30.81 inches on Tuesday at 9.27 p.m., and the lowest was 29.847 inches on Friday at 6 a.m.
The highest temperature for the week was 84.5 on Friday, and the lowest was 59.0 on Wednesday. The maximum and minimum for the corresponding week of last year were 79.0 and 59.4 respectively.
The total amount of rain for the week was 0.120 inches, against 1.716 inches for the corresponding week of last year.

TIME TABLES.

YOKOHAMA-TOKIO RAILWAY.

The Trains LEAVE YOKOHAMA Station at 6.45, 8.00, 8.50,* 9.45, and 11.00 a.m., and 12.15, 1.30, 2.45, 4.00, 4.45,* 6.00, 7.15, 8.30, 9.45, and 11.00† p.m.

The Trains LEAVE TOKIO (Shinbashi) at 6.45, 8.00, 9.15,* 9.45, and 11.00 a.m., and 12.15, 1.30, 2.45, 4.00, 4.45,* 6.00, 7.15, 8.30, 9.45, and 11.00† p.m.

Those marked with (*) run through without stopping at Tsurumi, Kawasaki, and Omori Stations. Those with (†) are the same as above with the exception of stopping at Kawasaki Station.

UYENO-KUMAGAI RAILWAY.

The Trains leave UYENO at 6 a.m. and 1.30 p.m., and KUMAGAI at 9 a.m. and 4.30 p.m.
The Fares are:—Special-class (Separate Compartment), yen 2; First-class, yen 1.20; Third-class, sen 60. The distance from Ueno to Kumagai is 38 miles.

LATEST TELEGRAMS.

[REUTER "SPECIAL" TO "JAPAN MAIL."]

London, September 20th.

FRANCE AND CHINA.

M. Challemel-Lacour has informed the Ministry that negotiations are progressing favourably with the Marquis Tseng, and that the French Government has resolved upon continuing a conciliatory policy.

The Marquis Tseng and the French Ambassador to England have gone to Raiter (?), in order to confer with Lord Granville.

London, September 21st.

The Marquis Tseng and M. Waddington have returned to Paris.

The Minister for Foreign Affairs, M. Challemel-Lacour, has been granted leave of absence, and Jules Ferry has been appointed to conduct the negotiations to a conclusion. This is generally looked upon as an indication favourable to peace.

London, September 22nd.

THE FRENCH IN TONKIN.

The French Press unanimously recommend that the expeditionary force in Tonquin should be a single command.

Another reinforcement, numbering one thousand men, has started for Tonquin.

It is announced that Admiral Courbet has been appointed to the sole command of the entire expeditionary forces in Tonquin, and that General Bouet has been superseded.

THE DISTURBANCES IN CROATIA.

The disturbances in Croatia have been quelled, and the measures taken have had the effect of quieting the disaffected districts.

London, September 23rd.

RIOTS IN CROATIA.

Croatian peasants, numbering about six hundred, assembled at Parkasevaz, demanding the separation of Croatia from Hungary. The rioters were dispersed by the military, many being killed and wounded.

London, September 24th.

FRANCE AND CHINA.

In consequence of rumours to the effect that China had secretly determined to adopt an unyielding policy, the French Press have assumed a hostile tone, and emphatically urge the necessity for continued reinforcements to Tonquin.

London, September 25th.

AFFAIRS IN MADAGASCAR.

It is reported that the Hovas have retaken all their positions on the North-west coast of Madagascar, except Majunga.

London, September 26th.

FRANCE AND CHINA.

The French newspaper *Temps* publishes an article in which it states that, under the influence of England, the Chinese Government has proposed the annexation by the French of Annam as far as the Red River, China to annex the remainder and Tonquin. The counter-claim of the French is that they retain the whole of the delta.

LATEST SHIPPING.

FREIGHTS.

For New York, via Suez Canal, and China and Japan ports, the steamships *Galley of Lorne*, *Strathmore*, and *Benarty* were despatched on the 26th instant, leaving that berth vacant for the time being, but with little inducement for others to occupy it. For London we have the steamship *Cardiganshire*, and the British bark *Sagitta*, the former taking cargo for Hamburg, and the latter for Havre. The French 3-masted schooner *Louise* is chartered to load at Kobe for New Zealand. Coastwise rates are somewhat higher but not yet tempting, and no suitable vessels are on offer.

ARRIVALS.

City of Peking, American steamer, 3,129, Berry, 23rd September.—San Francisco 4th September, Mails and General.—P. M. S. S. Co.
Louise, French 3-masted schooner, 300, Lemoine, 23rd September.—Nagasaki 11th September, Coals.—Japanese.
Wakanoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,133, A. F. Christensen, 23rd September.—Kobe 21st September, Mails and General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S. S. Co.
Shima Maru, Japanese steamer, 800, 24th September.—Kobe, General.—Kiyodo Unyu Kwaisha.
Benarty, British steamer, 1,119, Le Boutillier, 24th September.—Hongkong 18th September, General.—Mourilyan, Heimann & Co.
Richmond, American flagship, 14 guns, 300 men, 2,700, Captain J. S. Skerrett, U.S.N., 24th September.—Yokosuka.
Gembu Maru, Japanese steamer, 670, F. J. Brown, 24th September.—Iturup, via Nemuro and Hakodate, Fish and General.—Kiyodo Unyu Kwaisha.
Hiogo Maru, Japanese steamer, 896, R. N. Walker, 26th September.—Kobe 24th September, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S. S. Co.
Nagoya Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,900, Wilson Walker, 26th September.—Shanghai and ports, Mails and General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S. S. Co.
Zambesi, British steamer, 1,540, L. H. Moule, 26th September.—Hongkong 18th September via Nagasaki and Kobe, General.—P. & O. S. N. Co.
Toyoshima Maru, Japanese steamer, 956, Thomas, 26th September.—Hakodate 24th September, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S. S. Co.
Cardiganshire, British steamer, 1,623, Courtney, 27th September.—London via Hongkong, General.—Adamson, Bell & Co.
Niigata Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,096, John C. Hubbard, 28th September.—Hakodate 25th September, Mails and General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S. S. Co.
Iphigenia, German steamer, 1,059, F. Ahrens, 28th September.—Nagasaki 26th September, Coals.—Simon, Evers & Co.
Taganoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 448, Matsumoto, 28th September.—Yokkaichi 27th September, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S. S. Co.
Menzaleh, French steamer, 1,276, B. Blanc, 29th September.—Hongkong 22nd September, Mails and General.—Messageries Maritimes Co.
Shinagawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 908, J. A. Kilgour, 29th September.—Nagasaki, Coals.—Mitsu Bishi M. S. S. Co.

DEPARTURES.

City of Rio de Janeiro, American steamer, 3,548, W. B. Seabury, 23rd September.—San Francisco, Mails and General.—P. M. S. S. Co.
Godavery, French steamer, 1,040, Du Temple, 23rd September.—Hongkong, Mails and General.—Messageries Maritimes Co.
Sakura Maru, Japanese steamer, 475, Makihara, 23rd September.—Kobe, Mails and General.—Kiyodo Unyu Kwaisha.

Seirio Maru, Japanese steamer, 459, G. R. Nirei, 23rd September.—Yokkaichi, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S. S. Co.
Tsuruga Maru, Japanese steamer, 517, P. Dithlefsen, 23rd September.—Korea via ports, Mails and General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S. S. Co.
Alex. McNeil, American ship, 1,088, T. F. Sproul, 24th September.—Kobe, 37,600 cases Kerosene.—Smith, Baker & Co.
Wakanoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,343, A. F. Christensen, 25th September.—Kobe, Mails and General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S. S. Co.
City of Peking, American steamer, 3,129, Berry, 25th September.—Hongkong, Mails and General.—P. M. S. S. Co.
Takasago Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,229, C. Young, 25th September.—Hakodate, Mails and General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S. S. Co.
Benarty, British steamer, 1,119, Le Boutillier, 26th September.—New York via Japan and China ports, Tea and General.—Mourilyan, Heimann & Co.
Galley of Lorne, British steamer, 1,390, Pomeroy, 26th September.—New York via Japan and China ports, Tea and General.—Smith, Baker & Co.
Selenbria, British steamer, 1,992, S. Fowler, 26th September.—Kobe, General.—Smith, Baker & Co.
Strathleven, British steamer, 1,588, C. W. Pearson, 26th September.—New York via Japan and China ports, Tea and General.—Adamson, Bell & Co.
Tokio Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,146, R. Swain, 26th September.—Shanghai and ports, Mails and General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S. S. Co.
Seirio Maru, Japanese steamer, 591, G. R. Nirei, 27th September.—Yokkaichi, 2,358 packages.—Mitsu Bishi M. S. S. Co.
Techigo Maru, Japanese steamer, 751, F. Jones, 28th September.—Hakodate, General.—Kiyodo Unyu Kwaisha.
Toyoshima Maru, Japanese steamer, 598, Thomas, 28th September.—Hachinohe, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S. S. Co.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per French 3-masted schooner *Louise*, from Nagasaki:—Mrs. Lemoine.
 Per Japanese steamer *Wakanoura Maru*, from Kobe:—Dr. Huntington, Mr. W. R. Dunn, and 8 Japanese in cabin; and 289 Japanese in steerage.
 Per Japanese steamer *Shima Maru*, from Kobe: 52 Japanese.
 Per American steamer *City of Peking*, from San Francisco:—Rev. and Mrs. J. P. Moore, Rev. and Mrs. J. O. Spencer, Rev. and Mrs. D. S. Spencer, Rev. and Mr. F. C. Klein, Mr. and Mrs. A. Langfeldt, Mrs. Fitzgerald, Miss K. Treat, Miss Lucy B. Neckerson, Dr. B. Cockburn, Messrs. J. F. Twombly, M. Henzey, and M. Clubourg in cabin; 2 Japanese, and 658 Chinese in steerage.
 For Shanghai: Mr. and Mrs. E. F. Waters, Rev. and Mrs. F. M. Price, and 3 children, Dr. and Mrs. Geo. B. Crews, Rev. V. C. Hash, Rev. and Mrs. W. C. Langdon, Rev. and Mrs. P. D. Bergen, Dr. and Mrs. H. L. Allen, Mrs. Winn and 2 children, Miss Winn, and Mr. R. de Lobel-Mahy in cabin.
 Per Japanese steamer *Ushiwaka Maru*, from Shimonoseki and Nagasaki:—2 Japanese.
 Per Japanese steamer *Taganoura Maru*, from Yokkaichi:—1 Japanese in cabin; and 120 Japanese in steerage.
 Per Japanese steamer *Hiogo Maru*, from Kobe: 1 Japanese in cabin.
 Per Japanese steamer *Nagoya Maru*, from Shanghai and ports:—Mrs. and Miss Thomas, Miss MacKenzie, Miss A. MacKenzie, Miss Youngman, Miss Bernstein, Captain Geo. Ramsay, Dr. Freise, Messrs. Marcus Wolff, Messrs. E. Hagens, F. Dubois, Max. Slevogt, J. R. Rodgers, and 12 Japanese in cabin; and 4 Chinese and 144 Japanese in steerage.
 Per British steamer *Zambesi*, from Hongkong via Nagasaki and Kobe:—Hon. and Mrs. E. L.

O'Malley, Sergeant-Major Shaw, Miss Shatter, Messrs. R. N. St. John, F. R. Knight, Milne, Leopold, and E. Cassumbloy in cabin; and 1 Chinese and 28 Japanese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Toyoshima Maru*, from Hakodate:—5 Japanese in cabin; and 10 Japanese in steerage.

Per British steamer *Cardiganshire*, from London via Hongkong:—Messrs. Hausclement and Wilmot in cabin; and 5 Chinese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Niigata Maru*, from Hakodate:—Messrs. Aldrich, McCurre, Inouye, Abe, Yamamoto, Suzuki, Miishiba, Nakajima, Tanabe, Asada, and Tamura in cabin; and 2 Europeans, Bany of Kiyododans (22 in number), and 151 Japanese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Taganoura Maru*, from Yokkaichi:—3 Japanese in cabin; and 120 Japanese in steerage.

DEPARTED.

Per American steamer *City of Rio de Janeiro*, for San Francisco:—Mr. Russell Robertson in cabin; and 4 Europeans, 2 Japanese, and 190 Chinese in steerage. For Liverpool: Commissary-General A. Meyer and wife, Captain Chas. Lindsay, R.N., Messrs. H. M. Bevis, and E. H. Kenney in cabin. For London: Mr. Bernard Muenster in cabin. For Bremen: Dr. E. Hafler in cabin. For Hamburg: Mr. S. Wakasawa in cabin.

Per French steamer *Godavery*, for Hongkong:—Messrs. Lévy, Panzeri, Baffay, Posonby, Ward, Vernon, Basquerille, Tout, Wail, W. Cotterer, MacMillan, Ballen, and Lee in cabin; and 3 Europeans and 15 Chinese in steerage.

Per British steamer *Benarty*, for New York via Japan and China ports:—Mr. C. H. Cobden.

Per Japanese steamer *Tokio Maru*, for Shanghai and ports:—Baron Rosen, Russian Chargé d'Affairs, Hon. Louis Greville, Rev. and Mrs. F. M. Price and child, Dr. and Mrs. Crews, Mr. and Mrs. Coe, Mr. and Mrs. Boggers, Mr. and Mrs. Ogasawara, Mr. and Mrs. Goldsborough and 4 children, Mr. and Mrs. Iwayama, Rev. and Mrs. Longdon, Mr. and Mrs. Petersen, Mr. and Mrs. Arikawa, Mrs. Simpson and child, Madame Monton, Mrs. Takeye and child, Mrs. Winn and 2 children, Miss Winn, Miss MacMillan, Rev. P. D. Bergen, Rev. V. C. Hart, Rev. J. B. Ost, Dr. Zacharia, Captain Yoshikawa, Messrs. Bergen, M. Cumming, Jantzen, W. B. Thomson, W. Kolling, I. Twombly, C. A. L. Dunn, D. Jackson, W. Cance, P. De Lobel Maley, J. L. Lyett, F. M. Platt, H. Budler, T. R. Rogers, G. Goward, T. Walsh, M. Ginsburg, Lang, S. G. Sheppard, W. Irving, Shimamoto, Ito, Nojim, and M. Kobayashi in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Seirio Maru*, for Yokkaichi:—7 Japanese in cabin; and 71 Japanese in steerage.

CARGOES.

Per French steamer *Godavery*, for Hongkong:—Silk for France, 504 bales; for England, 17 bales; Total, 521 bales.

REPORTS.

The Japanese steamer *Wakanoura Maru*, Captain A. F. Christensen, reports leaving Kobe on the 21st September, at 6 p.m. with light south-westerly and south-easterly winds and cloudy weather to Oo-sima; thence to port light north-easterly winds and cloudy weather. Arrived at Yokohama on the 23rd September, at 6.05 a.m.

The Japanese steamer *Taganoura Maru*, Captain Matsumoto, reports leaving Yokkaichi on the 23rd instant, at 7 p.m. with fresh breeze to Rock Island; thence to port light breeze and fine weather.

The Japanese steamer *Niigata Maru*, Captain John C. Hubbard, reports leaving Hakodate on the 25th September, at 6 a.m. with fresh northerly winds and fine weather throughout the passage. Arrived at Yokohama on the 27th September, at 8.15 p.m. At Hakodate the British bark *Still Water* was loading for San Francisco, and the British ship *J. V. Troup*, from Yokohama, arrived at that port on the 23rd September.

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

We have a very quiet week to chronicle, sales for Yarns amounting only to some 400 bales, and prices are generally weaker. In Shirtings, too, there has been a very dragging Market, sales amounting only to some 5,500 pieces, and the Market is very quiet at the close. In other Goods, there has been but little doing, and Metals have been quiet.

COTTON YARNS.

| | PER PICUL. |
|-----------------------------------|------------------|
| Nos. 16 to 24, Common to Medium - | \$25.00 to 25.50 |
| Nos. 16 to 24, Good to Best - | 25.25 to 30.00 |
| Bombay, No. 20, Good to Best - | 25.25 to 28.50 |
| Nos. 25 to 32, Common to Medium - | 30.50 to 31.50 |
| Nos. 25 to 32, Good to Best - | 32.00 to 35.00 |
| Nos. 38 to 42 - | 35.00 to 37.00 |

COTTON PIECE GOODS.

| | PER PICUL. |
|------------------------------------------------|----------------|
| Grey Shirtings—8½, 38½ to 39 inches - | \$1.70 to 2.15 |
| Grey Shirtings—9½, 38½ to 45 inches - | 1.92½ to 2.42½ |
| T. Cloth—7½, 24 yards, 32 inches - | 1.42½ to 1.50 |
| Indigo Shirting—12 yards, 44 inches - | 1.55 to 1.70 |
| Prints—Assorted, 24 yards, 30 inches - | 1.10 to 2.40 |
| Cotton—Italians and Sateens Black, 33 inches - | 0.07 to 0.09 |
| Turkey Reds—2 to 2½, 24 yards, 30 inches - | 1.15 to 1.35 |
| Turkey Reds—2½ to 2½, 24 yards, 30 inches - | 1.35 to 1.55 |
| Turkey Reds—3½, 24 yards, 30 inches - | 1.70 to 1.82½ |
| Velvets—Black, 35 yards, 22 inches - | 5.00 to 6.75 |
| Victoria Lawns, 12 yards, 42-3 inches - | 0.65 to 0.75 |
| Taffetas, 12 yards, 43 inches - | 1.75 to 2.05 |

WOOLLENS.

| | PER PICUL. |
|----------------------------------------------------|----------------|
| Plain Orleans, 40-42 yards, 32 inches - | \$3.50 to 5.25 |
| Figured Orleans, 39-41 yards, 31 inches - | 3.25 to 4.00 |
| Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches - | 0.18 to 0.23 |
| Mousseline de Laine—Crape, 24 yards, 31 inches - | 0.15½ to 0.16½ |
| Mousseline de Laine—Itajime, 24 yards, 31 inches - | 0.18½ to 0.26 |
| Mousseline de Laine—Yuzen, 24 yards, 31 inches - | 0.30 to 0.37½ |
| Cloths—Pilots, 54 @ 56 inches - | 0.30 to 0.40 |
| Cloths—Presidents, 54 @ 56 inches - | 0.40 to 0.50 |
| Cloths—Union, 54 @ 56 inches - | 0.30 to 0.55 |
| Blankets—Scarlet and Green, 6 to 5½, per lb - | 0.35 to 0.40 |

IRON.

| | PER PICUL. |
|---------------------------------|----------------|
| Flat Bars, ½ inch - | \$2.50 to 2.90 |
| Flat Bars, 1 inch - | 2.30 to 2.90 |
| Round and square up to 1 inch - | 2.80 to 3.00 |
| Nailrod, assorted - | 2.35 to 2.60 |
| Nailrod, small size - | 2.35 to 3.15 |

KEROSENE.

Sales during the week amount to 33,000 cases, and deliveries to 22,000 cases. The Market shows a slight improvement, and sales have been made at quotations. The *Alex. McNeil* arrived on the 22nd, but has taken her cargo on to Kobe. Stocks amount to about 760,000 cases.

| | PER CASE. |
|----------|-----------|
| Devoe - | \$1.65 |
| Comet - | 1.59 |
| Stella - | 1.55 |

SUGAR.

Trade during the past week has somewhat revived, and may be described as of moderate dimensions in Brown sorts, which has reduced the Stock in hand to something less than 30,000 bags. But little doing in White, and no quotable alteration has to be made in either kind, though the following rates are firm.

| | PER PICUL. |
|-----------------|----------------|
| White, No. 1 - | \$7.50 to 8.00 |
| White, No. 2 - | 7.00 to 7.50 |
| White, No. 3 - | 6.75 to 7.00 |
| White, No. 4 - | 6.00 to 6.50 |
| White, No. 5 - | 5.00 to 5.20 |
| Brown Formosa - | 4.50 to 4.60 |

EXPORTS.

SILK.

Business has continued on a large scale at, speaking generally, lower prices. An attempt was made by one large operator to break down rates but with only partial success. Settlements for the week are 750 piculs with a fall of \$5 to \$10 on Hank sorts, and \$10 to \$20 on Filatures and Re-reels. Arrivals come in freely from the country, and Stocks are increased to quite 4,500 piculs. Japanese show some anxiety to keep moving, and if buyers are not too eager, we may see still easier prices. Telegraphic news from Europe and America are not very encouraging, the plentiful and cheap supply of Italian Silk keeping Japans in check.

Export to date is 7,654, against 7,014 at same date last year.

Hanks have been settled in quantity on basis of *Tomiyoka* \$505, *Omama* \$495, *Shinshu* \$510, *An-naki* \$480, *Maibash* \$475, *Techiu* \$470, and *Hachiji* \$450.

Filatures have been weak and irregular for anything below the best chops. Best *Shinshu* 14/16 den. has been done at \$640, Good *Shinshu* \$600, Good *Koshiu* \$580, *Mino* and *Hida* \$570 down.

Re-reels are not much in favor at the moment. *Matsushirosha* reported at \$590, and Medium kinds \$580 to \$585.

Kakedas.—But little done in these, prices nominally in favor of buyers. A parcel of Chocho noted at \$600.

Hamatsuki and coarse kinds in fair demand at slight reduction on late rates.

| | QUOTATIONS. |
|----------------------------------|--------------|
| Hanks—No. 1½ - | \$505 to 515 |
| Hanks—No. 2 (Shinshu) - | 500 to 510 |
| Hanks—No. 2 (Maibash) - | 495 to 505 |
| Hanks—No. 2½ - | 475 to 485 |
| Hanks—No. 3 - | 455 to 465 |
| Hanks—No. 3½ - | 430 to 440 |
| Filatures—Extra. - | 640 to 650 |
| Filatures—No. 1, 10/11 deniers - | 630 to 640 |
| Filatures—No. 1, 14/16 deniers - | 590 to 610 |
| Filatures—No. 2, 10/11 deniers - | 590 to 610 |
| Filatures—No. 2, 14/18 deniers - | 550 to 560 |
| Filatures—No. 3, 14/20 deniers - | 560 to 570 |
| Re-reels—No. 1, 14/16 deniers - | 600 to 610 |
| Re-reels—No. 1½, 14/17 deniers - | 590 to 600 |
| Re-reels—No. 2, 14/18 deniers - | 570 to 580 |
| Re-reels—No. 3, 14/20 deniers - | 550 to 560 |
| Kakedas—Extra. - | 620 to 630 |
| Kakedas—No. 1. - | 590 to 600 |
| Kakedas—No. 2. - | 540 to 550 |
| Kakedas—No. 3. - | 520 to 530 |
| Hamatsuki—No. 1, 2. - | 470 to 480 |
| Hamatsuki—No. 3, 4. - | 450 to 460 |
| Sodai—No. 2½ - | 440 to 450 |

TEA.

During the week now under review, business has continued on the same basis as previously reported, Settlements reaching about 2,945 piculs. The better grades have attracted most attention, and Teas with quality have commanded full prices. Receipts have been comparatively small, and Stocks are now reduced to 4,200 piculs, against 5,400 piculs last year. Market at the close is pretty firm at the undernoted quotations. The *Pacific Mail* steamship *City of Rio de Janeiro* despatched on the 23rd instant, carried Tea as undernoted from this port:—53,231 lbs. for New York, 53,310 lbs. for Chicago, 4,000 lbs. for Portland, Oregon, 210,684 lbs. for California, and 82,229 lbs. for Canada. The *Mary Winkelman* which sailed on the 18th from here, for San Francisco, took 537,195 lbs. Tea for California. At present there is no Suez Canal steamer on the berth for New York. The next mail steamer for San Francisco is advertised to leave on the 6th proximo, taking Tea at 2 cents per lb. gross for the Eastern States and Canada, and at \$9 per ton of 40 cubic feet for San Francisco.

| | QUOTATIONS. |
|---------------|-------------|
| Common - | \$ 9 |
| Good Common - | 11 to 13 |
| Medium - | 14 to 17 |
| Good Medium - | 18 to 20 |
| Fine - | 22 to 25 |
| Finest - | 27 & up'ds |

EXCHANGE.

An advance of fully a farthing has been established during the week, and more than an average business in Private Paper has been transacted at quotations. At the close rates are firm.

| | |
|-------------------------------------------|-----------|
| Sterling—Bank Bills on demand - | 3/8½ |
| Sterling—Bank 4 months' sight - | 3/8 |
| Sterling—Private 4 months' sight - | 3/9 |
| Sterling—Private 6 months' sight - | 3/9½ |
| On Paris—Bank sight - | 46½ |
| On Paris—Private 6 months' sight - | 47½ |
| On Hongkong—Bank sight - | Par. |
| On Hongkong—Private 10 days' sight - | 1/60 dis. |
| On Shanghai—Bank sight - | 72½ |
| On Shanghai—Private 10 days' sight - | 73½ |
| On New York—Bank Bills on demand - | 84½ |
| On New York—Private 30 days' sight - | 90 |
| On San Francisco—Bank Bills on demand - | 89½ |
| On San Francisco—Private 30 days' sight - | 90 |

KINSATSU QUOTATIONS.

Saturday, September 29th 119½

IMPORTANT NOTICE.

SMALL CAPITALISTS, wishing to establish a business, should see if there is an opening for a Mineral Water Manufactory in their District. All information and recipes for the purpose of making Lemonade, Soda Water, &c., is given, previous knowledge is not necessary. The demand for these drinks is so much on the increase in all parts of the world, that the outlay for the machinery in all cases leads to a profitable and safe business. Catalogue forwarded free, on application to

BARNET & FOSTER, Engineers,
23c, Forston Street, London, N.

May 1st, 1883.

THE GREATEST WONDER OF MODERN TIMES

HOLLOWAY'S PILLS.

PERSONS suffering from weak or debilitated constitutions will discover that by the use of this wonderful medicine there is "Health for all." The blood is the fountain of life, and its purity can be maintained by the use of these Pills.

SIR SAMUEL BAKER,

in his work entitled "The Nile Tributaries in Abyssinia," says—"I ordered the dragoman Mahomet to inform the Fakar that I was a Doctor, and I had the best medicines at the service of the sick, with advice gratis. In a short time I had many applicants, to whom I served out a quantity of Holloway's Pills. These are most useful to an explorer, as possessing unmistakable purgative properties they create an undeniable effect upon the patient, which satisfies them of their value."

SIMPLE, SAFE, AND CERTAIN!

HOLLOWAY'S OINTMENT

Is a certain remedy for bad legs, bad breasts, and ulcerations of all kinds. It acts miraculously in healing ulcerations, curing skin diseases, and in arresting and subduing all inflammations.

MR. J. T. COOPER,

in his account of his extraordinary travels in China, published in 1871, says—"I had with me a quantity of Holloway's Ointment. I gave some to the people, and nothing could exceed their gratitude; and, in consequence, milk, fowls, butter, and horse feed poured in upon us, until at last a tea-spoonful of Ointment was worth a fowl and any quantity of peas, and the demand became so great that I was obliged to lock up the small remaining "stock."

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May 1st, 1883.

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No. 23, VOL. I.]

YOKOHAMA, OCTOBER 6TH, 1883.

[£24 PER ANNUM.]

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The Japan Weekly Mail.

"FAIS CE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, OCTOBER 6TH, 1883.

MARRIAGE.

On Monday, 24th instant, at the Methodist Chapel, No. 221, Bluff, the Rev. JAMES BLACKLEDGE, A.M., Professor of Hebrew and Greek in the Tokiyo Anglo-Japanese College, to Miss KITTIE TRENT, of Janesville, Wisconsin, United States. The ceremony was performed by the Rev. A. S. MACLAY, D.D., assisted by the Rev. D. S. SPENCER.

BIRTH.

At Tokio, on October 1st, the Wife of the Rev. HUGH WADDELL of a Daughter.

WEEKLY NOTES.

THE vernacular press has published what purports to be the text of a Convention recently concluded between Japan and Korea, embodying trade regulations which are to come into force from the 1st of November next. As might have been expected, rumours of this Convention had been in circulation for some time, especially in Shanghai, where a local journal, declaring that the new tariff had been fixed on a five per cent. basis, devoted a leading article to the subject, chiefly, as it appeared, with the object of proving that, since Japan had now forced "the Koreans to accept the very terms against which she was fighting herself, it would no longer be possible for her to persist in her attitude of remonstrance except at the cost of her reputation for consistency. Such an argument, though fair enough in the abstract, becomes exceedingly frivolous when judged by the international practice of this nineteenth century. If to be consistent were an important item in the programme of a country's conduct, few Western States could show a respectable record, and least of all Great Britain, who suffers her own colonies to impose protec-

tive tariffs, and yet sends her ships and soldiers to force virtual free trade upon independent Oriental States. No, in truth, the less said about political consistency the better. The times are not fitted for the practice of such an expensive luxury. The Shanghai journal's intelligence excited some curiosity at this side of the water, though it must be confessed that every one who understood anything of the real circumstances of the case, gave little if any credence to the story of a five per cent basis. China, as we explained at the time, was the stumbling block; not Japan. It could not be expected that the latter would willingly agree to concessions amounting practically to discrimination in the former's favour. This would have been the inevitable result of subjecting goods imported from Japan to duties from which goods imported from China were exempt. The whole of Korea's import trade, whatever it might be worth, would have been thrown into Chinese hands, while the revenue derived by Korea from her customs dues would have remained the same as before. It did not seem likely that Japan would place herself in such a quixotic position, while, on the other hand, it seemed equally unlikely that, by hastily concluding a convention on the existing Chinese basis, she would lay herself open to misconstruction of the nature outlined in the Shanghai journal's comments. It would appear, however, that Korea's anxiety to procure some practical recognition of her right to a voice in the solution of a problem so nearly concerning her has prevailed over other considerations. A tariff has been fixed on lines which closely resemble those which Japan herself is supposed to have accepted as the result of treaty revision. The exact terms, however, are still somewhat obscure. The *Yiji Shimo*, which professes to give the text of the Convention, says that the import duty on liquors, perfumes, fancy-goods, musical instruments, clothing, &c., is to be 30 per cent., but we have reason to believe that the figures given by the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* are more correct. The various duties (*ad valorem*) are as follows:—

| EXPORTS. | |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------|
| Gold, silver, bullion and gold-dust | Free. |
| Ginseng, prohibited except by special permission, but if carried by Koreans themselves to Japan | 15 per cent. |
| All other merchandise | 5 per cent. |
| IMPORTS. | |
| Dyes, shittings, lawns, silks, <i>Yajiaru</i> (a species of Chinese silk), and Japanese <i>Sude</i> | 8 per cent. |
| Velvets and carpets | 10 per cent. |
| <i>Shiru</i> and <i>Domo</i> (varieties of Japanese silks) | 15 per cent. |
| Copper, iron, and other metals, ornaments, clocks, playthings, &c. | 20 per cent. |
| Articles of food | 5 per cent. |
| Kerosene | 5 per cent. |

American influence has obviously been brought

to bear in fixing the last item, but Korea may count herself fortunate in having been persuaded to a concession which will have the effect of adding immensely to the comfort and productive power of her people. On the whole, the tariff seems moderate and fair. Korea wants to derive a revenue from her Customs, and these rates are not too high to defeat her purpose. Japan's share in the arrangement is very creditable to her. Under her Korean treaty of 1867 she enjoyed the privilege of free trade with the peninsula, and she might, not unreasonably, have persisted in exercising that privilege at least until Korea's new treaty friends had distinctly formulated their programme. In consenting to take the initiative, she has practically acknowledged that so far as her creed, at any rate, is concerned, international relations ought to be conducted with some regard to the changing circumstances of those concerned. It remains to be seen, now, whether Her Majesty's Representative, who is said to be *en route* for Korea for the purpose of negotiating a "practicable" treaty, will obtain, or seek to obtain, better terms than those embodied in the Japanese Convention. Sir Harry Parkes will doubtless bring to the negotiations an earnest desire to give due weight to Korea's immediate interests, and his large experience will enable him to frame a treaty free from the objectionable features of the existing document. But his chief duty will be to obtain a distinct definition of China's position *vis-à-vis* her tributary. Unless that point is finally disposed of, we can be tolerably certain that England will not be included among the Hermit Kingdom's new treaty friends. If the King of Korea is nothing more than a Chinese Viceroy, it would be farcical to place him on the same level with European Sovereigns. There may be some difficulty in unravelling the tangled skein of the Middle Kingdom's relations with its most important tributary, but Sir Harry Parkes is equal to the task, and it is exceedingly fortunate that he is in a position to take charge of the negotiations. We do not expect much from Korea's foreign trade, but every body who desires the preservation of peace in this part of the world must be anxious to see a conclusive adjustment of problems that may at any moment assume a seriously embarrassing completion.

ADMIRAL WILLES' reply to the Chairman of the Hongkong Chamber of Commerce, when the latter remonstrated against the former's manner of disposing of the China squadron, has provoked some severe criticism. It cannot be denied that

the Admiral has an undoubted right to dispose of the squadron under his command as he thinks fit, but events have proved that his method of disposing of it is liable to be condemned by circumstances. When English residents of Canton, driven out of their houses by a mob of native incendiaries and other ruffians, find themselves obliged to take refuge on board a Chinese gunboat, it may fairly be concluded that there is a screw loose somewhere. If the truth were known it would probably be found that, in the days immediately following the Canton riot, a very large number of messages flashed along the wires before the China squadron became an accessible reality to Her Majesty's Representative in Peking. The public has been accustomed to consider that the strength of a squadron in foreign waters is calculated with some reference to the number of the points it has to guard. A general who is required to garrison a town thinks first of the number of sentries he will have to post. His estimate would be entirely changed if he knew that the chief function of his troops would be to manoeuvre in the neighbouring country and leave the town to shift for itself. But these simple principles appear to have lost their application in Chinese seas. The British squadron confines itself to demonstrative duties. It cruises about from place to place, making, no doubt, a very goodly show, but trusting chance, chiefly, to lead it where its presence is required for the protection of British life and property. We do not pretend to pass judgment upon the Admiral's arrangements in this regard. Doubtless he has good reasons for keeping his ships together; but it is unfortunate that events should have proved so unpropitious for the prosecution of his programme; unfortunate that his squadron should have been cruising in the extreme north of the Japanese seas at the very moment its services were required in the south of China, and unfortunate that the tone of his letter to the Chairman of the Chamber of Commerce should be such as to aggravate, rather than to mitigate, the public dissatisfaction. A Shanghai contemporary describes the letter as neither satisfactory nor courteous, but we doubt whether the fault was entirely on the Admiral's side. Possibly our historical knowledge is deficient, but we have never before heard of an official communication directly addressed to the Admiral or General on the China station by the Hongkong Chamber of Commerce. The Governor is surely the proper correspondent of the Chamber. Certainly he would have been a few years ago, when his titles included that of naval and military Commander-in-Chief. The Admiral may have felt that he was arraigned before a tribunal which had nothing to do with him, and when he politely told the Chamber to mind its own business, his impatience was natural, though, as events have proved, discretion would have been the better part.

WHEN post office officials apply funds transmitted through the post to defray the current expenses of the office, the advantages of this

mode of conveyance become problematical. The post office in Kiukiang Road, Shanghai, seems disposed to take this liberal view of its rights. At all events, a Chinaman who recently sent \$5 in a letter to his wife at Ningpo was surprised to receive from his spouse, some fourteen days afterwards, a remonstrance against his remissness in supplying her with funds. He accordingly repaired to the post office, and asked what had become of the money he had handed in to be sent to his wife. The answer was that the dollars had been temporarily appropriated to minister to the wants of the office, but that they should be returned so soon as funds were plenty. The person aggrieved is said to have been so unreasonable as to put the matter in the hands of the police.

No one can have failed to notice the remarkably moderate tone of Sir Harry Parkes replies to the addresses of welcome he has received in China. Speaking, on the 16th ultimo, to a deputation of the foreign residents of Chefoo, he said:—"I am sure you will remember that it is only by showing to the Chinese that their and our interests are not antagonistic, but are mutually advantageous, and that we are not working for our own prosperity alone, that we must try and get them to grasp the same ideas regarding our interests that we ourselves entertain. Our line of conduct towards the Chinese should be to pull together with them and to bear with them, and not to try and force anything on them. This is the best way by which we can hope to induce the Chinese to look favourably on our wishes. We must not forget, however, that the great secret of success is patience. The Chinese mind needs expansion, and until we can bring this about by mild persuasive measures we can have very little hope for the prosperous development of this country's resources. I am glad to see your remarks that 'impartial and conciliatory' views on all questions between Chinese and ourselves are amongst the chief means of dealing successfully with such matters; and I am pleased to find that you give me credit for being animated with feelings of impartiality and conciliation, which I am happy to say is the case, for our policy is essentially a conciliatory one. This makes me hopeful of being able to assist you in furthering your interests, though I feel I may not be able to achieve any brilliant successes on my own merits, following as I do in such able footsteps as those of my predecessor, as I said the other day at Shanghai. I have already said that patience is necessary, and I trust that you will also have patience with me, and that you will give me credit for always doing my best for your advantage, though I may not be able to attain this end as promptly as you might desire; for you must be well aware that things do not always advance in China according to our ideas. It may not be at once, and we must not expect too great things; but if not in our time, our successors may derive the benefit of our efforts." It is interesting to contrast this language with the sentiments formerly attributed to Sir Harry

by his professed admirers in Japan. "Mild persuasive measures," patience and reciprocity of interests, do not remind us vividly of the programme he was supposed to pursue here; neither have they much in common with the spirit that animates the avowed champions of this community.

A MEETING of the Land Renters was held on Monday at the Chamber of Commerce Rooms for the purpose of discussing a document forwarded for their information by the Minister for Foreign Affairs. The document was in the form of a letter addressed to the latter by the Prefect of Kanagawa in reply to a memorial which the Land Renters had sent to the Foreign Representatives in the summer of 1882. A report of the Meeting will be found elsewhere in our columns. It was not largely attended, and with an amount of modesty not usually characteristic of such assemblies, it declined to regard itself as representative. The election of a Committee to act on behalf of the community was accordingly left to be decided by universal suffrage. The Prefect's letter to the Minister of Foreign Affairs had previously been published in the local English newspapers, a proceeding which gave rise to some criticism. It may be presumed, however, that the permission of the Minister for Foreign Affairs, to whom alone the letter as well as the right to make it public belonged, had been previously sought and obtained. The Meeting betrayed some desire to engage in polemics, but beyond a murmured protest about certain heaps of stones that took up too much of the road to a very "old resident's" house, nothing practical resulted from this mood. Another gentleman read out a lengthy document which he had prepared by way of reply to the Prefect's memorandum, and the Meeting spent a great deal of time considering whether, having failed, from a variety of causes, to follow the reading of this reply, they should sanction its publication by the local press. It was finally decided that no more convenient course presented itself, and the public, having since had an opportunity of perusing the document, are amused to find that it describes as "barbarous and arbitrary" the idea of delegating to the Prefect of Kanagawa powers which are possessed and exercised by every police magistrate in Great Britain. In most societies there are to be found one or two individuals whose zeal outruns their reasoning capacities, but it is more uncommon to find reasoning societies represented by such individuals. There was yet another very old resident who proposed that the press should be requested to abstain from making any comments on the matter before the Meeting, but fortunately for this would-be foe to freedom of speech, the Meeting was otherwise occupied at the moment, and before its attention was disengaged, the old resident took his departure. In the cause of consistency, for which we entertain some respect, we are glad that circumstances were unfavorable to the development of this muzzling design, because it so happens that the gentleman who

conceived it had made himself conspicuous at a public meeting two years previously by roundly condemning a precisely similar proposition formulated by somebody else. These, however, were mere incidents. The principal resolution adopted by the meeting embodied a thoroughly sensible, in fact that only sensible, course, and there seems at last to be a perceptible chance of getting this weary municipal question satisfactorily settled.

BARON ROMAN R. ROSEN, His Imperial Russian Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires in Tokiyo, has been gazetted Consul General and Political Agent at Phillipolis, whither he proceeds at the end of this month. Baron Rosen's service in Japan dates from 1871, during nearly four years of which period he performed the duties of Chargé d'Affaires. It has seldom been the good fortune of any Foreign Representative to earn such a reputation as Baron Rosen will leave behind him both in official and social circles. He has succeeded in winning the hearty friendship of those with whom he has been associated diplomatically, not less than of those who have been happy enough to know him privately, and we sincerely hope, for the sake of the better relations which will sooner or later be established between this country and the West, that the routine of the Russian service may one day permit his return, in a more responsible capacity, to a country where the high qualities of his character and intellect will always be remembered.

NOTES.

THE meeting of land-renters held on the 1st instant at the Chamber of Commerce Rooms adopted a resolution which sheds upon the municipal prospects of Yokohama the first glimmer of light they have known for many years. To remedy the abuses which unfortunately flourish in this settlement nothing is wanting but the establishment of a friendly and unofficial channel of communication between the foreign residents and the Local Authorities. It is known that the latter are honestly anxious to meet the views of this community, and, as Mr. W. B. Walter justly pointed out in moving the resolution, there are evidences, especially since the appointment of the present Prefect, that the spirit of reform has found practical expression. It is extremely difficult, if not absolutely impossible, for the Local Government to achieve anything satisfactory so long as it is without the co-operation of the foreign community, and certainly it has not hitherto enjoyed that co-operation. But the appointment of a Committee empowered to consult with the Prefect and to offer such suggestions as may from time to time be necessary, will immediately have the effect of bringing both sides into useful contact, and will enable the community to feel that they are not entirely unrepresented in the management of affairs which so closely concern their comfort and well-being. Twelve months ago, when advocating a modified form of the same

plan now about to be put into execution, we expressed our confidence that "the Local Government is not so unreasonable as to underestimate the value of foreign assistance; that it is ready and willing to profit by that assistance, and that what we want is some non-Consular link between ourselves and it. The Permanent Committee, now to be elected by the suffrages of the whole community, will supply that link, and we feel convinced that it constitutes the only middle way out of the deadlock into which municipal affairs had apparently drifted.

THE party of the Constitutional Imperialists has come to an end. Its decease had long been anticipated, not from inanition, but because there really was no reason for its existence. Of all political parties formed recently in Japan—and truly their name is legion—not one included in its programme any principle that required to be combated from the platform of constitutional imperialism. With exceptions so rare as to be quite insignificant, everybody in Japan desires the establishment of a constitutional form of government, and everybody, without any exception whatsoever, desires to preserve at least the outlines of the Imperialism which is supposed to have existed here eight centuries before the Christian era. The Constitutional Imperialist Party consequently represented nothing more than an ebullition of thoughtless enthusiasm. Somebody, we believe it was Mr. Fukuchi, editor of the *Nichi Nichi Shinbun*, bitten by the universal rabies of party-making, thought that officialdom, like every other agglomeration of co-actors, must be represented upon the political platform, and in pursuance of this fancy laboured to unite a coterie of controversialists who had no sooner assumed the shape of a party than they found themselves without the sympathy of those they professed to represent, and unopposed by those they volunteered to defy. So they only held together long enough to accomplish a decent demise.

If the Constitutional Imperialists needed proof of the fact that any attempt to defer the hopes held out to the nation by the Imperial Rescript of 1881 would receive no official support, they have probably found that proof in the recall of a Japanese Plenipotentiary, whose sudden and unequivocal expression of conservative views placed him entirely beyond the pale of his colleagues' sympathy. We may be wrong in associating the two events—the access of conservatism and the retirement of a well known diplomatist—but we only echo common report when we say that the publication of a political brochure by a Japanese in Washington, and the recall of its author, stand to one another in the relation of cause and effect. The pamphlet is closely reasoned; and every page contains evidence of deep and earnest thought, but its conclusions find no endorsement in Japan. The writer says that "it has not been his intention to argue against parliamentary institutions, or to endeavour to prove that Japan would be wrong in adopting them;" but that "he has merely at-

tempted to show that their adoption now, or even for a number of years to come, would be a mistake and would work more harm than good." Among thoughtful men he will find many fellow-thinkers. Indeed, we cannot doubt that exponents of his doctrine may play a very useful part in the political progress of this country. But he is out of sympathy with his time. All classes in Japan, officials not excluded, are resolutely bent upon introducing constitutional forms of government, and those that attempt to stem the tide of popular resolve must be prepared to be swept aside unceremoniously.

A RECENT investigation into the practice of adulterating teas for the American market throws considerable light upon the methods of the New York manipulators. It is demonstrated that all the precautions prescribed by the prohibitory laws of the United States are virtually unavailing, for the reason that the large dealers in that country are quite as much in the habit of mixing extraneous substances with the leaf in their own warehouses, as of ordering spurious importations directly from Asia. The disclosures were connected with a seizure of several hundreds of chests in New York city, on the 22nd of August,—the goods having been brought from the East by the steamships *City of Tokio*, *Pembrokeshire*, and others. Seven hundred half-chests of "Japan tea dust" were condemned as unfit for use, and the condition of the entire lot was such as to call for a more minute scrutiny into the usages of the trade than had previously been instituted. The Government inspector procured, from one of the principal merchants, numerous samples of the materials used in "preparing" tea for the market,—not the stuffs mixed in with teas of lower grade, but that which the dealers declare to be necessary, in order to give the leaf the appearance which purchasers prefer. These adulterations were shown to consist chiefly of gypsum, soapstone, and Prussian blue. With respect to the last-named article, the merchant positively stated that it was a powder brought from Japan, the composition of which was a secret belonging to this empire; but the analysis proved it to be the ordinary poisonous Prussian blue of chemistry. The drugs, as arranged for mixture with the teas, were found to contain in some instances five per cent., and in others ten per cent. of this active poison. The Government agents report that no less than five prominent New York houses habitually colour and adulterate their tea after receiving it;—a practice which renders the sanitary act of Congress inoperative, since the United States law applies only to spurious goods imported from abroad. To meet the new evil, action should be taken, and, it is hoped, will be, by the State Board of Health.

Three days after the exposures consequent upon this seizure and examination, an article appeared in a leading New York newspaper avowedly defending the methods of the principal tea merchants, and protesting against official interference therewith. The "packers"—as

there are called who manipulate the goods subsequent to their arrival in America,—claim that their processes “do not injure the tea, but on the contrary actually benefit it.” But they do not go to the length of asserting that their proceedings are inspired solely by the desire to improve what passes through their hands. It has become necessary, they say, to subject the leaf to treatment that will give it the colour, body, etc., which customers demand. Really good and sound tea, in its natural state, they affirm, is not beautiful to look at, and they must therefore supply the required azure tint, richness and lustre, by interjecting more or less deadly mineral substances. But they deny that any dangerous effect can be created by the small proportion of colouring matter introduced. One well known “packer” desired to have it published that he would drink, at a draught, everything of a deleterious nature that could be extracted from half a chest of manipulated tea. In speaking thus, he referred only to higher grades, and not to the utterly worthless wares which are often offered for sale. Without reference to these latter, however, the acknowledged transformations produced in so-called wholesome goods are of a character to excite no little astonishment among devotees of the cheering cup. “Teas not highly enough coloured to suit dealers are brightened up a little, by the use of soapstone and Prussian blue or indigo.” “In case a darker colour is required, some kind of black is used.” “All of the packers stand ready to impart to the teas any colour that may be desired,” or to “give them a little more style.” An example of the *modus operandi* was exhibited in presence of a reporter for the *New York Times*, at the establishment of Olendorf & Co. Taking a package of Japan tea “of a beautiful green colour,” Mr. John Olendorf ordered his clerk to “carry that upstairs and have it made into a basket-fired Japan.” The metamorphosis was promptly wrought, and so were many others, not less apparently marvellous to the uninitiated. They were all explained and described without hesitation or apology, including the mixture of cheap and high grades, and the “freshening up” of goods damaged by water and otherwise, so that they should present the aspect of a new importation. To the unskilled reader, it is by no means easy to draw the line between the transactions which the packers declare perfectly legitimate, and those which they repudiate as dishonourable. They do not even seem to shrink from the imputation of taking tea that has been once used, recolouring it, and putting it upon the market again. Certain practices, however, they consent to regard as irregular. The “Ping-suey” fabrications, they admit, ought to be excluded from America as they are from England. The use of gravel, iron, and brick-dust, in adulteration, is conceded to be improper. An “ingenious trick” said to be played by Chinese and Japanese sharpers is also viewed with disapprobation. “Inside each leaf tightly rolled in, is placed a minute grain of sand, the object being to increase the weight. . . . In one half-chest examined at the Government laboratory, there was a sufficient quantity of

these bits of gravel rolled into the leaf to add two and a half pounds to the weight of the half-chest.” After perusing these significant reports, it is impossible to refrain from expressing the profoundest commiseration for the tea consumers of the United States. What with the alleged, and practically undisputed frauds in the countries where the herb is grown, and the acknowledged “treatment” in the countries where it is used, the chance that drinkers will ever taste a pure article is about as remote as the likelihood of their knowing it, if they do by a series of lucky accidents obtain a genuine specimen. Finally, the most curious of all these curious facts is that “Japan tea,” pure or otherwise, is an article almost unknown to retail trade in America. It cannot be found anywhere on general sale, east of California, we are informed, although millions of dollars’ worth are imported into the United States each year.

We understand that His Excellency Sir Harry Parkes proposes to visit Korea for the purpose of concluding a treaty with that country. H.M.S. *Sapphire* left here for Kobe to pick up Mr. W. G. Aston, and thence to Shanghai, where Sir Harry will embark.

It appears from dispatches sent to Washington, by General Foote, that the position of Minister to Korea is burdened with greater hardships than are usually attendant upon diplomatic offices in new and unknown lands. Apart from the rigours of the climate, which is marked by great extremes of heat and cold, and against which the rudely built houses of the country afford slight protection, the place of residence assigned to him is incommodious and disagreeable in the last degree. It is surrounded by hovels and “in the midst of filth.” Probably the best native dwellings are equally objectionable, and the Envoy feels the necessity of contenting himself with what is considered satisfactory by the authorities of the State. These latter, however, are insensible to privations which bear with severity upon persons of European or American habit and experience. Fuel, he reports, can be obtained only with much difficulty, no wood being available for that purpose but pine boughs; and everything in the shape of food, excepting the barest necessities of subsistence, has to be brought from Japan or China. Priority of intercourse, in a case like this, is rather dearly purchased, and it is to be hoped that the isolation to which General Foote and his family are now doomed may be speedily ended by the arrival of colleagues from other powers. The difficulties of his post are in some respects greater than those which Mr. Harris, first foreign representative in this empire, was compelled to endure. That gentleman’s periods of solitude,—relieved only by the presence of his Dutch interpreter,—were more prolonged, and his opportunities of communication with the outer world were far more irregular as well as more infrequent; but he found a certain compensation in the manifold attractions of the country and its people, which we fear would be

vainly sought in the coarser and less genial associations of the neighboring kingdom. There has been no time, since Japan was known to the West, when the condition of the loneliest exile here would not be tolerable, at least; whereas the discomforts of Sôul appear to be almost entirely without palliation.

THE monster monopolists of the United States are gradually attracting the attention they deserve. A London journal, so the telegraph informs us, has been reading them a pretty little lesson, to which there is not the remotest chance of their paying any attention. The warnings addressed to them by the press of their own country are considerably more direct and outspoken, as for example, when Mr. Jay Gould is informed that “if he persists in making himself a mere lightning rod, a popular thunder storm is not unlikely to knock him over.” The simile is a little slipshod, but its import is unmistakable. There are among Mr. Jay Gould’s countrymen persons who profess to see in him the very prince of philanthropists. By them his curious operations on that celebrated Black Friday when so many of his friends became acquainted with the perils of misplaced confidence, are declared to have been motivated by a desire to render Wall Street as unpopular as possible, and thus deter many enterprising men from that maelstrom of dishonesty—stock-gambling. In the same same way his stock-watering operations are said to have been caused, not by covetousness, but by a desire to awaken the public to the consequences of such work; while, again, his stern attitude towards the telegraph operators when on strike is described as a courageous effort to put a final period to such inconvenient demonstrations, even at the cost of presenting the corporation, of which he is the chief, “as an arrogant, unscrupulous organization, defiant of the public, calmly confident in the power of the money it has extorted by operations no better morally than those of the professional highwayman, and as indifferent to the rights of the men and women in its service as though they were cattle.” It is a delicate problem to determine where honesty ends and knavery begins in the use of the moral and physical agents which a speculator can command. The ultimate purpose of all trade enterprises is to secure a monopoly. Every commercial advertisement which appears in the daily journals bears witness to this fact. From the chemist who patents his newly invented tooth-powder to the newspaper which claims for itself specialities no rival can boast, all have the same object—to secure a maximum share, if possible the whole, of public custom. We cannot see that Mr. Jay Gould’s performances are more culpable than the deceitful puffs of the highly moral journalist or the exaggerated eulogies of the ingenious mouse-trap inventor. Indeed we believe that Jay Gould made his debut in the latter capacity, and if he has since then learned to ensnare not mice but the dollars of the multitude, it is simply because he is more competent, not less scrupulous, than his fellows.

A TOKYO JOURNAL tells us that news from New York indicates a constantly increasing demand for the finest qualities of Japanese porcelain, as well as for screens, umbrellas, and so forth. We observe with interest and pleasure that, although the first effect of their introduction to Western markets was to persuade Japanese artisans to exchange their patient, painstaking habits for a hasty, unconscientious style of work, the necessity of stimulating Occidental taste is beginning to recall them to the old routes. The reaction is most visible, perhaps, in the wares of Kaga. The old *Ao-Kutani* porcelain—i.e. a milk white porcelain decorated with rich, lustrous enamels in green, blue and yellow—had become, until quite recently, a thing altogether of the past. It seemed hopelessly beyond the power of the modern Japanese Keramist to reproduce even a poor imitation of the beautiful enamels in the preparation of which his ancestors excelled. But of late a wonderful improvement has been effected. Among recent exportations to America there have been some specimens of *Ao-Kutani* ware, which, so far as quality and manipulation of enamels are concerned, will bear comparison with the best works of the past century. The porcelain itself is still somewhat crude and chalky, but this defect is not irremediable. Altogether, when we consider the exquisitely delicate enamelling upon copper, the rich and elaborate works in inlaid iron, the beautiful embroideries and textile fabrics, as well as the finespecimens of lacquer and ivory ornamentation that find their way Westward at present, we are disposed to think that there is no longer any reason to lament the vitiation and decadence of Japanese art.

AN OHIO judge was recently required to deliver judgment in a somewhat peculiar case. namely—whether a gentleman incurably addicted to profane language is entitled to the use of a telephone. It appears that telephonic science is not yet fully abreast of popular expectation, and the consequence is that, when people are most impatient for an answer to some question transmitted along the wires, they are least likely to be speedily satisfied. Thus when the telephone came into general use its first effects upon general morality were very shocking: Staid old gentlemen, who had never before been known to raise their voices above a courteous monotone, appeared to have all their principles upset by the newly acquired ability to discharge whatever verbal missiles they pleased at the head of an invisible *vis-à-vis*, and were heard across the wires swearing lustily at the operators at the central station for keeping them waiting, for asking the same question over and over again, or for interrupting them in the middle of important messages. This access of profanity was not without excuse. A man might be pardoned if he suffered his gorge to rise when, after he had finally succeeded in "getting" the Central Station and asking to be put in communication with a certain individual, he heard, not the well known voice with which he desired to hold converse, but the indifferent tones of an operator repeating,

"Well! Well! What is it? What is it? What is it?" *Contretemps* of this nature, as well as the not unfrequent episode of being interrupted in the middle of a conversation with a friend by an operator's interjection of "Hurry up! hurry up! Aren't you through yet?," have so thoroughly upset the public equanimity that a perfect storm of invective often blows in the Central Station. The thing became so bad that subscribers were finally warned that swearing over the wires would no longer be tolerated, and that any infraction of this rule would be followed by the removal of the instruments from the offices of those so offending. To this warning, though often repeated, a certain subscriber declined to pay any attention, and a demand was finally made by the Company for the instrument which had been placed in his office. The demand was refused, and the subscriber brought suit to compel the Company to continue the customary service. The Judge, however, sided with the guardians of morality, and in delivering judgment against the plaintiff said:—"The telephone reaches into many family circles, and it must be remembered that it is possible, from the peculiar arrangement of the instrument, that a communication intended for one individual shall reach another. All communications, therefore, should be in proper language. Moreover, in many cases the operators in the exchanges are refined ladies, and, even beyond this, all operators should be protected from insult." The instrument was accordingly removed, and the nimble-tongued subscriber learned that though the privilege of private profanity was not denied him, electricity was no longer available as a medium for spreading his invectives among the community.

MR. CONSUL PEIXOTTO reports from Lyons to the U.S. Government some interesting details of the silk-consumption of Europe, where the condition houses of Europe received and passed in the year 1882, 7,617,157 kilograms of silk; in 1881, 8,594,023 kilograms; in 1880, 7,196,986 kilograms. Dividing these figures by countries, the following is the statement for the past three years:—

SILK CONDITIONED IN EUROPE DURING THE YEARS 1880, 1881, AND 1882.

| COUNTRIES. | 1880. Kilograms. | 1881. Kilograms. | 1882. Kilograms. |
|------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| France | 3,281,754 | 3,654,733 | 3,272,970 |
| Italy | 2,374,004 | 2,826,323 | 2,494,797 |
| Switzerland..... | 784,737 | 1,157,652 | 949,478 |
| Germany..... | 622,288 | 791,888 | 766,070 |
| Austria | 95,614 | 121,275 | 95,693 |
| England..... | 38,589 | 42,152 | 37,249 |

Total..... 7,196,986 8,594,023 7,617,157
Thus it appears that the general depression of trade during 1882 has affected all countries, though in different degrees. The falling off between 1882 and 1881 has been, for—

| COUNTRIES. | QUANTITY. Kilograms. | PER CENT. |
|------------------|-------------------------|-----------|
| France | 381,763 | 10.4 |
| Italy | 331,526 | 11.7 |
| Switzerland..... | 208,174 | 18.0 |
| Germany..... | 25,818 | 3.2 |
| Austria | 24,672 | 20.0 |
| England..... | 4,913 | 11.6 |

Total..... 976,866 11.03
Austria and Switzerland seem to have suffered

the largest decline, while Germany has been favored, owing to the precedence she has taken in the production of low-priced silk goods—especially for velvets and mixed tissues. Switzerland has not escaped the general depression, and apparently suffered even more than France. These figures, however, are but apparent figures, if regard is had to the fact that Lyons, as a raw-silk market and seller of organzine silks, supplies very largely foreign places, particularly Germany and Switzerland, enjoying thus an exceptionally favorable distinction over silk centres. This is fully proved in consulting the reports of the French Custom-house, which furnish the exports as well as the imports of the country. But Mr. Peixotto concludes that of European countries, France has suffered most from recent depression in the silk-trade.

THE construction of railways in America appears to proceed with undiminished vigour. During the first six months of the present year 2,500 miles were added to the enormous net-work which is rapidly spreading its meshes over the whole of the United States. This, too, in spite of unusual climatic difficulties, an exceptionally long winter having deferred the commencement of the work until late in the spring, while diluvian rains subsequently obstructed its progress. Statisticians calculate that the total additional mileage constructed during the year will be 8,000 miles, against 11,700 in 1882, 8,230 in 1881 and 7,075 in 1880. Nothing conveys a better idea of the enormous resources of the great Republic and of the industrial activity that prevails there, than the fact that during four years 25,000 miles of iron-way will have been constructed. The average cost of the 2,500 miles completed between January and June was \$25,000 per mile, and the aggregate outlay \$62,500,000.

"ONE does not carry one's country on the sole of one's shoe" said Danton, when his friends advised him to pass the frontier in order to escape the scaffold which was in preparation for him. But patriotism, like religion, seems to grow weaker as the centuries come and go. Doubtless the explanation of this is to be found in the fact that superior education, scientific and political, enables men better to appreciate the disadvantages of dwelling in lands where oppressive laws interfere with personal freedom and material interests, while improved facilities of international communication permit them to exercise a latitude of choice unknown in former times. Still when one recalls the fact that since 1870 the United States have received from Europe a number of immigrants equal to the whole population of Ireland, one cannot help thinking that human nature has changed since the days when Collins wrote of fairy bands that sing the knell of dead patriots, and forms unseen that ring their dirge. Descending from these speculations, however, to unromantic arithmetic, we note that the United States received from Europe last year 592,234 immigrants, while the corresponding figure for

1882 was 770,422. The countries which contributed these numbers were as follows.

| | | |
|-----------------------|----------|----------|
| England | 1882-83. | 1881-82. |
| Ireland | 79,852 | 81,697 |
| Scotland | 63,720 | 76,252 |
| Austria | 19,612 | 18,763 |
| Germany | 10,517 | 20,089 |
| Italy | 191,693 | 249,161 |
| Norway | 31,715 | 32,066 |
| Sweden | 21,849 | 28,466 |
| Canada | 35,596 | 64,776 |
| Other Countries | 64,971 | 93,629 |
| | 73,849 | 104,623 |
| | 592,323 | 770,422 |

This decrease is easily accounted for. Indeed it has been justly remarked that the number of immigrants America receives during any particular year is a fair index of her industrial and financial prosperity. At the end of the grand crisis of 1873-79 and after the resumption of specie payments, the condition of the States might well attract immigrants. Since then, however, a few clouds have appeared on the horizon; there have been comparatively poor harvests and industrial enterprise has lost a little of its impulse. Immigration has shown a corresponding decline. Nevertheless, the unprecedented fact remains, that between 1879 and 1883 the United States received 2,515,000 immigrants, and that during the nine preceding years their population increased by 2,355,000 from the same source. The relative increments of population from immigration and reproduction are shown in the following table:—

| Year. | Population. | Total increment. | Increment per cent. | | |
|---------|-------------|------------------|---------------------|----------------------|-------------------|
| | | | By immigration. | Total, immi-gration. | By repro-duction. |
| 1840... | 17,069,453 | 4,203,433 | 399,195 | 32.67 | 4.65 |
| 1850... | 23,199,476 | 6,128,023 | 1,821,975 | 35.87 | 9.68 |
| 1860... | 31,461,371 | 8,261,895 | 2,630,558 | 35.58 | 11.38 |
| 1870... | 38,478,871 | 11,117,499 | 3,281,148 | 22.63 | 7.25 |
| 1880... | 50,152,866 | 11,596,495 | 2,812,191 | 36.07 | 7.39 |

THE earthquake at Casamicciola has furnished some incidents of real life such as few romances can surpass. Two young ladies, ultimately rescued by a captain of Engineers, describe how one second they heard something like a roll of thunder, and the next, found themselves buried alive. The ruins of three stories formed over their heads a vault supported at one point only by the post of an iron bedstead. After hours of agony and suspense they heard the noise of people clearing away the ruins, but the sounds at one time approached, at another receded, and their cries of distress were powerless to penetrate the masses of masonry suspended above them. By and bye the younger, groping about in her tomb, found a pear and a prune, which she divided with her sister. This was all the two girls had to eat during three whole days. Probably, however, they slept a great part of the time, for when they were at last rescued the exclamation of the elder was:—"What a terrible thing it is to be buried alive for ten hours!"

The escape of Professor Bottini was not less remarkable. A widower with one child, he had spent a few weeks in Ischia, and was about to set out for Paris when the arrival of an old friend induced him to remain a little longer. On Friday he was passing the theatre with his child when the latter begged to see Punchinello, and the Professor promised to grant his request

on the following evening. The child did not forget this promise, and the father, unwilling to send it under the care of its nurse only, accompanied it himself. The play began at a few minutes past nine o'clock. Punchinello, in his rôle, had to break some crockery and cry out:—"Oh! poverell'a me! Oh! mamma mia! che disgrasia! Suddenly, changing his tone, but speaking always in dialect, he cried:—"U'tterremoto! u'tterremoto! allu mare! allu mare! The spectators fancied at first that these words were part of the play, but they were soon disabused. The petroleum lamps were thrown down, and the theatre was plunged in darkness. The professor clasped his child in his arms and remained quiet, though all the rest of the audience took to flight. The shock had been accompanied by a roll of thunder like the booming of a hundred big guns. It was followed by profound silence and a rain of dust from the ruins of the town. Large cracks were opened in the ground, one in the very floor of the theatre. M. Bottini remained in his place until the dawn of day. When he emerged from the theatre he was thunderstruck. Nothing remained of the town but a heap of débris. Of 27 persons with whom he had dined the day before at the hotel *Non Repos*, he alone was left alive.

A soldier of the 11th Regiment of Artillery persisted, despite the denials of his comrades, that some one was buried alive under a certain heap of ruins. Unassisted, he toiled for seven hours like one demented, until finally a woman's hand became visible. Just then an old lady arrived upon the scene. She reflected a moment, examined the débris, and finally cried out that the hand was her daughter's. The artilleryman did not need to ask for assistance now. His comrades ran up to help, and in a few moments the ruins were cleared away. The girl was still held, however, by her dress. It was caught between two blocks of stone which could not be moved without bringing down the whole ruin. So the artilleryman had to complete his task by undressing her. Another soldier, Corporal Curci, worked for several hours, head downwards in a hole he had dug himself. From time to time it was necessary to draw him out to restore the circulation to his limbs. All at once he shouted to be pulled up, a task which was accomplished with no little difficulty, since it was necessary to raise with him a beautiful young girl whom he had in his arms. The young lady no sooner found herself safe and sound than she threw her arms round the Corporal's neck and kissed him.

The case of the Bishop of Casamicciola, Monseigneur Mennella, was very sad. Not only was his position under the ruins known exactly, but several of his relatives, aided by a number of workmen, toiled to release him, guided always by his voice, which at one moment called upon them to save him, at another, directed them where to apply their tools. Always, however, when they seemed on the point of reaching him,

some new difficulty presented itself—now a solid block of stone that could not be moved, now a beam that supported a mass of crumbling débris, until at last the voice of the unfortunate man grew fainter and fainter and his dying groans told his family that they could only hope to recover his corpse.

Among many remarkable instances of the power of existing for days without sustenance and apparently with little suffering, none is more worthy of note than the case of two children rescued on the sixth of August, that is to say, on the seventh day after the catastrophe. They were aged nine and twelve years respectively; neither appeared to be much the worse for his long incarceration, and the younger had no sooner emerged from the ruins than he asked for some wine.

Victor Hugo's letter to the *Rappel* deserves to be reproduced as an example of the absurdities to which men can commit themselves whose whole life is a theatrical display. This is the letter:—

"Paris, 1er août 1883.
Je donne à Ischia mille francs.
La catastrophe d'Ischia est plus qu'une catastrophe italienne; elle est plus qu'une catastrophe humaine; elle est une catastrophe universelle.
Je me sens touché: J'envoie mon obole.
"Victor Hugo."

Among the romances of real life that of the wandering Canon of Tournay deserves a prominent place. In consequence of some political embroglio the Bishop of Tournay was deposed, several years ago, and sent into exile. About two millions of francs were stored in the episcopal palace at Tournay at the time, and the Bishop committed this money to the care of the canons of the cathedral, of whom Canon Bernard, the "wanderer," was the principal. The latter proceeded to stow away the coin after a novel fashion. He felt that no Belgian bank would be safe, and so he resolved to combine business with pleasure by setting out on a grand tour, and scattering the two millions in various banks of foreign countries, "here a little and there a little." Of course the prosecution of such a scheme involved travelling incognito, and so the Canon waited at the first foreign city he came to until his beard was grown sufficiently to disguise him effectually. Then he set out for Paris, and having deposited some of his golden burden there, he turned his feet westward, with his beard now fully grown and his sacerdotal cassock and sautaine exchanged for the variegated and fashionable toggery of a man of the world. In New York he left a few more bags of money, and deposited the last four hundred thousand francs in a Boston bank. Meanwhile, his absence and the contemporaneous absence of the contents of the episcopal treasury were much lamented by his brother canons, who took great pains to track him, even employing detectives for the purpose. The wanderer was finally betrayed by a photograph. Being a comely canon, he could not resist the temptation of having his likeness taken

in New York, and the consequence was his arrest at last in South America. He had not quite finished his tour, but his captors, paying no attention to this fact, carried him off rudely to Brussels. There his trial has just been brought to a conclusion such as was alone needed to cap his exploits. He has been acquitted, the court ruling that it could take no cognizance of his uncanonical behaviour in the fastnesses of America or any other foreign country, and holding that he had taken the money from the episcopal palace of Tournay for safe keeping and at the request of Bishop Rouseaux, its official owner. Canon Bernard has seen men and cities under strange circumstances.

THE rapid increase of wages in France is a subject which has justly attracted the attention of economists. In Paris the ordinary wages of a workman average, at present, from 8 to 10 francs per diem. It is of course reasonable that the labouring classes should share in the general prosperity of recent years, but in addition to this material, and therefore natural, cause, there seems to be another which is of a moral, and consequently factitious, origin. The establishment of the Republic, founded on universal suffrage, has disposed the inferior orders to exaggerate their pretensions. The "sovereign people" wants its civil list. It sets no store by starving sovereignty. But how are the limits of this disposition to be imposed? A nation can support a large monarchical civil list without any sensible inconvenience. It can even support an idle aristocracy, though the social organism is apt to be disturbed by the charge. But when the names of millions of workmen have to be borne on a civil list, the affair assumes a different complexion. Salaries being now twice or thrice as great in Paris as in the neighbouring provinces, the difficulty of supporting such a condition becomes daily more accentuated. Indeed, the ability of French industry to survive such a state of affairs is very marvellous. M. Leroy-Beaulieu has undertaken to explain that ability. He attributes it to abundant capital, and points out that the strain must sooner or later become unendurable. But the French workman does not study either *L'Economiste Français* or the *Journal des Débats*. He is content to go on drawing as many francs as possible every day and clamouring for more. Neither does he make a prudent use of his abnormal prosperity. Instead of employing earnings, which must be considered excessive, to secure for himself permanent well-being, he spends them upon ephemeral enjoyments. Salaries, however, do not fall, like cotton and silk, by quiet processes. Their descent is accompanied by an economical crisis, and it is that which French financiers are beginning to anticipate uneasily.

WE hear from Swatow that the recent disturbances in Canton have seriously impeded the amicable settlement of the now famous land question in the former port. It was reported some weeks ago that a conclave of magistrates,

together with one or two representatives of *Das Heilige Deutsche Reich* were too reconsider the claim of Messrs. Dircks & Co., *ex primordio*; but it now seems that the Viceroy of Canton has indefinitely postponed the solution of the Swatow difficulties until affairs in Canton shall have resumed a more peaceable aspect. There is no doubt, however, that the commotion at Canton and the real or pretended inability of the Chinese authorities to keep the populace within bounds will materially increase the difficulty of arranging the Swatow affair satisfactorily. The German Government has thoroughly endorsed the proceedings of its representatives so far; and there can be no question that it intends to protect the claims of Messrs. Dircks & Co. to the fullest extent.

A SONG which the good folks of Paris are singing *à propos* of the Suez Canal shows that the cholera in Egypt is not the only food for Continental slander:—

Je voulais bien, je voulais bien
Accaparer Suez et son isthme;
Et j'avais assez d'égoïsme
Pour ne voir de droits que le mien.
Je voulais bien! Je voulais bien!
Mais faire accord avec la France.
Sans déloyale concurrence
Ni procédés indécents:
Je voulais pas! Je voulais pas!
Non! Non! Non! Non! Je voulais pas!
Goddam! Je voulais pas!
Je voulais bien, je voulais bien,
Oublier les vieilles chicanes,
Pour le bien de mes caravanes,
Creuser un canal mitoyen.
Je voulais bien! Je voulais bien!
Mais reconnaître un monopole
Que j'aurais promis sur parole,
Sans sous-seings privés ni contrats?
Je voulais pas! Je voulais pas!
Goddam! Je voulais pas!

It is sometimes allowable to explain a joke, particularly if the joke is in a foreign language. Here, in a couple of stanzas of doggerel, the French satirist fixes a double-shot sarcasm at John Bull in the word *vôlais*. John is supposed to pronounce "*roulais*" so, and to convey the meaning that he "stole" or "wished," as the Parisian ear may catch the sound. Accepting this untranslatable pun, one may roughly render the gibberish thus:—

I wished, indeed, I wished, indeed,
To grab Suez and its isthmus;
Of rights that didn't concern "us"
My egotism had no heed.
I wished, indeed! I wished, indeed!
But act with France the way I ought,
Without disloyal after-thought,
Or procedure that smells of fish?
No! No! No! No! I didn't wish!
Goddam! I didn't wish.
I wished, indeed, I wished, indeed,
Forgetting former disputes vile,
Just for my navy mercantile,
A middle trench to speed.
I wished, indeed! I wished indeed!
And, though I'd sworn upon my dolly,
Shall I admit a monopoly,
Without signed contract? Not much, pish!
I didn't wish, I didn't wish!
Goddam! that's not my wish!

Among the prophets of evil, M. Paul Leroy-Beaulieu's voice is heard oftenest and loudest in France. He has been telling his countrymen lately that equality *vis-à-vis* the law, *vis-à-vis* public duties, no longer exists among them. It is not a question of favoritism which works in secret and with a shamed face, but of favoritism

which parades itself openly in administrative circulars. In old times the formula used to be, "if you want to be treated better than your neighbours, *montrez-patte blanche*:" To-day it is, "if you seek favours, *montrez des mains calleuses*." Ministers and councillors have fallen in love with industrial associations, and seek to stimulate them by every possible means. The evil of State interference in these matters seems to be quite forgotten. The Government puts its hands into the people's purses, and employs what it extracts to foster industrial associations under every conceivable guise. If Lassalle were to come to life again, he would surely choose France as his country. Such is the burden of M. Paul Leroy-Beaulieu's complaint, and it cannot be denied that his language is amply justified by a circular recently addressed to the builders of Paris by the director of the city works. The document opens by announcing that "the Administration will employ all its efforts to enable associations of workmen to undertake the works it has to carry out, whether by granting them additional facilities in the matter of audit, or by entrusting contracts to them on complaisant terms." This phrase can have only one meaning. Henceforth public enterprises are not to be put up to public competition, and entrusted to him that offers the best terms. If an Association of workmen offers to take the contract, discriminations will be made in their favour. Individuals need not hope to compete with them. "Favorable arrangements made with this design," continues the circular, would be illusory, if an Association, once admitted, did not receive continued protection and special treatment during the execution of the works undertaken by it." Nothing could be plainer than this, but it is further emphasized in the body of the circular, where certain privileges, some of them quite exceptional, some long claimed by all alike, are promised to Associations and to Associations only. In a word, the whole object of the document is the suppression of individual, and the encouragement of combined, enterprise. Henceforth competition will become impossible. The individual must yield to the Association, and when the workmen of Paris have combined in one vast partnership, they will be able to command their own terms. That is what the State is educating them to at the country's expense. Leroy-Beaulieu prophesies that French industrial enterprise will soon be tied to the apron strings of the budget as a child is to those of its mother.

AS MIGHT have been easily foreseen, the rash experiment of Captain Webb, who lost his life at Niagara, has brought forward numbers of candidates for the questionable honor he failed to win. Several professional swimmers have declared their readiness to undertake the feat of passing through the whirlpool, provided the enterprise can be made worth their while. A Boston newspaper reports that Mrs. Webb, the unfortunate Captain's widow, who is herself a fine swimmer, scoffs at the idea of any superlative difficulty in the task. After carefully

examining the scene of his adventure, she arrived at the conclusion that he was killed by striking his head against a rock, beneath the surface. Gazing critically at the supposed point of greatest danger, she remarked—"What? do you call that the whirlpool? Why, I would go in swimming there myself." This does not appear to have been spoken in bravado, nor yet in ignorance, for her knowledge of her husband's favourite pursuit is said to be thorough and practical. It is noticeable that Professor Tyndall, a recognized authority upon the physical characteristics of Niagara, though not, we believe an expert in natation, has stated his belief "that a strong, bold swimmer could get through the whirlpool," but he "feels satisfied that no man could live in the rough boisterous water of the rapids." But it is beyond dispute that Webb passed the rapids alive, and the best attainable evidence affirms that he waved his arm and wiped the water from his face just before taking the last dive,—which was at a point below the worst part of the whirlpool. The general theory in America now is that he was stunned, or perhaps instantly killed, by the blow upon his head, and thus the question whether a swimmer can make his way through the perilous passage still remains unsettled. There are, however, as we have said, plenty of applicants for the distinctions of solving the problem. One of these is a man named Bebril, who proposes first to send buoys and small rafts down the river, and afterward a figure constructed of wood and rubber, of his own size and weight. The progress of these he will closely watch, and take measures accordingly. He has already despatched an empty barrel on the same course, and he claims that this was never entirely submerged. Another competitor, named Rhodes, has announced his determination to attempt the feat, clad in a life preserving armor similar to that of Captain Boyton,—but it is understood that this undertaking will be forbidden by the authorities of Canada and of New York State. An extraordinary and incredible statement is published by a Niagara journal—with names and other details complete—of a dog having been sent not only through the rapids, but over the falls, just after Webb's fatal trial, and having returned to his master unharmed. In connection with this tough story, we may mention a legend, in which some are pleased to put faith, of a drunken Tonawanda Indian, who went over the Horseshoe Fall in his canoe, and who turned up the next day, extremely wet outside and proportionately dry within. Inspired by this ancient tale, an inventive genius of Toronto has advertised that he has prepared a silk bag, capable of inflation, inside of which he is ready to take the desperate plunge for a wage of ten thousand dollars. A less hazardous project is connected with a river craft to be built in rough imitation of the famous "Maid of the Mist," which was safely piloted down the river in 1861, by Joel Robinson. This mock steamer, sixty-five feet long and sixteen wide, will be pushed into the rapids, above Suspension Bridge, and allowed to take her own course to destruction, as soon

as a sufficient number of visitors shall have gathered at Niagara to render profitable the humble commemoration of the original achievement. Notwithstanding all that has been written about the utter impracticability of swimming the rapids and the whirlpool, we are strongly persuaded that it can and will be done; but not, perhaps, before many lives are sacrificed in an enterprise which has nothing to recommend it to public encouragement, and of which it is painful to believe that no official prevention is possible.

THE following conversation is reported to have taken place between two Land Renters of Yokohama:—

A.—In whose hands does the Municipal control of this Settlement rest?
B.—In that of the Japanese Local Authorities.
A.—What laws are those authorities supposed to apply?
B.—Japanese laws?
A.—Certainly not. By the exterritorial clauses of the treaties all foreigners residing in Japan are exempt from Japanese laws.
A.—Then the Japanese Local Authorities are required to enforce Western laws and regulations in governing the foreign Settlement.
B.—Certainly. We are amenable to no laws but our own in this country.
A.—You speak of the treaties. Do these documents confer similar rights on all the nationalities represented here?
B.—Unquestionably.
A.—I understand you to maintain, then, that English residents are amenable only to English laws and English tribunals; French residents to French laws and French tribunals; Germans to German, and so forth. In other words, no uniform system of law applies to all the nationalities in Yokohama?
B.—That follows inevitably.
A.—So that in addition to the anomaly of requiring Japanese authorities to execute foreign laws, we further require them to exercise seventeen different descriptions of laws within the limits of a town of six thousand inhabitants?
B.—You over-state the case. In their salient points those laws are virtually uniform. All contain similar provisions applicable to offences against decency and good order.
A.—Are, then, the complaints of inefficient municipal Government in Yokohama confined to these points?
B.—By no means. We complain equally of bad drainage and sewage, defective sanitary arrangements, faulty control of "all such matters as projections interfering with the thoroughfares, ruinous and dangerous buildings, lighting and watering of streets," absence of surveillance over taverns, and similar places of public resort and so forth.
A.—How are these matters regulated in Europe?
B.—By municipal laws and regulations.
B.—Do I understand you then to affirm that the Japanese Local Authorities are required to govern this Settlement by European municipal law?
B.—No. I make no such assertion.
A.—Yet you say, first, that foreigners in Japan are not amenable to any Japanese laws; secondly, that the municipal control of the Settlement is vested in the Japanese Local Authorities, and thirdly, that municipal control is exercised everywhere in the world by means of municipal laws. Does it not plainly follow, that the Japanese must either control us municipally without applying any municipal laws at all, or else apply the laws to which we are amenable, namely, European or American laws?
B.—The laws from which foreigners are exempted by the treaties are imperial laws. "Municipal law is distinct from imperial law. It comprises and is confined to a series of regulations for the health, peace, good order, and decency of a settlement of men."
A.—The Japanese Local Authorities, then, having the municipal control of the Settlement vested in them, are consequently endowed with the power of framing "regulations for the health, peace, good order, and decency of the Settlement?"
B.—Of course.
A.—And the Foreign residents are bound to observe those regulations?
B.—Without doubt.
A.—What methods are provided to enable the Local Authorities to enforce those regulations?
B.—They can prosecute offenders against them before the Consular Courts of their respective nationalities.
A.—Then the Consular Courts are competent to punish infractions of municipal law?
B.—I suppose so.
A.—Take the British Consular Court, for example. What municipal regulations is it prepared to enforce? Those of London, Liverpool, Dublin, Edinburgh, or Portsmouth?
B.—I am not prepared to say.
A.—You can tell, however, generally what law Her Majesty's Courts in Japan are competent to enforce.
B.—The common law of England.
A.—Does the common law of England comprise municipal law?
B.—Certainly not.

A.—Then there is no British tribunal in Japan competent to punish infractions by British subjects of the municipal regulations which the Japanese Local Authorities are expected to apply to British subjects resident in Yokohama?
B.—That seems to follow. But you must remember that Her Majesty's Minister has special power to make Japanese regulations binding on his nationals. Thus there need be no real difficulty.
A.—Have the Ministers of other countries the same power?
B.—One has I believe.
A.—But there are some sixteen nationalities represented in this community. According to your statement, fourteen of them are at liberty to respect or ignore the municipal regulations at pleasure. Let me refer now to your definition of municipal law. You say it is "a series of regulations for health, peace, good order, and decency." Take health first. I presume that to carry out health regulations you would exercise some hygienic surveillance?
B.—Of course. The municipality should be able to delegate to its agents "the right of entry into private compounds for necessary purposes of sanitary inspection, or to abate or remove nuisances."
A.—Are the Japanese authorities permitted to exercise any such right?
B.—No. They are not.
A.—I presume, also, that your municipality would have a Sanitary Board, whose regulations it would be incumbent on citizens to observe. Is that the case in Yokohama?
B.—No. But everybody is ready and willing to observe sanitary regulations.
A.—Indeed! Then why your "right of entry into private compounds for necessary purposes of sanitary inspection." But take a particular illustration. During the cholera epidemic last year, the Local Authorities, acting under the advice of a Board of foreign and Japanese physicians, laid down certain regulations with reference to the disinfection of buildings and the destruction of the clothing, bedding etc., of cholera patients. Was it possible to enforce those regulations in the case of foreigners?
B.—I suppose it was.
A.—And yet when a British subject died, his Consul confessed himself incompetent to authorize the sanitary police to enter the deceased's house and apply the regulations, the result being that the dead man's clothes and bedding were probably sold to assist in spreading the infection. Let us pass on, however. When you speak of "regulations for peace, good order, and decency," you refer of course to police regulations?
B.—Certainly.
A.—Then you think that exemption from Japanese police regulations is not conferred upon foreigners by the exterritorial clause of the treaties?
B.—I am not prepared to go so far as that.
A.—Yet you say that imperial law is distinct from municipal law, and you define the latter as "a series of regulations for health, peace, good order, and decency." To maintain peace, good order, and decency is the essential function of police all over the world. How then can you pretend that, while the performance of that function devolves upon the police authorities of Yokohama, the police regulations are not binding upon the residents of the Settlement?
B.—I cannot reconcile the two assertions, but I presume that when our various Governments procured for us the privilege of living in Japan, they made due provision against paradoxes such as your questions suggest. The admissions you seek to extort from me would amount to a confession that the Japanese Local Authorities are required to govern this Settlement without the power of making regulations for that purpose.
A.—That is precisely the farcical state of affairs at present existing.
B.—I do not believe it.
A.—Your incredulity does you credit.

STATISTICS published by the *Official Gazette* show that the transactions of the various Rice Exchanges throughout the Empire during the month of August amounted in the aggregate to 173,510 *koku*, the money value of which was a million and a quarter *yen*, approximately, while the brokers' taxes were 5,571 *yen*. In Japan, as elsewhere, the existence of these, or similar, Exchanges has been made the subject of considerable controversy, many persons holding that their effect is to enhance prices and to enrich a small coterie of gambling speculators at the expense of the general public. This opinion will not bear the test of serious examination. Apart from the fact that those who advocate the official suppression of such institutions are generally loudest among the opponents of governmental interference with the courses of commerce, it is certain that the Rice Exchanges have exercised a most beneficial influence by facilitating transactions in Japan's chief staple

and bringing surplus supplies within reach of empty markets. As for the general principle underlying the existence of these institutions, it may not be uninteresting to quote what Herbert Spencer says upon the subject:—"Another mistake, current alike among rich and poor, is that the speculations of corn-dealers are injurious to the public. So indignant are many well-meaning men at what they conceive to be a practice of intolerable cruelty, that it is scarcely possible to make them see how perfect freedom of trade is nationally advantageous in this, as in all other cases. Their anger blinds them to the fact that, were not the price raised immediately after a deficient harvest by the purchases of these large factors, there would be nothing to prevent the people from consuming food at *their ordinary rate*; which would end in the inadequate supply being eaten up long before the ripening of the next crop. They do not perceive that this mercantile operation is analogous in its effect to putting the crew of a vessel on diminished rations when the stock of provisions is found insufficient to last out the voyage. A somewhat serious error this for electors to labour under; especially as many of them would prevent the buying up of corn by legal penalties!"

MR. JUSTICE HANNEN's judgment in the case of Messrs. Cornes & Co. v. the *Selembrida* steamer is as follows:—"A peril of the sea was no doubt the *causa causans*, but the damage complained of was not directly caused by such peril, nor was it the natural consequence of the mischief which was caused by such peril. Upon this ground, I think the defendants must be held liable. There will be judgment for the plaintiffs, with costs assessed at \$25.00, inclusive of Court fees."

We read in an Italian journal that M. Vincenzo Ragusa, who, as our readers will doubtless remember, was engaged for some years teaching the art of sculpture in the Tokiyo Fine Arts School, has opened at his native place, Palermo, a museum of Japanese art. M. Ragusa explains that if the Japanese were captivated with what he had to teach them, he was not less charmed by what they, on their side, could show him of an art which may well be called the essence of refined and loving ideality. So charmed was he, indeed, that for many years he devoted all his spare moments as well as the whole of his savings to the acquisition of an abundant collection of Japanese industrial and artistic productions both ancient and modern. He was impelled, he declares, to this undertaking neither by any fatuous love of research nor yet by any love of exotic luxury, but above all and uniquely by the thought of the service he could render his country if he were the means of initiating it into the technicalities of an art so little known in Europe. To this end he brought back with him to Italy not merely a collection of inanimate objects, but also some living Japanese artists, whose works in lacquer, pottery and ivory are now on view at the *Musée Japonais*. The journal which describes the contents of this

museum thinks that a new field of industry is opened to Italy by M. Ragusa's conception, and urges the Government to come to his assistance. It appears that something has already been done officially for this patriotic speculator. The Custom House has been directed to admit his Japanese importations free of duty. But he wants still more substantial aid, and it is not improbable that he will find in Italy persons foolish enough to give it.

GERMANY was recently horrified by the suicide of Dr. Gans Edler zu Putlitz, professor of political economy at the University of Berlin, a young man whose remarkable attainments gave promise of a great future. It was at first supposed that the professor's brain had yielded to the unceasing pressure of study and speculation, but the suicide is now attributed to a different cause. Last winter, so the story goes, M. de Putlitz was at a restaurant in Berlin with some friends when the conversation happened to turn upon the subject of the Jews. The professor's party had nothing but fresh abuse for this much abused race, and some tolerably strong expressions had been used, when a gentleman, who was seated at the next table, came forward, announced that he was a Jew and demanded satisfaction of M. de Putlitz. The latter acceded at once, bidding the Jew name his weapons as he was the insulted party. The Jew explained that, being physically weak and also short-sighted, he would prefer the fashion of duel known in Germany as the "American duel." Two papers were accordingly put into a hat, the one blank, the other having the word "death" written on it. M. de Putlitz drew the latter, and was thus condemned to kill himself within a twelvemonth. He had a beautiful young wife, daughter of Count Flemming, the Prussian ambassador at Karlsruhe. He took her to Italy, and returning himself to Berlin continued to live as before, performing his academical duties and writing two pamphlets on political economy. One day he received intelligence that it was in contemplation to offer him the chair of political economy at the University of Halle. The following morning he was found dead in his bed with a bullet in his brain.

IN H.B.M. Court for Japan on the 5th instant, Mr. E. J. Moss sued Mr. M. Kirkwood for \$57. The claim was for restitution of money paid to release certain furniture which the plaintiff claimed was illegally detained. The facts of the case are:—Mr. Kirkwood some months since let a house to Mr. Cadwallader at a monthly rent of \$20. Mr. Cadwallader hired furniture at so much per month from Mr. E. J. Moss, and sublet the house and furniture to Mr. Archer. The change was reported to the landlord, who made no objection. Plaintiff saw what he thought to be the rent for the month of August, \$20, paid by Archer to Cadwallader, who said that he had handed it to Mr. Ford, defendant's landlord's agent. The payment of fifteen dollars to the latter was admitted; but rent at \$20 per month was due for the months of June, July, and

August, each, and \$15 paid was credited to the general arrears. There was a charge also of \$2 for advertisement of a house to let by the first tenant. The original agreement with the landlord was for a six months' tenancy, and the landlord, holding to the document and failing to receive the rent due, distrained. Mr. Moss's contention was (1) that the rent that he saw paid was for August, and (2) that Archer was only a lodger, and that therefore his (plaintiff's) furniture was exempt from distraint; but he could bring no evidence in proof. He remarked that, while he knew nothing of Cadwallader's being about to leave the country for a time, the fact was well known to Mr. Kirkwood, and the agent, Mr. Ford, and Mr. Moss thought it would at least only have been fair to himself to make him a participant in that knowledge. Mr. Kirkwood explained that Mr. Moss's only defence,—and that was inadequate,—would be under the Lodger's Act (which was briefly referred to and left aside as unavailing). With regard to Mr. Moss's remark that it would only have been fair or kindly to acquaint him with Mr. Cadwallader's intended departure, Mr. Kirkwood suggested that, in that case, the plaintiff would have removed his furniture, and he (defendant) would have lost his rent. His Honor, admitting the hardness of Mr. Moss's case, had no choice but to dismiss the claim with costs of Court.

Here opportunity may be taken to remind British tenants that their landlord has a legal right, without previous authorization from the Court, to distrain for arrears of rent. At the same time landlords, when driven to the harsh course of putting in a distress for their own protection, would do well to follow Sir E. Hornby's advice. That learned justice recommended landlords in the Far East in such cases to arm their bailiffs with the authority and seal of the Consular Court previous to taking possession, inasmuch as thus any breach of the peace would probably be avoided. The judiciousness of the counsel is as obvious as the ease with which it might be followed.

THE Normal School at Hongkong, established some years since by Governor Hennessy, has been closed. The leaders in the colonial press seem rather to rejoice at this; and presumably they know best the needs of the colony they represent; but outsiders are likely to deem the abolition of a training establishment for teachers a calamity.

One consideration, however, in this context, urged by the *Daily Press* is not without weight, and is even more catholic in its application than the writer chooses to make it. It is the difficulty of securing any efficient teacher in a language which is not to him a "milk-tongue." The objection is a valid one; but it is as applicable in France and England as in Japan and China. Our contemporary concludes a short article thus:—"The English language seems as difficult of acquirement by Chinamen, as Chinese is by Europeans. Even those of them who have had the advantage

of education in Europe or America generally speak English in a halting way and with continual grammatical blunders. All that can be expected of them, therefore, is that they should make themselves useful in assisting in teaching preparatory classes, but if the Government wishes to impart a sound knowledge of English to the boys attending the Government schools they will always have to maintain an efficient staff of English masters." We may add to this that English, of all languages, can very seldom, if ever, be taught efficiently by anyone who has not had the advantage of learning it from the time he began to speak at all.

THE Silk Association of America reports that manufactured silk to the value of \$3,806,951 was imported into New York in the month of August last, as against, in 1882, \$50,320,381: 1881, \$4,159,207: 1880, \$3,920,829; 1879, \$2,331,007. The summary of entries of silk manufactures in August, 1883, is:—Entered for consumption, \$3,170,754: entered for warehouse, \$636,197: total value landed in New York, \$3,806,951: withdrawn from warehouse, \$924,283: value placed on market, \$4,095,037. The imports of raw silk at the ports of New York and San Francisco in the month of August 1883 were 685 bales, value \$487,182. Imports of waste silk and pierced cocoons at the same ports were 27 packages, value \$9,896. The raw silk by steamer *City of Peking*, which arrived at San Francisco August 23rd, was forwarded by the Chicago, Burlington, and Quincy railway, and transferred for transit to New York to the Pennsylvania railway.

A PLEASING interchange of courtesies took place recently between the *North-China Daily News* and the *Shanghai Courier*. The latter has the sole privilege of publishing Reuter's telegrams in Shanghai, the *News* reproducing them subsequently with the ordinary acknowledgment of their origin. But the *News* also obtains special messages of its own, and these of course it takes full credit for. The *Courier* apparently disbelieved the genuineness of these special telegrams, imagining that the *News* simply purloined them. To bowl out its rival the *Courier* adopted the very unusual manoeuvre of publishing among the authentic telegrams an announcement that Mount Etna had broken out into eruption. The *News*, however, did not fall into the trap thus laid, for the fabrication was duly credited to the *Courier*, which had then to come out with an explanation of the whole affair. Truly a rather humiliating position, and a good example of "the engineer hoisted with his own petard."

CONSIDERING the extensive actual progress of railway work and projection of schemes for the entire final reticulation of the country by iron roads, Japan ought not to lose a single hint afforded her by the dearly-bought experience of other countries. M. Leroy-Beaulieu has come forward on behalf of the companies. In a recent article in the *Journal des Economistes* he declares that the growing hostility to corporations

is based on a delusion and is doing great mischief. He says that in Italy hostile legislation has ruined two great railroad companies since 1870 and has resulted in keeping foreign capital out of the country and in increasing its financial and industrial difficulties. In Spain, also, unwise government action is likely to prevent the construction of some four or five thousand miles of road, which have been projected and which are much needed by the country. If constructed at all, it will be only with the help of government subventions. In Paris itself the construction of a metropolitan railway has been indefinitely postponed owing to the vexatious course pursued by the municipal council. M. Leroy-Beaulieu further declares that France is worse supplied with street railroads than any other country in the world, owing to the heavy charges with which the municipalities load these enterprises. Affairs are at such a pass in some towns that the street railroad companies have been driven into bankruptcy by municipal exactions, and the tracks have been taken up because no one is found willing to take and use the franchise under the existing conditions. It is evident that governmental interference with railroads must be exercised with more care and wisdom than in the instances referred to, if it would not result in total failure. One point made by M. Leroy-Beaulieu has not much force in America, whatever may be the case in European countries. He insists that there is now no danger from the great corporations, for the reason that the shares are of small amount and are in the hands of many holders. The fact is otherwise in the United States, where single powerful individuals hold "controlling interests." The tendency also appears to be in the direction of greater concentration of the power of control in corporations everywhere.

THE *Vigilant*, paddle despatch-boat, Lieut.-Commander Maxwell, arrived here on the 1st instant, from Kobe, and the *Sapphire*, 12, screw corvette, Captain Fullerton, arrived the following morning, from Hakodate, and at eight o'clock saluted the port and the American flagship, which were duly acknowledged from the Kanagawa Fort and the *Richmond*.

H.E. MR. OKI, Prefect of this Ken, has left for Kobe, where he will preside at the ceremony of conferring prizes upon the successful competitors at the Tea Exhibition.

THE trial at Canton, of Logan, the Custom House officer, for shooting a Chinaman at Honam, is concluded. The jury found the prisoner guilty, and the Chief Justice, Sir R. T. Rennie, sentenced him to seven years' penal servitude.

A CURIOUS statistician has been making some calculations about the loquacity of French Deputies. He finds that of the whole number, 557, only 188 have taken part in the debates during the past eight months. Of the remainder, eight have spoken on purely personal subjects; 44

have mounted the tribunal for five minutes at a time to read out a report or some other document; 238 have never opened their mouths at all, and 79 have distinguished themselves by occasional cries of: *C'est faux! Allons donc! A l'ordre! La censure! On nous insulte!*

AMONGST the passengers by the *Arabic*, which arrived on Friday morning from San Francisco, we note the new French Representative His Excellency A. Sienkiewitz, suite, and family.

THE British Commissioner of the Amsterdam International, Colonial, and Export Exhibition has informed the China Sugar Refining Company of Hongkong that the Jury have awarded the Company a silver medal for their sugar.

FUJITANI and Otaka, two native residents of Naminohira, have been sentenced in the local Criminal Court of Nagasaki to six months' hard labour and a fine of *yen* 10 each, the former for receiving a quantity of rope from the boatswain's mate of the British steamer *Scotia*, knowing it to have been stolen, and the latter for concealing it upon his premises.

THE Russian men-of-war *Duke of Edinburgh*, *Skobloff*, and *Naisdnick* are in Nagasaki, where they will make a short stay.

THE Insatsu Kiyoku of Tokijo have received the highest award for their exhibits at the Amsterdam Exhibition in addition to the medal of honour.

MAIBARA SAJIMA, Clerk of the Court at Kobe, is said, while under detention on a charge of embezzlement, to have committed suicide by thrusting chop-sticks into his throat. There is an old Norse proverb to the effect that "Death must come if sternly summoned;" and no sterner summons to the dread monarch than that of the defaulting official can well be imagined.

THE *Audacious*, 14, double-screw iron armour-plated ship, Captain R. E. Tracey, (flagship of Vice-Admiral Wiles); the *Pegasus*, 6, composite screw sloop, Commander Bickford; the *Albatross*, 4, composite screw sloop, Commander Hicks; and the *Curacao*, 14, screw corvette, Captain Anstruther, arrived here on Wednesday from Hakodate.

MR. W. A. WOOLLEY, who was recently appointed Acting Vice Consul at Hakodate, returned from that port on Wednesday in the *Takasago Maru* to take up his appointment as Acting Consul at Hiogo, in place of Mr. Aston, who proceeds to Korea with Sir Harry Parkes.

MANY persons were awake on Thursday morning about three o'clock by a shock of earthquake, the oscillating motion at the commencement being rather severe, and the lesser vibrations that followed considerably prolonged.

THE *Mainichi Shimbun* reports that 150,000 bags of wheat have been already exported from Japan to China this year, realizing \$230,000.

THE PREFECT OF KANAGAWA'S
MEMORANDUM.

It is to be feared that the land-renters in Yokohama will not derive much encouragement from the memorandum of the Prefect of Kanagawa in reply to their memorial on the subject of municipal government. It is the old story repeated in a new form; another aspect of the seemingly hopeless deadlock into which our relations with this country have finally drifted. To our complaints of executive inefficiency the unanswerable answer is returned—no executive can be efficient if those it is required to control are at liberty to defy its authority. "Concede to us the power of governing and we undertake to govern satisfactorily." That is what the Japanese say, and the most conservative among us has no choice but to admit the justice of their rejoinder. But there is nothing novel in the contention. We have heard it, whenever our listlessness suffered us to be attentive, year by year since 1867. We have been perpetually assured that this impediment or that, created entirely by our jealous subservience to prejudices respectable for their own sakes but ridiculous in their results, paralyses the hands of the Local Government and renders it impossible for the Japanese either to do justice to themselves or to satisfy our proper requirements. Yet hearing this month after month and year after year, we find ourselves, to-day, no nearer a solution of the dilemma than we were when the first murmurs of discontent began to make themselves audible on the first day of this Settlement's existence. A result more discreditable to human ingenuity could scarcely be conceived.

But, perhaps, it is not quite true to say that we are no nearer a solution now than we were fifteen years ago. For we certainly have made one step in the right direction. The Prefect's memorandum puts us, for the first time, in distinct possession of the Japanese side of the question. It is always something gained to be assured that any remedy we may propose will not be rendered abortive, at the outset, by a false diagnosis of the malady.

What, then, is the Japanese contention? Let us examine it very briefly, so as to be sure how much must be admitted and how much may be rejected.

That the land-renters' surrender of the municipal control in 1867 disqualifies them, directly or by implication, to resume that control in 1883, is a position which cannot be maintained. The former action was avowedly necessitated by pecuniary inability. With twenty per cent. of the ground-

rents it was found impossible to carry on the municipality. The aggregate ground rents in 1866 amounted to about \$28,000. Thus the sum at the disposal of the municipality did not exceed \$5,600 per annum. Now, however, the ground-rents amount to \$60,000, and the land-renters ask for 75 per cent. of that sum, considering that the lords of the soil ought to be content with the remaining 25 per cent. Were these proposals accepted, the control of the Settlement would be resumed under financial conditions so different from those which compelled its abandonment in 1867 that results equally different might be expected.

Before passing on, it may be worth while to note what these proposals signify from a Japanese stand-point. The ground-rent is \$28 per 100 *tsubo*. Of this it is proposed to take \$21 and leave \$7 to the Government. Now the local land taxes in the Japanese Settlement amount to upwards of \$40 (48.80 *yen*) per 100 *tsubo*. Of this sum \$21 go to the Central Government and \$19 to the Local. Our title to be placed on a footing so much more favorable than our Japanese fellow residents remains to be established.

With regard to the much discussed question of unlicensed taverns, the record is little short of humiliating. It may have been unjust that foreign keepers of such establishments should be required to pay heavy fees from which Japanese were exempt. But it is equally unjust that a discrimination should be made in the former's favour. Since 1875 every Japanese publican has been obliged to pay a yearly license fee of 10 *yen*. Since 1874 every foreign publican has refused to pay any fee at all. And in this most indefensible position he receives the tacit support of the Foreign Consuls, who while their nationals loudly complain of the abuses connected with unlicensed taverns, effectually nullify the Local Government's attempts to license them. Truly it would seem as though this community were not credited with any reasoning or reflective faculties. Perhaps the Consuls consider that a fee of ten *yen* per annum would be quite ineffectual in the case of a foreign publican. Then why do they not say so? We are told that no answer has ever been received to the Prefect's proposal formulated eight years ago; nevertheless, during those eight years we have never ceased to reproach Japanese perfunctoriness!

The Consuls do not apparently measure the scope of their own arguments. If publicans in the Japanese Settlement ought to be placed on the same footing with publicans in the foreign Settlement, why not

all other classes of trades-people also? Where is the line to be drawn? We have seen that our Japanese fellow residents pay taxes amounting in the aggregate to 43 per cent. more than we pay ourselves. With this inequality existing, why should other things be necessarily equalized? If we claim the right to level down in one direction where the whole advantage accrues to ourselves, with what face can we claim the right to remain below the same level in other directions where the disadvantage is wholly on the Japanese side?

It is, however, contended by some persons that the imperfect surveillance exercised over taverns in the Japanese Settlement warrants an inference of the Local Authorities' incompetence to undertake the control of taverns in the Foreign Settlement. Observe where this leads us. Foreign publicans have refused to pay license fees since 1874 because Japanese publicans were then exempt. Japanese publicans, since 1875, have paid a license fee of 10 *yen* per annum. Yet we now accuse the Local Government of incompetence because, in addition to exacting from its own people a tax not imposed upon ours, it fails to discriminate still further to their disadvantage by subjecting the quality of their wares to a control from which the liquors sold at foreign taverns are entirely free. The only logical or fair inference to be drawn from the fact, if fact it be, that poisonous alcoholic compounds are sometimes sold by Japanese publicans, is that the doctrine of equality established—though neglected—by ourselves relieves all alike from efficient supervision.

Turning now to the Prefect's contention with regard to the registration of our Japanese *employés* and the expediency of conferring upon the police extended powers of search, it may be stated generally that the position we practically occupy is this: having delegated to the Japanese authorities the duties of protecting our lives, properties, &c., we also claim the right to prescribe how they shall perform that duty. In other words, we agree to be governed, but insist upon governing. Our *employés* are Japanese subjects, and it may be reasonably assumed that the Japanese authorities know better than we how to manage them. But even that assumption is denied, with the result that to be, or to be called, a foreign *employé*, is to be virtually exempt from control altogether. The Prefect tells us that there are about one hundred Japanese residing in the Foreign Settlement without having complied with the prescribed forms; that they "are the men who are engaged in [disreputable

trades," and that they are "enabled to escape beyond the reach of the law by reason of their alleged status as foreigners' employés." He tells us, further, that the privileges of the same status are enjoyed by many unlicensed prostitutes, receivers of stolen goods, and other bad characters, whom the arm of the law is powerless to reach. Now, broadly speaking, the foreign residents of this Settlement may be divided into two classes. The first, which is also the majority, consists of respectable householders who are ready and anxious to lend every possible assistance towards the maintenance of law and order; who would be glad to see their servants registered, and who, for the sake of knowing that their premises are not made a refuge for thieves and prostitutes, would even agree that the police should have access to their compounds. The second class, the minority, consists of men who, whether because these measures would be inconvenient, or because their prejudices forbid them to reason, or because they are too ignorant to understand, refuse to let their servants be registered, are ready to resist everything resembling police surveillance, and need no better pretext for evading or violating a regulation than the fact that it is of Japanese enactment. Which of these two classes is represented by the present attitude of this community?

Without following the Prefect's memorandum any further, we may now formulate the alternatives which present themselves for selection. They are these:—to confer on the Japanese authorities the additional power they require, or to assume the whole municipal control of the Settlement ourselves. What the latter course involves we have been told by Sir EDMUND HORNBY and Sir HARRY PARKES. It involves obtaining a charter, in the first instance, from the Japanese Government, and afterwards moving all the Treaty Powers to unanimous legislation. The time necessary to accomplish these steps has been estimated by the best authorities at from seven to ten years. The former course, on the contrary, can be immediately adopted. The Local Authorities ask for nothing that is unreasonable, nothing that need be in any respect irksome, and nothing that the Foreign Representatives are unable to concede at once. We have to choose, then, between working for ourselves and working for the next generation of foreign residents.

THE NAGASAKI POLICE AFFAIR.

A CAREFUL examination of the evidence given at the Coroner's inquest in Nagasaki on the 17th ultimo suggests some interesting reflections. The Chinese case, briefly stated, amounts to this:—that six Japanese policemen, four of whom were armed with swords, entered a Chinese shop where a man and a youth were smoking opium, arrested the man, by throwing him on his face and holding him down, stabbed the lad to death, and afterwards wounded three inmates of the house who attempted to remonstrate. Now it is to be observed that the admitted purpose of the police was the arrest of opium-smokers. But according to the evidence of the owner of the house, Chun Dai, the youth, Wai Egno, who was stabbed, was lying beside the former and both alike were engaged in smoking opium. Yet the police proceeded to arrest Chun Dai only. Again, Chun Dai himself says that he was thrown on his face and held down *because he resisted*. Wai Egno, on the other hand, was killed because—so the Chinese evidence says—he remonstrated against the illegal seizure of money which belonged to him. What we have to believe, then, is this:—that the police, coming to arrest opium-smokers and finding a man and a youth of 17 *in flagrante delicto*, arrested the man and dealt with his resistance by merely throwing him down and holding him with his face to the ground. But when the youth of 17, whom they were not trying to arrest, objected to the confiscation of his money, they drew their swords and stabbed him to death. Two inexplicable points present themselves here:—First, why did the police discriminate between two persons equally deserving of arrest? Second, why did they meet the resistance of the man by a simple exercise of unarmed force, while they punished the much more legitimate resistance of the youth by stabbing him to death?

Turn, now, to the evidence of the man Woo Moa. He was passing the house where the event is said to have occurred, and at the conclusion of his testimony he declared that he had "only dared to tell what he actually witnessed." Yet what he told was, that he saw Wai Egno stabbed in the chest with a dagger by a policeman not in uniform; that he saw him pursued and stabbed in the back by a policeman in uniform; that "whatever may have been the primary cause of the attack, he truly believed the deceased innocent and free from blame;" that "he knew deceased had been sent to the house for the purpose of paying an account," and that "being invited by the proprietor of the house to smoke a pipe of opium, the deceased had lain down and placed his money under the opium platter;" that he knew that "when the police were seizing the opium apparatus, they seized the money also, which caused deceased to remonstrate and resist what he no doubt considered an illegal act," and that "while in the act of resisting he was most unmercifully killed." All this Woo Moa declared to be true, adding that he "had only dared to tell what he actually witnessed." It will be

observed, however, that, according to this statement, deceased was both running away and in the act of resisting when he received the fatal stab. This discrepancy is, however, less important than the fact that despite Woo's avowal as to telling nothing but what he actually witnessed, his testimony consists chiefly of what he knew by hearsay. All that he *saw* was the stabbing of Wai Egno. His statements as to the money-paying mission; the accepted invitation to smoke opium; the placing of the money under the platter, and the deceased's remonstrances, were hearsay evidence. Indeed, he afterwards admitted that he only conjectured the cause of the stabbing. Yet this was the only witness who saw Wai Egno meet his death.

Next we have the evidence of three men who said that, being upstairs in Chun Dai's house and hearing cries of murder, they ran down, found Wai Egno "lying insensible on the floor," "saw that he was dying" "tried to ascertain the reason of the attack" or to prevent its repetition, and were all wounded by the police. Yet it appears that the three persisted in their remonstrances or other violent proceedings, for the trouble went on until "the Chinese Consular Constable came and stopped it." Stopped what? An assault by three wounded Chinese upon six Japanese policemen, four of whom had drawn swords in their hands and were using them freely! Unfortunately the evidence of this Consular Constable was not taken at the inquest, though the importance of his testimony was obvious. The Japanese police declare that he was instrumental in quelling the disturbance, but according to them it was a disturbance of a very different nature—namely, an attack by a Chinese mob armed with clubs upon three Japanese Constables and a detective, who were escorting two Chinese prisoners. The Chinese witnesses offered no explanation of the fact that the police failed to arrest anyone. Did the arrival of the Consular Constable prevent the Japanese from carrying off their prisoner Chun Dai, and if not, what prevented them? Their own story is that, while escorting Chun Dai and another man to the station, they were set upon, badly beaten and their prisoners rescued by a mob, of whom Wai Egno was one, and in support of this statement there are two important items of circumstantial evidence:—first that two of the police were severely injured, and second, that their prisoners were actually rescued or taken from them in some fashion. Were these injuries inflicted on the police by three wounded, unarmed Chinamen, who, according to their own story, confined themselves to remonstrance and enquiry, and was the interference of these three Chinamen sufficient to prevent six policemen from carrying off the prisoner they had arrested?

We may note here a curious point of contact between the Chinese and Japanese evidence. According to the former, Wai Egno received his first wound from a policeman not in uniform. Now the constables in uniform alone carried swords. We have to assume, therefore, that no sooner was the order "draw swords" given—an order prompted by the protesting attitude of a

youth of 17—than one of the detectives snatched a weapon from a comrade and stabbed Wai. This is perplexing, yet if we turn to the testimony of the Japanese themselves, we learn that the only attempt to use a sword was actually made by a detective. For when the detective Miné had been knocked down and was, as he supposed, in danger of his life, he succeeded in seizing the sword of a constable who was struggling at his side. It will, perhaps, be fair to infer, having regard to these statements, that Wai Egno did receive the fatal wound at the hands of a detective, but that the circumstances under which the latter became possessed of a sword were very different from those depicted in the Chinese story.

There ought not to be much difficulty, after all, in choosing between the two versions. The determination of one point would suffice to remove all doubt. Did the encounter, of whatever nature it was, take place in the street or in the shop? If the former, the Japanese version must be accepted: if the latter, the Chinese. The only evidence as yet published bearing upon this, is that of Wai's uncle and of Dr. Fenwick. The former said that he "heard a disturbance in the street," and the latter, that at about 8.45 p.m., being called to see Wai Egno, he "found him lying in one of the streets of Shintchi." But, as we have already pointed out, of the three Chinese who claim to have been in the house where the affray is said to have occurred, one declared that, on coming down-stairs, he found Wai Egno "lying insensible on the floor of the shop;" another, that "he saw deceased was dying," and the third, that he "rushed down-stairs and found the deceased in a dying state." If these statements be trustworthy, Wai Egno must have been carried out and laid in the street before Dr. Fenwick was called.

We trust that a thorough investigation of this affair will be held. Nothing could be less expedient than the habit which prevails in Japan of leaving everything unsifted. The public knows nothing as yet about the truth or falsehood of the charges preferred against the police in connection with the recent case of the seaman McCarthy; knows nothing of the truth or falsehood of the charges preferred against the police by the Fukushima conspirators, and seems likely to be left in equal ignorance with regard to this Nagasaki riot. The Japanese ought to have learned, ere this, that silence on their part is always construed into an admission of culpability.

LATEST TELEGRAMS.

[REUTER "SPECIAL" TO "JAPAN MAIL."]

London, September 28th.

FRANCE AND CHINA.

It is reported that the Chinese Government has declined the proposals made by the French.

London, October 3rd.

MINISTERIAL CRISIS IN FRANCE.

Rumours are current in Paris that a Ministerial crisis is imminent, and differences are known to exist in the Cabinet.

A later account states that the Cabinet is only awaiting the assembling of Parliament.

MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENT.

The following document has been handed to us for publication by the Chairman of the former Committee of Land Renters:—

Kanagawa Kencho, December 1st,
15th year of Meiji.

MEMORANDUM IN REPLY TO THE MEMORIAL CONCERNING MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENT IN YOKOHAMA FORWARDED BY THE FOREIGN RESIDENTS OF YOKOHAMA.

Before proceeding to express my views with reference to the Memorial forwarded by the foreign residents of Yokohama, I deem it necessary to give a brief history of the development of the municipal government of this port.

At the opening of Yokohama and the settlement of foreigners in the delineated part of the town, the municipal control of the Settlement was undertaken by the foreign residents, the expenses thereof being defrayed out of a fund created by deducting 20 per cent. from the ground-rents payable by the foreign lease-holders to the Japanese Government. The arrangement was as follows:—the lease-holders paid the ground-rents to their respective Consuls, who, after deducting 20 per cent. for municipal expenses, transmitted the remainder to the Governor of Kanagawa. The lease-holders having, however, found that the fund thus raised was insufficient to meet the municipal expenses, and that they were unable any longer to continue the control in their own hands, convened a general meeting, at which it was decided that the practice of retaining 20 per cent. of the ground-rent should be discontinued, and that the Japanese Government (*i.e.* Governor of Kanagawa,) should be requested to assume control of the Settlement. Accordingly on the 15th July, 1867, a memorial embodying these resolutions was submitted by the foreign residents to the Ministers of the Treaty Powers, who after deliberation, forwarded to the Tokugawa Government a draft convention consisting of seven articles, signed by the Ministers for Great Britain, the United States, Prussia, and Holland, and bearing date the 28th October, 1867. This convention having been agreed to by the Minister Ogasawara Ikinokami on the 4th November of the same year, it was arranged in accordance with Art. I thereof, to establish a municipal office for the Settlement and to appoint a foreign director subordinate to the Governor of Kanagawa. But as there was at the time no person deemed eligible for the post, Mr. Dohmen, of the British Consular service, was appointed provisionally. Subsequently, on the 11th May, 1868, Mr. Benson, an American citizen, was appointed by the Governor to the post of municipal director with an office on the premises of the Saibansho. The principal duties of the municipal director were:—the direction of all executive measures affecting the Settlement; police matters; collection of ground-rents and taxes on houses of entertainment; issuance of title-deeds; determination of the boundaries of lots; repairs and cleaning of roads and streets; registration of Chinese subjects, &c.;—in short, the control of all executive measures affecting the Settlement. These functions were exercised under the orders of the Governor. The necessity for the establishment of such an office at the time, arose from the inexperience of our local authorities in matters of police, engineering works, &c.: but after a time, great improvements having been introduced into all branches of the local government, it was thought that the necessity no longer existed of continuing the special office of municipal director, and in consequence Mr. Benson was released from his duties, and the municipal Office was closed on the 30th June, 1877. This determination was duly communicated to the foreign Consuls who raised no objections thereto, while the British Consul in his reply dated July 4, 1877, expressed his approval of the arrangement, and since the date named, the business of the office has been conducted directly by the Kencho.

From the above brief history it will be seen, that from the opening of the port down to 1867, the municipal control of the foreign Settlement of Yokohama was in the hands of the foreign residents; that in the latter year the residents, through their

Representatives, requested the Japanese Government to assume control of the Settlement; that thereupon a municipal director was appointed to conduct all business relating to the Settlement under the orders of the Japanese authorities, and that, finally in 1877, the services of the said director were dispensed with, and the management of all affairs undertaken directly by the Kanagawa Kencho. It would appear, however, from the present Memorial that the foreign residents now seek once more to acquire that municipal control, which before they voluntarily requested the Japanese Government to assume. But I venture to think that by again assuming control of municipal affairs, the foreign residents would experience the same difficulties they before encountered, and I should add, the statements contained in the Memorial are for the most part unfounded, as I shall now endeavor to show:—

The complaints made in the Memorial with regard to police matters are, with a few exceptions, groundless, and can only be regarded as sentimental grievances. The Memorialists say that "in that portion of the town known as the 'Old Swamp Concession' there are numerous taverns, the majority of which are kept by foreigners and natives of the lowest class and character," and that "to these houses seamen are allured by various artifices, supplied with maddening adulterated liquors," &c., &c. In fact, however, there is at present not a single Japanese who keeps a tavern in that quarter, although formerly there were one or two; while there are a large number of such resorts kept by foreigners. Over these latter no surveillance can be exercised by the police, as it is practically impossible for the Kencho to interfere with the trade carried on by foreigners. It is at these shops that seamen become intoxicated, and then turn out into the streets to brawl and fight, to the obstruction of traffic. Although details will be given later on, I should here mention that in 1876, a correspondence took place between the Governor and the Swiss Consul-General, who was then chairman of the Consular Board, upon the subject of issuing licences to, and generally controlling, these grog-shops.

It is true that in various parts of the Settlement and on the different roads leading to the Bluff Settlement, there are some houses where may be found both prostitutes and receivers of stolen property. With regard to the women who ply their illegitimate trade on the roads referred to, it may be stated that as several arrests have lately been made, the number has been so reduced that the evil has now almost disappeared. But with the same class of women in the Settlement, it is found extremely difficult to deal, because they take shelter in the foreign grog-shops, the proprietors of which employ them to carry on their disreputable traffic. If such persons were found in the native town of Yokohama, they would immediately be arrested and punished; but this effective step cannot be taken with those who live in the foreign Settlement, and pass as persons employed by foreigners, because in order to arrest them, it is first necessary to obtain a warrant from the Consul of the employer's nationality, and it often happens that when policemen, after obtaining the warrant, proceed to make arrests, they fail to find the objects of their search owing to the long time spent in these preliminary formalities. The same difficulty exists in arresting the receivers of stolen goods, as many of them also are enabled to pass as employes of foreigners.

In order to secure better means of arresting persons of this class, a proposal was made to the chairman of the Consular Board in August 1877, to the effect that "the Governor should be furnished with a general warrant enabling the proper officers to enter freely into the premises occupied by foreigners of whatever nationality, when there is reason to suspect that offenders are concealing themselves therein;" and also that, "as the receivers of stolen goods, thieves, &c., are, for the most part, foreigners' servants or those who conceal themselves in the houses of such servants, the police should be allowed to enter the premises of foreigners, for purposes of investigation, and to take the names, &c., of the Japanese servants employed therein." An answer to this suggestion was received from the chairman of the Consular Board during the same month, saying that at the Consular meeting it

had been decided that with regard to the unlicensed prostitutes they "must decline to have anything to do in the matter," but with regard to the registration of servants it had been determined to publish a notification in a daily paper "recommending" the foreign residents to register the names of their native servants at the Kencho. As, however, it was apparent that this action of the Consular Board would be ineffectual, another proposal was submitted in September of the same year, in which it was suggested that arrangements should be made by which the native servants of foreigners might, when necessary in connection with any crimes or offences, be summoned or arrested directly by the Kencho or its police officers. But this proposal met with the same fate, the chairman stating in his reply, which was sent in October 1877, that the proposal was "inadmissible." For these reasons, it is extremely difficult to clear the Settlement of unlicensed prostitutes, receivers of stolen goods, and other bad characters who are living therein under the name of "foreigners' employees." With reference to the receivers of stolen goods alleged to be seen in the vicinity of the Hatoba, &c., I deem it proper to say, that as it was suspected that the "ragmen" were in the habit of buying stolen goods, a strict surveillance was kept over them for many months, and in consequence, they have now almost disappeared from the foreign Settlement. While it is impossible to say that none of these "ragmen" receive stolen goods, yet they buy nothing of any value, as their purchases are confined to old metal, clothing, empty bottles, &c., and their transactions are trifling when compared with those of persons who under the name of foreigners' servants carry on the same traffic.

The assertion in the Memorial that "the number of police employed is 'far in excess of that required'" can only be attributed to a want of knowledge on the part of the Memorialists as to the actual state of affairs. Previous to June of the present year, owing to the limited appropriation for police expenses, the number of policemen was absolutely insufficient, and great difficulty was experienced in getting the police work done by the force at my disposal. The grant has been increased beginning with the present (15th) fiscal year, and I trust that the police control of the foreign Settlement will for the future be thoroughly efficient.

The charges contained in the Memorial that the policemen's wages "are not only inadequate, but 'directly conduce to the corruption of the men,'" and that they "have connived at robberies" are statements which ought not to have been made without the clearest evidence. The policemen are mostly enlisted from among the *Shiokoku*, and are generally men of upright and honest character, and while it would be too much to say that there is not a single man of bad behavior among them, I am nevertheless in a position to declare that there has never been a single case in which the police "have connived at robberies."

It is alleged that "heavy cases of goods requiring three or four men to handle have been removed by night from warehouses bodily, and carried away without the knowledge of the police," and this assertion would, upon a superficial glance, seem to establish the charge that the police have neglected their duties, but what can be said if the employees of the firms, from whose godowns the cases have been removed are accomplices of the thieves? Robberies have also doubtless taken place without the connivance of such employees, but under existing circumstances even if the police were numerous enough to guard every house in the Settlement, it could not be expected that the corps would be as effective as required, because they meet with many difficulties in the proper discharge of their duties, arising from the fact that they are not clothed with any authority over foreigners. Indeed, under this condition of things, the mere increase of the police force would be ineffectual, unless they are given the necessary authority to discharge the duties. In any honest endeavor to suppress these crimes, the first requisite is to drive out the thieves, unlicensed prostitutes, and other bad characters now concealing themselves on foreign premises in the Settlement; but that can never be done, unless the police are empowered to enter the premises of foreigners for the purpose of arresting suspected persons. The places to which it is essential that the police should

have free access, both during day and night, when they deem it necessary, are as follows:—

Compounds of foreigners in the Settlements; inns of low class; bath-houses in Japanese style; shops where Japanese alone are carrying on trade, though claiming to be employees of foreigners; drinking saloons of low class; houses belonging to foreigners in which there may be living or employed as servants, females previously convicted of secret prostitution or persons previously convicted of receiving stolen goods, or of gambling.

Coming to that part of the Memorial which deals with the condition of roads, street drains, &c., it appears the Memorialists have entirely overlooked the actual state of things, and I am at a loss to understand what can be the real basis of their alleged grievances. Although much is said on the subject, and draft bye-laws, &c., for future management are given, yet I would point out that these are the very things to which the local authorities have long been directing their attention. Some of these works have already been completed, while others are now being carried out or are in contemplation. There is therefore, in reality, no occasion for recalling the attention of the local authorities to these subjects. Such a work as the construction of the main drains now being carried out in the midst of the foreign Settlement, ought to afford sufficient evidence of the earnest endeavors which the local authorities are making to ameliorate the condition of the Settlement.

The Memorialists state that "the Main and Water Streets in wet weather become almost impassable, while in dry and summer weather the dust is intolerable" &c., and that many of the roads "are in a most dilapidated condition" and "in bad weather traffic is seriously impeded," &c., &c. Now, with the exception of some roads on the Bluff which are being repaired, I venture to assert that there is not a single road throughout the entire Settlement which is in the state described. In the locality commonly known as "the Old Settlement," the roads and drains were not in the first instance perfectly constructed, and it is intended to thoroughly overhaul them. The extensive work of reconstruction and reparation of streets in that and other localities has very properly been deferred, until after completion of the works connected with the laying down of the new main drains and aqueducts, the former of which is now being carried out. For these reasons and these alone, the roads have not, for some little time past, been kept in perfect repair. In the ward generally known as the "New Swamp Settlement," all the roads and drains were strongly constructed before the locality was occupied as a part of the foreign Settlement, and the drains being built of stone and of sufficient capacity to meet the requirements of the district, it will not be necessary in the future to disturb the existing streets. These roads, &c., may therefore, be said to be in the most perfect condition. It will thus be seen that, with the exception of certain streets in the old Settlement there is not, in the Swamp or Bluff Settlements, a single road or drain which is in a dilapidated condition as alleged in the Memorial.

Extensive works cannot always be executed in a short time, and my intention is to carry them out by degrees. With this view, the work has now been commenced of reconstructing roads and laying main drains in that part of the Settlement bounded by the Bund from the Custom House to the Creek, thence to the Maida-bashi on the southwest side, thence running to the north along the Homura-road, and forming in extent about two thirds of the old Settlement.

This work is now in progress at an enormous expenditure of money. The drains are built of brick, and will not only be sufficient to carry off the rain water, but also the waste-water, and a proper allowance has been made for an increase in the population of this quarter. This work will be completed before long, and immediately thereafter the repairs of the roads will be executed, so that a very material improvement of roads and drains in this part of the Settlement may be said to be almost accomplished. However, the government having been urged to lay aqueduct pipes in the foreign Settlement, an investigation as to the method of carrying out the work is now being made, and it will doubtless be necessary to dig up

the roads once more during the progress of the work; but when all of these great undertakings have been completed, there will be no further cause for complaint, in respect of roads and drains in any part of the foreign Settlement. The cost of laying down the sections of the new main drains already in course of construction amounts to upwards of one hundred thousand yen, and this work, it should be observed, is executed for the exclusive benefit of the foreign Settlement. In the face of this fact, it appears scarcely reasonable to assume that any public works are neglected by the local authorities.

The statement contained in the Memorial that the drains were only constructed to carry off surface water, and that they have been used for sewage, &c., cannot be denied. It is a fact that the existing drains were built for that specific purpose alone, and not as receptacles for all kinds of refuse matter. It is also a fact that foreign residents and their servants make these drains receptacles for sewage of all kinds, or privately alter the course of such drains, thus causing them to be choked up, and rendered a source of danger to public health. Whenever such actions are observed, officials are despatched to the spot or communications made to the occupants of the premises. But my endeavors have generally been abortive as foreign residents decline to carry out the directions given, and raise all sorts of objections. If the foreign residents continue their present habits in this respect and persist in ignoring the regulations prescribed by the local authorities for protection of the drains, I am much afraid that the new drains, however solidly constructed, will not produce that benefit which they are designed to confer upon the foreign Settlement.

For the control of all such matter as "projections interfering with the thoroughfare, the practice of obstructing the streets," &c., "ruinous and dangerous buildings, walls, &c.; the cleansing of streets, dangerous materials, firearms, fireworks, *jinrikisha*" there are in operation complete regulations which both the local and police officials continually exert themselves to carry out. But as foreign residents habitually ignore and disobey them, such regulations can accomplish but little good, so far as the foreign Settlement is concerned.

The Memorialists truly say that "the local government do not consider street lighting as included in their duties." The misapprehension that any such obligation rests on the Kencho has probably arisen from the fact that street lamps are maintained in Kobe. No arrangements, however, similar to those which exist in Kobe respecting street lamps have ever been made for Yokohama. In the first arrangement for the residence of foreigners at Kobe, it was agreed that the expenses of street lamps should be defrayed out of the ground rent, and by virtue of this convention the Kencho in Kobe is probably under obligation to defray these expenses even to the present day. The reason why a distinction should be made between Kobe and Yokohama may be found in the fact that at the former port the ground rent is 100 *ichibus* or about \$32.15 per 100 *subos*, while at the latter it is only about \$28. In the absence of an express agreement it is difficult to discover upon what grounds the claim is based that the local government should light the streets. It is a custom, most peculiar to Japan but common, I believe, in most countries to defray the expense of lighting streets by means either of voluntary or compulsory subscriptions from the persons benefited. In the year 1870, certain foreigners applied to the Kencho for permission to establish a gas company in Yokohama. This circumstance, it may be proper to add, tends to show that at that date at any rate, it was not pretended that street lighting should be undertaken by the Municipality at the expense of the Government. The Kencho, indeed, gave support and protection in the first instance to the scheme of introducing gas into this town, but when the people had familiarized themselves with the management of the company, the Kencho withdrew its protection and left the entire matter in the hands of the people, who have since defrayed the expenses by means of public subscriptions. Such being the case in the native town, it cannot be denied that a still greater obligation rests upon residents in the foreign Settlement to bear this expense themselves. From 1871, when the gas company was established, and permission given to erect gas

lamps in the streets, until 1875, the streets of the foreign Settlement were lighted with gas. During the latter year, however, the foreign residents made some complaint and refused to pay their quota of the expenses any longer, and in consequence the gas company was, in 1876, compelled to cease lighting the foreign Settlement. An agreement was again made, it would appear, with the said company in 1881, for lighting the foreign Settlement at the monthly cost of 4 yen and 16 sen per lamp, and since that date every street has been lighted, excepting those on the Bluff where there are no gas lamps. The said cost may be higher than the rates in Europe and America, but by comparison it will be found that they are not higher than those prevailing in Hongkong and Shanghai where gas was introduced not long since. Any part of the Settlement of Yokohama may be lighted if the residents will pay the cost at the rate named.

The Memorialists say that "in the streets, and in various other parts of the Settlement, are numerous wooden houses or shanties, Japanese in every detail, openly occupied by Japanese tradesmen," &c. In answer to this charge I desire to point out that Japanese are permitted to reside in the foreign Settlement upon obtaining permission from the Kanagawa Kenrei, who is authorized to grant the necessary license after consultation with the foreign Consuls, in accordance with Art. III. of the "Regulations for the lease of lands," drawn up by the Kanagawa Bugiyo and the foreign Consuls conjointly. The Japanese who are residing within the foreign Settlement in conformity with the above conditions, are at present, 27 in number. But there are, besides, about one hundred who are so living without such permission, and those are the men who are engaged in disreputable trades. Many bad characters are to be found among them, but they are enabled to escape beyond the reach of the law by reason of their alleged status as 'foreigners' employes.' Furthermore, the houses occupied by those men are generally of poor construction and in a dirty state, but being built by foreigners, who lease them for their own benefit they cannot be brought under control. Under these circumstances, it is not surprising that most of the abuses complained of are to be found among persons living in the foreign Settlement, without the necessary permission. In order to keep these people under control, it is essential that a strict surveillance be exercised over the servants of foreigners, and the managers of servants' agencies; and it was for this reason that the proposed rules in that behalf were submitted to the Board of Foreign Consuls in July 1876 and again in August 1877, and, although indispensable, they have never been agreed to.

With regard to the maintenance of "ruinous dwellings, walls &c., dangerous to passers by," and "the erection of sheds obstructive to the public thoroughfare, or leaving goods on the streets," to which the Memorialists advert, I may be permitted to remark, that the grievances exist because of acts committed by foreigners or their employes in violation of the regulations, and are serious grounds for complaint on my side. In this and many other directions, it is surprising to find the foreign residents formulating complaints against the Kencho regarding the inconvenient consequences resulting from their own disregard of our laws. The local regulations provide that whenever it is desired to place timber, stones, &c., in front of houses, or to use a part of the road in connection with the erection of buildings, &c., application shall be made for permission so to do, and that on receipt of such application, the proper officials shall proceed to inspect the spot, and if they find no objection, permission may be granted for a fixed term. Notwithstanding these regulations, 37 foreigners have erected, without such permission, stone-steps at the entrances of their shops, &c., and more than 20 have built their upstairs rooms or verandahs to project into the streets. Many of these erections are, however, not such as seriously impede traffic; and with regard to those which are obstructive, the owners have been requested to remove them, but they have not, up to the present time, complied with my request, on the ground that the structures have been allowed to remain in their existing condition for many years. I might cite one notable instance, where the entire width of the sidewalk is taken up by a

sort of raised stone piazza, which the owner of the building persists in refusing to remove, and is supported in her refusal by the authority whose assistance has been sought to enforce the removal of the obstruction. Some time ago the building was destroyed by fire, and my predecessor deemed it an opportune moment to demand the removal of the piazza, but while a correspondence was passing on the subject between him and the authority above referred to, haste was made to reconstruct the building with its former objectionable projection.

I now proceed to deal expressly with the subject of the "taverns carried on without license." The control of these establishments was undertaken by the foreign Representatives in the Convention concluded between them and Japanese Government on the 4th November, 1866, Art. VI. of which, provides that the foreign Representatives "undertake to instruct their respective Consuls to confine within the narrowest limits compatible with public convenience, the number of licenses issued by them to their respective subject or citizens as sellers of foreign spirits or liquors, or as keepers of houses of entertainment within the foreign Settlement or within the port of Kanagawa," and further that "a copy of every license will be furnished by the Consul, as soon as it is issued, to the Governor of Kanagawa," &c. Beginning with May, 1868, a tax of \$12 was collected every month as a license fee from tavern-keepers, while those who made default in payment of the tax, and those who carried on the trade without taking out a license were duly dealt with by the police authorities. This practice continued until October, 1874, when all the grog-shop keepers refused any longer to pay the tax, alleging as the reason, that it was unfair for them to have to pay the sum, while the Japanese were allowed to carry on the same trade without taxation. The question was made the subject of correspondence with the Consuls, and ultimately it was proposed in a letter addressed to Mr. Brennwald, Swiss Consul-General and Senior Consul, in November 1875, that as a regulation had been made, which went into operation in February of the same year, whereby every Japanese liquor dealer was required to pay a yearly license fee of 10 yen, payable semi-annually, the foreigners should be ordered to pay a similar tax. *To this proposal no answer was ever received.* The Kenrei was about to address another letter to the Senior Consul upon this subject, when it was discovered that two British subjects, Lewis and Kelly, were selling articles, in the foreign Settlement, which were subject to national taxation. Correspondence was thereupon opened with the British Consul upon the subject in January, 1880. In September of the same year, under instructions from the Minister for Foreign Affairs to my predecessor, the whole matter was referred to the Department for Foreign Affairs.

The complaints made with respect to sanitary matters refer to:—the conveyance at improper hours of offensive matter, want of an efficient system of cleansing roads and drains, absence of system of watering the streets, accumulation of garbage within the private compounds of foreigners, &c. The causes which have given rise to these grievances I shall endeavor to explain briefly in their order.

In the native town of Yokohama, the hours for removing night-soil are from sunset to sunrise; but in the case of the foreign Settlement, scavengers were notified some time ago to effect the removal between 1 a.m. and daylight. Nevertheless, as the scavenging is done by contract between the scavengers and foreign residents, some of the latter have, undoubtedly to suit their own convenience, ordered the scavengers to call at other than the prescribed hours. This is the reason why the conveyance of night-soil through the Settlement sometimes takes place at improper hours. The Local Board of Health at a meeting held on the 9th August last, passed a resolution to the effect that the removal of night-soil in the foreign Settlement should be effected between the hours of 10 p.m. and 6 a.m., and that offenders against this rule should be punished as offenders against the police regulations. In future this recommendation will be strictly carried out. The system of cleansing the streets and drains now in force requires that the scavengers engaged by the Kencho shall go the rounds of all the streets twice

a day, cleansing the streets, removing garbage, &c. If, in spite of this, there is still garbage in the streets the fault must rest with those who throw it there, viz: foreigners or their servants.

As to the watering of streets, the chairman of Consular Board was requested in 1876 to cause the foreign residents to contribute one half of the expenses (the other half being defrayed by the Kencho) for watering streets. This request was, however, refused by the Consuls, on the ground that as the foreigners pay a large sum of money in ground-rent, the Japanese Government as owner of the land, ought to bear all the expenses. In making the above suggestion the Kencho was not unmindful of the fact that the whole expense of watering roads ought to be borne by the residents, and not by the Government, but considering that the watering would keep the roads in good condition, the Government declared its readiness to bear one-half of the expense. As, however, the request was refused by the foreign Consuls, the Kencho commenced, without further negotiation with them, to carry out its half of the work (i.e. watering once a day) in the year 1877, and this work has been continued during the past summer.

It is true that "garbage is sometimes accumulated in the private compounds of foreigners," and whenever observed the occupants are requested to remove it at once. But if the occupants are unwilling to carry out such directions, nothing further can, under existing circumstances, be done, as offenders claim exemption from all laws and regulations upon this and kindred subjects.

Although the application of sanitary measures differs in urban and rural districts, yet uniformity of action in this respect is a prime necessity where several districts are contiguous to each other, because precautions taken by some of them would be almost useless if no similar measures are adopted by their neighbours. While the foreign Settlement is in a sense separated from the native town, yet the two are connected by rows of dwellings, and I therefore deem it essential that the regulations upon the following subjects, which are now in force in the native town, should be made to apply as well to the foreign Settlement:—1. The sale of injurious, violent, or adulterated drugs. 2. Adulterated food and food unfit for use. 3. The removal of refuse matter. 4. The construction of water-closets, urinals, and drains. 5. Markets, butcheries, tea-firing-places, and factories. 6. Epidemic of infectious and contagious diseases. 7. Reports on all sanitary matters. 8. Reports from practicing physicians, as to the nature of diseases and the occupations, dwellings, ages, and sex of patients, recoveries, death, and duration of diseases. 9. The manufacture and sale of colouring matters for eatables, &c. 10. Reports as to the manufacture of drugs. 11. Reports as to the opening and closing of hospitals (official, public or private), poor houses, blind, deaf and dumb, insane, foundling asylums, and other eleemosynary institutions, and the number of inmates of such establishments.

Having detailed the existing state of affairs, it is proper that I should now show the reason why there is no necessity for the establishment of a municipal board as proposed in the Memorial.

As before stated, at the time of the opening of the port of Yokohama none of the branches of municipal administration in this country were so far advanced as they are at present, and consequently the municipal control of the Settlement was for the benefit and convenience of the foreign residents left in their own hands. The foreign residents, however, having found that, from various causes, they were unable any longer to continue the management themselves, finally in the year 1867, through their Representatives, requested the Japanese Government to assume control of the Settlement. Notwithstanding this, it would appear from the present Memorial that the foreign residents now seek once more to acquire that municipal control which before they voluntarily requested the Japanese Government to assume.

It seems, indeed, inconsistent for the foreign residents of Yokohama to conceive such a scheme as that embodied in their Memorial. Of their own accord, and presumably for cogent reasons they abandoned municipal control in the foreign Settlement at a time when the system of civil administration in this country was imperfect, and now they seek to resume it at the very moment when strenuous efforts are being made on the part of the

Kencho to introduce radical improvements in the administration of municipal affairs—efforts which would appear to be on the point of accomplishment—and which, in my opinion, remove any supposed need for the formation of a special board or committee for the municipal control of the Settlement, as proposed by the Memorialists. Moreover, the very difficulty that has heretofore invariably been experienced in arriving at unanimity of action, no matter how pressing the necessity, would in itself preclude the possibility of success attending the functions of such a board. Want of power has repeatedly been pleaded as an objection to the enforcement of measures that have been deemed necessary for the public good. If, then, power to enforce municipal laws and regulations is wanting, of what avail would be the deliberations of any executive board?

In conclusion, I have only to add that the urgent necessity for a "uniform and enforceable system of municipal government" is recognized by none more than by myself. The means to obtain this end are, however, not far to seek. It can be secured by applying the universally accepted rule that all the inhabitants of a country should be governed by the territorial laws and regulations.

That the foreign Settlement is at present without an efficient system of control is not the fault of the Kencho, but of those who not only claim exemption from the local administrative laws and regulations, but sometimes even place obstructions in the way of their due enforcement. If such obstructions be removed and the Kenrei enabled to enforce the Japanese laws and regulations over foreign residents, I confidently believe that the administration of the Settlement would be so improved, and the state of things generally undergo so complete a change as to give entire satisfaction to all the foreigners residing in this port—a consummation which I most earnestly hope, may soon be brought about.

Respectfully submitted,
(Sealed.) OKI MORIKATA,
Governor of Kanagawa.

To His Excellency,
INOUE KAORU,
Minister for Foreign Affairs.

In response to an advertisement, signed "A. O. Gay, Chairman" and countersigned "W. H. Talbot," a large meeting of residents of Yokohama met yesterday at 2 p.m. in the rooms of the Chamber of Commerce. The reunion was one which had been adjourned from the 27th of March, 1882, and was held "to discuss the question of Municipal Reform." There were present—Messrs. E. Whittall, Kirkwood, J. H. Brooke, J. R. Anglin, Ford, Barlow, E. C. Irwine, Grosser, W. H. Talbot, W. Loxton, A. O. Gay, Potter, St. John, Owston, Brinkley, W. B. Walter, Hegt, Townley, Diack, Gordon, J. A. Fraser, J. Helm, Alex. Clark, C. G. Wilson, W. Bourne, E. Abbott, J. J. Gargan, J. T. Molison, E. M. Neale, A. Weiller, Tom Thomas, P. Osborn and others.

Mr. J. O. Gay was unanimously voted to the Chair. Mr. Talbot, at the desire of the meeting, consented to act as Secretary.

The CHAIRMAN briefly alluded to the meeting of foreign residents on the 27th of March, 1882, when it was decided to forward in due course a memorial through the Diplomatic Corps to the Japanese Government, to which the letter that had been published from H.E. Oki Morikata was a reply. A rejoinder had been prepared by Mr. Talbot.

The meeting decided that as Mr. Oki's letter had been in the hands of the public through the press for a day or so, it was unnecessary to hear

it read, and proceeded to discuss the rejoinder. After some remarks from Mr. McDonald to the effect that the reply was full of statements—or mis-statements rather—Mr. Talbot and Mr. Gay remarked that those mis-statements were considered in the rejoinder, which, with the assent of the meeting Mr. Talbot proceeded to read. It is as follows:—

On the 27th March, 1882, a largely attended meeting of the foreign community of Yokohama was held to discuss the question of reform in the local or municipal government of the settlement. The meeting unanimously adopted a memorial setting forth the grievance complained of and suggesting a remedy. On the 13th of April following, the memorial was presented to the Corps Diplomatique through the Consular Board. On the 10th September instant, the chairman of the adjourned meeting received from the senior consul a communication covering a document styled "Memorandum in reply to the memorial concerning the municipal government in Yokohama submitted to the conference by the foreign residents of Yokohama through the delegate of Great Britain." This document purports to be, as its closing passages imply, a statement of reasons by Mr. Oki Morikata, of Kanagawa, for negating the prayer of the memorial. The adjourned meeting re-assembled on the 1st October and appointed a committee, and that committee, in the names of the community assembled at the meeting, to submit the following reply to the memorandum of Governor of Kanagawa:—

1.—The committee will first refer briefly to the last paragraphs of Mr. Oki Morikata's memorandum. He says:—"The urgent necessity for a uniform and enforceable system of municipal government is recognized by none more than by myself. The means to obtain this end are, however, not far to seek. It can be secured by applying the universally accepted rule that all the inhabitants of a country should be governed by the territorial laws and regulations." To this we reply, that the memorialists carefully refrained from touching upon the question of ex-territorial jurisdiction in other than general terms implying a knowledge of its existence. Their memorial embodied a request that would equally have been preferred to the Imperial Government were the territorial laws of Japan applicable to all foreign residents. The memorialists confined their prayer to the grant of those reasonable privileges which are accorded by the governments of all countries in Europe and by the United States to all congregations of men forming townships or cities of their own. As its name implies, municipal law is distinct from imperial law. It comprises and is confined to a series of regulations for the health, peace, good order, and decency of a settlement of men. Each community frames its own rules; and those rules are applicable only to the limits of the town or city in which the community dwells. In asking for the grant of what is virtually a municipal charter the memorialists were acting strictly within their rights as citizens, irrespective of the different laws which apply to them as individuals: and they must express their deep regret that a question so simple should be obscured and complicated by importing into it a matter purely and solely one for the consideration of the imperial governments of Japan and their respective countries.

2.—We say to the statement describing the formation and surrender of a municipal government at the opening of Yokohama, as follows:—"Yokohama was opened in 1859. Five years later the necessity of local control pressed itself upon the attention of the residents. Meetings were held. On the 7th March, 1865, a scheme was proposed and approved by a meeting; it was subsequently ratified by the authorities; a council was elected, and held its first meeting June 9th, 1865. This council had undertaken a task for the due performance of which it soon discovered its income to be inadequate. The Japanese authorities had consented to permit the council to receive 20 per cent. of the ground rent: this yielded about \$6,000. There were other sources of revenue derived from the taxation of taverns, &c., and the total income of the council was approximately \$10,000. The council further urged the adoption of municipal

regulations similar to those in force in Shanghai, but the foreign representatives failed to procure the necessary assistance and sanction of the Imperial Government of Japan. The want of funds and of enforceable regulations, left the council no alternative but to surrender a function it was impossible for it to carry out, and it ceased to exist in November, 1867, after an existence of two and a half years during which time it had performed services of admitted importance and value. These facts, which are confirmed in the second paragraph of Mr. Oki's memorandum, are at variance with the inferences Mr. Oki seeks to draw from them. He says:—"The foreign residents having found that, from various causes, they were unable any longer to continue the management themselves, finally, in the year 1867, through their representatives, requested the Japanese government to assume control of the settlement. Notwithstanding this, it would appear from the present memorial that the foreign residents *now seek once more to acquire that municipal control which before they voluntarily requested the Japanese government to assume.*" It seems, indeed, inconsistent for the foreign residents of Yokohama to conceive such a scheme as that embodied in their memorial. Of their own accord, and presumably for cogent reasons, they abandoned municipal control in the foreign settlement." We think the passages we have italicised to be, though perhaps unintentionally, misleading. The council of 1865-67 did not voluntarily request the government to re-assume municipal control, nor of its own accord abandon control of the foreign settlement. Its resignation was forced upon it consequent upon the utter inability to carry on the work with the funds at its disposal, and without the power to enforce the regulations it had made or found necessary to make. This important distinction between a compulsory and voluntary surrender of municipal rights should, we submit, be recognized; because it removes the allegation of inconsistency to which Mr. Oki seems to attach grave importance.

At intervals for many years after the suspension of the functions of the council of 1865-67, attempts were made to revive local self-government, but the obstacles were numerous and difficult to deal with. In the interval to 1877 there was a nominal chief of a municipality in the person of Mr. Benson, elected by the land renters. His office was abolished in 1877. In reference thereto, Mr. Oki says:—"This determination was duly communicated to the foreign Consuls who raised no objections thereto, while the British Consul in his reply dated July 4, 1877, expressed his approval of the arrangement." To this we urge, that the abolition of the office of municipal director was a most distasteful step to the foreign community, and a memorial dated May 19th, 1877, signed by the principal mercantile houses and leading residents, was forwarded to the Consular Board, stating that the proposed change in the municipal arrangements was, in the memorialists' opinion, very objectionable as tending to depose the community from all agency in matters intimately concerning themselves. With full knowledge of the presentation of this protest to the Consular Board we are unable to find justification for Mr. Oki's assumption that the abolition of the office of municipal director was acquiesced in by the foreign community or their consular representatives.

3.—We will now endeavour to deal with the substance of Mr. Oki's memorandum, in which he undertakes to show that the statements contained in the memorial of March, 1882, are for the most part unfounded. He alludes to various paragraphs in the memorial, and deals with them in this manner:—"The memorialists say that 'in that portion of the town known as the Old Swamp Concession there are numerous taverns, the majority of which are kept by foreigners and natives of the lowest class and character.' The 'unfounded' nature of this allegation, according to Mr. Oki, is supposed to be exposed in the passage immediately following that quoted, namely:—"In fact, however, there is at present not a single Japanese who keeps a tavern in that quarter, although formerly there were one or two; while a large number of such resorts are kept by foreigners. Over these latter no surveillance can be exercised by the police, as it is practically impossible for the

Kenchō to interfere with trade carried on by foreigners."

Continuing, Mr. Oki says:—"It is true that in various parts of the settlement and on the different roads leading to the bluff settlement there are some houses where may be found both prostitutes and receivers of stolen property. With regard to the women who ply their illegitimate trade on the roads referred to, it may be stated that, as several arrests have lately been made, the number has been so reduced that the evil has now almost disappeared. But with the same class of women in the settlement, it is found extremely difficult to deal, because they take shelter in the foreign grog-shops, the proprietors of which employ them to carry on their disreputable traffic." To arrest these persons Mr. Oki states that a warrant must first be obtained from the consul of the employer's nationality, and it often happens that when policemen proceed to make arrests, they fail to find the object of their search, owing to the long time spent in these preliminary formalities. The same difficulty exists in arresting the receivers of stolen goods, as many of them are also enabled to pass as employes of foreigners." We submit that, instead of proving the unfounded nature of the memorialists' charges, these admissions substantiate them. The remedy proposed is that "the governor should be furnished with a general warrant enabling the proper officers to enter freely into the premises occupied by foreigners of whatever nationality, when there is reason to suspect that offenders are concealing themselves therein; and also that, as the receivers of stolen goods, thieves, &c., are, for the most part, foreigners' servants, or those who conceal themselves in the houses of such servants, the police should be allowed to enter the premises of foreigners, for purposes of investigation, and to take the names, &c., of the Japanese servants employed therein." We cannot refrain from pointing out that the remedy proposed is objectionable in every sense: its application would mean the submission of the private houses and compounds of all foreigners to a species of police espionage which must inevitably bring the law into direct conflict with the people. In no civilized country does such a regulation exist; and it is impossible to conceive a civilized people that would tolerate a law at once arbitrary and barbarous. The proposition cannot be too strongly condemned, and we should fail in our duty to ourselves and our fellow residents were we to hesitate in making this opinion known to the Japanese authorities.

4.—In reference to the police, Mr. Oki says:—"The charges contained in the memorial that the policemen's wages 'are not only inadequate but directly conduce to the corruption of the men,' and that they 'have connived at robberies,' are statements which ought not to have been made without the clearest evidence." This remark must be dealt with on simple grounds. The first statement is based on the 'clear evidence' cited in the memorial, that the wages of the constables range from 7 to 10 yen per month; of the sergeants and inspectors from 15 yen upward. There is abundance of evidence obtainable that no respectable man (and the police are said to be enlisted from a superior class of the people) can maintain himself decently for less than ten yen per month; yet the average wages per capita of the 180 constables is yen 7.40 per month only. Where these men have families and dependents the difficulty is still greater; and in many cases the wives and female relatives of constables are compelled to seek employment in tea-firing godowns and other similar occupations. We re-assert that no police force can be efficient that does not consist of men adequately paid to place them above temptation, and to impress upon them the value of a position the slightest misconduct would entail the forfeiture of. Certainly, if Mr. Oki insists that the wages stated are not inadequate, it will be useless for us to prolong the argument. The second point, namely, that the police have connived at robberies, is unfairly stated on a partial quotation. The memorial reads:—"That the police have connived at robberies in the settlement the circumstances of these robberies seems plainly to indicate." This statement we confirm, for we hold it to be immaterial whether the thieves are or are not employes, or accomplices of employes, or

the foreigners from whose premises the robberies are effected. In any case the duties of the police are not affected, for it is reasonable to suppose that, if ordinarily efficient police supervision were exercised, the thieves, whether foreigners' servants or not, could not convey their spoil any distance without any detection, especially where the stolen goods are contained in cases and bales. Mr. Oki does not dispute the inefficiency of the police. He admits it, by saying:—"Even if the police were numerous enough to guard every house in the settlement it could not be expected that the corps would be as effective as required, because they meet with many difficulties in the discharge of their duties, arising from the fact that they are not clothed with any authority over foreigners." The suggestion is then made that to render the police efficient they should be "empowered to enter the premises of foreigners for the purpose of arresting suspected persons, and they should exercise this power during day and night, when they deem it necessary." On a similar proposition to this we have stated the insuperable objections that exist against its adoption.

5.—Mr. Oki is at a loss to understand the basis of the memorialists' complaints regarding the roads, streets, and drains. He states that "these are the very things to which the local authorities have long been directing their attention. Some of these works have already been completed, while others are now being carried out or are in contemplation." Such a work as the construction of the main drain now being carried out in the midst of the foreign settlement ought to afford sufficient evidence of the earnest endeavours which the local authorities are making to ameliorate the condition of the settlement." In reply to this, we would point out that the memorial was drawn up in March, 1882, and the work to which Mr. Oki alludes was undertaken subsequently. Mr. Oki, however, takes exception to the specific complaint that "the Main and Water-streets in wet weather become almost impossible, while in dry and summer weather the dust is intolerable," also that several of the roads 'are in a most dilapidated condition, and in bad weather traffic is seriously impeded,' and he says, in positive terms,—"Now, with the exception of some roads on the Bluff which are being repaired, I venture to assert that there is not a single road throughout the entire settlement which is in the state described." We shall not attempt to refute this assertion beyond referring to the evidence of the roads, streets, and drains themselves, and to add that the repairs to Main-street necessitated by the drainage operations are now (September, 1883) still incomplete.

6.—Mr. Oki then describes the extent of the work of "reconstructing roads and laying main drains in that part of the settlement bounded by the bund from the custom-house to the creek, thence to the Maida-bashi on the south-west side, thence running to the north along the Honmura-road, and forming in extent about two-thirds of the old settlement. This work is now in progress at an enormous expenditure of money. . . . The cost of laying down the sections of the new main drains already in course of construction amounts to upwards of one hundred thousand yen, and this work, it should be observed, is executed for the exclusive benefit of the foreign settlement." Upon this we feel constrained to say that while the memorialists gladly and spontaneously record their thankful acknowledgements for the work undertaken by the local government, they are disagreeably impressed with the excessive expenditure and the wholly inadequate results. The utility of the work now being undertaken at the extravagant expenditure of one hundred thousand yen may well be called in question: that it should have been commenced at all without the strongest and most urgent necessity seems inexplicable; and we make bold to say that had the local government been assisted by a committee of foreign residents this vast outlay would have been, in a great measure at least, avoided. The generosity is undoubted, but the question arises whether the outlay could possibly have been sanctioned by the rate payers. This community have no right to expect the liberality of the local government to be always exerted in their favour; especially in the performance of work the outlay for which they would not have borne themselves.

The memorialists' statement that "the drains

were only constructed to carry off surface water, and that they have been used for sewage," &c., is admitted to be correct:—but Mr. Oki says:—"It is a fact that foreign residents and their servants make these drains receptacles for sewerage of all kinds, or privately alter the course of such drains, thus causing them to be choked up, and rendered a source of danger to public health. Whenever such actions are observed, officials are despatched to the spot or communications made to the occupants of the premises. But my endeavours have generally been abortive, as foreign residents decline to carry out the directions given, and raise all sorts of objections."

Mr. Oki then says that "there are in operation complete regulations which both the local and police officials continually exert themselves to carry out" for the control of "all such matters as projections interfering with the thoroughfares, the practice of obstructing the streets, &c., ruinous and dangerous buildings, walls, &c., and jinrikisha. But as foreign residents habitually ignore and disobey them, such regulations can accomplish but little good, so far as the foreign settlement is concerned." To this we reply that no resident of the settlement has to our knowledge, had any intimation whatever of the "complete regulations" referred to, nor is any person acquainted with even their general tenor. How, then, is it possible for foreign residents to "habitually ignore and disobey" regulations of the existence of which they are profoundly ignorant? And we go further, and say that "projections interfering with the thoroughfare, the practice of obstructing the streets," &c., are more numerous and common in the adjacent Japanese settlements than in our own. In Honmura and Ishikawa, and the approaches to the bluff from the Maida-bashi and Kamenohashi in particular, thoroughfares between the foreign settlements on and below the bluff, yet within the absolute jurisdiction of the local government and where no foreigners reside, to habitually obstruct the lawful exertions of the police to carry out the regulations, every shopkeeper trespasses upon each side of the narrow ways, exposing his wares for sale on benches standing where the footway ought to be, and so reducing the space that carriages and pedestrians are frequently obstructed and delayed. With these interferences with the thoroughfare, and the reprehensible practice of persons drawing up hand carts, jinrikisha, &c., at each side of the street and leaving them for hours unattended, the police seem to have no concern. If, then, interferences with and obstructions of the thoroughfare are not checked in one portion of the settlement solely under Japanese control, would the authorities apply a different series of regulations to the foreign settlement?

7.—Touching the lighting of the streets, we are aware that a difference of opinion prevails; and we are not now prepared to discuss the question.

8.—In reference to the occupancy of houses and lands in the foreign settlement by Japanese, we venture to point out that the memorialists have not objected to the presence of those who have conformed to the regulations, and obtained the necessary consent to their tenancy; but they strongly protest against the unauthorized residence of Japanese. Mr. Oki says:—"There are about one hundred who are so living without permission, and those are the men who are engaged in disreputable trades. Many bad characters are to be found among them, but they are enabled to escape beyond the reach of the law by reason of their alleged status as foreigners' employes."

9.—The existence of "ruinous dwellings, walls, &c., dangerous to passers by, the erection of sheds obstructive to the public thoroughfare or leaving goods on the street," is admitted, Mr. Oki adding:—"The grievances exist because of acts committed by foreigners or their employes in violation of the regulations, and are serious grounded for complaint on my side." To this we must respond that the regulations, equally with those previously alluded to, are wholly unknown to the residents accused of their violation.

10.—The question of licenses for taverns is one with which we cannot now deal. The disgraceful condition of the liquor traffic in Yokohama is not denied, nor apparently can it be controlled in the absence of such regulations as a legally constituted municipality alone can enforce.

11.—Other minor matters are dealt with by Mr.

* The passages in this and subsequent extracts printed in italics will be specially referred to later on.

Oki, who alleges, as an excuse for their existence, that he cannot control "foreigners or their servants" who are responsible. With regard to watering the streets, one-half cost of which Mr. Oki states is borne by the Kencho, we add that under the arrangement which has existed for several years past, the watering is paid for by voluntary subscription on the part of the foreign residents, and we are informed by the contractor that he receives no contribution from the Kencho towards this object. We are certain that if foreigners refuse to contribute the portion of the street opposite their tenements is left unwatered. So careful are the contractors of this that Main-street, on a sunny day, presents a checkered scene of wet and dry intervals.

12.—The only other paragraph of Mr. Oki's reply we deem it necessary to specially notice is that on page 12, in reference to the accumulation of garbage in the private compounds of foreigners, and we do so because the reply is comprehensive and is the reason urged throughout for the positive inability of the local government to perform even the simplest functions of the municipality. Mr. Oki asserts that directions are given to remove the garbage; "But if the occupants are unwilling to carry out such directions, nothing further can, under existing circumstances, be done, as offenders claim exemption from all laws and regulations upon this and kindred subjects." We cite this assertion because it is urged throughout Mr. Oki's reply as reason, cause, or excuse, for every abuse complained of by the memorialists.

13.—Finally, Mr. Oki's reason for the non-necessity of a municipal board, as proposed by the memorialists, is stated on page 13 of his memorandum to be the inconsistency in the surrender by the community of 1867 of the municipal authority now claimed by the community of 1883. To this he adds, the foreign residents "seek to resume it (municipal control) at the very moment when strenuous efforts are being made on the part of the Kencho to introduce radical improvements in the administration of municipal affairs—efforts which would appear to be on the point of accomplishment—and which, in my opinion, remove any supposed need for the formation of a special board or committee for the municipal control of the settlement, as proposed by the memorialists." The pitch of this sentence, namely, that "efforts to introduce radical improvements in the administration of municipal affairs appear to be on the point of accomplishment," is unfortunately contradicted by the succeeding lines wherein Mr. Oki refers to the difficulty in arriving at unanimity of action, and the want of power to enforce measures deemed necessary for the public good. He concludes with the following words which, whether taken in conjunction with the context or by themselves, clearly indicate that the object and suggestions of the memorialists have been entirely misunderstood. He says—"If, then, power to enforce municipal laws and regulations is wanting, of what avail would be the deliberations of any executive board?"

14.—In response to the whole of Mr. Oki's memorandum we beg to say that the grievances set out in the memorial are one and all admitted to exist by the Governor of Kanagawa ken in which the foreign settlement is situated. Admitting the gravity of these abuses, the necessity for their removal, and candidly avowing that the urgent necessity for a uniform and enforceable system of municipal government is recognized by none more than by himself, Mr. Oki declares that the abuses arise from the causes italicised in the various quotations from his memorandum made here, and that these causes are the unlawful acts of foreigners and their employes in the commission of violations of municipal regulations, in sheltering receivers of stolen goods, and in shielding criminals from arrest and punishment by claiming them as their servants: and he further declares that the correction of these abuses is impossible while the Japanese authorities are powerless to interfere with trades carried on by foreigners, while foreign residents decline to carry out the directions given, raise all sorts of objections, habitually ignore and disobey all regulations, and claim exemption from all laws on this and kindred subjects. The remedy for this highly unsatisfactory state of affairs proposed by Mr. Oki is, that he should be furnished with a general warrant to enter the premises and

houses of foreign residents day or night on the mere suspicion that a person obnoxious to the police is harboured there: and furthermore, that all residents should submit to the universally accepted rule that all inhabitants of a country should be governed by the territorial laws and regulations.

Now to this we beg to say that the abuses complained of by the memorialists, the existence of which is admitted by Mr. Oki, are acknowledged by them to be due to the absence of uniform regulations and efficient police protection. They said in their memorial, page 3:—"The municipal laws of each country vary, and cases frequently arise where a British, American, or German resident may be coerced into compliance with his own law against a nuisance or obstruction which persons of other nationalities may commit with impunity." The abuses growing out of this want of system are then partially enumerated: and we are unable to see that Mr. Oki's retort that the abuses are committed by foreign residents themselves or their servants weakens the memorialists' contention that some sort of municipal control for the reform of these abuses by whomever committed, be he English, American, French, German, Chinese, or Japanese within the boundaries of the settlement, is urgently necessary. With the exception of the remedy proposed there are no material differences between the memorial and the memorandum in reply. The first declares the existence of abuses and the urgent need for their correction: the second admits the existence of those abuses and acknowledges the urgent need for their correction. The position therefore is this. The memorialists urge "the creation of a system of suitable regulations which, having received the approval of the Government of Japan and of our respective Ministers, may be enforced in a similar manner as in the neighbouring settlement of Kobe, or in Shanghai." They then anticipated the reply of Mr. Oki in these words:—"The Japanese government may, with propriety as before stated, urge that these abuses arise from the powerlessness of the local government to enforce municipal regulations upon the foreign community." The memorialists then suggested a remedy which, having clearly been misunderstood by Mr. Oki, may be briefly recapitulated here. A local board or committee was to be formed, to consist of the Kenrei of Kanagawa *ex officio* president, two Japanese nominated by him, and six foreigners elected to represent the seventeen nationalities, exclusive of Japanese, to which the residents of Yokohama belong. The board was to have power to draw up regulations and bye-laws for the good and thoroughly efficient control and protection of the settlement; to place those regulations and bye-laws before the Imperial Government with a memorial praying for their approval and ratification: in other words, praying the Government of Japan to grant a charter constituting Yokohama a municipal corporation. Armed with this authority, the committee would have made application to their respective Ministers to procure, if they did not possess it, the proper power to enforce the municipal regulations in the courts of their respective countries. The result would be a code of local regulations publicly made known to every resident, enforceable in the courts of the principal, if not all, the powers represented in Japan, and thus the "want of power for the enforcement of measures that have been deemed necessary for the public good," which Mr. Oki urges as his chief objection to an executive board, would be removed, and in its place a municipality with power of control and protection at least as efficient as that enjoyed by the admirably conducted and efficient municipality of Shanghai. The duties of this board would have been to cooperate with the local government: to bring before the governor the varied wants of the settlement: to assist and advise in matters where expenditure is necessary: to aid in carrying out a strict economy of administration: and finally, by accepting the responsibility, relieve the local government of the burden of complaint made against it, and the stigma of incapacity for control it is itself forced to confess. Such a board would create mutual good understanding: it would serve to bring Japanese and foreigners to a better appreciation of the mutuality of interest between them: and its formation is nothing more than the

same body of people would be justified in demanding were they altogether under the jurisdiction of the territorial laws of Japan.

If we read Mr. Oki's memorandum aright, his only reasons for urging upon His Excellency, the Minister for Foreign Affairs, the refusal of the prayer of the memorial, is that, because a municipality formed in 1865 and compulsorily discontinued in 1867 for want of funds actually necessary to carry it out, the community of 1883, occupying a settlement of at least double the area of that of 1865, have no right to ask for the restitution of a privilege they most unwillingly abandoned for want of an alternative: and that the true remedy is to submit to Japanese rules and regulations which the author of that remedy, Mr. Oki himself, declares to be impossible of execution.

15.—We, therefore, most earnestly beg that the question may again be laid before the Imperial Government of Japan for reconsideration. We respectfully submit that the memorandum we have had the honour to reply to, confirms in every particular the substance of the memorial presented to you by the foreign community in April, 1882: and that the reasons urged by Mr. Oki in opposition to the remedy proposed are unreasonable and illogical, and wholly insufficient to form a basis for the absolute refusal of the Imperial Government to accede to the prayer of the memorialists, either in its full or to a modified extent.

A long discussion ensued as to the propriety of printing the document. A few incidental points were alluded to in the course of the discussion—among others the item of the main drain, which is said in Mr. Oki's letter to have cost upward of *yen* 100,000. Mr. Talbot said that he had good reason to know that in Europe such a drain would not cost more than *yen* 30,000 per mile. This drain was not more than a mile and a quarter or a mile and a half in length. If there was such discrepancy in the prices of construction in Europe and Japan, what might be expected in the matter of road-laying, &c.?

Mr. THOMAS and some other gentlemen asked whether the paper read could be printed and circulated. The reading had not been quite audible to many of the gentlemen present. The Chairman suggested that it be printed, if desired by the meeting, but be not published. Mr. Brooke considered that, this being a public meeting, the papers read there were public, and proposed an adjournment of one week and the then publication of the document. Mr. Talbot suggested that a Committee be appointed to consider the best interests of the community in the matter. Some gentlemen behind said (among others Mr. Irwine) that they had not heard the purport of the document; and the question as to whether it should be published, and if so in what form, whether as the property of the press or as a pamphlet for private circulation was discussed with some vigor, the Chairman interposing and suggesting that a vote should be taken for a Committee to consider a reply, which should be delivered one week from the day of the meeting. Mr. MacDonald here made a remark about some heap of stones being left on the Bluff, and other gentlemen were heard to speak of cases of negligence on the part of the municipal authorities in matters of detail, when Mr. Talbot reminded those present of the prime object of the meeting, which was not to consider the mere question of grievances but the matter of whether we had "the abstract right to govern ourselves!"

Mr. W. B. WALTER thought that the present meeting was not sufficiently representative to decide such a question. He suggested that a ballot-box be placed in the Chamber of Commerce Rooms for the election of a Committee which should be empowered to act for twelve months and treat directly with the Japanese. Heretofore communication had been conducted through the Consular Board, which appeared to have broken down. Nothing was heard for a long time of any complaints, which were then found to have been shelved. Mr. Walter thought that the Kenrei would be glad to receive suggestions from such a Committee as he proposed. Since the appointment of Mr. Oki to the office of Prefect many improvements had been effected, and the speaker thought there was sufficient evidence that the Local Authorities were anxious to meet the wishes and satisfy the wants of the community as far as possible. The question of the number and constitution of the Committee and the qualification of the voters was then discussed. It was decided that all "land-renters

and householders" are eligible for election, and that the suffrage shall be free for all those who are registered at their respective Consulates. Thus, a resolution finally reduced to the will of the meeting was passed:—"A Permanent Committee of seven Land-renters and (or) Householders shall be elected to act as intermediaries between the foreign residents and the Japanese and foreign authorities." ["Foreign authorities" include the Consuls and not merely the Ministers of Treaty Powers].

The question of the publication of the "rejoinder" was again considered, and, indeed, debated at great length, Mr. Kirkwood desiring that it be published, a view that was endorsed heartily by Mr. Kingdon, with the understanding, at the special request of Mr. Talbot, that it was merely a draft submitted at the request of two or three gentlemen present to the approval of the community. In other words, after several amendments had been suggested or proposed, a formal proposition made by Mr. Kirkwood and seconded by Mr. Irwine was carried without

dissent, "that the document read be published as a reply, suggested by two or three gentlemen present, to H.E. Oki Morikata's communication."

It was finally determined that, the permission of the Chairman of the Chamber of Commerce having been already obtained, a ballot-box for the election of a Committee of Seven to confer, as before explained, directly with the Japanese and Foreign authorities shall be in charge of the Secretary of the Chamber of Commerce from to-day until Saturday at noon. Each voter must sign his name legibly on a ballot-paper, and vote for a ticket of seven persons, or be disqualified. At the termination of the suffrage the ballot-box will be opened by the Chairman of the meeting, Mr. A. O. Gay, in presence of scrutineers. Messrs. Wilkin, Whittall, and W. B. Walter are understood to have consented to act in the latter capacity.]

With a vote of thanks to Chairman and Secretary, the meeting adjourned.

JAPANESE STATISTICS.

MERCANTILE AND OTHER COMPANIES (BANKS AND BANKING COMPANIES EXCEPTED).

| CITIES OR PREFECTURES. | MERCANTILE COMPANIES. | | MANUFACTURING COMPANIES. | | AGRICULTURAL COMPANIES. | | OTHER COMPANIES. | | TOTAL. | |
|------------------------|-----------------------|--------------------|--------------------------|--------------------|-------------------------|--------------------|------------------|--------------------|---------|--------------------|
| | Number. | Amount of Capital. | Number. | Amount of Capital. | Number. | Amount of Capital. | Number. | Amount of Capital. | Number. | Amount of Capital. |
| Tokyo..... | 48 | Yes. 2,414,050 | 5 | 123,000 | 4 | 2,024,000 | 65 | 4,292,200 | 122 | 8,853,250 |
| Kioto..... | 9 | 35,125 | — | — | 1 | 2,000 | 18 | 189,475 | 28 | 226,600 |
| Osaka..... | 44 | 1,508,472 | 5 | 330,000 | 3 | 3,080 | 91 | 306,976 | 143 | 2,148,528 |
| Kanagawa..... | 23 | 511,350 | 1 | 15,000 | 1 | — | 23 | 453,000 | 48 | 979,350 |
| Hiogo..... | 13 | 1,002,620 | 1 | 6,118 | — | — | 17 | 288,215 | 31 | 1,296,953 |
| Nagasaki..... | 6 | 94,500 | 7 | 87,100 | 4 | 23,300 | 28 | 445,200 | 45 | 650,100 |
| Niigata..... | 26 | 234,500 | 1 | 2,300 | 1 | 600 | 52 | 235,900 | 80 | 573,300 |
| Saitama..... | 30 | 217,400 | — | — | 3 | 10,000 | 41 | 69,315 | 74 | 296,715 |
| Gumma..... | 50 | 600,600 | 3 | 32,796 | 27 | 33,705 | 74 | 779,660 | 154 | 1,455,851 |
| Chiba..... | 2 | 8,760 | 1 | — | 2 | 11,000 | 5 | 34,500 | 10 | 54,260 |
| Ibaraki..... | 11 | 84,660 | 3 | 23,000 | 3 | 33,000 | 5 | 69,400 | 22 | 210,060 |
| Tochigi..... | 9 | 168,000 | 2 | 6,000 | 1 | 10,000 | 14 | 218,700 | 26 | 402,700 |
| Miyagi..... | 11 | 54,500 | — | — | 6 | 24,283 | 14 | 19,064 | 31 | 169,847 |
| Aichi..... | 10 | 225,000 | 1 | 10,000 | — | — | 8 | 128,000 | 19 | 363,000 |
| Shizuoka..... | 25 | 170,830 | 5 | 118,000 | 2 | 1,250 | 17 | 221,619 | 49 | 511,699 |
| Yamanashi..... | 12 | 166,100 | 1 | 5,000 | 4 | 110,000 | 4 | 15,000 | 21 | 296,100 |
| Shiga..... | 9 | 289,350 | 3 | 44,600 | — | — | 7 | 472,000 | 19 | 805,950 |
| Gifu..... | 36 | 886,816 | 17 | 414,500 | 6 | 40,920 | 1 | 10,000 | 60 | 1,352,236 |
| Nagano..... | 33 | 124,609 | 3 | 3,814 | 7 | 169,310 | 248 | 398,092 | 291 | 695,825 |
| Fukushima..... | 40 | 679,846 | 0 | — | 6 | 75,995 | 7 | 198,813 | 53 | 954,654 |
| Miyagi..... | 2 | 800 | 1 | 20,000 | 1 | 500 | 6 | 35,500 | 10 | 56,800 |
| Iwate..... | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Awamori..... | 5 | 47,000 | — | — | 2 | 5,500 | 4 | 9,050 | 11 | 167,550 |
| Akita..... | 1 | 1,500 | — | — | 9 | 58,960 | 15 | 107,500 | 25 | 167,960 |
| Yamagata..... | 11 | 112,500 | — | — | 5 | 75,725 | 8 | 71,750 | 24 | 259,975 |
| Ishikawa..... | 36 | 429,585 | 7 | 128,500 | 3 | 12,600 | 44 | 557,960 | 90 | 1,128,645 |
| Fukui..... | 10 | 55,400 | 5 | 23,665 | 6 | 33,840 | 4 | 8,190 | 25 | 121,095 |
| Shimane..... | 49 | 322,105 | 2 | 14,050 | 4 | 30,820 | 4 | 28,620 | 59 | 395,595 |
| Tot'ori..... | 6 | 63,000 | — | — | — | — | 2 | 10,750 | 8 | 73,750 |
| Okayama..... | 8 | 52,009 | 1 | 5,000 | 1 | 2,500 | 13 | 110,910 | 23 | 171,319 |
| Hiroshima..... | 13 | 53,600 | — | — | — | — | 12 | 78,970 | 25 | 132,570 |
| Yamaguchi..... | 19 | 420,300 | — | — | 3 | 28,105 | 9 | 417,950 | 31 | 866,355 |
| Wakayama..... | 1 | 100,000 | — | — | 1 | 20,000 | 5 | 165,350 | 7 | 285,350 |
| Kochi..... | 1 | 10,000 | — | — | — | — | 4 | 89,500 | 5 | 99,500 |
| Tokushima..... | 3 | 90,500 | — | — | — | — | 6 | 131,270 | 9 | 221,770 |
| Vehime..... | 7 | 125,985 | — | — | 1 | 2,500 | 9 | 31,500 | 17 | 159,985 |
| Fukuoka..... | 9 | 118,060 | 2 | 11,000 | 7 | 19,470 | 13 | 126,700 | 31 | 275,230 |
| Oita..... | 18 | 104,091 | — | — | 1 | 15,008 | 17 | 204,442 | 36 | 323,541 |
| Kumamoto..... | 4 | 45,000 | 1 | 6,000 | 4 | 36,000 | 7 | 139,000 | 16 | 226,000 |
| Kagoshima..... | 19 | 358,520 | — | — | 4 | 152,475 | 2 | 40,000 | 25 | 550,995 |
| Total..... | 669 | 11,997,030 | 78 | 1,429,443 | 133 | 3,066,446 | 923 | 11,282,041 | 1,803 | 27,874,963 |

NOTIFICATION NO. 32 OF THE PRIVY COUNCIL.

It is hereby notified that the treaty limits in Korea are revised as follows:—

October 3, 16th year of Meiji (1883).

(Signed) SANJO SAN'YOSHI,
First Minister of State.

(Signed) INOUE KAWORU,
Minister for Foreign Affairs.

STIPULATIONS FOR THE TREATY LIMITS IN KOREA.

Art. 1.—In accordance with the first clause of the supplementary treaties concluded by the Commissioners of Japan and Korea on the 31st of August in the 15th year of Meiji (1882) on the 17th of July (Korean calendar), the Governments of the two countries have agreed to extend the treaty limits in accordance with the recommendations of the Commissioners appointed by them.

Art. 2.—The treaty limits in question will be as follows:—In-chôn—the river Kokwa on the east; the harbour of Yosenkin on the north-east; and the island of Kokwa on the north. Wôn-san—Basokurei (a lofty mountain) on the west under the jurisdiction of Tök-wôn Fu; old Riuchiin on the south in the jurisdiction of An-byôn Fu; and Giyoka-choku on the north in the jurisdiction of Bunsen Gun. Pû-san—Kichô on the east; Kin-kai on the west; Meiko on the south; and Riysan on the north.

Along the boundaries of the districts mentioned posts will be erected in the presence of officers of the two countries, in order that the land-marks may be well established.

Art. 3.—The treaty limits to be extended in the 17th year of Meiji, Japanese calendar (1884), or in the year of Kinoye Saru (ape) Korean calendar, will be determined after due discussion between the Commissioners of the two countries; and the decisions arrived at will be embodied as supplementary provisions to the present agreement.

Art. 4.—Japanese are entitled to shoot anywhere within the treaty limits defined above, but they must abstain from shooting in the neighbourhood of dwellings, or where posts are erected by the Korean Government with a prohibitory sign.

Art. 5.—In case any Japanese should commit any act of violence, or proceed beyond treaty limits, the local authorities may arrest them and hand them over to the Japanese Consul, or detain them until the matter is reported to the Consulate and instructions are obtained thence. Persons so detained must invariably be treated with humanity. The period of detention must not exceed the time necessary for communication with the Consulate.

Art. 6.—In case Koreans commit acts of violence upon Japanese travelling within the treaty limits, the local authorities of the peninsula shall adopt measures for the protection of those assailed, and punish the assailants with the utmost rigor of the law.

Art. 7.—In case any Japanese shall fall sick or be belated while travelling in Korea, the inhabitants must provide for them either conveyance or lodging. Comprehensively speaking, all hospitality possible must be shown to the travellers, who will afterward be chargeable for the lodging, food, and conveyance required.

Art. 8.—The Korean Government will post the 4th Article and those following it, on the road side in the various towns and villages within treaty limits, so that people may be strict in observance of these treaty stipulations.

In witness of the validity of the above provisions, the Commissioners of the two countries hereto sign their names and affix their seals.

Japan, July 25 16th year of Meiji (1883).

Korea, June 22, in the year 492 since the opening of the country.

(Signed) TAKEZOYE SHINICHIRO,
Japanese Commissioner.

(Signed) MIN YÖN-MOK,
Korean Commissioner.

TRANSLATIONS FROM NATIVE JOURNALS.

DISSOLUTION OF THE CONSTITUTIONAL MONARCHIAL PARTY.

(Translated from the *Hochi Shimbun*).

The public is well aware that the creed of the Constitutional Monarchical Party is opposed to public sentiment. It is a matter of congratulation for the nation and its people that the party has been dissolved. Since it came into existence in March last year, it has been a laughing stock, and the butt of the public. It should however, be mentioned, for the credit of its members, that they, courageously despising public opinion, and indifferent to the dishonorable motives attributed to them, did not hesitate to dissolve when they found their objects too hard for attainment. Messrs. Maruyama (Editor of the *Meiji Nippo*), and Fukuchi (Editor of the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*) were doubtless prompted to such laudable action by the conviction that it is impossible to oppose the progress of events. We should, therefore, be pleased. Political, like other parties, assume distinguishing names. We, for instance, have a radical and a progressive party. In France one finds imperialists and republicans. If the whole French nation were in favor of the former's policy no occasion would have occurred for the organization of the latter. A minority in the community is a stumbling-block. In a country like Japan where the people know no other public feeling than that of loyalty, the formation of a Monarchical Party is superfluous, the cause of a ridicule which may occasionally merge into hostility. Foreigners hearing of such an association would imagine that some of our people were hostile to the existing Government, and desirous of counteracting some projects which if effected would involve national disgrace. They would find it hard to realize that the party in question is an object of horror to the Japanese people, which boasts allegiance to an Imperial Dynasty reigning through countless ages.

In point of fact there is not one individual in the whole community who is dissatisfied with the imperial rule, whose beneficence is universally appreciated; and we may ask what effect the construction of a "Monarchical Party" could have produced upon the vulgar mind. It could only serve to undermine the national loyalty; and, seeing this we attacked the association with our utmost zeal. There was at last no course open to the leader of the party than to change its repulsive name or to abolish it altogether. The recognition of a fault and amendment are always honorable; and the delay in that honest method was probably due to lack of moral courage on the part of the members of the society, who, nevertheless, have now amply redeemed their errors by their dissolution. We take the opportunity now of reminding them that all political parties must have honest principles and act up to them. The programme of the Monarchical Party was ostensibly to uphold the dignity of the Imperial family and to secure the happiness to the people. Alas! What failure! Their ideas have terminated in innumerable troubles and complications. The attempted assassination of Mr. Itagaki is traceable to the indirect instigation of the Imperial party. The Fukushima suspects were originally embroiled with members of the same party, and the affair culminated in the arrest of the liberals and a rupture between the local Government of Fukushima and the inhabitants of the prefecture. This with other instances proves the accuracy of the assertion that the Constitutional Imperial Party endangered the welfare of the nation. Although their number was small and their influence meagre, yet they managed to infect a certain class, which, fearing some loss of fortune consequent upon the advance of civilization, have striven to check a progress which they say is the result of recklessness and temerity. Such people are ignorant of the fact that the standard of Japan's civilization is yet low, and look upon advancement with abject terror. The antidotes they would employ, are blinded by conservatism and procrastination. Their efforts are only productive of disorder and are contrary to what is in effect the popular will. We must elevate

our social standard by all means in our power. In the long run, we shall win a complete victory. In this belief we are more than confirmed by the collapse of the Imperial Party in spite of the aid afforded it by the Government. There is some apprehension, however, that the disorganization of the Constitutional Imperial Party is the harbinger of a general dissolution of all political parties by order of the Government. We are indispensed to credit the rumor. There is no reason why the Government should attempt to demolish political parties that do a great deal of good to the nation. In fine, no fear of the extinction of political parties need be entertained.

REGULATIONS OF TRADE BETWEEN JAPAN AND KOREA.

(Translated from the *Fiji Shimpo*.)

Below are given what are said to be the rules under which trade between the two countries shall be carried on. We do not, however, profess to state whether or not they have the approval of our Government:—

Section I. relates to the report of the arrival of a vessel.

Art. 1.—Within 48 hours (Sundays excluded) of the arrival of a merchant ship in a Korean port, the master shall exhibit to the Customs officials the Japanese Consul's certificate to the effect that he has lodged in the Consulate the ship's papers. He may then "enter" the ship (according to the rules now prevailing in the ports of all civilized countries) and deposit a manifest of cargo. In ports where there is no Japanese Consulate the master of the vessel shall personally deposit the ship's papers in the Custom House and comply with all the established rules.

Art. 2.—Any falsification of the manifest, with a view to defrauding the Korean revenue, shall subject the master of the vessel to a fine of *riyo* 300.

Art. 3.—Any mere error in the manifest may be corrected within a prescribed time without payment of any fee. Corrections having to be made beyond that period will each be charged for at the rate of *riyo* 20 for each day that mistakes remain uncorrected.

Art. 4.—In the case of goods being landed without having been previously entered at the Custom House, the master is liable to a penalty to the extent of two-fold the value of the goods.

Art. 5.—Any master neglecting to enter his vessel within the specified 48 hours of her arrival shall be liable to a fine of *riyo* 50 for each day of such negligence; provided always that the cumulated penalties shall not exceed *riyo* 300.

Art. 6.—All goods smuggled into Korea in Japanese ships shall be confiscated, and the master of the ship implicated shall pay a penalty of *riyo* 200.

Art. 7.—Vessels clearing shall pay all charges incurred before their clearance papers are issued. In the event of clearance being refused, the Customs authorities shall immediately inform the Master and the Consul of the reason of the refusal.

Section II. deals with entries by consignees.

Art. 1.—The owner or consignee of any goods must before landing them make entry of the same at the Custom House (with the usual correct descriptions of names, marks, numbers, and values). Invoices shall remain in the custody of the Custom House until the goods have been officially examined.

Art. 2.—The Korean Customs authorities may examine all packages so entered; but the examination shall be conducted without any expense to the importer. The examining officers shall replace the goods in their original position in the packages, and examination shall be made without any unnecessary and vexatious delay to the importer.

Art. 3.—An owner receiving goods damaged in transit may notify the fact to the Customs officials, and call competent and approved surveyors to attest the damage. The survey report shall be signed by the surveyors in presence of Customs officials. Equitable reduction of duty will then be allowed.

Art. 4.—Permits for the delivery of goods to the importer shall be issued as soon as duty has been paid.

Art. 5.—All goods intended for export must be

entered at the Custom House before they are put on board ship.

Art. 6.—Vessels must be cleared with forms similar to those observed on arrival.

Art. 7.—All merchandise embarked before it has been entered at the Custom House, and all prohibited articles, shall be forfeited to the Korean Government.

Art. 8.—Any person signing a false declaration or certificate with intent to defraud the Korean Customs shall be liable to a fine of *riyo* 100.

Section III. contains the regulations for the conduct of inspection.

Art. 1.—Customs officers shall be placed on board all vessels in harbor, and have control of the hatches. They are not entitled to demand anything; but they shall be treated with civility.

Art. 2.—No goods shall be discharged from any ship between sunset and sunrise. Any person who, without permission, shall remove any fastenings placed by the Korean officers, shall be fined *riyo* 50.

Art. 3.—Goods discharged from any vessel before entry at the Custom House will be confiscated.

Art. 4.—All packages made up with intent to defraud the Korean Customs will be confiscated.

Art. 5.—All articles liable to duty concealed in packages containing duty-free goods will be confiscated together with the packages and the remainder of their contents.

Art. 6.—All vessels conveying smuggled goods to any of the unopened ports of Korea are liable to confiscation together with the whole of their cargo.

Art. 7.—Opium is a prohibited article. Any one convicted of smuggling it is liable to a fine of *riyo* 10 for every pound smuggled.

Section IV.—Concerning tonnage.

Art. 1.—Vessels of more than 150 tons burden shall pay tonnage dues at the rate of *sen* 5 per ton: those between 150 and 100 tons, *sen* 2: below 100 tons *sen* 1 per ton.

Art. 2.—Vessels that land no goods, provided their stay does not exceed two days, shall not be subject to tonnage dues.

Art. 3.—Vessels simply calling at a port for supplies, and vessels in distress, shall not be required to furnish any manifest of their cargo. Should they, subsequently, desire to trade, they must make entry at the Custom House according to regulations.

Art. 4.—Vessels putting into a port for repair only may land cargo without payment of duty, provided due entry be made of their arrival. Goods so landed may be stored in the Customs warehouses subject to the usual charges. Violation of this rule is punishable by a fine of *riyo* 50. Any trade in goods landed as above described will be subject to the usual duties.

Art. 5.—Cargo may be transferred from one to another vessel in harbor and then conveyed to another Korean port without payment of duty, provided that the transshipment be made under the supervision of Korean officials and after permission has been accorded. Any violation of this rule is punishable by a fine of *riyo* 100.

Art. 6.—Due notice given to the Custom House officials, goods which have been once entered and paid duty may be transferred to any other Korean port free of further impost, within twenty-four months from the date of original entry.

Art. 7.—Vessels of war will not be required either to enter or clear at the Custom House, nor will they be liable to be visited by Custom House officers.

Section V. deals with the transport of native products in foreign bottoms.

Art. 1.—Korean vessels may transport native merchandise or foreign vessels, inasmuch as the native shipping available is insufficient. Thus for five years to come foreign vessels of all nations may be employed in the Korean coast trade, with option of prolonging the term.

Art. 2.—No duty shall be imposed on native goods transported (by foreign ships) from one port to another, after they have been duly examined by the Custom House authorities.

Art. 3.—All articles the property of native merchants and manufacturers shall be exempt from duty.

Art. 4.—If the interest of Korea generally, or that of any locality therein, requires protection, such protection shall be afforded. In this regard duties may be either diminished or increased. In either case, notice will be given four months beforehand.

Art. 5.—The Korean Government is at liberty to adopt at its ports such measures as it may deem most proper to prevent fraud and smuggling. Merchants are instructed to observe them.

Art. 6.—The Korean authorities shall provide all ports open to foreign trade with such buoys, lights, and beacons as may be necessary to improve and protect the navigation of the approaches to the open ports.

Section VI. gives a scale of duties.

Art. 1.—Duty free—foreign gold and silver coin; ship's stores; and passengers' personal effects.

Art. 2.—Export duty on general merchandize will be five per cent., with the exception of ginseng, the export of which article is prohibited.

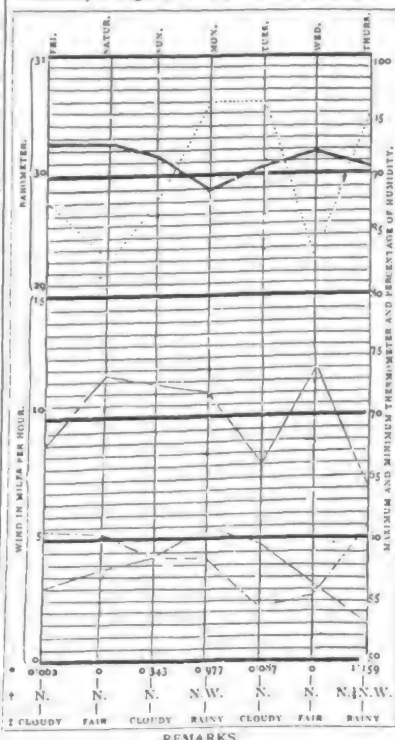
Art. 3.—The import duty on drugs shall be 10 per cent., liquors, perfumes, fancy-goods, musical instruments, clothing, etc., etc., 30 per cent.

Art. 4.—Prohibited articles—Gun-powder, fire-arms, opium, and the like.

METEOROLOGICAL REPORT.

FOR WEEK BEGINNING FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 28TH, 1883.

Observatory of Daigaku, Moto-Fujicho, Hongō, Tokyo, Japan.



REMARKS.
Heavy line represents barometer.
Light continuous line—maximum and minimum thermometers.
Dashed line—represents velocity of wind.
Vertical bars—percentage of humidity.

The barometer is reduced to the freezing point and to the level of the sea.
* Rain in inches. † Direction of Wind. ‡ Weather.
Maximum velocity of wind 15.5 miles per hour on Friday at 9 a.m.
The highest reading of the barometer for the week was 30.25 inches on Friday at 10 a.m., and the lowest was 29.85 inches on Monday at 6 a.m.
The highest thermometer for the week was 74.0 on Wednesday, and the lowest was 56.5 on Wednesday. The maximum and minimum for the corresponding week of last year were 83.5 and 47.0 respectively.
The total amount of rain for the week was 3.62 inches, against 7.64 inches for the corresponding week of last year.

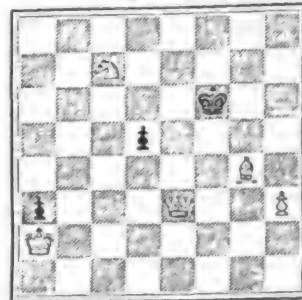
SUNDAY CHURCH SERVICES.

Christ Church: 11 a.m. and 5:30 p.m.
Union Church: 11 a.m. and 8 p.m.
Roman Catholic Church: 8 and 9:30 a.m.
English Church, No. 12, Sakaicho, Shiba, Tokyo: 11 a.m.

CHESS.

From the Collection of Problems by
J. B. of Bridport.

BLACK.



WHITE.

White to play and mate in 3 moves.

MAIL STEAMERS.

THE NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From Europe, via Hongkong, per P. & O. Co. Monday, Oct. 8th.*
From Shanghai, Nagasaki, & Kobe, per M. B. Co. Thursday, Oct. 11th.†
From America, per O. & O. Co. Wednesday, Oct. 17th.‡

* Kure (with English mail) left Nagasaki on October 4th.
† Left Shanghai on October 3rd. ‡ Oceanic left San Francisco on September 27th.

THE NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For Hakodate, per M. B. Co. Sunday, Oct. 7th.
For Kobe, per M. B. Co. Monday, Oct. 8th.
For Hongkong, per O. & O. Co. Tuesday, Oct. 9th.
For Shanghai, Kobe, and Nagasaki, per M. B. Co. Wednesday, Oct. 10th.
For Europe, via Hongkong, per M. M. Co. Saturday, Oct. 13th.

The arrival and departure of mails by the Occidental and Oriental, the Pacific Mail, and the Peninsular and Oriental Companies, are approximate only.

TIME TABLES.

YOKOHAMA-TOKIO RAILWAY.

The Trains LEAVE YOKOHAMA Station at 6.45, 8.00, 8.50, 9.45, and 11.00 a.m., and 12.15, 1.30, 2.45, 4.00, 4.45, 6.00, 7.15, 8.30, 9.45, and 11.00 p.m.

The Trains LEAVE TOKIO (Shinbashi) at 6.45, 8.00, 9.15, 9.45, and 11.00 a.m., and 12.15, 1.30, 2.45, 4.00, 4.45, 6.00, 7.15, 8.30, 9.45, and 11.00 p.m.

Those marked with (*) run through without stopping at Tsurumi, Kawasaki, and Omori Stations. Those with (†) are the same as above with the exception of stopping at Kawasaki Station.

UYENO-KUMAGAI RAILWAY.

The Trains leave UYENO at 6 a.m. and 1.30 p.m., and KUMAGAI at 9 a.m. and 4.30 p.m.

The Fares are:—Special-class (Separate Compartment), *yen* 2; First-class, *yen* 1.20; Third-class, *sen* 60. The distance from Ueno to Kumagai is 38 miles.

YOKOSUKA STEAMERS.

The Yokosuka steamers leave the English Hatoba daily at 8.15 and 10.45 a.m., and 12.30, 3.00, and 4.15 p.m.; and leave Yokosuka at 7.00 and 9.45 a.m., 12.15 m., and 2.00 and 4.00 p.m.

TIME-GUN.

A time-gun is fired every Saturday from one of the Messageries Maritimes steamers at Noon.

LATEST SHIPPING.

FREIGHTS.

For New York, via Suez Canal, the steamships *Galley of Lorne*, *Strathleven*, and *Benarty* sailed on the 26th ultimo, leaving that berth in possession of the *Selebria* and *Strathmore*, both to have quick dispatch. For Havre, and Hamburg, we have the German steamship *Iphigenia*, for Hamburg and London, the steamship *Cardiganshire*, while for London via Havre, the British bark *Sagitta* is loading, and being fairly well engaged should have early dispatch. Coastwise requirements for the present are filled, and rates remain nominal and unremunerative.

ARRIVALS.

Kosuge Maru, Japanese steamer, 775, H. Kawaoka, 30th September.—Hakodate and Kamaishi 28th September, General.—Kiyodo Unyu Kwaisha.

Wakanoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,133, A. F. Christensen, 30th September.—Kobe 28th September.—Mails and General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Vigilant, British paddle despatch-vessel, 2 guns, 1,320 H.P., 1,000, Lieut.-Commander Maxwell, 1st October.—Kobe.

Sapphire, British screw corvette, 12 guns, 2,360 H.P., 1,970, Captain J. R. T. Fullerton, 2nd October.—Hakodate.

Metapedia, British steamer, 1,452, Garvin 2nd October.—London, &c., via Manila, General.—Smith, Baker & Co.

Taganoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 448, Matsu-moto, 2nd October.—Yokkaichi, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Hiogo Maru, Japanese steamer, 896, R. N. Walker, 3rd October.—Kobe 1st October, Mails and General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Audacious, British double-screw iron armour-plated ship, 13 guns, 4,830 H.P., 6,010, Captain R. E. Tracey, 3rd October.—Hakodate.

Albatross, British composite screw sloop, 4 guns, 840 H.P., 940, Commander Hicks, 3rd October.—Hakodate.

Curacoa, British screw corvette, 14 guns, 3,540 H.P., 2,380, Captain Anstruther, 3rd October.—Hakodate.

Pegasus, British composite screw sloop, 6 guns, 970 H.P., 1,130, Commander Bickford, 3rd October.—Hakodate.

Takasago Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,229, C. Young, 3rd October.—Hakodate 1st October, Mails and General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

City of Tokio, American steamer, 3,821, J. Maury, 4th October.—Hongkong 27th September, ral.—P. M. S.S. Co.

Hiroshima Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,862, J. Wynn, 4th October.—Shanghai and ports, Mails and General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Arabic, British steamer, 2,787, W. G. Pearne, 5th October.—San Francisco 15th September, Mails and General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.

DEPARTURES.

Shinagawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 908, J. A. Kilgour, 1st October.—Hakodate and Northern Ports, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Ietchiu Maru, Japanese steamer, Burgoyne, 1st October.—Kobe, General.—Kiyodo Unyu Kwaisha.

Shima Maru, Japanese steamer, 800, 1st October.—Yokkaichi, General.—Kiyodo Unyu Kwaisha.

Wakanoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,343, A. F. Christensen, 2nd October.—Kobe, Mails and General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Niigata Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,096, Hubbard, 2nd October.—Hakodate, Mails and General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Sukune Maru, Japanese steamer, 475, Makihara, 2nd October.—Hakodate, General.—Kiyodo Unyu Kwaisha.

Louise, French 3-masted schooner, 300, Lemoine, 3rd October.—Kobe, Ballast.—E. Whittall.

Kanagawa Maru, Japanese bark, 1,150, Eckstrand, 3rd October.—Nagasaki, 17,000 cases Kerosene.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Kosuge Maru, Japanese steamer, 775, H. Kawaoka, 3rd October.—Hakodate, General.—Kiyodo Unyu Kwaisha.

Nagoya Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,900, Wilson Walker, 3rd October.—Shanghai and ports, Mails and General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Sapphire, British screw corvette, 12 guns, 2,360 H.P., 1,970, Captain J. R. T. Fullerton, 3rd October.—Korea via Kobe and China ports.

Taganoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 448, Matsu-moto, 3rd October.—Yokkaichi, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Zambesi, British steamer, 1,540, L. H. Moule, 3rd October.—Hongkong via Kobe and Nagasaki, Mails and General.—P. & O. S. N. Co.

Akitsu Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,146, Frahm, 5th October.—Hakodate, Mails and General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Hiogo Maru, Japanese steamer, 896, R. N. Walker, 5th October.—Kobe, Mails and General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

City of Tokio, American steamer, 3,821, J. Maury, 6th October.—San Francisco, Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per Japanese steamer *Kosuge Maru*, from Hakodate and Kamaishi:—30 Japanese in steerage.

Per French steamer *Monsaleh*, from Hongkong: Messrs. Blum, Anderotti, Imberti, Aplin, Harrison, R.N., and Kabaishi Hachiro in cabin; and five British seamen.

Per Japanese steamer *Wakanoura Maru*, from Kobe:—Messrs. A. Evers, R. A. Robertson, A. Anataling, and 6 Japanese in cabin; and 303 Japanese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Hiogo Maru*, from Kobe: Captain Huebener, and Mr. C. Vaeléke in cabin; and 66 Japanese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Takasago Maru*, from Hakodate:—3 Europeans and 14 Japanese in cabin; and 150 Japanese in steerage.

Per American steamer *City of Tokio*, from Hongkong:—Mr. and Mrs. G. E. Noble, Captain Miller, Mr. T. Arnold, and 1 Chinese in cabin. For San Francisco: Mr. H. Kopsch in cabin; and 236 Chinese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Hiroshima Maru*, from Shanghai and ports:—Mr. and Mrs. Stringer and two children, Captain J. M. Conner, Messrs. Huey, Welchincin, Ishikawa, Mayeda, and Yamanaka in cabin; and 1 European, 1 Chinese, and 245 Japanese in steerage.

Per British steamer *Arabic*, from San Francisco: Count Strickland, His Excellency and Mrs. Adam Sienkiewicz and family, Mr. and Mrs. Edward Wriederhold, Mrs. M. Waller, Mrs. H. A. Jerome, Mrs. L. G. Perine, Rev. J. Thompson Cole, Lieut. C. H. Colvin, Messrs. Percy Hargreaves, N. Lodyginsky, N. Schlessor, C. M. Lousen Smith, E. Bavier, Chas. H. Ripley, Chas. E. Hill, Horsfall, A. Schierenberg, Ratcliffe, and K. Takakira in cabin. For Hongkong: Messrs. Frank Goodwin and P. Rothenbusch in cabin. For Shanghai: Messrs. G. H. Mathews and R. L. Head in cabin.

DEPARTED.

Per Japanese steamer *Nagoya Maru*, for Shanghai and ports:—His Excellency General Saigo, Governor Oki, Governor Yoshikawa, Mr. and Mrs. Bluntschle, child, infant, and European nurse, Dr. and Mrs. Allen, Messrs. Bishop, Oeyama, Asada, Ishibashi, Kumbara, Nirei, Yanagiya, F. Fujishima, Orita, C. Abegg, W. J. Binney, J. Richards, M. Strogg, Namura, Kagawa, Hashimoto, Gotsugi, Asami, Ise, Hojo, Oku, Yamataka, Kawashima, Okano, Kawashimo, Shirotto, and E. Christie in cabin.

Per British steamer *Zambesi*, for Hongkong via Kobe and Nagasaki:—Mr. and Mrs. Rasch, child and servant, Captain and Mrs. Brackenbury, 2 children and servant, Rev. and Mrs. Palm, child

and servant, Rev. and Mrs. Ashmore, child and servant, Mr. and Mrs. Dodds, 2 children and servant, Miss McCully, Major Halahan, Lieutenant Plumbe, R.M.L.I., Lieutenant Allan, Messrs. Hebben, Leason, Ryder, A. Mitchell, J. L. Lyell, S. G. Sheppard, Balfour, Sorokomofsky, H. Budler, Ost, Kuhn, Ah Poon, and Akiyama in cabin; and 1 private R.M.L.I., 8 Chinese, and 11 Japanese in steerage.

CARGOES.

Per British steamer *Zambesi*, for Hongkong via Kobe and Nagasaki:—Silk for France, 1,008 bales; for England, 30 bales; Total, 1,063 bales. Waste silk, 248 bales.

Per American steamer *City of Tokio*, for San Francisco:—

| | TEA. | | OTHER COTTON. | TOTAL. |
|----------|----------------|-----------|---------------|--------|
| | SAN FRANCISCO. | NEW YORK. | | |
| Shanghai | 850 | 1,513 | 1,230 | 3,593 |
| Hiogo | — | — | — | — |
| Yokohama | 3,720 | 375 | 3,019 | 7,114 |
| Hongkong | 25 | 246 | 330 | 601 |
| Total | 4,604 | 3,082 | 5,963 | 13,649 |

| | SILK. | | OTHER COTTON. | TOTAL. |
|----------|----------------|-----------|---------------|--------|
| | SAN FRANCISCO. | NEW YORK. | | |
| Shanghai | — | 98 | — | 98 |
| Hongkong | — | 438 | — | 438 |
| Yokohama | — | 705 | — | 705 |
| Total | — | 1,241 | — | 1,241 |

REPORTS.

The Japanese steamer *Wakanoura Maru*, Captain A. F. Christensen, reports leaving Kobe on the 28th September, at 4.45 p.m. with light variable winds and cloudy weather; thence to port strong N.E. winds and cloudy weather. Arrived at Yokohama on the 30th September, at 6 a.m. On the 28th September, at 11 p.m. passed the American ship *Alex. McNeil*, bound for Kobe, off Ichiya Misaki, about 75 miles from Kobe. Ship had light northerly winds at the time of passing.

The British steamer *Metapedia*, Captain Garvin, reports having experienced from the 21st to 25th ultimo moderate northerly winds and clear weather; thence to port moderate strong gales from N.N.E. to E.N.E. and high confused sea.

The Japanese steamer *Takasago Maru*, Captain C. Young, reports leaving Hakodate on the 1st October, at 5.50 a.m. with fine weather throughout the passage. Arrived at Yokohama on the 3rd October, at 4.30 p.m.

The American steamer *City of Tokio*, Captain J. Maury, reports leaving Hongkong on the 27th September, at 4.30 p.m. with strong north-easterly monsoon and head sea to Turnabout; thence to Yokohama fresh easterly wind and head sea. Arrived in port on the 4th instant, at 7.30 a.m. Passage, 6 days, 13 hours, and 30 minutes.

VESSELS FOR JAPAN.

MEN-OF-WAR.

Audacious, British double-crew iron armour-plated ship, 14 guns, 4,830 H.P., 6,010, Captain R. E. Tracey, 3rd October.—Hakodate.

Albatross, British composite screw sloop, 4 guns, 840 H.P., 940, Commander Hicks, 3rd October.—Hakodate.

Curacoa, British screw corvette, 14 guns, 2,540 H.P., 2,380, Captain Anstruther, 3rd October.—Hakodate.

Fuso Kan, Japanese ironclad, 12 guns, 1,340, Inouye, 28th August.—Yokosuka 28th August.

Kongo Kan, Japanese corvette, 13 guns, 1,341, Captain Aiura, 22nd May.—Yokosuka.

Pegasus, British composite screw sloop, 6 guns, 970 H.P., 1,130, Commander Bickford, 3rd October.—Hakodate.

Richmond, American flagship, 14 guns, 300 men, 2,700, Captain J. S. Skerrett, U.S.N., 24th September.—Yokosuka.

Tsukushi Kan, Japanese steel ram, Captain Matsu-mura, 19th September.—England via Nagasaki 15th September.

Vigilant, British paddle despatch-vessel, 2 guns, 1,230 H.P., 1,000, Lieut.-Commander Maxwell, 1st October.—Kobe.

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

The past week has been very quiet both in Yarns and Shirtings, and there is no improvement to report in prices. Other Goods call for no special remark. There has been a fair enquiry for Metals suitable sizes of Iron being generally in small Stock.

COTTON YARNS.

| | PER PICUL. |
|-----------------------------------|------------------|
| Nos. 16 to 24, Common to Medium - | \$25.00 to 28.50 |
| Nos. 16 to 24, Good to Best - | 29.25 to 30.00 |
| Bombay, No. 20, Good to Best - | 25.25 to 28.50 |
| Nos. 28 to 32, Common to Medium - | 30.50 to 31.50 |
| Nos. 28 to 32, Good to Best - | 32.00 to 35.00 |
| Nos. 38 to 42 - | 35.00 to 37.50 |

COTTON PIECE GOODS.

| | PER PIECE. |
|-----------------------------------------------|----------------|
| Grey Shirtings—8½, 3½ to 39 inches - | \$1.70 to 2.15 |
| Grey Shirtings—9½, 3½ to 45 inches - | 1.95 to 2.40 |
| T. Cloth—7½, 24 yards, 32 inches - | 1.42½ to 1.50 |
| Indigo Shirting—12 yards, 44 inches - | 1.55 to 1.70 |
| Prints—Assorted, 24 yards, 30 inches - | 1.10 to 2.40 |
| Cotton—Italians and Satens Black, 33 inches - | 0.07 to 0.09 |
| Turkey Reds—2 to 2½, 24 yards, 30 inches - | 1.15 to 1.35 |
| Turkey Reds—2½ to 2½, 24 yards, 30 inches - | 1.35 to 1.55 |
| Turkey Reds—3½, 24 yards, 30 inches - | 1.70 to 1.82½ |
| Velvets—Black, 35 yards, 22 inches - | 5.00 to 6.75 |
| Victoria Lawns, 12 yards, 42-3 inches - | 0.65 to 0.75 |
| Taffachels, 12 yards, 43 inches - | 1.75 to 2.05 |

WOOLLENS.

| | PER PICUL. |
|----------------------------------------------------|----------------|
| Plain Orleans, 40-42 yards, 32 inches - | \$3.50 to 5.25 |
| Figured Orleans, 29-31 yards, 31 inches - | 3.25 to 4.00 |
| Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches - | 0.18 to 0.28 |
| Mousseline de Laine—Crape, 24 yards, 31 inches - | 0.15½ to 0.16½ |
| Mousseline de Laine—Itajime, 24 yards, 31 inches - | 0.18½ to 0.26 |
| Mousseline de Laine—Yuzen, 24 yards, 31 inches - | 0.30 to 0.37½ |
| Cloths—Pilots, 54 @ 56 inches - | 0.30 to 0.40 |
| Cloths—Presidents, 54 @ 56 inches - | 0.40 to 0.50 |
| Cloths—Union, 54 @ 56 inches - | 0.30 to 0.55 |
| Blankets—Scarlet and Green, 6 to 5½, per lb - | 0.35 to 0.40 |

IRON.

| | PER PICUL. |
|---------------------------------|----------------|
| Flat Bars, ½ inch - | \$2.50 to 2.90 |
| Flat Bars, ¾ inch - | 2.50 to 3.00 |
| Round and square up to ½ inch - | 2.50 to 3.00 |
| Nailrod, assorted - | 2.35 to 2.60 |
| Nailrod, small size - | 2.55 to 3.15 |

KEROSENE.

Sales during the week have been limited to 12,500 cases. Deliveries have amounted to 37,000 cases, including 17,000 cases for re-export to Nagasaki. Stocks of sold and unsold Oil now amount to about 723,000 cases in first hands. We quote:—

| | PER CASE. |
|----------|-----------|
| Devoe - | \$1.66 |
| Comet - | 1.61 |
| Stella - | 1.55 |

SUGAR.

With transactions on the smallest possible scale, and at the close of the interval absolutely no demand, no alterations can be made in previous quotations.

| | PER PICUL. |
|-----------------|----------------|
| White, No. 1 - | \$7.50 to 8.00 |
| White, No. 2 - | 7.00 to 7.50 |
| White, No. 3 - | 6.75 to 7.00 |
| White, No. 4 - | 6.00 to 6.50 |
| White, No. 5 - | 5.00 to 5.20 |
| Brown Formosa - | 4.50 to 4.60 |

EXPORTS.

SILK.

Business during the week has been active, and Settlements for that period reach fully 1,000 piculs. Prices have again declined all round, and Japanese seem inclined to be current at the reduced quotations given below. Arrivals are maintained, and the Market is now well supplied with all descriptions, the total Stock being about 5,000 piculs. Direct shipments on native account have been heavy both to Europe and America by the recent steamers. Export to date is 9,494 bales, against 8,294 bales at same date last year.

Hanks have enjoyed the predominance during the period under review, transactions totalling fully 600 piculs on easier terms than last reported.

Filatures have been currently saleable as the Market declined. Prices for these kinds are

irregular, some holders being more willing to meet the Market than others.

Re-reels of good quality have been taken to some extent, Five Girl (Maibash) realising \$502½. Common kinds not wanted at present.

Kokedas.—Very little enquiry and prices weak. Oshiu.—A parcel of Sendai averaging 2 to 3 has found a purchaser, but the better kinds from this district have not yet appeared.

Hamatsuki has been in less demand, some have been done, notably a crack parcel at \$495. Medium and Common are weak and lower.

Taysam kinds.—Some business in these; coarse Nagahama and Hachioji sorts finding buyers at prices ranging from \$410 to \$440. Sodai no transactions.

QUOTATIONS.

| | |
|-----------------------------------|--------------|
| Hanks—No. 13 - | \$510 to 520 |
| Hanks—No. 2 (Shinshu) - | 505 to 510 |
| Hanks—No. 2 (Maibash) - | 490 to 500 |
| Hanks—No. 2½ - | 475 to 485 |
| Hanks—No. 3 - | 450 to 460 |
| Hanks—No. 3½ - | 430 to 440 |
| Filatures—Extra - | 630 to 640 |
| Filatures—No. 1, 10/13 deniers - | 620 to 630 |
| Filatures—No. 1, 14/16 deniers - | 620 to 630 |
| Filatures—No. 1½, 14/17 deniers - | 590 to 600 |
| Filatures—No. 2, 10/15 deniers - | 590 to 600 |
| Filatures—No. 2, 14/18 deniers - | 550 to 590 |
| Filatures—No. 3, 14/20 deniers - | 575 to 575 |
| Re-reels—No. 1, 14/16 deniers - | 600 to 610 |
| Re-reels—No. 1½, 14/17 deniers - | 580 to 590 |
| Re-reels—No. 2, 14/18 deniers - | 570 to 580 |
| Re-reels—No. 3, 14/20 deniers - | 550 to 560 |
| Kakedas—Extra - | 620 |
| Kakedas—No. 1 - | \$50 to 590 |
| Kakedas—No. 2 - | 540 to 550 |
| Kakedas—No. 3 - | 520 to 530 |
| Oshiu Sendai—No. 2½ - | 490 to 500 |
| Hamatsuki—No. 1, 2 - | 480 to 490 |
| Hamatsuki—No. 3, 4 - | 440 to 460 |
| Sodai—No. 2½ - | 440 to 450 |

TEA.

The general demand reported in last issue continues, teas grading from Medium to Fine receiving more attention, operations being principally in these. Receipts keep pace with Settlements, and prices are well maintained for Teas of good quality. Settlements during the interval have been about 2,585 piculs, making a total for the season of about 135,777 piculs, against 142,592 piculs at the same corresponding date in 1882. Undermoted are the Tea shipments from the port since last weekly report:—The steamship *Galley of Lorne*, sailed on the 26th September, took 99,565 lbs. for New York, and 51,389 lbs. for Canada; and the steamship *Strathleven* on the 26th September 104,854 lbs. for New York and 9,188 lbs. for Canada, making a total of 265,996 lbs. Tea for both steamers. The British steamers *Selembria* and *Strathmore* are advertised to load for New York, but the rate of freight and the departures of the steamers are at present unknown.

QUOTATIONS.

| | |
|---------------|------------|
| Common - | \$10 |
| Good Common - | 12 to 14 |
| Medium - | 16 to 18 |
| Good Medium - | 19 to 21 |
| Fine - | 23 to 27 |
| Finest - | 29 & up'ds |
| Choice - | Nominal |
| Choicest - | Nominal |

EXCHANGE.

Rates have remained steady during the week, and a fair business has been transacted in Private Paper. The demand for Bank has been small, and rates at the close are firm.

| | |
|-------------------------------------------|-------------|
| Sterling—Bank Bills on demand - | 3/8 |
| Sterling—Bank 4 months' sight - | 3/8 |
| Sterling—Private 4 months' sight - | 3/9 |
| Sterling—Private 6 months' sight - | 3/9½ |
| On Paris—Bank sight - | 46½ |
| On Paris—Private 6 months' sight - | 47½ |
| On Hongkong—Bank sight - | ½ prem. |
| On Hongkong—Private 10 days' sight - | ½ o d. dis. |
| On Shanghai—Bank sight - | 72½ |
| On Shanghai—Private 10 days' sight - | 73½ |
| On New York—Bank Bills on demand - | 89½ |
| On New York—Private 30 days' sight - | 90 |
| On San Francisco—Bank Bills on demand - | 89½ |
| On San Francisco—Private 30 days' sight - | 90 |

KINSATSU QUOTATIONS.

The following table shows the rate of the day, and the fluctuation during the past week:—

| | |
|----------------------------|------|
| Saturday, October 6th..... | 116½ |
|----------------------------|------|

IMPORTANT NOTICE.

SMALL CAPITALISTS, wishing to establish a business, should see if there is an opening for a Mineral Water Manufactory in their District. All information and recipes for the purpose of making Lemonade, Soda Water, &c., is given, previous knowledge is not necessary. The demand for these drinks is so much on the increase in all parts of the world, that the outlay for the machinery in all cases leads to a profitable and safe business. Catalogue forwarded free, on application to

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May 1st, 1883.

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May 1st, 1883.

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May 1st, 1883.

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PRICES CURRENT.

AUCTION CATALOGUES.

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ORDER BOOKS,

&c., &c., &c.

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Yokohama, May 1st, 1883.

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| | | | |
|------------|-------------|------------|-----------------|
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JOSEPH GILLOTT'S STEEL PENS. Medal,
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JOSEPH GILLOTT'S STEEL PENS. 1878.
May 1st, 1883.

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**ONLY GOLD MEDAL—PARIS, 1878,
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a most fragrant Perfume distilled from the choicest Florida

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a new and indispensable Toilet accompaniment, and most refreshing Perfume for the Handkerchief.

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ESTABLISHED 1790.

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THE Japan Weekly Mail,

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JAPANESE COMMERCE, POLITICS, LITERATURE, AND ART.

No. 24, VOL. I.]

YOKOHAMA, OCTOBER 13TH, 1883.

[£24 PER ANNUM.]

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The Japan Weekly Mail.

"FAIS CE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL," must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith. It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, OCTOBER 13TH, 1883.

MARRIAGE.

At the Cathedral, Hongkong, on the 28th ultimo, by the Rev. W. Jennings, M.A., J. A. THOMSON, Yokohama, to MARGIE, youngest daughter of the late George Cunningham Esq., Glasgow.

DEATH.

At 8 a.m. on the 10th October, at No. 4, Onoyecho, Ichome, Yokohama, NAKAYAMA YOSHIJIRO (formerly named Kôguchi) elder brother of Ota Choshiro.

WEEKLY NOTES.

THE week has been marked by a very heavy rain-fall and strong winds. The greatest quantity of rain fell on the 8th instant, the maximum fall being that registered at Wakayama—95 millimetres against 32 in Tokiyo. Osaka, Kiyoto, Sakai, Miyasaki, Kochi and other places were visited by a down-pour only little less violent. On the 7th instant, gales, more or less severe, were reported from all these places, and the crops in the prefecture of Miyé are said to have been much damaged. This inclement weather comes too late, however, to effect the harvest prospects seriously. An exceptionally favorable yield is still anticipated, competent judges being of opinion that the rice crop will be nearly thirty-five million *koku*. The

average annual consumption of rice in Japan, for all purposes, is estimated at thirty million *koku*. Doubtless this figure varies considerably with the nature of the harvest, and it is not unlikely that the plentiful yield of this season, combined with the exceptionally low prices already ruling, will have the effect of considerably increasing consumption. Against this probable increase, however, we have to set the fact that the yield of all other cereals is proportionately fine, so that everything justifies an expectation that Japan will have a large surplus stock on hand this year. This prospect has encouraged some curious speculation, amongst others an estimate that if only the restrictions imposed upon the use of foreign vessels for export purposes were removed, Japan might sell rice to the value of sixty-five million dollars! So she might, perhaps, if the people consented to put themselves on short rations and if—which is a very big "if"—purchasers could be found to take such a quantity off her hands. Truly there is a great deal of silliness written about this rice question. The fact is that until the present time the price of rice in Japan has been too high to leave any margin for export. The business is a most precarious one. The European market is small and shows little if any elasticity, while the experiences of those who have essayed the speculation under the most favorable conditions have not been such as to encourage renewed ventures. Experts say that the utmost Japan can hope to do is sell 500,000 *koku* of rice (70,000 tons) in Europe, and even that seems a sanguine calculation. It must be remembered, also, that only rice of the finest quality will do for the European markets, and that when we speak of a surplus of five million *koku*, probably not more than a fifth part of it satisfies that definition. There is, indeed, a market in China for second-rate rice, and the facilities of export to that country would be immensely increased by throwing open a few ports in the north and west. We see no reason why the difficulties that seem to interfere with this operation should not be easily overcome. Indeed there is no avoiding the conviction that a more liberal policy in these matters would be greatly to the advantage of the country at large, and signs are not wanting that the merchants of Japan are coming over to the same way of thinking. At the fall of the year, when large quantities of the staple must be sold to pay the land-tax, it would be a real boon to the people to open up to them a new market within comparatively easy reach, and the recent destruction

of Chinese crops, caused by the inundations of the Yellow River, make this season exceptionally suitable for the experiment.

DURING the week there have reached us two items of news which appear to contradict each other completely. The first came directly from the seat of military operations in Tonquin. It was a telegram dated October the 8th, and it said that negotiations had taken place between Admiral Courbet and the leader of the Black Flags, with the result that the latter had agreed to evacuate Sontai. The second was also a telegram, dated London October the 9th, which said that the Franco-Chinese negotiations were believed to have failed. Now at first sight the connection between these two pieces of intelligence is not apparent, but a little consideration shows that the latter is exactly the opposite of what we might have expected to receive immediately after the former. There can be no manner of doubt that China is, or was, fighting France by means of the Black Flags. To feel convinced of this it was not necessary to be told that many Chinese troops were enrolled in the ranks of the defenders of Sontai, and that the arms taken from the latter by the French bore the Chinese Arsenal mark. What the Peking Cabinet wanted was time, and it could not obtain its wishes otherwise than through the agency of the so called pirates. When, therefore, news arrived that the Black Flags, without sustaining any serious reverse, had agreed to enter into negotiations with the French, and finally to evacuate Sontai—the most important position in the delta of the Red River—what we should have expected to hear next was that the Marquis Tseng had concluded a satisfactory arrangement with M. Jules Ferry; whereas, on the contrary, we learn, the very next day, that the negotiations at Paris are believed to have failed. It will be remembered that we published, three weeks ago, telegraphic intelligence of the dissensions which had arisen between the French Civil and military authorities in Tonquin, and that the same telegram attributed the origin of the difficulty to a desire on one side, and an objection on the other, to treat with the Black Flags. Later details did not help to unravel this riddle. The telegram was explicit enough in attributing the conciliatory policy to the military authorities, but it confused Admiral Courbet with General Bouet. Judging from the news of the 8th instant, it would appear that it was the Admiral who favoured the idea of treating the Black Flags

as belligerents, and the General who opposed it. At all events the latter was no sooner relieved of his command than negotiations appear to have been opened with the pirates, resulting in their evacuation of Sontai. It is of course possible that the Black Flags may not have thought it worth their while to set the doubtful reward of loyalty to China before the advantages offered by the French. It is also possible that they may have obeyed Chinese instructions issued in the presence of a more hopeful prospect than the last Paris telegram indicates. But these are matters of conjecture. What is certain is that the French commanders must have been sorely embarrassed before they consented to negotiate with men whom they had denounced, and undertaken to treat, as pirates; and what may fairly be inferred is that China was a consenting party to the arrangement made by the Black Flags. In view of this latter inference the telegram announcing the failure—temporary, let us hope—of the negotiations at Paris, suggests an idea that some new difficulty has been created on the French side. But the truth appears to be exactly the opposite. Chinese intractability is the trouble. The Marquis Tseng has convinced himself, it would seem, that the French Ministry must either abandon its aggressive policy or consent to receive a crushing defeat at the next session of the Chamber of Deputies. In fact the Chamber will not vote any more money for Tonquin. With this prospect in view the Marquis has changed his conciliatory tone and put his demands into such a shape that their discussion proves too much for the equanimity of M. Challemel-Lacour and his colleagues. It is to be hoped that the Chinese diplomatist has not over-rated the situation, and that his conditions will not have the effect of strengthening the hands of the War party.

THE China Merchants' Steam Navigation Company have issued their annual Report. It is a much shorter document than the last and less satisfactory, though on the whole, having regard to the general dullness of trade throughout the year, any trading association which can afford to pay a dividend of 10 % must be counted decidedly fortunate. It is true that the dividend for the year ending June 30th, 1882, was 20 % but this contrast becomes less marked when we remember that the capital of the company is double what it was in 1881-82. New shares, to the value of a million taels, have been issued and readily taken up. The money thus obtained was to have been devoted to the purchase of new steamers, but it has only been partially employed in that way, the additions to the fleet being confined, so far as is known, to two steel vessels expected to arrive soon. This will bring the number of ships flying the Company's flag up to twenty-seven—a number which the Directors consider sufficient for the trade of the ports now in use. The Report shows that out of the million taels raised within the year under review, 210,000 were lent to the King of Korea, but nothing is said about the rate of interest or the nature of the security. The rumour is that this

money passed into the keeping of the Korean Vice-Minister for Foreign Affairs, Mr. Von Mollendorff, and that he keeps a very tight hold of it, confining its use, as far as possible, to the organization of a Customs Service.

In this context the following note from the *Manchester Examiner* will be read with interest:—

From 1880 to 1882 the French flag has gained to the extent of 50,000 tons, and foreign flags in French ports lost 345,000 tons of that foreign shipping trade which receives a bounty from the French Government. As Consul Segrave, however, points out, the bounties granted under the French mercantile marine law of January, 1881, only effect the navigation of France with her colonies and countries beyond the limits of Europe, and do not apply either to the coasting trade, the fisheries, or the navigation with European ports. As regards the latter trade the French still fall below their foreign competitors in their own ports to the enormous extent of four millions of tons, and, as Mr. Segrave clearly shows, there is certainly no immediate prospect of their bettering themselves. How costly is the system of bounties is shown by the fact that the builders of the new iron steamers for the line between Havre, Canada, and Brazil—the contract price for which is £72,000 a piece—will be entitled to claim from the State about £6,000 for each vessel, as well as a bounty of six francs for every hundred kilogrammes weight of machinery, boilers, capstans, windlasses, pumps, etc., put abroad.

ALL Europe seems to have been stirred with compassion for the sufferings of the people of Ischia. Every Continental journal contains intelligence of some concert, theatrical performance, bazaar, or other entertainment in aid of the unfortunates who have to mourn the loss of their friends and relatives as well as of their property. We understand that the amateurs of Yokohama have arranged to give a performance at the Gaiety Theatre with the same object, and there can be no doubt that their kind efforts will receive the hearty support of the community. The times are not favorable to liberality, but after all if Shanghai can afford to contribute a handsome sum to the Yellow River Flood Fund, Yokohama is not likely to be backward when Italians are concerned. In these matters we need not go farther than China for examples of munificent generosity. The sufferers by the inundations of the Yellow River are to receive Tls. 100,000 from the private purse of His Excellency Li Hung-chang and ten thousand suits of clothing from the Lady Li. Would that many of us were in a position to imitate the princely liberality of the Chung-t'ang.

THE events of the past fortnight have been described, with less reverence than truth, as the resurrection of the Land Renters. There was a time, within the memory of every tolerably "old resident," when the Land Renters were a very busy body. That was when they enjoyed the privilege of managing their own affairs. They managed their own affairs during two years, and have agitated for the right to manage them during twenty. But the agitation has been, for the most part, of a very perfunctory nature. It never had the air of real vitality, but rather conveyed the impression of a concession to public conscience. Some go so far as to say that but for the constant advent of new settlers unfamiliar with the difficulties which deterred the old,

municipal aspirations would have been finally chilled by the rebuff they received at the hands of the Doyen of the Diplomatic Corps in 1869. The Land Renters were then told that all the trouble they had taken to embody their wants in an elaborate series of regulations must go for naught, since the power to enforce those regulations could only be obtained by processes too lengthy and troublesome to be seriously contemplated. But the infusion of new blood has kept the old from utter stagnation. There has been a resurrection, and the question people are naturally asking is whether the resuscitated skeleton is likely to acquire flesh and substance, or whether it is destined to return to the spasmodic repose of its sometime sepulchre.

The point that presents itself at once as most remarkable is the analogy between the excuse offered by the Japanese for not governing us better and the reasons which confessedly induced the Land Renters to surrender the control of their own affairs in 1867. In both cases the same impediment is recorded—insufficient power. In the Japanese contention the insufficiency refers to administrative power alone; in the foreign, it is both pecuniary and administrative. "In order to avoid all farther discussion about the keeping of roads, drainage, cleansing of streets, and other municipal objects for which the Japanese local authorities had hitherto been held responsible,"* the Land Renters agreed themselves, in 1864, to secure those objects, and "towards the expense" of the undertaking it was arranged that there should be a deduction of 20 per cent. from the yearly ground-rents, to be paid into the municipal fund. After this deduction the sum paid by foreign Land-renters to the Imperial Government would have been almost identical with that paid by their Japanese fellow residents by way of land-tax alone. But the Japanese had to pay nearly as much again on account of municipal outlay and other taxes, whereas the foreigners attempted to carry on their municipality without paying anything more whatever. Naturally the funds at their disposal proved insufficient, having been expressly intended, not to meet, but to go "towards," municipal expenses. But there was another difficulty. No efficient regulations could be enforced. The municipality was not competent to enforce its own regulations. The Consular Courts were not competent to take cognisance of any municipal regulations whether foreign or Japanese, and the Foreign Representatives declared that they could only become competent by unanimous legislation on the part of all the Treaty Powers. In default, then, of funds, which they ought themselves to have supplied, and of authority, which they were unable to procure, the Land Renters surrendered their impossible functions, which they "called on" the Japanese to assume. The Japanese consented. They could not choose but consent. Yet they had no better reason to hope for success than their predecessors. Money indeed they could find—though no principle of fairness or propriety re-

* Yokohama Memorandum. December 19th, 1864.

quired that they should be more munificent to foreigners than to their own subjects—but so far as administrative power was concerned, they were actually worse off than the Foreign Land Renters. For the while the latter could count on the general co-operation of their nationals, the former had to anticipate chiefly opposition. No Government ever yet undertook such an impracticable task as that which devolved upon the Japanese in 1867. They allowed themselves to be persuaded that the intention of the Treaties was to deprive them of ability to preserve law and order in their own territories. For while it was contended that no Japanese regulations were binding on foreign residents, it was also officially admitted that no Consular Court was competent to enforce *any* municipal regulations whatsoever without unanimous legislation on the part of all the Treaty Powers. The Japanese, then, attempted to govern municipally without the power of either making or enforcing municipal regulations. Is it possible to conceive a greater farce? One knows not which to marvel at more—the extravagance of foreigners in arbitrarily assuming such an illogical and inconvenient attitude, or the *naïveté* of the Japanese in consenting to be thrust into such a grotesque and hopeless position.

Looking at these things from a practical point of view, one cannot but ask, “are matters, any better now than they were in 1867? Have these grotesque difficulties, the outcome entirely of our own unreasoning prejudice of race, disappeared; or is there any prospect of their disappearance?” We are disposed to answer in the affirmative, and we base our reply upon the recent appointment of the Committee of Land Renters “to act as intermediaries between the foreign residents and the Japanese and Foreign authorities.” Not that there is a hope, however remote, of the Committee accomplishing anything if it follows the lines indicated by the Memorial of 1882. We should be deliberately veiling our eyes from the truth did we pretend to discern any such prospect. It is universally known that the first object of the Japanese governing classes is to recover a portion of their jurisdiction over foreigners: it is universally known that Foreign assumption of their incompetence is the one obstacle to the accomplishment of their object; and it has been officially declared that the Treaty Powers, before consenting to legislate specially with a view to conferring municipal authority on this community, “might require to be assured of the inability or unwillingness of the Government of Japan to maintain order and cleanliness in those portions of its territories in which foreigners have been right to reside.” Does any one suppose that the Japanese Government will consent to a step capable of being construed after the fashion indicated in this despatch of the British Representative? The Japanese Government, is not unwilling to maintain order and cleanliness in the foreign Settlements; therefore, by consenting to surrender its municipal functions,

it would unavoidably expose itself to the alternative inference—inability. Is that likely? We think not, and we imagine that a committee of practical and prudent men will appreciate the unwisdom of persisting in a course which can lead to nothing but mutual recriminations and a worse deadlock than ever.

* * *

But what the Committee can accomplish, and what we believe it will accomplish, is to lead the community to a sound comprehension of the whimsical difficulties that have been created by foreign official jealousy, and to unite Japanese and foreigners in a hearty effort to remove those difficulties. Judged by the articles and letters that have recently appeared on the subject of municipal reform, some of the most active agitators in Yokohama labour under strange misapprehensions. Thus “in asking for the grant of what is virtually a municipal charter the memorialists,” speaking through their would-be representatives, say that they “were strictly within their rights as citizens,” and that they “confined their prayer to the grant of those reasonable privileges which are accorded by the Governments of all countries in Europe and by the United States to all congregations of men forming townships or cities of their own.” Unfortunately these statements are diametrically opposed to facts. In no part of either Europe or America are the privileges of municipally governing themselves conferred on congregations of men who are not controlled by the common law of the land. Municipal law may be distinct from, but it must always be subject to, the general laws of the State. Would that universally recognised relation hold in the case of the residents of Yokohama if they possessed a municipal charter? Again, in no part of either Europe or America are untaxed aliens admitted to the rights of citizens. Foreigners in Yokohama are not taxed. The contention that the wages we give our servants or the duties we pay on imported necessities can be regarded as taxes, is a fair example of the absurd subterfuges employed to conceal an unpleasant fact. The plain truth is that until we consent to occupy the status of law-abiding citizens we cannot set up any just claim to the privileges of law-making citizens. Then again, as another example of the whimsical misapprehensions that are gravely advanced, consider the outcry evoked by the Prefect’s claim that he ought to be “furnished with a general warrant enabling the proper officers to enter freely into the premises occupied by foreigners when there is reason to suspect that offenders are concealing themselves therein,” &c. In answer to this claim the would-be mouth-pieces of the community declare “that in no civilized country does such a regulation exist;” and that “it is impossible to conceive a civilized people that would tolerate a law at once arbitrary and barbarous.” But the truth is that such a regulation *does* exist in every civilized country, and that such a law *is* tolerated by every civilized people. Why should it be considered “arbitrary and barbar-

ous” to confer on the Prefect powers exercised by all the Foreign Consuls as well as by every police magistrate in Western countries? The Prefect only asks to be invested with a portion of the authority now possessed by the Consuls. It would seem, too, that those persons who publish letters in the local press have little idea of police duties. Do they suppose that when a London policeman finds himself near a house where he has reason to think a crime is being committed, he hastens off to get a warrant before attempting to enter? Certainly if he did anything of the sort he would be dismissed from the force for imbecility. The Japanese in this matter ask for nothing but the elimination of Consular impediments. They do not propose to dispense with any of the executive forms observed in Western countries, but only to facilitate the execution of the law by centralizing the authority now divided among fifteen or sixteen different sources. The terms “barbarous and arbitrary” do not apply to their proposition, but to the cumbrous system which foreigners persist in perpetuating, to the virtual paralysis of all executive efficiency.

* * *

These, and cognate misapprehensions will be removed by a closer acquaintance with the conditions of the problem. The Committee of Land Renters cannot hope to satisfy the gentleman who thinks that a good municipality would relieve him of the fleas that infest his couch, the odours that hang about his back-yard, and the whiffs of pickled *daikon* that come to him from his servants’ quarters. To be sure a foreign municipality “having the right of entry into private compounds for necessary purposes of sanitary inspection and to abate or remove nuisances,” might compel “Attar of Roses” as he calls himself, to keep his premises clean, and might recommend him to air his bed or employ some good insecticide; but with the *daikon* they could scarcely deal. The Committee, however, consisting, as it does, of earnest, practical men, will soon see, when it comes to devise a possible remedy for the existing deadlock, that neither Japanese nor foreigners can govern the Settlement until either the former take heart of grace and assert the authority which unquestionably belongs to them, or the latter induce their Ministers to cease from opposing arbitrary and profitless obstructions to the execution of every law emanating from a Japanese source. It cannot possibly be proved either by the text of the Treaties themselves, or by any inferential line of reasoning consistent with common sense, that the intention of those documents was to deprive the Japanese of municipal control over the settlements where foreigners reside, and to substitute nothing in its place. Nevertheless, that is the interpretation that has been put upon the Treaties. We believe that the Committee will presently recognise this, and that the next phase of Yokohama’s municipal history will be a hearty combination of foreigners and Japanese to effect a clearance of illegal impediments, and to obtain the rehabilitation of the only authority competent to exercise effective control

over this heterogeneous community. After that there will be little difficulty about the enactment of suitable regulations, and none at all about their enforcement.

NOTES.

THE arch apostle of æstheticism has been beguiled by the delightful recollections of his first sun-flower pilgrimage through the United States, into a second trial of his fortunes in that hospitable land. Nothing can exceed the good-nature of the American community toward those who supply them with amusement, in whatever form; and since it suited the author of "Ave Imperatrix!" to pose and be laughed at, it suited the public to laugh as amiably and tolerantly, as they could, and to gladden the inventor of a new school of buffoonery with more substantial rewards than a life-time of devotion to superficial transcendentalism would have ensured him at home. The unexpected effect of his success was to start him upon a course of practical literary work, and it is to launch the first result of this labor,—a drama of vast bulk and pretension—that he returns to the opulent West. His play, entitled "Vera," is founded upon the growth of "nihilism" in Russia, and although it failed lamentably on its original production in New York, it is pronounced by many a composition of high literary merit, and the actors concerned in it profess the utmost confidence in its ultimate acceptance by the theatrical world. This incident in the sentimental philosopher's career is of slight importance, but it serves to show how a touch of unlooked for, and perhaps undeserved, prosperity may sometimes stimulate meritorious effort in the most unpromising quarter. The last thing anticipated by anybody who took the trouble to follow the languid and indolent Oscar's movements, was to find him seeking a solid reputation by straightforward industry. And this is not the only change he has undergone. The tangled capillary festoons which Du Maurier rejoiced to reproduce in *Punch* have all been shorn away. The velvet breeches and the purple hose which, as he stood before the politely satirical audiences of New England, flapped lazily around his lower limbs like sails against their masts upon a breezeless day, cruelly revealing the degeneracy of the masculine human frame since the brawny days of Olympian development,—these have vanished from view, and been replaced by the latest revision of the pantaloons according to Poole. The bracing atmosphere of the Republic seems to be rapidly transforming him from the adumbration of a sickly and affected ideal, into a useful reality of creation;—in short, to be making a man of him.

COLONEL GORDON has addressed the following letter to the *New York Herald*:—

The Chinese in their affairs with foreign nations are fully aware of their peculiar position, and count with reason that a war with either France or another Power will bring them per force allies on the side of England. The only Power that could go to war with them with impunity is Russia, who can attack them by land. I used the following argument to them when I was there. The present dynasty of China is a usurping one—the Mantchou. We may say that it exists by

sufferance at Peking, and nowhere else in the Empire. If you look at the map of China, Peking is at the extremity of the Empire, and not a week's march from the Russian frontier. A war with Russia would imply capture of Peking and the fall of the Mantchou dynasty, which would never dare to leave it, for if they did the Chinamen in the south would smite them.

"I said, 'If you go to war, then move the queen bee—i.e. the Emperor—into the centre of China, and then fight; if not, you must make peace.' The two Powers who can coerce China are Russia and England. Russia would march without much difficulty on Peking. This much would not hurt trade, so England would not interfere. England could march to Taku and Peking and no one would object, for she would occupy the treaty ports; but if France tried to do so England would object.

Thus it is that China will only listen to Russia and England, and eventually she must fear Russia the most of all Powers, for she can never get over the danger of the land journey; but she might by a great increase of her fleet get over the fear of England. I say China, but I mean the Mantchou dynasty, for the Mantchous are truly hated and despised by the Chinese.

Any war with China would be for France expensive and dangerous—not from the Chinese forces, which would be soon mastered, but from the certainty of complications with England. As for the European population in China, write them down as identical with those in Egypt in all affairs. Their sole idea is, without any distinction of nationality, an increased power over China, for their own trade and for opening up the country, as they call it; and any war would be popular with them, so they will egg on any Power to make it.

My idea is that no colonial or foreign community in a foreign land can properly and for the general benefit of the world consider the questions of that foreign State. The leading idea is how they will benefit themselves. The Isle of Bourbon or Reunion is the cause of the Madagascar war. It is egged on by the planters there, and to my idea they (the planters) want slaves for Madagascar. I have a very mean opinion of any colonial or foreign community's views, though I own that they are powerful for evil. Who would dare to oppose the European colony in Egypt or China and remain in those countries?

Very truly yours,

C. G. GORDON.

The verdict of this remarkable man with regard to the political views of colonial and foreign communities in Oriental countries, is not novel. The same opinion has been expressed, though perhaps with less bluntness, by many renowned thinkers, and notably by Mr. Gladstone who, in one of the most brilliant of his recent speeches in the House, said:—"I have had much to do for a long period with a series of questions, and I am not aware at this moment of any series of great reforms which have been brought about by the courage and the wisdom and the foresight of the British legislature in respect of any portion of this empire, which reforms have had the favour and support of the resident English community." Whether or no men of the Gladstone, Bright, and Gordon type are mistaken in these notions, it must be confessed that their ideas are justified from point to point, in Japan's case at all events, by the utterances of the Yokohama local press. Gordon's statement that "any war would be popular with the European population," extravagant as it sounds in the abstract, is the only conclusion that could be formed by an impartial reader after perusing the articles published two months ago in this Settlement with regard to the London *Standard's* false version of Mr. Ito's views, and those published the other day with reference to the Nagasaki affray.

A long debated question in literary and antiquarian circles has been settled by the determination of the Vicar of Stratford-on-Avon to open the grave of Shakespeare, and permit an

examination of what may be found therein. Although the arguments in favor of and against this proceeding have been reiterated for years, the announcement creates as much sensation as if no discussion on the subject had ever taken place. The opposition to all projects of exhumation has been sustained chiefly by the well known lines protesting against disturbance of the remains. If it were accepted on all sides, as an undoubted fact, that Shakespeare really wrote the warning which is inscribed over his tomb, there is good reason to believe that his wishes would never be disregarded; but many critical investigators have adopted the conclusion, first formulated by De Quincy, that the stanza was picked up, at random, by those who arranged the details of the interment, and that it conveys no true indication of the poet's will. For some time past, a theory has been gathering strength, that disclosures of great interest would result from a careful scrutiny of the vault. Mr. Moncure D. Conway has taken considerable pains to demonstrate the possibility that important events of Shakespeare's life might be revealed, even by an external inspection of the coffins which he believes to be deposited together with that of the poet. Until the present time, however, no Vicar of Stratford has been willing to incur the serious responsibility of defying so general, and we may say so cherished, a tradition as that which commands the sacred dust to be left in perpetual repose. The desire to explore the premises can be attributed to no worthier motive than a curiosity which, to say the least, is unwholesome. The alleged purpose, indeed, is merely to measure the skull, and to photograph it if practicable, in order that the relative accuracy of the general portraits and busts in existence may be approximately established. This is perhaps the least respectable of the various reasons brought forward, at different periods, for violating the tomb. A better pretext is the proposition to transfer the ashes to Westminster Abbey,—though this, again, has little to recommend it to the judicious. Whether Shakespeare wrote the well known appeal, or not, it is reasonable to suppose he shared the feelings of his countrymen at that date, which would in all cases have been intensely opposed to the removal of a body for any purpose, from its prescribed resting place. Even in the present day, the propriety of allowing popular fancy to dictate the burial spots of eminent men, rather than their own expressed or presumed inclinations, is beginning to be disputed. The interment of Dickens in the Abbey, in contradiction to his recorded preference for Rochester Cathedral, is by no means unanimously approved; and the contention with respect to the disposal of Lord Beaconsfield's remains is fresh in public recollection. But it is highly improbable that the transfer of Shakespeare's bones will ever be proposed. The chances appear to be that the invaders of his grave will find nothing either to reward curiosity or to supply a basis for the imaginary honours of a removal from Avon side to the bank of the Thames. It is to be hoped that the Vicar's action will not

link his memory too closely with that of another reverend gentleman of Stratford who made himself inconveniently immortal by cutting down the mulberry tree of the New Place and razing the house to its foundations.

JUDGE POTTER, of the Supreme Court, Washington, has decided that under the anti-Chinese act a Chinese seaman is a "laborer" and that he is therefore prohibited from leaving his vessel to go ashore even for temporary purposes. This judgment is regarded as a correct interpretation of the liberal and creditable act which Congress distinguished itself by passing last year. The next generation of Americans will not be *laudatores temporis acti*. Their chief desire will be to forget their fathers' rendering of the United States' constitution.

• • •
This decision of Judge Potter was given in connection with an interesting case. A New York lawyer, Mr. Charles Meyers, was passing the British steamer *Pembrokeshire* in a boat containing some Chinamen, when a crowd of Chinese sailors on the deck of the steamer signalled the boat and complained that they were kept prisoners and brutally treated. The facts were at once reported to the Chinese Consul and a writ of *habeas corpus* was issued for one of the sailors Chung Asam. The captain of the steamer answered the writ, through his counsel, that he could not produce Asam in Court, since to land a Chinaman would be an offence against the Federal laws. The Court held that this was a sufficient answer and dismissed the case. But Mr. Charles Meyers had seen some terrible things on board the steamer. This is his story:—

The captain said that the crew had refused to work. He took me into a dark little room, where three Chinamen were in irons. Then he unlocked the door of another apartment and showed me the other twenty-one members of the crew. I could not breathe the air that came out of the door, it was so bad. I informed the captain that he must instantly release all the men and that if they did anything wrong it was his duty to notify the United States authorities, who allowed no sailing master to take the law into his own hands. The captain at once set the men free. "Hee Sing, the president of a Chinese Sailors' Benevolent Society in this city, acted as my interpreter. In obedience to my instructions he told the Chinamen to do their work and wait for the action of the courts. With one accord the men took off their shirts and pulled up their trousers, showing that their bodies were covered with horrible wounds. So terrible were some of the gashes that the sight sickened me. The men said that they had been beaten with irons by the officers of the vessel. The captain admitted this to be true, but claimed that he was absent himself when the beating occurred. Every one of the victims, however, declared that the captain was not only present but took an active part in the outrage.

With this knowledge Mr. Meyers was determined to leave no stone unturned to help the men. He accordingly applied a second time for a writ of *habeas corpus*, on the grounds that Asam, being a resident of Hongkong, was a British subject and therefore exempt from the United States' laws prohibiting the landing of Chinese upon American shores. The writ was granted, but before it could be served, the *Pembrokeshire* had sailed. Judge Donovan, who issued the second writ, explained that the charge of imprisonment could not have been sustained. The fact of Chung Asam being bound to the steamer for a

year by articles was a sufficient defence. "The captain had a right to forbid him from going ashore. It was not like the case of a vessel sailing under the flag of a nation which had a treaty under which deserting sailors would be arrested in the United States. England had no such treaty, and if the captain had let Asam go ashore there was no law under which he could be compelled to come back." It follows, therefore, that the unfortunate Chinamen were completely without redress. As British subjects their detention on board was not only legal, but in a sense, necessary; while as Chinese subjects, to let them land would have exposed the captain to fine and imprisonment. Under the circumstances nothing could be done but to warn the authorities at Hongkong, whither the vessel was bound. This step was taken by the Chinese Embassy at Washington. The story is almost incredible.

On the day of the great convulsions in Sunda Strait, violent and repeated explosions were heard, from ten a.m. till three p.m., throughout a broad space in Texas, U.S.A., two hundred miles square. No actual eruption is known to have taken place, but the inhabitants of each town in the neighborhood believed that some frightful catastrophe had occurred near at hand. The newspaper which reports these phenomena says:—"there is no local explanation known here, and many persons suppose there is a sympathetic connection between the disturbed region and the earthquake district in the Indian Ocean."

A PERSON who has had considerable experience in sea-otter hunting, contributes some particulars, probably not very new, to the *Hochi Shimbu*. He speaks from personal observation of the habits of the amphibia which live on and about the Chishima Group. The pairing time begins in the middle of November, and the young are born soon after the next vernal equinox. The animals build their habitations with wonderful skill in submarine caves, where they are comparatively safe from human aggression. On the tenth day after the young are brought forth the mothers take their offspring on their backs and enter the water to give the baby otters their first lesson in natation, carefully watching their movements, and taking them, not to matronly bosoms, but to backs, so soon as the youngsters begin to cry out from fear or fatigue. About ten days' practice from the first attempt makes the young creatures perfect in their art. The writer regrets the practice, prevailing among the hunters, of ruthless and indiscriminate slaughter of the species, careless of age or sex, and protests that, if the hunt is not regulated and controlled, the whole race of valuable animals must soon become extinct.

THE report of the British Controller in Bankruptcy for 1882 shows a continued increase in the number of insolvent estates administered under the Bankruptcy act. During the first ten years under the present Act the annual number of cases steadily increased from 5,002 in the year

1870 to 13,113 in the year 1879, from which it decreased to 9,041 in 1882. The figures show a decrease in the large manufacturing centres on the Yorkshire and Lancashire coalfields. The greatest number of insolvencies naturally occurred in the trades in which most persons were engaged, namely, among dealers in provisions and liquors, chiefly small grocers, but the most important fluctuations of increase and decrease during the period referred to have been in the clothing trades, including drapers, shoemakers, etc., and in the building trades, including carpenters, wheelwrights, bricklayers, etc., those classes having furnished nearly five-eighths of the whole decrease of 4,072 since 1879. While the number of bankruptcies last year decreased 14 per cent. there were 34 per cent. fewer liquidations by arrangement, and 30 per cent. fewer compositions. Under the present act, as appears from the figures, a general increase of insolvency produces a very small increase of the better class of composition, and a general decrease produces a very large decrease in their number. The opposite rule obtains with the worst class of compositions. An actual increase of the worst compositions occurred in the London bankruptcy district. Such facts as these afford the best possible justification of the determination of Mr. Gladstone's administration in pressing the recent bankruptcy measure through Parliament.

A VERNACULAR paper speaks of a wonderful cream-colored griffin lately bought by H.I.H. Komatsu-no-miya in Hokkaido. It is, perhaps, not too late to hope for its appearance at Negishi in November.

THE free-traders, says a New York journal, are not alone in their activity in relation to the still unsolved tariff question. The Metropolitan Industrial League has appointed a committee to attend the conventions of both political parties in the state of New York, and to urge upon them the adoption of a policy embodying the protection of American labor and the abolition of all internal revenue taxes. The committee is to advocate further the repeal of all burdens upon American ships and the awarding of all ocean mail contracts to the lowest bidder among American shipowners, the abrogation of all treaties that interfere with a practical enforcement of the Monroe Doctrine, so as to secure the removal of any obstacles that prevent the control by the United States of Central and South American trade, and the establishment of an efficient national bureau of labor statistics. The league is of opinion that an agreement of the parties upon these points would set at rest the free-trade question and prevent calamitous labor disturbances and derangements of business and industrial interests. There are, it will be seen, many influences at work to prevent a division of parties upon the tariff issue; and, judging from the recent utterances of party platforms, an evasion of the question is not unlikely to be the result. The attitude of the parties in the pivotal state of New York regarding the tariff is naturally

a subject of no little concern to both free-traders and protectionists, and the declarations of the conventions held there will be awaited with considerable interest.

READERS of the Yokohama local journals hear so much about the alleged but unproved brutality of the Japanese police, that, by way of diversion, it may be interesting to call their attention to the occasional performances of American constables. On the 3rd of September a coroner's jury in New York brought in a verdict to the effect that a citizen by name John Smith had come to his death by the blows of a club wielded by Officer McNamara. The evidence was that Smith, having lain down in a state of intoxication in the hall of a house which was not his home, had been given in custody to patrolman McNamara. The latter persuaded his prisoner to walk by "tapping" him on the feet and legs with his club, and the two then began a somewhat erratic course towards the lock-up. By and bye Smith recognised among the passers by an acquaintance, to whom he threw his coat and vest, apparently with the intention of fighting the patrolman, but the latter anticipated his purpose by a blow on the side of the head and another at the back of the neck which fractured his skull. Smith did not survive these visitations, and a New York journal thinks that "if Officer McNamara comes to grief for his misdirected muscular activity, perhaps the police authorities will teach other officers how to use their clubs—if they must use them—so as not to kill people."

Another case, which is still involved in some obscurity, shows that black-mailing is not unknown to policemen beyond the water. The details, so far as they are published, are contained in the following extract:—

Justice Williams, of Gravesend, yesterday issued a warrant for the arrest of Herbert Gray, a constable of the town of Gravesend, on a charge of extortion preferred by one Herman Tisch, of Coney Island. Gray was accordingly arrested, and, having waived examination, was held in \$1,000 bonds to answer.

In his affidavit Tisch declares that Gray came to him on or about August 5, and producing a paper, said that it was a warrant for his, Tisch's, arrest on a charge of keeping a disorderly house. This warrant, he says, Gray offered to pocket without making the arrest if Tisch would give him \$20. One half of this, he said, was for Supervisor McKane, the Chief of Police on Coney Island, and the other was for himself. Tisch says further that he offered \$5 at first, which Gray refused, saying that he must have \$20.

The complainant's story was corroborated by his wife and another witness who claimed to have been present when the demand for money was made, and the warrant was issued as a matter of course. Gray, while he sat in the court room awaiting the bonds, men that he expected, said:—"This is nothing more than a persecution, inspired by Supervisor McKane. He is Chief of Police by appointment. I am a town constable by election and hold my office for five years. McKane can't stand it not to be able to control everybody around him, and I am the only one he can't control. He professes that he is unable to get evidence of any gambling going on here on the Island, and he knows that I can get the evidence easily enough, so he wants to crush me. I'm going to fight this, of course, but it will be in a higher court than this, and as soon as this is settled I am going to show how easy it is to get the evidence as to gambling."

Supervisor McKane, being asked about the matter, said:—"It is very simple. Gray went to this man Tisch and got money from him by threatening him with arrest. The way I came to know about it was by learning that Tisch was keeping a disorderly house. I sent down and 'pulled' the house and arrested Tisch. His place was called the 'Cottage by the Sea.' When

arrested he told about Gray striking him for money and telling him that half of it was for me."

Here Mr. McKane's face grew very grave as he continued:—"When I heard that I was wild, for I've always prided myself on never taking any money from these ducks. So I got Tisch to make this complaint. Gray's offence is clearly enough proven, and if he can't give bonds he will have to go to jail."

"Isn't he the same man whom you accused of interfering with your plans to suppress gambling a while ago?" asked the reporter.

"Yes; he's the man. He has given us away several times when we have been ready to raid the gambling houses. He is in their employ and has been able to learn of our plans."

Further than this there were no developments yesterday, but it is expected that in the coming quarrel some light will be thrown on the question why gambling has gone on openly all summer in so many places on Coney Island.

SINCE the period of payment of the land tax was altered by Council of State Notification No. 14 of last year, the farmers will have to sell their rice not later than December, yearly, in order to pay their taxes at due date. Hence a depreciation in the price of the grain, and yet purchasers are by no means eager, in consequence of the tightness of the money-market at the close of each year. The farmers, contemplating further embarrassment, exclaim for an extension of the term of money payment of their taxes. A further decline in the value of the staple is predicted by some sharp-sighted individuals, who urge upon the Government a change in the present system of paying the land-tax, in order not to impose too grievous a burden upon the shoulders of the agricultural population. The *Choya Shimbun*, which publishes this version of the state of affairs in the matter of the husbandmen and the land-tax, adds that several Ministers favor a modification in the system of land-taxation.

A GLOWING account of the state of agriculture in Okinawa Ken is supplied to the *Jiji Shimpō*. The informant says that there is not an available patch of ground in these Riu Kiu Islands uncultivated. Even "precipices, ravines, and knolls," we translate literally, "are covered with verdure." Swine and fowl abound. There is a stall in front of every barn where the grain is dried at harvest time. An annual cereal fair is held, at the close of which prizes are bestowed upon those who give evidence of the best crops. There is, however, a reverse to the picture. The agricultural implements used are of ancient model; and the use of fertilizers is almost unknown. As all kinds of vegetables are cultivated within the same area, the farms when closely inspected have an appearance of being neglected. Irrigation is not understood; and, hence, when the natural supply of water fails, the earth is full of fissures, and vegetation languishes.

THE Koreans are said to begin to have a lively appreciation of the advantages of civilization. For instance, the Minister for foreign Affairs at Sōul has given in European style a banquet to the Japanese Minister. According to the *Hochi Shimbun* His Japanese Excellency did not appreciate Korean melodies. This probably is by the way, as is the information volunteered that Europeans residing in the Korean capital are not

greatly enamoured of its social delights. The Japanese Legation, they say, is not the gayest place in the peninsula. Pioneer sojourn in a new country is never without its drawbacks.

In reference to the case of Logan, now sentenced to penal servitude, a correspondent of the *Daily Press* reverts to fact that the revolver, said to have been used by him, was reported to have been handed to him by the *amah* living on his premises. "This woman," says the correspondent, "is not to be found, and a placard posted up in Canton offers a reward of \$400 for her head. I am not in a position to say whether this reward is officially authorised; the mere circumstance, however, speaks volumes as to the view the Chinese take of the lamentable collision."

ON Saturday last an interesting exhibition was held at the well known Maple Club (*Kōyōkwan*), Shiba. The occasion was the two hundred-and-tenth anniversary of the death of the celebrated painter Tani. After the arrival of Admiral Perry's squadron disturbed Japan's cultivation of æsthetic tastes, the memory of her great artists received as little reverence as their works attracted attention. Of late years, however, partly owing to the marked appreciation of Western critics, but chiefly because the spirit that had presided at the development of that ancient art needed only a very slight impulse to re-assert itself, the Japanese have gone back to their old love. The heirlooms bequeathed to them from the days of Yoshimasa, Taiko, Iyemitsu, and Kobori Masakazu, are no longer suffered to be hidden in godowns or to pass unnoticed into the hands of dealers, but are cherished with scarcely less reverence than in the times when the study of their excellencies formed an essential part of every gentleman and gentlewoman's education. The signs of this revival have been long discernible, but it is only now that the general public recognises them, and the recent exhibition in honour of Tani's memory was the first of the kind that has been held for many years. About a hundred and twenty pictures were contributed by various amateurs, notably by their Excellencies Inouye, Matsukata, Kuroda, and by Messrs. Kubo, Masuda, &c. Tani is in one sense the most representative of Japanese artists. His pictures exhibit a purity of tone and delicacy of conception rarely if ever seen in the works of his successors. Japanese connoisseurs classify all the works of their great masters under two headings, the characteristics of the first being beauty of tone and conception (*hinkaku ga yoi*); those of the second, faithfulness and force of delineation (*shasei ga yoi*). Of the former class Tani, Sanraku, and Sesshiu are the chief masters, while the latter is represented by Okiyo and the Kano School. The pictures exhibited on Saturday were not, perhaps, the very best specimens of Tani's art to be found in Japan, but they were certainly sufficiently excellent to remind the public how immeasurably the painters of the present day are separated from their predecessors.

sors. Indian ink drawings predominated—Taniu rarely used colours—and the visitor might have been a little wearied by frequent delineations of storks in positions which, though perfectly natural, are not familiar to the casual observer of the sacred bird's habits. There were also some charming landscapes as well as a few figure subjects executed with remarkable skill. It is said that this exhibition was the first of a series which will be held from time to time at the same place, so that the public may look forward to unprecedented opportunities of studying the best aspects of Japanese art.

SOME sinalogue, who with modesty disproportionate to his acquirements, is content that fame should recognise him only as "a well known resident," has published a very small volume of 22 little pages, called "A Pocket Book of Japanese Words and Phrases." The object of the work, as the preface tells us, is "to furnish, in compact form, for the use of strangers in Japan, a few of the words and phrases most commonly used by the Japanese with whom they come in contact." That is a praiseworthy object, and one which all of us desire to promote. We regret, therefore, that the usefulness of such a handy well-meaning little volume should be marred by two faults, the one of omission, the other of commission. The first is the want of a motto—a want which might have been aptly supplied by the familiar phrase, "I was a stranger and ye took me in." The second is a fault of arrangement. On the twenty-first page is a short vocabulary headed "Words, used by foreigners, but not Japanese." This caption should have been transferred to the fly leaf. Were these two corrections made, the Pocket Book would leave nothing to be desired. To convey a just idea of its excellence we cannot do better than transcribe a few of the phrases now happily brought within reach of the ignorant stranger:—

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|-------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| I am sleepy | Nemui gazarimasu. |
| I get my bed ready. | Watashi ni nedoko shite okure. |
| How much more is this? | Kore wa mashta? |
| Is the gentleman in? | Dannasan arimasu ka? |
| Is Madame in? | Okamisan arimasu ka? |
| I hope you are well? | Gasoken wo nozomi masu. |
| I wish you much joy, | Omedetto. |
| I wish a bath, if you please. | Yuni hairite gozarimasu. |
| Send a messenger. | Tsukai wo oyukaseri nasae. |
| On no account. | Kitto. |
| Will you, or will you not? | Iru ka oranu ka? |

It will be at once evident that the author of this work has done a public service in generously bringing his stores of knowledge within easy reach of everybody. He has been careful also, while supplying strangers with ready-made phrases modelled after the excellent types illustrated above, to construct his work so as to discourage, as far as possible, any rash attempts on the part of ignorant students to build up unnecessary sentences according to their own unfitted ideas. To this end much trouble has been taken to eliminate from the work anything resembling an explanation as to the use of particles, the order of words in a sentence, the endings of verbs, forms of negation, and other elementary points essential to independent speech. Suppose, for example, that a tourist, with this

Pocket Book in his hand, desires to say "I will go there." Looking out the words, one by one, he finds that "will" and "go" are omitted from the vocabulary, but "I" and "there" are given. Thus he finally gets the phrase "*watakushi achira*," and with the aid of a little gesticulation and a stout stick he can generally succeed in making this intelligible. Again, he wishes to express his intention of not accompanying a friend somewhere. In such a conjuncture speech is obviously superfluous. The desired intention can always be expressed by sitting down on the road and waving one's hands, or by some other simple demonstration. Here, therefore, the Pocket Book wisely intervenes to check needless garrulity and faulty syntax. The stranger searches the vocabulary; finds that "I will not" is translated by "*arimasumai*" and "come" by "*oide*;" says "*arimasumai oide*," and finding himself the object of universal ridicule, is deterred from resorting to words when he has limbs and features to convey his meaning. Purchasers of this latest guide to language must not be surprised, therefore, if the commonest aids are absent from the work. It is not intended to help anyone except its author and publisher.

KOREA, having been latest admitted into the comity of nations, has naturally lost no time in living up to the fashions that are universally recognised as best becoming international intercourse. Her first step was to run into debt; her next, to persuade somebody to bring a claim against her. Claims are a favorite and generally successful method of exploiting Oriental purses. Their apparent justice can be made to vary directly as the vigour with which they are pushed, and they further afford an excellent opportunity for initiating Eastern minds into the refined subtleties of Western equity. A United States' Representative in this country once wrote to his Government, that while there were many instances of gross outrages committed by foreigners against Japanese, there had not been one instance of a claim preferred in connection with them. His evident intention was to imply that this forbearance did the Japanese credit, but the true inference ought to be different. If a record were compiled of all the claims that have been preferred against Japan and admitted by her since the first opening of a treaty port, the shrewd practicality of Europeans and Americans, as well as their infinite sense of official responsibility, would be clearly established. It is, therefore, a matter for sincere regret that the first claim made upon the Korean Treasury should have proved unsuccessful. The claimant's disappointment will probably exercise a deterrent effect, and the Government of Korea will be prevented from learning by experience the full scope of its obligations. As for the claim itself, rumour professes to be accurately informed. The Governor of a certain city entrusted to a travelling politician of Sôul a document authorizing him to borrow a sum of three million dollars from any one willing to lend it. The document was an imposing affair, with vermilion

signatures and a seal several inches square. Its bearer made his first application to a Japanese statesman, who enquired what security it was proposed to offer. "Mines," was the reply. "What mines?" asked the statesman. "Any mines you please," the other answered. "You pay your money and take your choice. We do not yet know that our country possesses mineral wealth, but since we have gold-dust, there must be gold somewhere. It will be for you to make the necessary investigations." "Yes, but unfortunately strangers are not allowed to conduct geological surveys in Korea." "Oh, the King will make an exception in favour of anybody who lends us money." "But can one be sure that the King will always be in a position to make such exceptions? I remember that he was a prisoner in the hands of a rebellious faction not many months ago." This suggestion proved too much for the Korean's equanimity. He applied elsewhere, and fell ultimately into the hands of a ribboned recluse who meddles only with weighty schemes. The recluse proceeded to Korea, interviewed the Governor who had signed the document, and received assurances that the authority was unimpeachable. Thence he made his way to Sôul and repeated his enquiries. But the Cabinet at Sôul had, meanwhile, conceived a suspicion that the Governor meant to levy heavy transit dues on the millions for the improvement of his city. So they disavowed him. Then the recluse brought his claim—ten thousand dollars for his trouble and disappointment. True, he had come to Korea purely on a speculative quest, but that made his alternative *coup* all the prettier. The Koreans, however, have only one cash box, and the keys of that are not in their own keeping. Being unable, therefore, to satisfy the recluse's demands, they added to their list of foreign luxuries an unsettled claim.

PRIVATE telegrams received yesterday throw considerable light on the Franco-Chinese situation. It appears that France's home and foreign affairs are in such an unsatisfactory condition that much trouble is expected when the Chamber meets on the 22nd instant; and it is thought that there is little if any prospect of an appropriation for the Tonquin expedition being voted. A dissolution of the Ministry is expected, and under these circumstances the Marquis Tseng has changed his tone and assumed a less conciliatory attitude. Hence the deadlock in the negotiations, as reported by Reuter on Wednesday.

GENTLEMEN who are fond of expounding Scripture appear to be poorly qualified for the post of jailer. Intelligence from Alaska tells of two Indians, known as Steve and Boxer, who were incarcerated for clubbing a rum-seller to death. They were guarded by an easy going person of the name of Dennis, who took off their irons and went out, leaving them in company with a brace of revolvers and a testament. It was no doubt Mr. Dennis' intention that Steve and Boxer should devote themselves entirely to a

perusal of the latter, and his design so far succeeded that when he came back the Indians were busily studying the holy book. They had looked out a very difficult passage which they requested Mr. Dennis to explain, and while the good man, much pleased at these evidences of regeneration, was thinking out the most orthodox rendering of the verse, Steve and Boxer lodged two bullets in his back and left him to his studies. Another sanguine gentleman afterwards attempted to arrest them single-handed. They buried a bullet in his head and an axe in his back. They were then captured and lynched. It is thought that no more attempts will be made in Alaska to meddle with the souls of Indian murderers.

MR. JOHN SWINTON, assistant editor of the *New York Sun*, was recently called upon, by a Congressional Committee, for information respecting "the compensation of newspaper men." Mr. Swinton might very properly have refused to answer this inquiry, which was a sheer impertinence on the part of Senator Blair, his questioner, but he was in a confidential humor and showed the utmost willingness to satisfy the curiosity of the inquisitive legislators. "The pay that editors receive," he remarked, "depends on whether they are proprietors or employes. . . I know some who have annual incomes reaching \$500,000." Mr. Swinton might have enlarged his figures, if he intended to include men like Mr. Bennett, of the *New York Herald*. That gentleman calls himself an editor—though his room is the one normally vacant apartment in his establishment,—and his revenue is probably nearer one million than five hundred thousand dollars. Mr. Dana, of the *Sun*, who, while an owner is also an editor in the hardest-working sense, undoubtedly gathers in close upon \$500,000 annually. So does Mr. George Jones, nominal editor and actual publisher of the *Times*. But with writers, "as apart from the owners," said Mr. Swinton, "the salaries vary from from \$5,000 to \$25,000." He did not name the recipient, or recipients, of the greater amount. Possibly he referred to himself, and certainly no man is worthier of it. Possibly he had in his mind George William Curtis, of *Harper's Weekly* and *Harper's Magazine*, who is eminently deserving of the highest rewards that can fall to editorial labour. Any way, the extremely large salaries, in New York, are of comparatively recent origin. Horace Greeley, of the *Tribune*, was paid only \$5,000 up to the beginning of the civil war. Soon after, he received \$7,500, and later \$10,000,—owning, at the last, but four of the hundred shares into which the paper was divided. Mr. Dana, when managing editor of the *Tribune*, had only \$2,500; as had, also, Mr. S. H. Gay, his successor. Mr. Young (now U.S. Envoy to China) who followed Mr. Gay, received \$5,000. Mr. Whitelaw Reid, who followed Mr. Young, had first \$5,200, and afterward \$10,000. Now he is virtually sole proprietor, but the concern suffered heavy losses about the time of Mr. Greeley's death, and Mr. Reid's energy, com-

bined with other influences, has only recently started it upon a new career of prosperity. It will not for some time return to its place as one of the really wealthy journals of America. The example of giving handsome remuneration for good work was set by Henry J. Raymond, of the *New York Times*. About 1869 he offered L. J. Jennings, a correspondent of the *London Times*, \$10,000 to serve as his first assistant editor, but Raymond's sudden death interrupted the negotiation. John Bigelow, ex-Minister to France, assumed the literary control of the *Times*, on the terms offered Jennings, but his rule was brief, and the English journalist soon succeeded to the position. The payment of these salaries, then considered large, had a remarkable effect in changing the scale of compensation for the highest newspaper work,—partly owing, however, to purely accidental circumstances, too complicated to be here narrated. Not long after Bennett, the younger, entered the field of competitive munificence, determined to have it understood that the *Herald* could give better wages than any other newspaper,—which undoubtedly it could, being owned by a single individual, (whereas most of its rivals were the property of companies), and enjoying, at the same time, the largest profits of any New York daily sheet. Among his best paid writers were Mr. Young, \$15,000; Mr. Charles Nordhoff, \$10,000; and Mr. Ivory Chamberlain, \$10,000. Mr. Chamberlain is no longer alive, and Mr. Young is in China. Notwithstanding that these well remunerated *Herald* attachés were eminently entitled to all they obtained, no one would pretend that Mr. Bennett was actuated by any consideration of their merit or ability, in engaging them. They constituted a portion of his machinery for gaudy advertising, and it is an indisputable truth that from the moment of their absorption into the *Herald* editorial corps, their literary individuality was lost. Their handiwork could not be distinguished, in the page of leading articles, from that of the average writer at \$2,000 a year—which Mr. Bennett is said to consider an ample stipend for all his people, excepting the few whom he wishes to exalt for purposes of glittering notoriety. If Mr. Young chanced to be assigned to some special task, where his brilliancy of style or sustained descriptive power had free scope; or if Mr. Nordhoff was delegated for such substantial service as the massing together of sturdy, iron-bound facts, in logical cohesion,—then the side pages of the *Herald* would present features of which any newspaper might be proud. But it was never imagined that Mr. Bennett was proud of them, nor, if the general report may be credited, that he could experience any feeling besides distress at the idea that "one of his men" was augmenting or sustaining a personal reputation through the instrumentality of his (Bennett's) types, presses, ink and paper;—the pleasant fallacy of his life being that it is at bottom all his own doing, the out-growth of his fertile inspiration operating upon the elaborate mechanism which he controls. This, however, is a species of illusion not only common to,

but almost inseparable from, the consciousness of extensive resources and ungoverned power. Mr. Swinton mentioned, furthermore, that the reporters of the New York press receive from \$1,000 to \$4,000 annually. Concerning one important class, the correspondents, he said nothing. We may supply the omission by stating that correspondents whose services are given exclusively to one paper are paid from \$2,000 to \$5,000;—additional allowances being supplied in cases where systematic "entertaining" is understood to enhance the opportunities for collecting information. But correspondents who, like George Alfred Townsend, send letters from the great news centres to half a dozen newspapers, and whose facility is equal to their tireless industry, obtain larger emoluments, in proportion to their intellectual disbursement, than any other of the fraternity. All things considered, the journalists of New York are probably better paid, just at present, and for reasons of a curiously contradictory nature, than those of any other city in the world. The great establishments of London can afford a still more liberal outlay for their literary service, but they are not, as yet, obliged to be lavish, and until they see a necessity for doing so, they will hardly increase their expenditure in that direction.

THE experiment of sending a facsimile of the *Maid of the Mist* down the whirlpool rapids below Niagara has been successful. The following telegraphic account is given by the *New York Herald* under date September 6th:—

The imitation of the old steamer *Maid of the Mist* was sent through the Whirlpool Rapids below Niagara Falls this afternoon in the presence of 10,000 spectators. Excursions were run on all railroads centering at the Falls, both from the States and Canada. There was much criticism on account of the whole affair being turned into an advertising medium. It was said that the scheme was gotten up for the benefit of the hackmen and hotel keepers, but the advertising privileges of the boat were bought by a patent medicine dealer of Lockport. The little craft was rigged up to represent the original *Maid of the Mist* which was piloted safely through the rapids in 1861.

At twenty minutes past three P.M., Buffalo time, the boat was towed out into the stream and cut loose at about the point where Captain Webb started on his fatal swim. She went swiftly down the stream, and when reaching the rapids was dashed about like a small boat in a rough sea, but kept her course safely though careening and turning around several times. She reached the whirlpool in about three minutes from the time she struck the rough water. Then she floated around and gradually worked toward the Canadian shore, remaining in the whirlpool about twenty minutes. After reaching the shore she was secured and her flags taken off, after which she was pushed out into the stream and floated down the river some distance, when she was taken in tow by some boys and tied up at the Lewiston dock.

She was in perfect condition, with the exception that two boards on the inside of the wheelhouse were torn off. The boat used was an old scow and not very strongly constructed. The general opinion was that any boat fairly constructed could pass through the rapids without difficulty, but it proved nothing as to the power of any adventurous swimmer to accomplish the perilous feat.

A HOME paper states:—"During the firing of the artillery salute from the Cronstadt forts and ships, at the recent Imperial inspection of the Russian squadron on its return from the Pacific, one of the largest guns in Fort Milin, a 13-in. Krupp, burst." This may be true, but it is a very unlikely thing that 13-inch guns would be used for saluting.

THE steamship *Gemba Maru*, on her voyage from this port to Yokkaichi, encountered the full force of the typhoon on Monday last. The Captain states that he left Yokohama on Sunday, at 6 p.m., and made a rapid passage until near the entrance of Owari Bay, having a strong Easterly wind from Rock Island. At 9 o'clock, on Monday morning the typhoon struck the ship with full force, and it was found impossible to enter Owari Bay as the vessel became unmanageable, and was then close to the land. The ship's head was therefore put to the Southward, and every effort made to get off the shore. The wind and sea increased in violence until noon, at which time the storm was terrific, the sea making a clean breach over the ship, smashing in the pilot-house windows, saloon doors, &c., and carrying everything moveable about the decks overboard. Soon after this the wind hauled to the Southward, and the ship commenced drifting toward the shore between Toba and Matoya. Every exertion was now made to bring her up to the wind, and get her on the starboard tack, but all to no purpose, and seeing there was no room for wearing her round, it was resolved to cut away the foremost as the only chance of saving the vessel. This was done with all possible speed; and, after the ship had drifted clear of the wreck, the engines were put full speed, and at last her head came up to the wind and she went over on the other tack just in time to clear the shore. After this the vessel rode out the remainder of the storm in safety, and being relieved from the weight of her mast became more buoyant and shipped less water. At half-past two the barometer began to rise, and it was apparent that the worst of the storm was over. At 4 o'clock the wind had got round nearly West, and at 4.30 the ship was headed for her destination, arriving there at half-past ten. The Captain states that during the height of the storm the barometer vibrated very much, its lowest mean reading being 28.80. The seas rose to a tremendous height, but the ship behaved remarkably well, and her hull is not injured in the least. She made no water in her holds, but delivered her cargo (mostly sugar) in good condition, and brought a return cargo up from Yokkaichi.

THE Mitsu Bishi steamship *Taganoura Maru*, Captain Matsumoto, which arrived here this morning from Yokkaichi, reports that when five miles off Rock Island she fell in which a dismasted junk and towed her into Shimoda.

AN entertainment in aid of the fund to relieve sufferers from the Ischia disaster is projected. The performance will be given by amateurs in the Gaiety Theatre on the 22nd instant.

BAR-TENDERS in New York have received a useful lesson as to the advisability of concealing their ailments. Theodore Lindsay was bar-tender in the saloon of Peter Geraty. On the 21st of September the former's head ached so badly that he leaned over the counter and hid his face in his hands, complaining, at the same time, of the

racking pain. A gentleman called Michael Tobin, who was standing by, took up a mallet and fractured the bar-tender's skull. It is not yet ascertained whether the impulse of the act was resentment of Lindsay's impatience or a merciful desire to put him out of pain. In either case the moral for bar-tenders is obvious.

It is reported in the *Hochi Shimbun* that clouds of insects were lately seen in Mombetsu, Hokkaido, darkening the sky and proceeding northward across the Wakibetsu river. They are much dreaded by the farmers of the locality.

BUT little information with regard to affairs in Madagascar has reached us for some weeks, the latest being a telegram dated London, Sept. 25, which related that the "Hovas had retaken all their positions on the North-West coast of Madagascar except Majunga." Our information by telegraph in this issue in a measure confirms the last news received, with the addition that the "French position has become precarious."

NOTWITHSTANDING the depreciation in the value of silk, no serious fluctuations are noticeable in that of pierced cocoons. This, a Tokyo paper thinks, may be ascribable to the fact that the preparers of silk-worms' egg cards, regarding their past failures, have refrained this year from catering for the Yokohama market, and only produced as much as they deemed absolutely necessary for their domestic wants. Throughout the empire there are not, probably, at present, more than 3,000 bales of pierced cocoons. Finest qualities are, therefore, quoted at \$110; and there is yet a brisk demand for them. It is added that two Italian dealers who have lately arrived in this port anxiously await the arrival of further supplies from the producing districts.

TELEGRAPHIC information has been received here of the wreck of an American ship at Iruma-ura, on the coast of the province of Idzu, in Shidzuoka Ken. The report says that no lives have been lost, but in the telegram no clue is given to the name of ship or captain, for although both are mentioned, neither can be made to agree with any names known in these waters or expected to arrive here.

CAPTAIN MATSURA, H.I.J.M.N., has been appointed to the important command of the *Tsukushi Kan*, relieving Captain James, who brought this latest acquisition to the Japanese Navy from England to Yokohama.

It is reported in one of the Hongkong papers that Mr. Ng Choy, some time Acting Attorney-General of Hongkong under Sir John Hennessy, and now in the employ of the Chinese Government, has been selected by H.E. Li Hung-chang to fill the post of Assistant Superintendent of the Admiralty.

It is reported from Osaka that no business is doing on the Bourse there, and that the brokers complain bitterly of hard times. The stagnation is ascribed in great part to the operations of the

Chinese Exchange in Kobe, where fees of only sen 20 are charged on each yen 1,000 bought and sold.

A TELEGRAM has been received in Tokyo to the effect that negotiations have taken place between Admiral Courbet and the leader of the Black Flags, with the result that the latter have agreed to evacuate Sontai.

A HONGKONG paper sneers because "Sir John Pope Hennessy is reported to be concerning himself about sanitary matters in Mauritius." The *Ceylon Mercantile Record*, on the other hand, says:—"We are glad to hear that His Excellency the Governor is making a special study of the sanitary state of the colony, and *de visu*, which is a grand point. He has already visited many places with a scrutinizing eye."

HONGKONG papers report that the Viceroy in Canton has been calling troops to the City from all parts of the province, and that ammunition and other war material are pouring into the Bogue and other forts every day. It is said that there is quite a panic in the city, and that thousands of people are moving their families and household valuables into the country for safety. There is a proposition to dismiss the Chinese constables on Shameen and to employ Sikhs, as it is doubted if the fidelity of the Chinese constables could be relied upon in an emergency.

UPON the pedestal of the statue of Lafayette, unveiled at Le Puy on the 6th of September, these words are inscribed:—"I bring you a cockade that will make the round of the world." Remembering the feeling with which the enthusiastic Frenchman uttered this phrase, it is impossible to resist wondering what his emotions would be if he could witness the conditions under which the aforesaid cockade has made its way around the world so far as Tonquin in the northern and Madagascar in the southern hemisphere.

A PORTION of the Russian squadron, the *Duke of Edinburgh* (flagship), and the *Skobelev* and *Najednik*, arrived here yesterday, and exchanged salutes with the port and the two Admirals in harbour.

SIR HARRY PARKES arrived in Peking on the 27th ult.

M. TRICOU has arrived in Peking, but proposes to remain there only a few days.

IN H.B.M. Court on Friday, before N. J. Hannen Esq., Judge, Mr. Iwasaki Yataro, of the Mitsu Bishi Company, sued Mr. Mors Le Blanche, the English shipowner, for \$2,100 damages alleged to have been incurred through breach of a charter party entered into for the steamer *Pacavo*. Mr. Kirkwood appeared for the plaintiff, and Mr. Lowder for defendant. Judgment was given for plaintiff in the full amount claimed and costs of Court.

MUNICIPAL REFORM.

IF the document which was read at the meeting of land-renters on Monday last correctly represents the ideas entertained by a majority of this community on the important subject of municipal reform, further correspondence with the Local Authorities can scarcely lead to any useful results. We do not say this with any desire to minimize the value of work which displays much earnestness and must have entailed considerable labour. But the question is one that can lose nothing by unreserved criticism, and we shall not do the compilers of the document the injustice of supposing that they are in any sense averse to honest discussion.

Taking the paragraphs of the proposed rejoinder in their order, we find that the first is disfigured by an unaccountable misapprehension. The Prefect's memorandum says:—"The urgent necessity for a uniform and enforceable system of municipal government is recognized by none more than by myself. The means to obtain this end are, however, not far to seek. It can be secured by applying the universally accepted rule that all the inhabitants of a country should be governed by the territorial laws and regulations." Now it is beyond all question that the Prefect alludes here to municipal government and to municipal government alone.* He is speaking of nothing else. Neither his language nor its import appears capable of misconstruction. Further, in the very next paragraph of his memorandum, he writes thus:—"That the foreign Settlement is at present without an efficient system of control is not the fault of the Kencho, but of those who not only claim exemption from the local administrative laws and regulations, but sometimes even place obstructions in the way of their due enforcement. If such obstructions be removed and the Kenrei enabled to enforce the Japanese laws and regulations over foreign residents, I confidently believe that the administration of the Settlement would be so improved, and the state of things generally undergo so complete a change, as to give entire satisfaction to all the foreigners residing in this port—a consummation which I most earnestly hope may soon be brought about." In speaking thus the Prefect does but echo

* It may interest our readers to recall, in this context, a paragraph of a speech made by Mr. A. J. Wilkin at a meeting of Land Renters on April 8th, 1869. Mr. Wilkin said:—"They say they will fight for a Municipal Government for ourselves, or for the authorization of the Land Regulations. Would they get it? But let us seriously consider what this means. It means that the Japanese Government must give up certain of their territorial rights to a committee of foreigners."

the complaint of the memorial to which he is replying. In that memorial the defective condition of the municipality is attributed mainly to "an entire absence of any recognized code of regulations." Yet when the Prefect endorses this, and declares that if he were able to enforce the Japanese local laws and regulations the difficulty would at once be obviated, it is proposed to tell him that he has "obscured and complicated a simple question by importing into it a matter purely and solely one for the consideration of the Imperial Governments of Japan and the memorialists' respective countries:" that "the memorialists had carefully refrained from touching upon the question of ex-territorial jurisdiction:" that "their request would equally have been preferred to the Imperial Government were the territorial laws of Japan applicable to all foreign residents;" that "municipal law is distinct from imperial law:" that "it comprises and is confined to a series of regulations for the health, peace, good order, and decency of a Settlement of men," and that "it is applicable only to the limits of the town or city in which the community dwells."

If all this be admitted, some inconvenient deductions become inevitable. The municipal control of the Settlement was restored to the Japanese authorities 16 years ago. Are we to understand that during the whole of that time they have been required to govern the place without subjecting its inhabitants to any code of regulations whatsoever? Is it deliberately pretended that for sixteen years we have been parties to such a mad farce as that? If we deny the right of the Japanese Local Authorities to apply their own municipal regulations to the foreign Settlement and yet require them to exercise municipal control in that Settlement, the only possible inference is that they must enforce foreign municipal laws. But if so, what laws? Those of San Francisco, Chicago, Birmingham, Lyons, Venice, or Moscow? It is very true that "municipal law is distinct from imperial law," and it is precisely this distinction which proves that the treaties which have been construed as conferring upon foreigners in Japan exemption from the scope of the former, do not in any sense whatsoever refer to the latter. Either this is the fact, or the fact is that during the first six, as well as during the last sixteen, years of this Settlement's existence, the Japanese authorities are supposed to have exercised municipal control without the power of applying any regulations whatever. Exterritoriality has nothing to do with the question. It is not the Prefect

who has imported irrelevant matter into the discussion. It is those persons who, while acknowledging that municipal law and imperial law are totally distinct, and who while themselves confessing that the whole trouble is the absence of any recognised code of regulations, decline to recognise the only code that can be logically and properly applied to the seventeen different nationalities represented here.

The attempt made in Paragraph 2 to fix inaccuracy upon the Prefect reads very much like special pleading. The memorandum of the Kencho does not charge the foreign Land Renters with inconsistency merely because they desire to repeat an experiment which, sixteen years ago they elected to abandon, but because, having of their own motion surrendered the municipal control of the settlement "at a time when the system of civil administration in Japan was imperfect, they now seek to resume it at the very moment when strenuous efforts are being made by the Local authorities to introduce radical reforms." Surely it is a mere quibble to say that "the council of 1865-67 did not voluntarily request the Government to re-assume municipal control, or of its own accord abandon control of the foreign Settlement," when the plain fact is that a memorial was forwarded by the Land Renters to the Foreign Representatives, in July 1867, "requesting that the Japanese Government be called on to resume the control and management of the municipal affairs of the foreign Settlement of Yokohama." Whether this action was dictated by want of funds or want of power, it was just as much voluntary as is an official's resignation of his post when he finds he cannot perform its duties. Recriminations of this sort, if introduced into the Land Renters' reply, can only have the effect of promoting controversy and thus postponing a decision.

In Paragraph 3 we find it stated that the Prefect's admissions as to the difficulty of controlling immorality and dishonesty so long as the law remains inoperative against foreigners' employés, substantiate, instead of disproving, the memorialists' charges. No reason is assigned for this assertion, unless the objections urged against one of the proposed remedies be intended to serve as a reason. That remedy is, that "the governor (Prefect) should be furnished with a general warrant enabling the proper officers to enter freely into the premises occupied by foreigners of whatever nationality, when there is reason to suspect that offenders are concealing themselves therein." To this it is replied that "in no civilized country does

such a regulation exist;" and that "it is impossible to conceive a civilized people that would tolerate a law at once arbitrary and barbarous." The simple answer is that, on the contrary, such a system does exist in all civilized countries, and is tolerated by all civilized peoples. We need not go beyond London to find a city where every police magistrate has power to sign a search warrant. What the Prefect of Kanagawa wants is to be endued with the powers of an ordinary police magistrate, so that he may be relieved from the embarrassment of applying to one of a dozen different Consuls for authority to exercise the common functions of municipal Government. It is not in contemplation, we presume, to allow the police to make domiciliary visits to foreigners' premises whenever they please. That would be intolerable. But it is in contemplation to eliminate, as far as possible, the impediment of Consular interference. The compilers of this document appear to think that to entrust to a Japanese Prefect the discretionary authority exercised by every English Magistrate would be to lapse at once into a state of barbarism.

The Prefect, in his memorandum, justly rebukes the most improper assertion contained in the original memorial, namely:—"That the police have connived at robberies in the Settlement the circumstances of these robberies seem plainly to indicate." He says unequivocally:—"I am in a position to declare that there has never been a single case in which the police have connived at robberies." Yet it is now suggested that the memorialists should "confirm their statement." Is it necessary to disfigure a public document, bearing the signatures of a respectable community, by sweeping accusations founded on mere conjecture? Robberies precisely similar in character to those upon which these charges are based took place under the foreign municipality when the streets were patrolled by foreign constables. Yet we have never heard that the latter were accused of connivance. It does not seem to have struck the compilers of this reply that the insufficiency of the police force may have had something to do with the comparative immunity enjoyed by thieves. Since the numbers of the force were doubled, burglaries have almost ceased. As to the assertion that "it is immaterial whether the thieves are or are not employés of the foreigners from whose premises the robberies are effected," it is difficult to believe that the compilers were serious when they wrote it. No one can fail to see that such a circumstance, especially

having regard to the peculiar status of foreigners' employés in this Settlement, would materially affect the feasibility of perpetrating crime.

The contention with regard to the state of the streets, roads, &c., will be variously regarded. The Prefect tells us that "in the locality known as the Old Settlement" the roads and drains were not, in the first instance, perfectly constructed, and it is intended thoroughly to overhaul them;" and he also explains that "the extensive work of reconstruction and reparation of streets in that and other localities has very properly been deferred until after the completion of the works connected with the laying down of the new main drains and aqueducts, the former of which is now being carried out." Nevertheless it is proposed, by way of reply, to "refer to the evidence of the roads, streets, and drains themselves and to add that the repairs to Main Street necessitated by the drainage operations are still incomplete." The Prefect would simply answer this by referring to his previous explanation, which he might supplement by observing that extensive works require time for their completion; that the resources of the Local Government are not infinite, and that, according to their own admission, "this community have no right to expect the liberality of the local government to be always exercised in their favour."

The paragraph with regard to the drainage operations now in progress is curiously purposeless and contradictory. Forgetting, apparently, the capital that has been previously made out of the want of a good system of drainage, the memorialists say that "it seems inexplicable that the work" (of making drains) "should have been commenced at all without the strongest and most urgent necessity." If the necessity does not exist, the justice of complaining is not apparent.

But we shall not tax our readers' patience any further. We cannot doubt that this community will recognise the folly of addressing to the Local Government a prolix and lengthy document which can only have the effect of eliciting a similarly fruitless rejoinder. The problem now lies in a nutshell, and its solution will certainly be impeded if a fresh discussion is attempted of details virtually settled. It seems to us that the reply to the Prefect's memorandum may be very short and simple. After setting forth the community's acknowledgments of the attention their arguments have received, the signatories may proceed at once to note that, while the Prefect is at some pains to explain the causes of the muni-

cipality's unsuccessful administration, he does not deny the fact of failure, but admits that "the foreign Settlement is at present without an efficient system of control," and that he fully "recognises the urgent necessity for a uniform and enforceable system of municipal government." So far, therefore, there is an absolute consensus of opinion. Further, it may be frankly admitted that the Local Authorities are not charged with any incapacity over and above the difficulties inseparable from their peculiar position *vis-à-vis* the foreign residents. It has long been acknowledged that the mainspring of the dilemma is the impossibility of enforcing any system of laws however excellent. The community refuses to recognise, and the Consuls pretend that they have not the power to enforce, regulations of purely Japanese origin, while among the foreign Ministers one, or at most two, are competent to declare such laws applicable to their nationals. For nearly a quarter of a century foreigners have unwisely and arbitrarily interpreted the extraterritorial clauses of the treaties as conferring exemption from Japanese municipal and local, as well as imperial, laws, and have at the same time entrusted the municipal government of foreign Settlements to Japanese authorities. The inevitable result is a deadlock which both sides alike acknowledge and deplore. It is only when the remedy is in question that a divergence of opinion becomes apparent. The Japanese say:—"Give us the substance not the mere shadow of power, and we promise to satisfy your wants, but we cannot undertake to preserve law and order so long as obedience to our regulations is entirely a matter of courtesy." Foreigners, on the other hand say:—"We do not desire to dispute your ability to govern satisfactorily. But neither do we believe that a purely Japanese control can be efficient in this Settlement; for the simple reason that the community will not obey any laws which are not of its own making or which have not received its approval. Further, we wish to have a voice in the management of our own affairs. That is a privilege generally enjoyed by societies of free citizens in civilized countries."

To travel beyond these lines can only entail renewed controversy, and controversy is neither expeditious nor useful. We are not very hopeful that the Japanese Government will delegate to this community the desired authority, in whatever terms a memorial be couched. Sir HARRY PARKES, in his despatch to the Land Renters' committee, dated July 19th, 1867, said that municipal regulations framed by

the foreign residents "could only become law for the whole foreign community by unanimous legislation on the part of all the Treaty Powers, which, before engaging in such legislation, may require to be assured of the general concurrence of the community in the regulations proposed, and of the inability or unwillingness of the Government of Japan to maintain order and cleanliness in those portions of its territories in which Foreigners have the right to reside." It is most unlikely that the Government of this country will consent to take any step which might expose them to such an imputation, even were the time otherwise propitious for persuading them to divest themselves of a portion of their authority over the foreigners residing in their territories. Again, to any claim founded on the privileges of self-government generally accorded to communities of citizens in other countries, it may, and probably would, be replied that the peculiar position we persistently maintain in Japan deprives any such precedents of their analogy, and that when we consent to abolish race distinctions and to occupy the status of Japanese citizens, there will be no hesitation about according us corresponding rights. It may, and probably would be replied, that the rights of citizenship are not conferred on untaxed aliens in any part of the universe. Valid or invalid that is a rejoinder we have to anticipate, and the mood that dictates it adds largely to the difficulties of the situation. It will be for the community to consider the relative wisdom of engaging in a ten years' combat with these difficulties, or of developing the practical and sensible scheme outlined by the last meeting of Land Renters, namely—to obtain a voice in the municipal control of the Settlement by deputing to a permanent committee the duty of conferring with the Local Authorities and bringing to their notice any complaints the foreign residents may have to make.

THE ILBERT BILL.

THE story of the Ilbert Bill is full of lessons which cannot be disregarded by the foreign communities of this country. A few months ago that story was so disfigured by passion and prejudice that to consider it with impartiality was almost impossible. But the sense of justice which happily resides with Englishmen in their own homes has at last prevailed. A marked difference is discernible in the tone now adopted by the adversaries of the Bill, and it is openly admitted by men

who formerly denounced the measure, that were Lord RIPON'S policy submitted today to the judgment of the House of Commons, it would receive the support of a large majority.

This result does not at all surprise us. Discussing the measure when it first became a subject of keen interest to Englishmen all over the world, we said that no fault whatsoever could be found with the principle underlying it; that it was strictly consistent with the openly declared spirit of English policy in India for the past fifty years, and that the only charge to which it was fairly liable was one of untimeliness. This language is now echoed, almost *verbatim*, by the London *Spectator*—itself originally an opponent of the Bill—which says:—"Lord RIPON'S assailants have had the imprudence to attack the Bill on its merits, and not merely on the ground that it is a premature step in the right direction." It may be that public opinion would have been slower to recognise the truth had not "the indiscriminate fury" of Lord RIPON'S critics "provoked a host of champions into the arena;" but this is only another way of saying that men's attention has been directed towards the Bill with unusual energy. We are persuaded that the honest instincts of Englishmen would ultimately have asserted themselves, as they will also inevitably assert themselves in matters more closely concerning the interests of this community. After the QUEEN had solemnly promised in her proclamation of 1858 that her "subjects of whatever race and creed" should be "freely and impartially admitted to offices in her service;" after the administration of justice in civil cases had been exercised by native judges and magistrates over Europeans for nearly half a century; after the extension of native criminal jurisdiction over all British subjects throughout India had only been postponed by Lord DALHOUSIE'S Government, in 1849, till the preparation of the Indian Penal Code should be complete; after criminal jurisdiction over Europeans within the limits of the Presidency towns had been exercised for six years by native magistrates; and after the entire body of local governments in India, with the single exception of Coorg, had reported in favour of Lord RIPON'S proposed legislation, it was impossible to suppose that any outburst of race prejudice, however violent, could permanently postpone a measure in itself so wise and consistent.

It is, however, to the incidental utterances which the controversy has evoked that we desire chiefly to direct attention at

present. We shall quote a few of those utterances; without any attempt to throw them into a continuous form:—

It is perhaps a good thing that, from time to time, the veil should be lifted, and that one should be able to recognise the relations of the dark races and the white. On the European side is a haughty, insolent contempt, mingled with some fear and sense of insecurity; and these feelings, whenever met by resistance, break out into the fiercest wrath, and express themselves in savage and cruel action. • • • Such passionate outpourings as those sent home by the *Times* correspondent when Mr. Ilbert's Bill was first introduced, as the fierce and bitter speeches in Calcutta, as the elation of the native Indian press, go a long way to clear our minds of all cant, so that we recognise the relation of England to the subject races of India, to be one of conquered. • • • That native magistrates or judges would be unfair on Europeans, I think quite as probable as that Europeans would be unfair on natives. There is as much human nature in one class of men as in the other. I believe myself that the fear of this unfairness or partiality is an exaggerated fear. The native magistrate in any case in which Europeans were involved would be very careful indeed to behave in a judicial manner. All eyes would be upon him. • • • In those districts where there are very few scattered Europeans, and where, perhaps, there might be sent in the future a native district magistrate or judge, it is my conviction that it would be far better to run the risk (which I think a very improbable risk) of such alleged partiality, rather than that some isolated and solitary European, invested with all the prestige of his race by an ignorant peasantry, should fancy himself outside the pale of the law and superior to the Government official himself. • • • Another lesson might be learned from the passion with which the proposed measure, although of such a limited character, has been met. If it is unnecessary to pass a law which affects so few, why is so much vehemence shown against it? Does not the excitement show that some such law is urgently needed—that Europeans and Eurasians think that, to a very great extent, they can now do as they wish, and that they will not have such opportunities in future? In the violent speeches, the bitter taunts and insinuations that have signalled this controversy, is shown more manifestly than would well have been possible in any other way, how necessary it is for the English community to learn that India does not exist only for their benefit, and that the natives of the country are not to be considered by them as outside the pale of beneficent legislation. • • • Are the feelings, hopes, and aims of the millions and millions of natives to be as nothing before the aims, hopes, and feelings of the few Europeans resident in India? • • • The passing of the law will announce distinctly to England and to the world that a further step has been taken to carry out the principles of right and justice, and also to fulfil the promises of two generations of Indian administration. Every step taken to fulfil those pledges has been met with the strong resentment and opposition of Europeans in India. The history of the passing of the Black Act is well known. In 1849 and 1855 similar violent agitation put a stop to similar schemes for rendering Europeans more equal with natives before the law. In 1865, however, on the proposed abolition of grand juries, Sir Henry Maine had to face a similar storm, and he met it with firmness and success. But notwithstanding what has been done, throughout a century of conquest, the European has been everything and the native little or nothing, the European has begun to think that this is on account of his inherent virtues and of the vices of the native.—*Contemporary Review*. August.

The apparent justice and simplicity of the measure, and the nature of the replies received to the confidential circular issued to the local governments, might fairly have led the Supreme Government to suppose that the Bill would be received with no worse than temperate criticism. But, as is too well known, there arose from the non-official European community a protest which found expression in the wildest and most violent language, and, rapidly spreading over India, involved the Government in a tempest of denunciation and reproach, and roused the unhappy spirit of race antagonism in a measure not witnessed since the worst days of the Mutiny. In all cases of such legislation, from the passionate agitation against the first "Black Act" in 1856 onwards, experience has shown that the opposition of the European non-official community has to be encountered. Was the Government indefinitely to postpone legislation, which was already needed, and would every year become more pressing, because the opposition was likely to be violent and exaggerated? • • • As Sir Arthur Hobhouse has pointed out, the objection (that the proposed measure will affect the security of England's position in India) represents the whole underlying principle of one school of policy as regards our Government of India as opposed to the policy of another school. The former maintains that our rule rests on bayonets alone, and must be continued in that position to stand. The latter aims, so far as is practically possible, at absolute justice and equality to all subjects of the Empire alike, and at establishing our supremacy in the good will and affection of the natives of India by obtaining their confidence in our fairness and regard for their interests. Between the two conflicting theories there is no short mode of answer which can satisfy both, and each man must judge for himself which he will choose. • • • Let any Englishman of fair mind ask himself the question as if it were his own case, and not the natives'. • • • Are we, in the face of the ever rapidly increasing educated masses of India, without regard to our own good name and honour, to fall short of the assurances we have given, and to proclaim that, though no other fault can be found, the difference of race will not suffer a brown

man to be trusted as we would trust him if he had born of English parents?—*Fortnightly Review*. August.

The right hon. gentleman refers to the Government of India. I am glad to hear his speech in favour of the admission of the natives to office, but I am sorry to hear him, by hints and suggestions, convey an impression about the measures and policy of Lord Ripon which can only tend to weaken the hands of that nobleman. The right hon. gentleman says it is a very proper thing indeed to extend the admission to office to natives, but it has been mismanaged—the steps have not been taken at the right time; they have not been taken in the right manner; and, in consequence, the cause has been thrown back, and great attention ought to be paid to the sentiments of the Anglo-Indian community. Well, Sir, I have had much to do for a long period with a series of questions, and I am not aware at this moment of any series of great reforms which have been brought about by the courage and the wisdom and the foresight of the British Legislature in respect of any portion of this empire, which reforms have had the favour and support of the resident English community.—(Hear, hear.) I do not remember that the abolition of slavery had the support of those residents in the West Indian colonies whose opinions, from experience and knowledge, were undoubtedly of considerable weight. I do not remember that the establishment of a responsible Government in Canada and of that new system of relations with colonial institutions which has completely established harmony where before there was perpetual discord—(Home Rule cheers.)—I do not remember that that establishment of responsible Government and that introduction of political reform were treated in the colonies by those who, up to that time, laid claim to what was called the British party, and represented themselves as having a monopoly of loyalty—I do not remember they ever received those reforms except with opposition. In 1862 the Government of Lord Palmerston re-united the people of the Ionian Islands with those of their own race, of their own religion, of their own feeling and condition; but there was a British party there, and that British party from point to point resisted everything that was proposed for the benefit of the people. Sir, it is the same thing all over the world; and it is not because these resident English communities are made up of people who are worse than ourselves. Do not let it be supposed I have any accusation to make against them; but their position is less favourable than ours for forming a comprehensive judgment. They are doomed almost to narrow modes of examining these questions, and we are compelled to look over the course of history and over the surface of the world. They each of them look at themselves in relation to persons whom they feel to be in energy and certain practical effects inferior to themselves, and there is a tendency to indulge in a spirit of ascendancy which it is the business of this House and of this Legislature, and the business of a patriotic Governor-General with wisdom and with care, but with decision, to modify and to check. No evidence has come before me and none before this Government to convict Lord Ripon of any want either of courage or of discretion in this matter. It is true that there has been great resistance to Lord Ripon. If it is not impertinent, I may mention that I have a son in Calcutta who is a thorough approver of Lord Ripon's policy, and I am bound to say his report is that he is not certain whether he can find three other men in Calcutta who can agree with him.—(A laugh.) This is not the first time that such a state of things has existed. Go back to the time when Indian natives began to be entrusted with judicial functions; go back to the time when the liberty of the Press was enacted in India; go back to the period of Lord William Bentinck and Lord Macaulay, and you will find that the storm which has arisen in India, violent as it is, is less violent and less menacing by far than the storms which then arose. And so it will be in the future. You will go on—you will be compelled to go on; but I hope, what is more, you will be inclined to go on in the noble and upright and blessed work of gradually enlarging the Indian franchise. You will have to look this opposition in the face, and you will have to observe all the rules of circumspection and prudence in the measures you take; and no amount of circumspection and prudence will save you from that opposition. It will become milder from time to time. This Anglo-Indian community is made up of honourable and upright men. They may have their prejudices, and I think they have; but as they come nearer to the facts and look them more closely in the face they will begin by degrees to recognize they give to unreal dangers and to shadowy dangers an importance they do not deserve. Every step made in this direction is not only a step towards attaching to yourselves the minds of the vast population of India, but it is a step towards establishing between the different races of that country—between Europeans and natives—a degree of harmony which in former times did not exist. You have not to go back very far when any idea of any rights or capacity on the part of the natives of India was regarded as most unnatural and monstrous. Happily we have outlived that. But we have some other superstitions to outlive.—(Hear, hear.) We have a work before us in the performance of which undoubtedly the powers and capacity—the moral as well as intellectual capacity—of this country will be severely strained. I confidently believe we shall continue to go on steadily and steadfastly in that path, and I am persuaded that if we are enabled so to do we shall more and more, from year to year, realize the debt of gratitude we owe to those Governors-General of India, those eminent men of whom we have had many, who have fought and laboured hard among the crushing details of their high office to inculcate among their fellow-countrymen the broad principles of generosity and justice towards the vast population under their charge and rule.—(Cheers.) Those men have been the workmen, the most efficient and chief workmen, in building up that great and glorious

fabric of truly civilized society which it is our duty and task and high privilege to administer throughout the vast regions of the world.—(Loud cheers.)—Mr. GLADSTONE'S speech, August 22nd, in reply to Sir S. NORTHGOTE.

We do not pretend that any strict analogy exists between the questions awaiting solution in Japan and those to which the above extracts refer. It would be both impertinent and unjust to place the two upon the same lines. While India is a dependency of Great Britain—a possession concerning which the opponents of the Ilbert Bill do not hesitate to declare that, having been won by the sword it can be kept by the sword only—Japan is a free country, enjoying an unimpeachable title to all the privileges of national independence. This only can be said by way of comparison, that any arguments or inferences furnished by India's case in favour of abolishing race distinctions, apply with immeasurably greater force to Japan's. Are there, then, any such arguments?

If any one desires to answer this question impartially, let him consider what it is that opposes unrestricted intercourse between Japanese and foreigners to-day. Twenty years ago the reply would have been simple enough. Then it was the Japanese who held aloof. They either distrusted us or distrusted their own fitness to associate with us, and from that time until this, we have never ceased reproaching them with their want of liberality. But now it is we who distrust them. It is we who persist in preserving race distinctions; who even go so far as to confess that our people would certainly abuse the privileges we have long been asking for, and who are not ashamed to tell the Japanese that they would find it impossible to control us if they were permitted to make the experiment. For twelve years Japan has been importuning Western Powers to redeem their pledges by consenting to a revision of her treaties on the basis adopted towards all free states, and for twelve years we have opposed to her just demands the supercilious indifference of a combination of nations too powerful to recognise any principle but their own selfish convenience. There are many and grave abuses connected with the present exterritorial system, abuses so fatal in their effects that they actually render inoperative the commonest precautions for the preservation of law and order, and yet, while acknowledging this fact, Western States decline to restore to Japan the limited measure of jurisdiction which will correct those abuses—jurisdiction of which she has been wrongfully and arbitrarily deprived, and for which no substitute has been provided. Were that

limited jurisdiction restored to her, she is willing at once to remove, virtually, all restrictions upon foreign trade, travel, and residence. But certainly she will not, and ought not, to remove those restrictions upon any other terms. The language used by a remarkably able writer on the Ilbert Bill, is so apposite in this context that, with a few changes of name, it applies exactly to Japan's case:—

Let us take one of the large survey maps of India, and look at any district in the interior. Let there be marked upon the map the places where English magistrates qualified to entertain criminal charges against European British subjects are to be found. Let the means of, and the obstructions to, communication, such as great rivers, unmetalled roads, and so on, be shown. I should be surprised if an Englishman, accustomed to justice at his door, were not astonished at the distance and difficulties that intervene between any spot in the greater part of the country, and the only places where justice against a European British subject for a criminal offence can be secured. Hearing in mind that the High Courts alone can try serious cases, and that their original criminal jurisdiction over European British subjects extends to the remotest frontier districts, a by no means unfair parallel would be found in the hypothesis of an Englishman committing a felony in Caithness against a native of the county, and of redress being denied to his victim, except on the condition of his going with his witnesses to the South of England—performing the greater part of the journey on foot, but through a far wilder and more difficult country, without inns or lodgings. But not to take an extreme case, let me instance the province of Assam, where large numbers of Europeans are now employed in tea-planting. Suppose an English planter's assistant, in a fit of passion or drunkenness, half kills a native villager. If a charge is prosecuted, the complainant and his witnesses will have at the least to go to and fro over (in most cases) more than one hundred miles on foot or bullock-cart, and be kept away from their homes and work for several weeks while the charge is being investigated and tried. And if it be found to be a case for which a sentence of one year's imprisonment is not an adequate punishment, the unfortunate complainant and his witnesses, who have probably never been fifty miles from their native village, will be sent to Calcutta, some three weeks' journey. They are all the time practically in custody, themselves in charge of the police. What becomes of their cultivation, their home duties, and their affairs generally, during their absence—where they are lodged, and how they are treated, no one cares, and no one inquires. Is it to be thought that anything but absolute necessity, a case too serious to be hushed up by the police, will induce a native in the greater part of the Mofussil of India to bring a criminal charge against a European British subject?

And what is the answer made by Westerns to similar serious difficulties which prevent the opening of Japan under existing circumstances? Simply this:—"You may confidently count," they assure the Japanese, "on the respectability of all the foreigners who would visit the interior for purposes of trade under a passport system. The conduct of such foreigners would obviate the necessity of legal restraint." Thus in one breath the Japanese are told that foreigners admitted to the country without a passport system and under native jurisdiction would successfully defy all control; while in the next, they are glibly promised that a passport system and the absence of any jurisdiction whatsoever would effectually remove all necessity for control. This unlimited trust which we demand of Japan contrasts curiously with our own persistent resolve to withhold from her every mark of confidence. No wonder that she wants us to define "respectability:" no wonder that she wants to know whether the standard of eligibility for ungoverned trade and travel would include that section of the

Yokohama community which is represented by men that make it the business of their lives to parade their "haughty insolent contempt" for everything Japanese; to ventilate slanderous and bitter invectives against the country, its institutions, and its efforts; to heap foul abuse and lying taunts upon the head of every one that ventures to support the "broad principles of generosity and justice." Would the Consuls, whose irresponsible endorsement alone it is proposed to accept as a guarantee against the need of legal restraint, recommend for the privileges of trading passports these avowed despisers of Japanese laws and regulations, and if not, where would they draw the line? It is unfortunate that foreign residents who really stand in need of no legal restraint whatsoever, and who might derive benefit themselves as well as confer benefit on Japan did they enjoy the privileges in question, are debarred from enjoying them by the presence of a pestilential element which has taken, and is daily taking, the utmost pains to prove itself disqualified for any indulgence whatsoever. But in truth, this is the strongest, and not the least self-contradictory, feature of our present position. We assure Japan that we only ask her to give larger opportunities to persons who are in no sort of danger of coming into collision with the laws, and yet we decline to accept still larger opportunities for the sake of guarding a small class of violent and unruly characters against some hypothetical injustice. It is time that the saddle should be put upon the right horse, and the true cause of Japan's partial isolation recognised: it is time that Westerns should free themselves from those race prejudices for which they are ready to punish Oriental peoples with battle and bloodshed, and it is time to recognise the truth of Mr. GLADSTONE'S verdict, that "no series of great reforms which have been brought about by the courage, and the wisdom, and the foresight of the British Legislature in respect of any portion of the British Empire, have had the favour and support of the resident English community." Mr. GLADSTONE'S speech is not the only indication of the drift of the best public opinion in England. Sound and fair views are now generally in the ascendant, not only among Liberals but also among Conservatives, and if Japan is well advised, she will lose no time in appealing from judges blinded by local prejudices and selfish interests to a tribunal where to make her case understood will be to command justice.

THE SITUATION IN TONQUIN.

THE course of the negotiations conducted in Paris with regard to the Tonquin affair is beginning to be understood by the public. A cablegram to the *New York Herald*, under date September 8th, transcribes the following letter from the *Pall Mall Gazette's* Paris correspondent:—

When the difficulties between France and China on the Tonquin question began to get serious you published a report—which was perfectly correct—that everything would be satisfactorily settled by China withdrawing her troops from the frontier and France abstaining from doing anything that could offend or alarm China. But this *entente verbale* was not kept by France, and what made matters worse was the extraordinary behavior of M. Challemel-Lacour to the Marquis Tseng. As is now well known, the Marquis addressed several notes to the French Minister, of which no notice was taken; nor were the Chinese Minister's calls returned. All this seemed to indicate a desire to provoke China, and China replied by sending 30,000 men to Annam and by the Marquis going to London, after sending a verbal message to the French Minister for Foreign Affairs to the effect that if His Excellency wished to see the Marquis on public affairs he could telegraph his wishes to London. M. Challemel-Lacour became alarmed and expressed a desire to see the Marquis. The Marquis returned to Paris, but declined to call or even write to the French Foreign Office until M. Challemel-Lacour had explained his conduct. M. Challemel-Lacour now began to fear that if hostilities began the small French force in Tonquin might be annihilated before succour could arrive. Accordingly he took the rather weak course of going to the American Minister and asking him to assure the Marquis that he had taken offence when none was meant. This was done; but it did not satisfy the Chinese Minister, who, before resuming official relations with M. Challemel-Lacour, insisted on having his calls returned and his despatches answered. The French Minister gave in, but the relations between the two countries are not much mended. For, although the Marquis Tseng has given assurances that the Chinese army will not interfere with the French, I have my own private reasons for thinking that it has been sent there to supply the Black Flags with all they may want in the way of warlike material, and, under any circumstances, Chinese and French troops, face to face in Tonquin, are like a lighted match within a few inches of a ton of gunpowder.

The writer's statement as to China's military action seems exaggerated, though it is almost impossible to know the exact dimensions of the force which has been concentrated, little by little, on the frontiers of Tonquin. Among the thunderbolts launched by M. TRICOU at the head of the Grand Secretary Li, was an announcement that any movement of Chinese troops across the border would be regarded by France as a declaration of war. The movement has, however, taken place, but the promised interpretation is still expected. France has too much good sense to consider herself bound by all the extravagant utterances of her representatives abroad. The Marquis TSENG doubtless took care to afford the French Foreign Office the same explanation he is said to have given to the correspondent of the *Daily News*, namely, that the southward movements of the Chinese troops were

only necessary precautions to secure the frontier. But the Marquis is reported to have also told the London journalist that many Chinese had joined the Black Flags, though "China had no solidarity with the latter." This was a singularly frank admission, especially when we remember that the Black Flags have been proclaimed pirates by the French, and that certain Chinamen convicted of collusion with them are said to have been executed by order of French officials. If Chinese subjects are really enrolling themselves under the banners of the defenders of Sontai, and if not only does the Chinese Government refrain from issuing any prohibitory proclamation on the subject, but also the Chinese Representative in Europe admits the fact without disguise or apparent dissatisfaction, it becomes a nice question to determine by how wide an interval the two nations are separated from the reality of warfare. Further, it is evident that under such circumstances no approximate estimate can be formed of the resistance which the French troops may be destined to encounter in their attempts to carry the campaign beyond the delta of the Red River. Of late the Black Flags appear to have developed a peculiarity similar to that of Sir LAUNCELOT'S last adversary in the idyl—their strength goes on increasing as they combat, until from the few hundreds ambushed four months ago in the woods about Hanoi, they have grown into an offensive army of thirty thousand men. Each new failure to annihilate them has naturally magnified French statements of their force; but, on the other hand, their successes have not been less potent to attract adherents, and there is virtually no limit to the size their army may assume if it has all the southern provinces of China for a recruiting ground. The accounts of French victories have lost nothing in transmission, but they have been victories gained over Annamite troops only. Pæans appear to have been sung in Paris over the taking of Hué, and Haiduong, but it may truly be said that at neither of these places was there any real resistance. The bombardment and capture of the former cost the French two wounded men, while the Annamite official returns put the losses of the defenders at 3,200. In one sense, this was a brilliant affair; in another, it was a butchery. At Haiduong the invading force had only to march in and take possession. The enemy had evacuated the place two days before. Thus though the capture of the town was a substantial gain, not alone because of the warlike material found there, but also

because the position is one of the most important in the delta of the Red River, the operation was without significance as a military exploit, while it added to the embarrassment of the French by necessitating a fresh subtraction of troops from Hanoi, the real point of danger and difficulty. The plain fact is that the French, though invariably successful against the Annamites proper, have failed to make any sensible impression on the Black Flags. These occupy their old posts in constantly increasing force, and retain their hold upon the upper waters of the Red River more stoutly than ever. Thus China's game for the moment is a very simple one. Massing her troops on the frontier, by way of providing against Black Flag raids, she may fight France through the latter, holding herself ready either to sacrifice or support them as occasion serves. Meanwhile the French must perform await the arrival of large reinforcements before they can attempt any offensive movement. It is stated, on apparently trustworthy authority, that orders have been sent to Tonkin and other naval stations, to have transports ready, by the end of September, for the embarkation of 10,000 men for China; while, on the other hand, some persons profess to believe that if France sends any considerable reinforcement to Annam, China will at once declare war, and call upon England to fulfil her duty by closing her coaling stations to French transports. This would seriously imperil the safety of the troops already in Tonquin, but the probability that China will take any step so resolute is exceedingly remote. Her game, as we have said, will be a waiting game. At least two months must elapse from the present time before any decisively aggressive measures are undertaken against the Black Flags, and it is exceedingly difficult to suppose that the negotiations between the two Powers can be protracted throughout that period on their present comparatively narrow basis. The *Figaro* of the 8th of September says that the Chinese proposals are five, namely:—(1) The French protectorate to be hereafter confined to the Delta of the Red River. (2) China to open the navigation of the Red River down to Lao-Kay, which shall be the only point open to trade with Yunnan; the frontier at all other points to be closed by the establishment of a neutral zone, which shall be garrisoned by the Annamites. (3) China undertakes to prevent further incursions of the Black Flags. (4) The suzerainty of China over Annam is to be recognized by a mere act of homage, after which China will recognize the treaty of

Huê. (5) The French force of occupation is to be limited to 4,000 men. The geography of the *Figaro* seems to be slightly in fault when it speaks of opening the Red River down to Laokai, but the meaning is plain enough. China consents to make Laokai a dépôt for French trade with Yunnan, but intends to control that trade herself. These proposals amount pretty nearly to those embodied in the Bourée Convention. The clause with reference to China's suzerainty has obviously little import, and the other points might be conceded without much reluctance. But there might be, and, if report speaks truly, there is, a great deal of difficulty about the limits of the neutral zone. France is said to claim that its northern boundary shall be the twenty-second parallel of latitude, while China holds out for the nineteenth. A glance at the map will show that the former would give the French everything they want, while the latter would exclude them from the delta of the Red River, the occupation of which they have declared to be their principal object. The expedient of "splitting the difference" and adopting the twentieth parallel, suggests itself as a probable result, but this compromise is said to be not less distasteful to either side than the original demand of the other. Under these circumstances American mediation begins to be mooted. The Great Powers of Europe are said to be too much interested to arbitrate impartially, whereas the United States have nothing to lose and nothing to gain by the quarrel. The *New York Herald* applauds this project with a touch of magniloquent self-glorification that is very entertaining. "It is an idea," says that journal, "which presented itself to the mind of LI HUNG-CHANG, the RICHELIEU of China, at the moment when General GRANT paid his visit to Peking and when Japan was setting up a claim to the ownership of the Loo Choo Islands. The *Herald* promptly gave publicity to the views of LI HUNG-CHANG, and Japan lost little time in withdrawing her pretensions. So that the present appeal would not be without precedent, and would be likely, if made in a more formal manner, to be quite as effective with a powerful nation like Japan. We always stand on the side of peace. We are always ready—enjoying a peculiarly fortunate position on the map of the world—to lend assistance to those who are less happily situated. There may come a time when the United States will be accepted as the arbitrators of the universe."

If the "RICHELIEU of China" were to

read this, he might be disposed to suspect the big newspaper of ill-mannered irony. He has not found Japan's method of "losing little time in withdrawing her pretensions" so well adapted to his fancy that congratulations can be very satisfactory. The *New York Herald* may have some excuse for its ignorance of the facts that it was China, not Japan, which "set up a claim to the ownership of the Loo Choo Islands," and that it is Japan, not China, which possesses the islands to-day; but we are astonished that a leading American journal should be so wholly unacquainted with the recent history of its own country as not to know there never was any idea of invoking American intervention in the matter referred to, and that the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs took some pains to record a written definition of the purely private capacity in which General GRANT consented to advise the Cabinets at Peking and Tokiyo. This by the way, however. The *Herald's* information may be more correct now. We trust it is, but we are disposed to think that something more than impartiality is required of the nation whose voice shall have weight in this matter, and that the very magnitude of Great Britain's interest in the issue fits, rather than disqualifies, her for the rôle of a peace-maker.

FRANCE AND CHINA.

FROM the chaotic mass of correspondence upon the Chinese question, published in European and American newspapers, it is difficult to obtain an accurate view of the relations between the contending parties. But by examining it in connection with details of unquestionable authenticity, which reach us from private sources, we are enabled to supply at least an outline of the situation. Considerable surprise has been excited by recent statements to the effect that the friendly offices of the United States Government have been, or are to be, invoked, by one or both of the disputants. These reports have been affirmed and denied with equal appearance of official formality. The fact is, that the services of the Washington authorities were besought, at a comparatively early stage of the proceedings by the rulers of China, who at that period professed a disinclination to entrust their cause to any other tribunal of arbitration. Whether they anticipated anything like an effective result from this operation, or merely hoped to gain time by momentarily distracting the attention of France, is an open question. It is certain that no such marvellous consequences as

those prefigured by the *New York Herald* were reckoned upon. The tone of LI HUNG-CHANG'S appeal to the United States Government showed conclusively that, in his estimation, a nation without a navy was incapable of practical interposition, and, at the best, could only be listened to with polite indifference. That his opinion would be verified in all cases where the United States were concerned, it would be injudicious to assert; but it proved correct in this instance. The American Government consented to mediate, under certain conditions, but the offer was politely rejected by France, on the grounds that nothing in the intercourse between that nation and China called for intercession from without, and that Annam was the only country with which a settlement was required. It is interesting to observe that this answer to the proposals from Washington was in exact accord with the spirit displayed in M. TRICOU'S negotiations with LI HUNG-CHANG; from which we may infer that it was the desire of the French Minister of Foreign Affairs to produce the general impression, for some little time, that China would really be looked upon as having no share in the controversy, unless some overt act on her part should compel France to regard her as an aggressor. Whether this attempt to conceal the true state of affairs was successful in Europe and America we cannot say, but it certainly deceived no one in China; and that M. TRICOU had little expectation of misleading those by whom he was surrounded, was shown by that gentleman's declaration—freely reported in diplomatic circles—that an indemnity would be exacted from the T'sung-li Yamen, no matter how pacific China's later course might be, as a punishment for the attitude she had taken at the beginning. This incident was hardly needed to prove the devious and contradictory character of the French proceedings, their inconsistency having been only too apparent at almost every turn. It may, perhaps, be considered a fortunate circumstance that no fixed plan of action has revealed itself; inasmuch as the offer of mediation, though once declined, may yet be accepted, if renewed by some European power. America will probably meddle no further in the business, but indications we not wanting that conciliatory proposals will be submitted from another quarter. Embarrassing as the position has grown, it cannot be pronounced hopeless so long as either party manifests an obvious unwillingness to push matters to a fatal extremity; and the prospect of a peaceful termination to the quarrel is undoubtedly fairer than when

the belligerent policy represented by M. TRICOU was in the ascendant.

It would be gratifying to believe that the dispersion of this particular war cloud—supposing that reason and moderation are suffered to prevail in Paris—might give promise of a genuine renunciation of enmities, and open the way for a frank and cordial resumption of confidence and good will on all sides. But we regret to find no basis for such a hope in the condition to which affairs have been brought. The French have kindled a fire in Eastern Asia, which, though its embers may be hidden for years, will not die out while the present generation of ruling statesmen survives, and may perhaps be handed down as a heritage, to be blown into flame when future Ministers feel themselves ready to take up arms against the disturbers of China's tranquillity. It is noticeable that, upon the announcement of the terms of France's treaty with Annam, a cry of indignation was heard from every Chinese Legation in the Western world. That it would be tolerated at Peking was denied with a promptness and unanimity which showed that, on this point, it was not thought necessary to await instructions from home. Its reception by the T'sung-li Yamen went far to justify this prediction. The angry temper which first declared itself at the time of LI HUNG-CHANG'S sojourn in Shanghai, burst forth afresh, and with a violence, on this occasion, which for a while defied the most earnest persuasions of prudent advisers. Nothing but the assurance, backed by convincing testimony, that a French force would be let loose upon Peking, and that, after the inevitable capture and pillage, indemnities would be extorted to an amount that might reduce China to a species of slavery, restrained the Government from declaring war at that crisis. The consciousness of inferior strength, and the conviction of certain defeat, prevented the outbreak of hostilities, but the feeling of hatred was only intensified by the necessity for repressing it. If reliance can be placed upon the judgment of keen observers, whose opportunities of penetrating beneath the surface of Chinese politics are exceptional, the rulers of that empire will never cease to yearn for revenge. The treaty, they now perceive, must be endured. Open defiance would be madness, and they will ostensibly submit, even to the length of discussing it and kindred topics, with a pretence of submissive composure. But they do not conceive themselves in any sense bound to respect it, and they are resolved to annul it, sooner or later, at

whatever cost. Years of preparation may be requisite, but the purpose of regaining their lost prestige, and securing redress for the degradations forced upon them, will never be relinquished. Their foes must pay the full penalty for the outrages they have heaped upon a long suffering and now implacable nation.

Such is the spirit, if not the language, of the governing officials of China at this moment. That we represent it correctly, the corroborative intelligence which we receive from various trustworthy sources, forbids us to doubt. To what extent their projects of retaliation may be carried, is an interesting problem of the future. They have threatened before, but never with such concord of vehemence. They have writhed under insult, but not in such open and avowed exasperation as now. There is no question of their sincerity, nor of their present resolve to make good their angry words. But Time is apt to take the affairs of empires, as of individuals, into his own hands. Even such resentment as that which animates the Court and Cabinet of Peking may fade into forgetfulness, or be diverted from its cherished object. The statesmen of China are mostly aged men, and their successors may decline to perpetuate the feud. Moreover, though the resources of the country are vast, and its power, skilfully concentrated, would be formidable, the reigning dynasty is not so firm as to justify extravagant faith in enterprises organized in its name. At the same times those who watch with attention the international developments of the Far East, and who measure the influences by which the external relations of China are controlled, will give due heed to the extraordinary and unprecedented excitement by which its rulers have permitted themselves to be swayed, and take note of how far their abnormal emotion will effect the serious events of coming history. To overlook this element in Chinese politics, for the next few years, would be to disregard a powerful, and perhaps an imperishable, factor.

NOTIFICATION NO. 12 OF THE AGRICULTURAL AND COMMERCIAL DEPARTMENT.

It is hereby notified that in case Koreans resident in Japan apply for shooting licenses and obtain them from the authorities, they must be dealt with in the same manner as the Japanese themselves.

(Signed)

SAIGO YORIMICHI,
Minister of Agriculture
and Commerce.

October 2nd, 15th year of Meiji (1883).

MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENT.

Yesterday afternoon was held a meeting of land-renters and house-holders of Yokohama on the subject of Municipal Reform which is now under consideration in Yokohama. The following gentlemen were present:—Messrs. A. O. Gay (Chairman), W. H. Talbot (Secretary), G. K. Dinsdale, Tom Thomas, E. Whittall, Ford, John Carroll, W. Loxton, J. Ph. Von Hemert, Grosser, Reynaud, Hegt, Wilkin, Gargan, Irwine, A. T. Watson, Neale, Dodds, Barlow, Jas. Fraser, E. G. Wilson, A. Clark, P. Osborn, W. B. Walter, Oppenheimer, T. Rose, N. P. Kingdon, Mitsuhashi, Evers, Lindsley, and others.

The meeting had been adjourned from Monday last, the 1st instant, until 3 p.m. yesterday the 8th. Owing, probably, to the stormy state of the weather, proceedings did not commence until fully half an hour after that time, when Mr. A. O. Gay took the chair and, having briefly stated the object of the meeting, already known sufficiently well to our readers, asked whether the minutes of the last meeting should be read.

It was unanimously understood that the minutes should be accepted as read; and then the Chairman announced the result of the ballot which had been open for the election of a Committee of "foreign land-renters and (or) house-holders, who should be appointed to act as intermediaries between foreigners and their own, and the local, authorities, the Committee to consist of seven members and remain in power for one year." In conformity with the decision of the last meeting, the ballot had been open from Monday morning until Saturday at noon last, when the box was opened by himself, in the presence of Messrs. Whittall and Walter, scrutineers. The result was:—Mr. A. O. Gay, 212 votes; Mr. W. B. Walter, 194; Mr. W. H. Talbot, 185; Mr. Reynaud, 164; Mr. von Hemert, 154; Mr. Evers, 153; Mr. Tom Thomas, 147. The next highest suffrages for other gentlemen were in the following order:—Messrs. Kingdon, Dodds, Lindsley, Fitz-Henry, Boyes, and O. Reimers. In addition to these, there had been scattering votes varying from one to eight, and five ballot-papers were unsigned, and so taken no account of; the total number of ballots taken was 219. The Chairman added that he hoped the community would not expect too much from the Committee that they had elected, and which had no legal status, but whose duty would be to confer with the Local Authorities and the Consular Corps. The Committee, he reiterated, he was sure, would do the best they could, and he repeated his hope that too much would not be expected by the community.—(Applause.) The Chairman concluded his address by asking if the meeting had any instructions to give to the Committee.

Mr. W. B. WALTER said that he had one suggestion to advance. The discharge of the duties of the Committee would involve expenditure which should be met by a subscription from land-renters and householders. For

instance, there would be expenses for advertising and printing, the reports of medical officers upon the sanitary condition of certain compounds, legal advice, and other things all necessitating certain charges. He would propose that a fund be raised, to be called the "Yokohama Municipal Fund," or some other name. Land-renters should pay at the rate of 1 cent per *tsubo* on the Bluff: $\frac{1}{2}$ cent per *tsubo* in the Settlement. No land-renter, however, having property in both sections, should pay more than \$10 for the whole of his lots. Mr. Walter added that such a provision should suffice for the wants of the present Committee, which might not last more than one year or two years. Subsequent provision would be for the consideration of the next Committee.

Mr. WALTER rose once more, to suggest that some arrangement be made between the Gas Committee and the new Municipal Committee for control of the gas-lighting of the Settlement.

Mr. WILKIN, on the part of the Gas Committee, thought that there would be no objection on the part of the latter to some such arrangement.—(Laughter.)

Mr. Walter's proposition being still before the meeting, and a suggestion having been made that a rider be added to it to the effect that "householders be invited to contribute to the Municipal Fund at the rate of \$1 per house," the whole was put in the form of one resolution, seconded by Mr. Thomas, and carried unanimously:—

That a fund be started to be called the Yokohama Municipal Fund, which shall be under the control of the Chairman of the Committee, that land-renters be invited to contribute thereto at the rate of one cent per *tsubo* for Settlement, and one-half cent per *tsubo* Bluff, lots held by them: provided always that no land-renter be asked to pay more than \$10 for all the lots registered in his name: that house-holders not being land-renters be asked to contribute to the fund \$1 per house.

Mr. WILKIN then offered a suggestion for the consideration of the meeting. He spoke of the bad condition of the roads, which he ascribed to the badness of the material employed. During the present weather they were almost impassable. In the time of Mr. Davis they had been constructed with hard metal and were generally in good condition. Since then, and apart from the drainage works, they had been constructed of soft material. Another point was that, during the dry weather, the cess-pools gave off a very offensive odour. If anything were wrong with the drainage the defects should be looked into. During the construction of the drains he had remarked that the pipes of communication with the main drains were L-shaped, a form liable to create obstruction. At any rate, a foetid odour was exhaled, which might produce most injurious effects upon the community.

Mr. W. B. WALTER remarked that there was yet another point for the consideration of the Committee, which was composed of French, English, Americans, Germans, &c. The Chinese had no part. He thought that it would be well for the Committee to invite, through the Guild or otherwise, the Chinese residents to appoint

one or two special members to coöperate with the present Committee.

After an interval of silence, the CHAIRMAN said that he thought that there could be no objection to the Committee communicating with the Chinese residents, as suggested. To do so was within the province of the Committee's functions, and in accord with what had been decided at a former meeting. Would any special resolution be proposed on the subject?

Mr. TALBOT thought it right to mention that, in accordance with a resolution passed at the meeting in March last year, he had communicated with the Guild, which, on behalf of the Chinese residents, had promised hearty coöperation in any scheme determined on by other foreigners.

Mr. GAY again asked whether any special resolution should be proposed on the subject, and, addressing Mr. Walter particularly, asked, "if he had one?"

Mr. WALTER answered: "No. He had only made a suggestion."

Mr. GAY, while explaining that he thought any communication with the Chinese quite within the scope of the Committee's functions, still asked if the meeting had any resolution to propose on the subject.

Mr. WILKIN wished to know whether the Committee desired any such instruction as would be implied.

The CHAIRMAN still remarked that the matter was at the discretion of the meeting; and, with a remark from Mr. WILKIN to the effect that he did not know how far the Chinamen's ideas on sanitary subjects would agree with the Committee's, and a reply from the CHAIRMAN to the same tenor as before, the matter dropped.

Mr. FORD suggested to the Committee the consideration of the better control of jinrikisha within the Settlement, and the licensing and inspection of public women, and insisted upon the inefficiency of the Police.

The CHAIRMAN said that these matters of detail would come within the consideration of the Committee.

The Reverend E. C. IRWINE wished to know what would be done in the matter of replying to the Governor of Kanagawa's communication.

The CHAIRMAN reminded the interrogator that, at last meeting, a resolution had been passed to the effect that the document then read was a "suggestion by two or three gentlemen present" for a reply; and added that it should devolve upon the present Committee to prepare and forward a reply.

Mr. FORD wanted to know about the maintenance of the bridges of the Settlement. As they were used by Japanese as well as by foreigners he would like to know whether foreigners were to be charged with the whole cost of keeping them in order.

The Reverend E. C. IRWINE returned to his question as to the manner of reply to the Governor of Kanagawa.

The CHAIRMAN repeated that the reply was within the scope of the functions of the Com-

mittee; but Mr. Irwine might propose a resolution on the subject to the meeting.

The Reverend E. C. IRWINE then proposed "that the Committee be asked to draw up a reply to the Governor of Kanagawa's memorandum, and submit it to the approval of a future meeting."

This was seconded by Mr. A. T. WATSON.

Mr. MOLLISON thought that this matter had been provided for by Mr. Brooke's resolution at the previous meeting.

The CHAIRMAN, referring to his minutes, said that the question was sufficiently met by Mr. Kirkwood's proposition "that the matter be left to the incoming Committee."

Mr. WILKIN then put an amendment to the effect "that the Committee be empowered to frame a reply and forward it to the Governor"—with a rider "that it be published with as brief a delay as possible."

This was seconded by Mr. WHITTALL, and, after a remark from Mr. FORD to the effect that the "delay" ought not to be of eighteen months duration, which provoked some laughter, was carried.

Mr. WILKIN remarked that, on reading the draft reply, he thought that one point had not met with sufficient consideration. It was not clear why, because the Governor pleads that the police have no power to enter foreigners compounds, they cannot deal with Japanese in the streets.

Mr. FORD asked whether the Governor could deal with the Gas Committee; and Mr. WILKIN mildly suggesting that, if he meant the "Gas Company" the Governor probably could; and Mr. FORD allowing that he meant the Gas Company, the meeting adjourned *sine die*, on the proposal of Mr. LINDSLEY, with four or five seconds.

TRANSLATIONS FROM NATIVE JOURNALS.

JAPANESE OFFICIAL STATISTICS.

(Translated from the *Choya Shinbun*.)

The *Tokai Shinshi* of the 25th of last month gives a statement of the number of officials in the service of the Government, their birth-place, and other particulars. The tables from which the information is derived were published in December, 1881, and therefore are not, at the present moment, to be received as perfectly trustworthy, on account of the intervening changes in the constitution and personnel of the Government. Official grades are three in number, to wit:—*Chokunin*, *Sonin*, and *Hannin*. The first number 124, the second 3,768, and the third 15,177. In addition to this, there are 7,052 officers of a "supplementary" class, 12,239 employes, and a certain class of functionaries who are entitled to the same treatment as other officials but are not accorded the relative rank. This class is called *jin*. In the *Chokunin* ranks, there are two of these officials; in the *Sonin* 141; *Hannin*, 985; and supplementary class (*Tugwai*) 127. The total number of officials in the service of the Central Government is 39,615. They are distributed in the various departments and paid as follows:—

buted in the various departments and paid as follows:—

| DEPARTMENT. | NUMBER. | SALARY, Yen. |
|----------------------------------------------|---------|--------------|
| War Department | 10,845 | 157,548 |
| Judicial Department | 5,408 | 97,029 |
| Public Works Department.. | 3,090 | 59,151 |
| Naval Department | 2,607 | 69,352 |
| Finance Department | 2,263 | 49,065 |
| Imperial Household Department | 924 | 22,925 |
| Home Department | — | 28,318 |
| Educational Department | 651 | 23,255 |
| Foreign Department | 338 | 38,099 |
| Agricultural and Commercial Department | 3,032 | 39,355 |
| Colonization Commission | 1,842 | 34,418 |
| Police Bureau | 4,845 | 51,321 |
| Council of State | 7,600 | — |
| Senate | 166 | 12,332 |
| Total | 39,615 | 8,621,183 |

The Senate has a larger contingent of *Chokunin* officers than any other establishment. Its fixed complement is thirty; of whom five hold office in other departments. Next in order comes the War Department which has twenty-eight *Chokunin*: the Council of State with twenty permanent *Chokunin*, and seventeen who duplicate their offices: the Naval Department has ten: the Foreign Department nine permanent, and three simultaneously discharging other functions. The Judicial and Imperial Household Departments respectively absorb nine and seven permanent *Chokunin*, and each one supplementary officer of the same rank. The last mentioned department employs, further, two officials enjoying the brevet of *Chokunin*. The Public Works Department has six *Chokunin*, two of whom are pluralists. The Finance, Educational, and Agricultural and Commercial Departments have each two regular *Chokunin*. The functionaries of *Sonin* rank in the services of the War, Naval, Judicial, Finance, Imperial Household, Educational, Foreign, Public Works, and Agricultural and Commercial Departments are 2,444, 536, 398, 57, 47, 45, 36, 35, and 23 respectively. The Colonization Commission and Senate have respectively 17 and 11 *Sonin*. In the provinces, there are 5 *Chokunin*, 83 *Sonin*, 5,084 *Hannin*, 847 *jin-Hannin*, 22,145 supplementary officers, 1,226 *jin* supplementary officers, and 9,240 employes, making a total of 38,713. The yearly salary of the provincial officers, is yen 4,314,456. The total number of officers in the service of the central and provincial Governments, is 78,328, and their annual salary amounts to yen 12,935,640. The revenue for the year in question was yen 71,441,715, of which the salary of officials absorb more than 6 per cent. The army returns show the number of our soldiers as 37,680. Thus we see that official civilians are twice as numerous as soldiers. Is this not matter of surprise? The *Tokai Shushi* (*Statistical Magazine*) does not give the exact number of district and ward officers who are paid by the local Treasury. They number 90,266, and their salary amounts to yen 4,085,616 per year. These numbers added to the amount of the State officials' salaries and their number make the totals yen 17,020,656 and 168,594. We learn from a trustworthy source that in 1882 the total number of officials was 41,806, and that their salaries amounted to yen 9,268,599. Thus, we note an increase both in the number of officials and their stipend. If the increase in the number of district officers to their original number were taken into account, the result would be surprising. The question naturally suggests itself:—Can this number of officers be reduced to curtail expenditure without impeding

the progress of public business? On this point we will defer judgment. In this context it may be interesting to compare the representative influence of the various provinces in the Government service:—

| PROVINCE. | CHOKUNIN. | SONIN. | PROVINCE. | CHOKUNIN. | SONIN. |
|-----------------|-----------|--------|-----------------|-----------|--------|
| Tokyo | 13 | 448 | Tochigi | 1 | 24 |
| Kagoshima | 26 | 376 | Miyagi | 1 | 48 |
| Yamaguchi | 18 | 488 | Aichi | 1 | 70 |
| Kochi | 10 | 216 | Yamanashi | 1 | 9 |
| Nagasaki | 10 | 210 | Gifu | 1 | 54 |
| Shizuoka | 7 | 261 | Nagano | 1 | 62 |
| Fukuoka | 3 | 118 | Shimane | 2 | 26 |
| Kyoto | 2 | 59 | Wakayama | 2 | 168 |
| Osaka | 2 | 50 | Tokushima | 1 | 45 |
| Hiogo | 2 | 68 | Yehime | 1 | 85 |
| Chiba | 2 | 74 | Oita | 1 | 43 |
| Tottori | 2 | 64 | Akita | — | 23 |
| Okayama | 2 | 78 | Kanagawa | — | 19 |
| Kumamoto | 2 | 123 | | | |

From the above table it will be seen that the total number of *Chokunin* is 129, the majority of whom belong to Tokyo. But as most of them come originally from Kyoto, Shizuoka, and other provinces they cannot be properly called Tokyo men. Yamaguchi, Kagoshima, Kochi, and Nagasaki contribute largely to the *Chokunin* ranks. But political influence is monopolized by the people of Kagoshima. Next in power come Yamaguchi (*Choshu*) men. The proportion of officials in every ten thousand of the population may be stated as follows:—Tokyo, 111; Yamaguchi, 38; Kagoshima, 31.4; other provinces 10 to 20.

DEPRECIATION IN THE VALUE OF COMMODITIES.

(Translated from the *Keisai Zasshi*.)

Nothing, at present, is more remarkable in the empire than the stagnancy in the condition of our trade. "Declining business" has become a household term. Silver once worth yen 1.80 is now quoted at yen 1.19, while the same quantity of rice as was formerly saleable at yen 11 or 12, will not now realize much more than yen 5. The rate of interest was some time since twenty per cent. it is now nine per cent. In fact all commodities have depreciated to the extent of thirty or forty per cent., and are still declining. Investigation has convinced us that there are three principal causes of this result, to wit:—(1) the reduction in the circulation of paper money; (2) the change in the time of the collection of local taxes; and (3) economy in personal expenditure with a view to still greater reduction in prices. But are these the only factors? We cannot definitely say that they are. As a rule appreciation in the value of merchandize is beneficial to its owners; but bad for the holders of its paper-money equivalent, and *vice versa*. Hence the labouring classes, receiving fixed wages should gain by any fall in the price of commodities. To illustrate this we may refer to the vernacular journals whereby we shall observe a remarkable decrease in the calendar of thefts, incendiaries, suicides, and abscondings. We might thus infer that workmen have profited considerably by the depreciation which we allude to in the cost of necessities. At least meditation on the subject would lead to that conclusion; but the actual facts are widely different. A fall in the price of commodities tends to diminish the demand for the labor which produces them. Question, for instance, the nearest jinrikisha driver. He will, doubtless, tell you much as follows. "You suggest that I benefit by the cheapness of my necessities; but I do not find it so. My customers among Government officers and students are few and far

between; and fluctuations in the value of goods will not increase or diminish the patronage that I have from them. With my supporters among traders and merchants, the case is different, and they are my best friends. Bad weather, for example, as far as they are concerned, should be my best time. But now all times are alike in this respect. My whilom patrons, thanks to the stagnation of their business, walk in fine weather when they think they should go somewhere, and when it is wet they stay at home." Carpenters find no request for their work, and in despair turn to jinrikisha-drawing. In the Urban division of Fukagawa, Tokiyo, alone, sixty such cases have occurred. What must it be in other parts of the capital? Again, rice-dealers anticipated that the fall in the value of rice would not fail to increase the consumption of that staple, as the poorer classes would, they thought, be enabled to purchase it. But the reverse has been the case. This may be due in some measure to the decrease in the population of the capital; but any such decrease is also traceable to the decline of trade. There was a diminution of thirty thousand in March last in the populations of the urban divisions of Kiyobashi and Nihonbashi, while country folk have virtually ceased to visit the capital on pleasure trips. Hence innkeepers purchase less rice than of yore. Without statistical vouchers, we yet propound these statements as facts.

Moreover, we are led to the conclusion that, in spite of the depreciation in the price of commodities, traders are impelled to suspend the purchase of stocks in consideration of the possibility of still further depression, while from similar motives their customers hesitate to buy anything. Stagnation has become the normal condition of all business throughout the empire. In corroboration of this proposition we will compare the relative quantities of rice imported into the capital between 1878 and 1883, according to the records of the Fukagawa granaries:—

| 1878. | | RICE STORED BAGS. | | RICE DISCHARGED BAGS. | |
|-----------------|-------------------|-----------------------|-----------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| December..... | | 267,010 | | — | |
| 1879. | RICE STORED BAGS. | RICE DISCHARGED BAGS. | 1880. | RICE STORED BAGS. | RICE DISCHARGED BAGS. |
| Jan. ... | 218,889 | 290,021 | Jan. ... | 128,557 | 81,426 |
| Feb. ... | 123,046 | 141,783 | Feb. ... | 70,184 | 111,352 |
| March ... | — | — | March ... | 102,227 | 96,424 |
| April ... | — | — | April ... | 118,420 | 131,197 |
| May ... | 188,804 | 204,745 | May ... | 183,529 | 143,116 |
| June ... | 145,717 | 170,667 | June ... | 139,597 | 123,824 |
| July ... | 73,253 | 140,877 | July ... | 67,514 | 160,341 |
| Aug. ... | 33,801 | 137,626 | Aug. ... | 137,066 | 124,647 |
| Sept. ... | 69,150 | 78,647 | Sept. ... | 77,019 | 104,813 |
| Oct. ... | 34,797 | 33,276 | Oct. ... | 51,099 | 105,748 |
| Nov. ... | 102,643 | 67,386 | Nov. ... | 78,294 | 101,426 |
| Dec. ... | 234,627 | 75,168 | Dec. ... | 95,782 | 85,277 |
| Total 1,214,717 | | 1,340,156 | Total 1,250,218 | | 1,371,605 |
| 1881. | RICE STORED BAGS. | RICE DISCHARGED BAGS. | 1882. | RICE STORED BAGS. | RICE DISCHARGED BAGS. |
| Jan. ... | 83,774 | 69,798 | Jan. ... | 204,154 | 66,465 |
| Feb. ... | 119,790 | 91,043 | Feb. ... | 150,987 | 116,280 |
| March ... | 182,295 | 112,273 | March ... | 155,280 | 169,936 |
| April ... | 145,986 | 89,528 | April ... | — | — |
| May ... | 113,362 | 108,717 | May ... | 162,914 | 174,037 |
| June ... | 89,203 | 159,314 | June ... | 94,413 | 191,756 |
| July ... | 169,167 | 131,831 | July ... | 131,858 | 116,854 |
| Aug. ... | 82,500 | 132,267 | Aug. ... | 62,648 | 137,258 |
| Sept. ... | 58,850 | 98,103 | Sept. ... | 56,927 | 90,602 |
| Oct. ... | 62,633 | 76,424 | Oct. ... | 61,635 | 83,763 |
| Nov. ... | 76,935 | 111,464 | Nov. ... | 91,114 | 88,269 |
| Dec. ... | 164,526 | 69,993 | Dec. ... | 138,297 | 90,089 |
| Total 1,349,111 | | 1,345,315 | Total 1,310,227 | | 1,325,399 |
| 1883. | RICE STORED BAGS. | RICE DISCHARGED BAGS. | 1883. | RICE STORED BAGS. | RICE DISCHARGED BAGS. |
| Jan. ... | 154,228 | 65,054 | Jan. ... | 148,919 | 125,140 |
| Feb. ... | 74,131 | 87,300 | Feb. ... | 189,270 | 227,021 |
| March ... | 126,564 | 84,169 | March ... | 90,762 | 185,572 |
| April ... | 151,266 | 87,313 | April ... | — | — |
| Total 935,140 | | 861,569 | | | |

From the above table it will be perceived that the import of rice into the capital has not at all increased this year, but otherwise. The highest import was from the various provinces in Kwanto. It is generally conveyed by land on horseback and sold direct to the rice-dealers by whom it is hulled. Sometimes it is carried by sea, in small vessels, and delivered to wholesale merchants residing along the river Kanda. In these circumstances it has been impossible for us to ascertain the exact quantity forwarded to Tokiyo, but it is generally believed that the rice thus transported forms two-thirds of the amount consumed there. It is clear, then, that only one-third of the entire quantity can be preserved in the Fukagawa granaries. Although the decrease or increase of the rice in these granaries cannot show with perfect accuracy the rice consumption of Tokiyo, yet a little inquiry may aid us in arriving at a knowledge of the general condition of affairs there. From authentic sources we learn that there are 3,600 dealers in the capital, whose occupation is to hull and clean the rice; while of wholesale merchants, who purchase the staple from provincial owners, there are also a considerable number. These dealers and merchants do not hesitate to make considerable purchases when prices show an upward tendency; but in case it falls, to say [its] present quotation, they do not buy more than what is absolutely indispensable for the supply of urgent demands. This is the reason why the sale of rice from the Fukagawa granaries is insignificant, in spite of its extraordinary cheapness. It is worthy of notice that in 1880, the farmers having in most cases declined to dispose of their grain, the rice then in the Fukagawa granaries in question was sold to the very last bag. This year the reverse is the case, for dealers in the capital have refrained from making large purchases, and the farmers are consequently puzzled to place their stocks. How can such anomalies occur? They may be ascribed in a great measure to the rich rice crops of the past few years. Reports have been received from various parts of the Empire announcing promise of an abundant harvest this year, and therefore the value of the staple is not likely to rise unless the country be devastated by some unexpected catastrophe, such as rain, tempest, or war. We have heard that the import into the capital last year was mostly old rice which has been in stock for at least three or four years. In normal transactions, old rice is cheaper than new; but at the present time it is purchased on the Rice Exchanges at a higher rate, even though it may be unfit for consumption. All these facts seem to show that during preceding seasons the farmers have stored large quantities of the grain.

The fact of paper-money having some time since reached a greatly enhanced value tended to develop improvident habits among the peasantry, who began to consume rice for their ordinary diet instead of corn & millet as before. Augmentation in consumption led naturally to increased production. Remembering that the rice produced even three or four years ago is still in store, we may presume that the quantity on hand throughout the empire will soon be very great. Thus, increase in the growth of this staple has an important bearing on the economic aspects of the nation, as according to the principles of political economy such increment cannot fail to enhance the value of the currency. Finally, we think that our arguments prove that the depreciation in the prices of commodities is traceable to the four causes above enumerated.

ORIENTAL LITERARY NOTES.

Esoteric Buddhism. By A. F. SINNETT, President of the Theosophical Society of Simla, India. Houghton, Mifflin & Co., Boston.

The author modestly claims in his preface, that, "The teachings embodied in the present volume let in a flood of light on questions connected with Buddhist doctrines which have deeply perplexed previous writers on that religion, and offer to the world for the first time a practical clue to the meaning of almost all ancient religious symbolism."

Haeckel's visit to Ceylon. By Prof. E. HAECKEL. S. E. Cassino & Co., Boston, Mass.

An interesting account of the author's visit to India and the Island of Ceylon during the winter of 1881. One of the most charming books of travel ever published. In readability quite worthy of being placed by the side of Darwin's "Voyage of the Beagle." With the power of minute observation peculiar to a great naturalist, Prof. Haeckel writes with a clearness and brilliancy of style very rare among German professors.

"The reader who finishes the book,—and few who begin it will stop short of the last page,—not only has a very clear notion of Ceylon, but also knows the German naturalist as well as if he had accompanied him."—*The Critic.*

Ten Great Religions. Part II. A Comparison of All Religions. By JAMES FREEMAN CLARKE. Houghton, Mifflin & Co., 1883.

Ten Great Religions Part I. has been before the public for some ten years. That was descriptive, but amid a great deal that was well put and clearly stated the author indulged in speculations which practical experience would very greatly modify. The present volume opens up the way for wider and even wilder speculations. The author says:—"We consider what is the idea of God in all religions, and ask how it began and in what way it was developed. In the same way we seek to trace other phases of the religious life, from their simplest beginning to their fullest outcome." And to some extent he appears to succeed. Does Chapter VI. indicate that in the evolution and transmigration of souls the author believes in a cross between Darwinism and Brahmanism? He maintains that the Buddhist Nirvāna is not annihilation but "interminable being," and he argues that Buddhists believe in a personal "human soul." To say the least of it, the *personality* of the Karma in which the Buddhists believe, is not above the region of doubt.

Proceedings of the Asiatic Society of Bengal. May and June, 1883.

Contains Papers on (1) Notes on the Nāgins, a Religious Sect. (2) Memorandum on the Superstitions connected with birth and precautions taken and rites performed on the occasion of the birth of a child among the Jats of Hushyārpur, in the Punjab. (3) A Visit to Kafiristan.

Archæological Survey of India. Published by authority of Her Majesty's Secretary of State for India in Council.

Archæological Survey of Western India, Vol. IV. and V. Vol. IV. is a Report on the Buddhist Cave Temples and their Inscriptions. Vol. V. Report on the Eleuva Cave Temples and the Brahminical and Jaina Caves in Western India. By Jas. Burgess, M.R.A.S., &c., &c. All these volumes are replete with plates and wood-cuts, the preceding ones dealing with Temples, Inscriptions, Dolmens, Caves, Snake-worship, &c., of Western India.

Udanavarga. A collection of verses from the Buddhist Canon, being the Northern Buddhist Version of Dhammapada, translated with notes by W. WOODHILL ROCKHILL. Trübner: London.

On the History of the Archaic Chinese writings and texts. By TENIEN de LACOUTERIE, M.R.A.S., Trübner: London.

The following New Volumes of Trübner's Oriental Series are probably now ready:—

The Laws of the Manu, a new Translation, with Introduction, Notes, &c. by A. C. BURNELL, Ph.D., &c.

The Six Jewels of the Law, with Pāli Texts and English Translations. By R. MORRIS, LL.D.

Buddhist Records of the Western World. Being the Si-yu-ki by Hwen Thsang. Translated by SAM'L BEAL.

The Aphorisms of the Sankhya Philosophy of Kapila. With illustrative extracts from Commentaries. By the late J. R. BALLANTYNE.

Records of the Geological Survey of India. Vol. XVI. Pt. 2. 1883, contains (1) Synopsis of the Fossil Vestebrate of India. (2) Note on the Bijori Labyrinthodont. (3) Note on a skull of *Hypotherium Antilopinum*. (4) On the Iron Ores, &c., of Jabalpur District, &c.

The China Review for May and June contains papers on Szech'uan Plants, The Canton Prisons, The Rapids of the Upper Yangtze, &c., Chinese Family Life, Chinese during the Tsin Dynasty, A.D. 264-319 (cont.), The Origin of the Arabic Numerals, Scraps from Chinese Mythology (cont.). These, with Notices of Books, Literary Intelligence, and a considerable list of Notes and Queries, make a very valuable number.

The Chinese Recorder and Missionary Journal. Shanghai, for May-June, contains Glimpses of Hainan, The Proverbs and common sayings of the Chinese, Jesus the Model Preacher to the Heathen, Szechuen Native Opium—A Review, Notes on the History of Suchou, &c.

Proceedings at Boston, May, 1883, of the American Oriental Society, contain a variety of critical matter, amongst other a grammatical investigation into the Japanese *nigori* of composition, by M.B.S. Lyman, of Northampton, Mass. Whether his position is a stable one or not, and whether he has added new light to Japanese Grammar, is a question. He maintains that "The change of *nigori* is not merely euphonic and to be made or not made at will, but has to do with the meaning also, and is obligatory." Again "when the first part of a compound indicates source, cause, possession, etc., the *nigori* is not used in the second, but "when these qualities are rather possessed by the second part of the compound, of which the first part indicates a subordinate or partial or occasional characteristic, the *nigori* is taken." He then tells us that the *nigori* is the result of an elided word, etc. Suffice it to say that the whole thing is moonshine, as well as the supposed derivation which he gives of *hidari* and *migi*, although probably drawn from Japanese sources.

Oesterreichische Monatsschrift für den Orient—for June contains articles on Commerce in the Persian Gulf, Eastern Asia's commercial position in late years, Condition of the Persian administration, China Grass, Politico-commercial Reflections, etc.

The number for July contains Oriental Manufactures, Agriculture and Colonization in the Philippines, the revolt in Sudan 1883, Letters of Enim Bey and Dr. Junker, Persian opium, Politico-Commercial Reflections, Railroads in China, Chinese Glass-industry, etc.

In the Land of the Lion and the Sun; or, Modern Persia: Experiences in Persia, 1866-1881. By C. G. WILLS. Macmillan: New York.

A Winter in India. By W. E. BAXTER M.P. Funk and Wagnall's: New York.

IN PERIODICALS.

"Scientific Progress in China and Japan," *Nature*: May 10.

"Libraries of Babylonia and Assyria," *Knowledge*: March 2.

"Certain Characteristics of Oriental thought," *Overland*: March.

"Active Volcanoes in Japan," *Science*: April.

"Desert of Central Asia," *Living Age*: June 16.

"Cairo, Egypt" (G. EHERS). *Contemporary*. Same articles in *Living Age*: June 23 and 30.

"Chinese Mythology in San Francisco," *Overland*: June.

"Discoveries of Egyptian Antiquities" at Lel-el-Maskhuta, *Knowledge*: March 9.

"Diary of Richard Cocks in Japan," 1615-1622, *Athenæum*: June.

"The Little World; a Story of Japan," *Blackwood's*: June. Same article in *Living Age*: July 7 and 14.

The Sacred Books of the East. Vols. XVII., XIX., and XXIII. Oxford and Cambridge Universities.

This series of translations under the editorship of Professor Max Müller was planned to contain 24 vols., and to be completed this year. Nineteen volumes are issued, four are "in the press," the remaining one will doubtless not be far behind. Of these twenty-three volumes, two are devoted to Mohammedanism, two to Confucianism, four to Zoroastrianism, the rest to Indian Brahminism and Buddhism. Why the Hindu Vedas should be omitted, is a fair question to be asked. One of the present three vols. contains the second part of Darmestete's translation of the Avesta. Another gives a Life of Buddha from a Chinese version, dating from the 5th Century, of a Sanskrit original. The third is a continuation of translations out of the Pāli of the Southern Buddhists, giving the regulations for the conduct of begging friars, with an occasional story to spice the weary round.

Sketches of Travel. By J. A. KENDIG, Chicago: Legal News Company.

MR. KENDIG has perpetrated a trot round the globe, borrowed much from better authors. He is generally silly where original. He is astonished in Japan at "the skew-eyed amazement" of the natives at "our all work and no play!"

India: What it can teach us. By MAX MÜLLER. Funk and Wagnall's New York.

The 'Anecdota Oxoniensis' is a collection, made public under the auspices of the University of Oxford, of 'texts, documents, and extracts, chiefly from manuscripts in the Bodleian and other Oxford libraries.' It is to appear in four series: Classical, Semitic, Aryan, and Mediaeval and Modern. The Aryan series was first set in progress, a year or two ago, by the issue of a petty Buddhist tract, edited by Max Müller from block-books collected from China and Japan; it was the first time that a Sanskrit text had been worked up on such a basis. A second part, just out of the press, gives another little Buddhist Sūtra, called the *Sukhāvatī-Vyāha*, a description of Sukhāvatī, the Land of Bliss. It is given in both a longer and a shorter form or version—the latter being reproduced from the Journal of the Royal Asiatic Society, where Müller first published it, in 1880. A detailed preface gives some account of the work and of the condition of its text (which is rather a sorry one), and presents a conspectus of the harmonies and discrepancies of five different Chinese versions of it, made between the 11d and Xth Centuries of our era. The preface closes with a history of the Shin-Siu or Pure Land sect of Chinese and Japanese Buddhists, who hold this treatise in especial reverence.

In a meeting called to consider the subject of "Morals in Schools" in Boston, a "Mr. Hale spoke of the Japanese, who do not teach arithmetic as much as we do, because it tends to make men sordid. They give more time to history and morals!" An alleged Moabite manuscript of Deuteronomy on leather leaves, copied 700 years B.C., has turned up, and is said to have satisfied eminent Hebraist experts. The owner, Shapira, a dealer of Jerusalem, notorious some years ago in connection with forged potteries, asks the British Museum \$5,000,000 for the manuscript, which has since been pronounced a forgery.—*Nation*.

Boletín de la Sociedad Geográfica de Madrid, for May gives the following Japanese statistics. (Miya) Shinto temples, 186,717; (Tera) Buddhist temples for Posthumous honors to the dead, 72,158; Shinto Priests, 14,213; Buddhist Priests, 57,793; Physicians, 34,419; Pharmacists, 6,841; Hospitals, 464.

ACCIDENT ON BOARD H.T.J.M.S. "RIUJO KAN."

A serious accident, which might have terminated in a terrible disaster, is reported to have occurred on board the *Riujo Kan* during her training voyage to South America. She crossed the equator on the 15th of January, and, following probably English naval custom, held high festival in honor of Neptune. According to a report which appears in the *Fiyu Shimbun*, masquerading and larking was carried on from 5.30 to 10.30 p.m. Most of the crew were then more or less tipsy, and went to sleep. At about ten minutes before midnight the terrible cry of "Fire!" was raised, and was followed by a tremendous explosion. Almost instantly the ship was enveloped in flames. Those who were below had no time to dress, and hurried on deck in their sleeping clothes. Dense smoke issued from the magazine. All attempts to descend into the hold were frustrated by the thick fumes which extinguished all lights the instant it was entered. At last the magazine was opened, and the signal lights were found to have become ignited to the great danger of the powder. Streams of water were directed upon the smoldering fire; but for some time it was believed by all on board that the ship was about to be blown into the air. It is added, in this account, that Captain Ito wished to give orders to abandon all attempts to extinguish the blaze, and for all hands to stand by to die with the ship; but was prevented from so doing by Lieutenant Dewa, who so contrived that the strenuous efforts employed by officers and men were successful and the fire was at length subdued. By half-an-hour past midnight all danger was passed. The disaster is said to have been caused by the ignition of some signals by friction. The effects of the men, provisions, and stores, were much damaged by sea water. All hands behaved well during the time of danger, and Captain Ito afterwards mustered the crew and congratulated them on their escape from a violent death and upon their presence of mind during a trying time. The rites of crossing the line were afterwards duly performed.

NOTES FROM JAPANESE PAPERS.

Messrs. J. Adzuma and S. Machida have been appointed Acting Consuls in Hongkong and Cheloo respectively.

A telegram received in the capital announces that the expedition to the island of Utsuriyo in Korea, where several hundred Japanese are said to have settled in contravention of official prohibition, sailed from Shimonoseki on the 6th instant.

Rumours have lately been current to the effect that, according to the suggestion of a certain dignitary, dockyards would be established in Kiushiu with a fund of five hundred thousand yen. We are now informed that the authorities have determined to construct docks in Nagasaki or in the prefecture of Fukuoka.

The chief exports from our country to Korea, realizing more than ten thousand yen, are copper, matches, tin, pewter, zinc, shirtings, satins, saké, lawns, camlets, figured satins, and kaiki; while imports mainly consist of ox-hides, gold dust, bullion, rice, beans, bêche-de-mer, bones, sea-weed, grass cloth, cotton, and silk fabrics.—*Fiji Shimpō*.

The number of visitors to the Ikawo hot springs from the 1st of June to the 30th of September last, was 7,379, including 35 foreigners.—*Fiyu Shimbun*.

The discovery of copper mines in Hayashidamura, Sakushiu, Shimane ken, is reported.—*Hochi Shimbun*.

The Nippon Bank has been ordered to exchange defaced or damaged paper money for new without receiving any fees.

An American vessel is reported to have been wrecked off the coast of Iruma, in Idzu, Shidzuoka Ken, on the 8th instant. Two officers were dispatched from the prefecture of Kanagawa to the assistance of the lost ship.—*Official Gazette*.

LATEST TELEGRAMS.

[REUTER "SPECIAL" TO "JAPAN MAIL."]

London, October 8th.

AFFAIRS IN MADAGASCAR.

News from Madagascar describes the French position as being very weak, and that the Hovas are displaying a great amount of activity.

Later information says that the French position has now become precarious.

London, October 9th.

FRANCE AND CHINA.

Franco-Chinese matters have been suspended, and negotiations are believed to have failed.

The following telegrams appear in the Shanghai papers received by the last mail:—

Hongkong, September 28th.

On the 18th instant the French troops marched from Hanoi to Phuhoi, where they found the intrenchments in complete order but deserted by the enemy. They scoured the country without finding any Black Flags, who have retired across the Dai to Sontai. The heads of Commandant Riviere and thirty Frenchmen who were killed in the ambushade of the 19th May were found here, but no trace discovered of their bodies. The French troops returned to Hanoi next day.

London, 29th September.

A crowded reception was accorded to Missionary Shaw on his arrival in London, when he narrated his illusage. The London Press calls for reparation.

Hongkong, 29th September.

The Viceroy of Canton is much displeased at the result of Logan's trial. He has drafted an application to Chief Justice Sir R. T. Rennie for a new trial, and has intimated that he can hardly be expected to be responsible for consequences in case of an outbreak, owing to that result.

MAIL STEAMERS.

THE NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From Europe, via Hongkong, per M. M. Co. Saturday, Oct. 13th.*
From America, per O. & O. Co. Wednesday, Oct. 17th.†
From Shanghai, Nagasaki, & Kobe, per M. B. Co. Thursday, Oct. 18th.‡

* Godavery (with French mail) left Hongkong on October 7th.
† Oceanic left San Francisco on September 27th. ‡ Left Shanghai on October 10th.

THE NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For Kobe, per M. B. Co. Monday, Oct. 15th.
For Shanghai, Kobe, and Nagasaki, per M. B. Co. Wednesday, Oct. 17th.
For Europe, via Hongkong, per P. & O. Co. Thursday, Oct. 18th.
For America, per P. M. Co. Tuesday, Oct. 23rd.

The arrival and departure of mails by the Occidental and Oriental, the Pacific Mail, and the Peninsular and Oriental Companies, are approximate only.

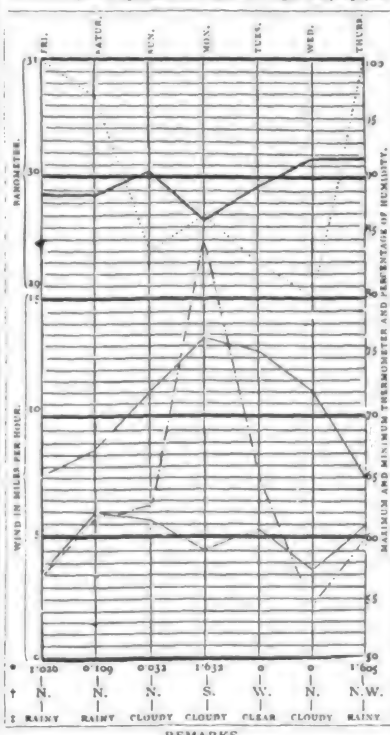
TIME-GUN.

A time-gun is fired every Saturday from one of the Messageries Maritimes steamers at Noon.

METEOROLOGICAL REPORT.

FOR WEEK BEGINNING FRIDAY, OCTOBER 5TH, 1883.

Observatory of Daigaku, Moto-Fujicho, Hongô, Tokyo, Japan.



REMARKS.
Heavy line represents barometer.
Light continuous line—maximum and minimum thermometers.
Dashed line—represents velocity of wind.
The barometer is reduced to the freezing point and to the level of the sea.
* Rain in inches. † Direction of Wind. ‡ Weather.
Maximum velocity of wind 49.7 miles per hour on Monday at 4 p.m.
The highest reading of the barometer for the week was 30.308 inches on Wednesday at 9.27 p.m., and Thursday at 6 a.m. And the lowest was 29.529 inches on Monday at 6 p.m.
The highest temperature for the week was 76.9 on Monday, and the lowest was 57.2 on Wednesday. The maximum and minimum for the corresponding week of last year were 72.0 and 47.0 respectively.
The total amount of rain for the week was 4.494 inches, against 3.448 inches for the corresponding week of last year.

TIME TABLES.

YOKOHAMA-TOKIO RAILWAY.

The Trains LEAVE YOKOHAMA Station at 6.45, 8.00, 8.50,* 9.45, and 11.00 a.m., and 12.15, 1.30, 2.45, 4.00, 4.45,* 6.00, 7.15, 8.30, 9.45, and 11.00† p.m.

The Trains LEAVE TOKIO (Shinbashi) at 6.45, 8.00, 9.15,* 9.45, and 11.00 a.m., and 12.15, 1.30, 2.45, 4.00, 4.45,* 6.00, 7.15, 8.30, 9.45, and 11.00† p.m.

Those marked with (*) run through without stopping at Tsuromi, Kawasaki, and Omori Stations. Those with (†) are the same as above with the exception of stopping at Kawasaki Station.

UYENO-KUMAGAI RAILWAY.

The Trains leave UYENO at 6 a.m. and 1.30 p.m., and KUMAGAI at 9 a.m. and 4.30 p.m.

The Fares are:—Special-class (Separate Compartment), yen 2; First-class, yen 1.20; Third-class, sen 60. The distance from Uyeno to Kumagai is 38 miles.

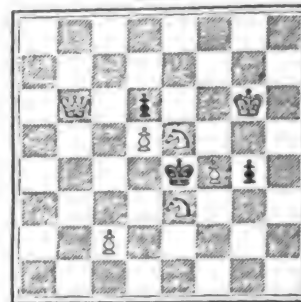
YOKOSUKA STEAMERS.

The Yokosuka steamers leave the English Hatoba daily at 8.15 and 10.45 a.m., and 12.30, 3.00, and 4.15 p.m.; and leave Yokosuka at 7.00 and 9.45 a.m., 12.15 p.m., and 2.00 and 4.00 p.m.

CHESS.

By W. H. TAYLOR.

BLACK.



WHITE.

White to play and mate in 3 moves.

Solution to Chess Problem of 6th October, by J. B., of Bridport.

White.

1.—Q. to Q. R. 7.

2.—Kt. to K. 6.

3.—Q. or B. mate.

Black.

1.—Any.

LATEST SHIPPING.

FREIGHTS.

For New York, via ports, and Suez Canal, the steamship *Strathmore* sailed on the 9th instant, leaving that berth held only by the *Selembrina* which vessel arrived here yesterday morning to load. For Havre, and Hamburg, the German steamer *Iphigenia* sailed yesterday, and the steamship *Cardiganshire* for London, and Hamburg, on the 9th instant. For Havre, and London, the sailing vessel *Sagitta* is rapidly filling, and should sail on the 20th instant for Kobe to complete her loading. Coastwise little is doing, for Amoy the bark *Bride* was settled yesterday at, for the time, a fair figure.

ARRIVALS.

Bride, British bark, 300, Sutherland, 6th October, —Nagasaki 18th September, Coals.—H. MacArthur.

Seisho Maru, Japanese steamer, 210, Isoda 6th October,—Kobe, General.—Seiriusha Co.

Wakanoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,133, A. F. Christensen, 7th October,—Kobe 5th October, —Mails and General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Khiwa, British steamer, 1,419, P. Harris, 9th October,—Hongkong 29th September via Nagasaki and Kobe, Mails and General.—P. & O. S. N. Co.

Chitose Maru, Japanese steamer, 293, T. Kasuga, 10th October,—Yokkaichi 9th October, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Niigata Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,096, John C. Hubbard, 10th October,—Hakodate 7th and Oginohama 9th October, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Pensacola, American frigate, 3,000, Captain Henry Esben, 10th October,—Honolulu 2nd September.

Seirio Maru, Japanese steamer, 329, G. R. Nirel, 10th October,—Yokkaichi 9th October, Rice and Oil.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Genkai Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,914, G. W. Conner, 11th October,—Shanghai and ports, Mails and General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Kworio Maru, Japanese steamer, 482, F. Crighton, 11th October,—Kobe 9th October, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Duke of Edinburgh, Russian ironclad, 18 guns, 900 H.P., 4,600, Captain de Giers, 11th October.—Kobe 9th October.
Najednik, Russian corvette, 1,330, Captain Kologeras, 11th October.—Kobe 9th October.
Shobeleff, Russian corvette, 1,200, Captain Blagodareff, 11th October.—Kobe 9th October.
Hiogo Maru, Japanese steamer, 896, R. N. Walker, 11th October.—Kobe 9th October, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.
Tourville, French frigate, 27 guns, 5,300, Captain Bose, 12th October.—Hongkong.
Selebria, British steamer, 1,992, S. Fowler, 12th October.—Kobe, General.—Smith, Baker & Co.
Gembu Maru, Japanese steamer, 670, F. J. Brown, 12th October.—Yokkaichi, General.—Kiyodo Unyu Kwaisha.
Taganoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 448, Matsumoto, 13th October.—Yokkaichi 11th October, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

DEPARTURES.

Gembu Maru, Japanese steamer, 670, F. J. Brown, 7th October.—Yokkaichi, General.—Kiyodo Unyu Kwaisha.
Takasago Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,229, C. Young, 7th October.—Hakodate, Mails and General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.
Arabic, British steamer 2,787, W. G. Pearne, 9th October.—Hongkong, Mails and General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.
Cardiganshire, British steamer, 1,623, Courtney, 9th October.—London and Hongkong via Japan and China ports, General.—Adamson, Bell & Co.
Metapedia, British steamer, 1,452, Garvin, 9th October.—Kobe, General.—H. Ahrens & Co.
Strathmore, British steamer, 1,384, L. White, 9th October.—New York via ports, Tea and General.—Adamson, Bell & Co.
Wakanoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,343, A. F. Christensen, 9th October.—Kobe, Mails and General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.
Chitose Maru, Japanese steamer, 293, T. Kasuga, 10th October.—Hakodate, Mails and General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.
Hiroshima Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,158, J. Wynn, 10th October.—Shanghai and ports, Mails and General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.
Sumanoura Maru, Japanese bark, 715, Spiegelthal, 10th October.—Nagasaki, Ballast.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.
Curacao, British screw corvette, 14 guns, 2,540 H.P., 2,380, Captain Austruther, 11th October.—Kobe.
Hiogo Maru, Japanese steamer, 896, R. N. Walker, 12th October.—Hakodate, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.
Kuorio Maru, Japanese steamer, 617, G. Withers, 12th October.—Korea, &c., General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.
W. H. Lincoln, American ship, 1,684, M. J. Dally, 12th October.—Manila, Ballast.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.
Iphigenia, German steamer, 1,059, F. Ahrens, 12th October.—Havre and Hamburg, General.—Simon, Evers & Co.
Tanais, French steamer, 1,750, Vaquier, 13th October.—Hongkong, Mails and General.—Messageries Maritimes Co.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per Japanese steamer *Wakanoura Maru*, from Kobe:—Captain Withers, Captain Pyne, and 6 Japanese in cabin; and 150 Japanese in steerage.
 Per British steamer *Khiva*, from Hongkong via Nagasaki and Kobe:—Mr. and Mrs. Thompson, Mr. and Mrs. Hammond, Mr. and Mrs. O'Malley, Mr. and Mrs. Batchelor, child, and infant, Mrs. Hartigan, Mrs. Fyson and infant, Captain R. Davis, Messrs. Hart, Daughlish, Leith, MacCulloch, Taylor, Fletcher, Brown, Ginsburg, O. Smith,

Mahlinan, S. Young, and Sin Yen Sha in cabin; and 1 Chinese and 37 Japanese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Chitose Maru*, from Yokkaichi:—133 Japanese.

Per Japanese steamer *Seirio Maru*, from Yokkaichi:—31 Japanese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Genkai Maru*, from Shanghai and ports:—Captain and Mrs. Young and 2 children, Captain W. M. Young, Mr. and Mrs. J. Chas. Davis, Mr. and Mrs. Jeff. D'Angelis Mr. and Mrs. Warin, and child, Mr. and Mrs. B. O'Brien, Mr. and Mrs. J. Maas, Mr. and Mrs. Kaneko, Mrs. Alexander, Miss M. Siddons, Miss Dolly Loftus, Captain Cotton, U.S.N., Hon. Louis Greville, Dr. Huntington, Messrs. F. Dodds, T. Goodwin, W. B. Thomson, C. G. Sinclair, Libby, A. B. Glover, C. Capelle, F. W. Oakland, J. C. Barber, M. Williams, W. Blackney, Fukugawa, Chizane, Saito, Tanaka, Niwa, Hara, Ito, Horibe, Hori, Kusakabe, Fukukama, and Yi in cabin; and 1 European, 222 Japanese, 4 Chinese and 2 Hindoos in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Hiogo Maru*, from Kobe: 3 Japanese in cabin; and 12 Japanese in steerage.

Per British steamer *Selebria*, from Kobe:—Mr. and Mrs. Smith, Mrs. Deakin, Miss Carpenter, and Miss Birdsell in cabin; and 17 Japanese in steerage.

DEPARTED.

Per American steamer *City of Tokio*, for San Francisco:—Mr. H. Kopsek in cabin; and 8 Europeans and 233 Chinese in steerage. For New York: Rev. and Mrs. S. G. McLaren and 3 children, Dr. Walter, and Captain J. W. Conner in cabin. For Liverpool: Surgeon-Major J. C. Shaw in cabin. For London: Baron Tiele Winckler in cabin. For Bremen: H.H. Duke of Mecklenburg and servant, and Count Sierstoff in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Hiroshima Maru*, for Shanghai and ports:—Colonel and Mrs. England, Mr. and Mrs. E. F. Waters, Mr. and Mrs. Matsudaira, Miss Matsudaira, Miss J. Chisman, Dr. Dickson, Messrs. F. H. Aplin, E. Hunt, G. H. Mathews, G. de Galember, R. L. Head, C. E. Hill, P. Colomb, N. Schlusser, B. E. Huey, Naga, Ikeda, Komita, Ishii, Kishida, Fujita, and Iyee in cabin.

Per French steamer *Tanais*, for Hongkong:—Messrs. O. Franck, James Smith, Thomas Purdy, Samuel Pater, and H. Rock in cabin.

CARGOES.

Per British steamer *Khiva*, from Hongkong via Nagasaki and Kobe:—Twist, 489 bales; Yarn, 675; Sugar, 6,887 bags; Tea, 1,092; Sundries, 3,490 packages.

Per Japanese steamer *Hiroshima Maru*, for Shanghai and ports:—Treasure, \$65,000.00.

Per Japanese steamer *Genkai Maru*, from Shanghai:—Treasure, \$30,000.00.

Per French steamer *Tanais*, for Hongkong:—Silk for France, 790 bales; for England, 66 bales; Total, 856 bales.

REPORTS.

The Japanese steamer *Wakanoura Maru*, Captain A. F. Christensen, reports leaving Kobe on the 5th October, at 4.30 p.m. with light northerly winds and heavy southerly swell to Omaisaki; thence to port strong north-easterly winds and cloudy weather. Arrived at Yokohama on the 7th October, at 7 a.m.

The British steamer *Khiva*, Captain Harris, reports leaving Hongkong on the 29th September, at 1.36 p.m. with strong monsoon to Nagasaki; thence to Kobe through Inland Sea moderate head wind and fine weather, was detained four hours on passage to repair machinery; left Kobe at 3.15 a.m. on the 7th October, with moderate N.E. wind and cloudy weather to Kuki Saki; toward midnight of the 7th wind increased rapidly from N.E. to fresh gale with high head sea, barometer falling steadily; during the morning of the 8th wind and sea increasing and at noon blowing a hard gale with terrific sea, and frequent squalls of hurricane fury, ship taking much water on board fore and aft. Omai Saki was sighted shortly before noon which showed we had had an adverse current of 40 miles; at noon hove ship to until 7 p.m. when wind and

sea had sufficiently moderated to enable the course to Yokohama being resumed. Wind veering during the gale E.N.E. round southerly to S.W. Barometer readings min. 29.49 and max. 30.00.

The Japanese steamer *Niigata Maru*, Captain John C. Hubbard, reports leaving Hakodate on the 7th October, at 6 a.m. with moderate northerly winds and cloudy weather to Oginohama; thence to Inuboye Saki heavy north-westerly gale and heavy sea; thence to port light northerly winds and fine weather. Passed U.S.S. *Pensacola* off Kanon Saki.

The Japanese steamer *Hiogo Maru*, Captain R. N. Walker, reports leaving Kobe on the 9th October, at 4 p.m. with light N.E. breeze and fine weather to O-sima; thence to port moderate easterly winds, and on the 10th, at 8 p.m. till arrival, moderate north-easterly breeze and rain. Arrived at Yokohama on the 11th October, at 11 a.m.

The Japanese steamer *Gembu Maru*, Captain F. J. Brown, reports leaving Yokkaichi on the 10th October, at 8.30 p.m. with moderate fine weather down Owari Bay to Kame-sima; thence to Rock Island fresh N.E. breeze accompanied by heavy rains; at Rock Island experiencing high sea with increasing wind and blinding rain: put into Shimoda for shelter at 2 p.m. on the 11th; left Shimoda on the 12th, at 8 a.m. with fresh N.E. breeze and cloudy weather to port. Arrived at Yokohama on the 12th October, at 4.30 p.m.

The Japanese steamer *Taganoura Maru*, Captain Matsumoto, reports:—On the way to Yokkaichi, when 5 miles off Rock Island, picked up a dismasted junk, and towed her into Shimoda.

SHIPPING IN YOKOHAMA.

STEAMERS.

Genkai Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,914, G. W. Conner, 11th October.—Shanghai and ports, Mails and General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.
Khiva, British steamer, 1,419, P. Harris, 9th October.—Hongkong 29th September via Nagasaki and Kobe, Mails and General.—P. & O. S. N. Co.
Mensaleh, French steamer, 1,273, B. Blanc, 29th September.—Hongkong 22nd September, Mails and General.—Messageries Maritimes & Co.
Selebria, British steamer, 1,992, S. Fowler, 12th October.—Kobe, General.—Smith, Baker & Co.

SAILING VESSELS.

Alma, American schooner, 35, Tibbey, 17th November.—Hakodate 8th November, Furs.—J. D. Carroll & Co.
Black Diamond, German bark, 585, Folley, 30th September.—Puget Sound, Lumber and Salmon.—P. Bohm.
Bride, British bark, 300, Sutherland, 6th October.—Nagasaki 18th September, Coals.—H. MacArthur.
E. von Beaulieu, British bark, 353, 20th November.—Nagasaki 7th November, Coals.—A. Clark.
Gloaming, British ship, 1,498, R. F. Densmore, 13th September.—New York 15th May, 52,900 cases Kerosene Oil and General.—China and Japan Trading Co.
Guam, British 3-masted schooner, 294, Marns, 23rd August.—Takao 2nd August, Sugar.—Master.
Pearl, American bark, 536, R. Howes, 28th May.—Nagasaki, 20th May, Coals.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.
Sagitta, British bark, 579, Taylor, 9th September.—Newcastle, N.S.W. 17th July, Coals.—H. MacArthur.

SUNDAY CHURCH SERVICES.

Christ Church: 11 a.m. and 5.30 p.m.
 Union Church: 11 a.m. and 8 p.m.
 Roman Catholic Church: 8 and 9.30 a.m.
 English Church, No. 12, Sakaicho, Shiba, Tokiyō: 11 a.m.

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

We have had another extremely quiet week for all kinds of staples, the business done in English Yarns and Shirtings being almost nil. Other Goods have received but little attention. Metals have also been very quiet; in fact there seems nothing but stagnation in all classes of Imports.

COTTON YARNS.

| | PER PICUL. |
|----------------------------------|------------------|
| Nos. 16 to 24, Common to Medium- | \$25.00 to 28.50 |
| Nos. 16 to 24, Good to Best - | 29.25 to 30.00 |
| Bombay, No. 20, Good to Best - | 25.25 to 28.50 |
| Nos. 28 to 32, Common to Medium- | 30.50 to 31.50 |
| Nos. 28 to 32, Good to Best - | 32.00 to 35.00 |
| Nos. 38 to 42 - | 35.00 to 37.50 |

COTTON PIECE GOODS.

| | PER PIECE. |
|------------------------------------------------|----------------|
| Grey Shirtings—8½ lb, 3½ to 39 inches - | \$1.70 to 2.15 |
| Grey Shirtings—9 lb, 3½ to 45 inches - | 1.92½ to 2.40 |
| T. Cloth—7 lb, 24 yards, 32 inches - | 1.42½ to 1.50 |
| Indigo Shirting—12 yards, 44 inches - | 1.55 to 1.70 |
| Prints—Assorted, 24 yards, 30 inches - | 1.10 to 2.40 |
| Cotton—Italians and Satens Black, 32 inches - | 0.07 to 0.09 |
| Turkey Reds—2 to 2½ lb, 24 yards, 30 inches - | 1.15 to 1.35 |
| Turkey Reds—2½ to 2½ lb, 24 yards, 30 inches - | 1.35 to 1.55 |
| Turkey Reds—3 lb, 24 yards, 30 inches - | 1.70 to 1.82½ |
| Velvets—Black, 35 yards, 22 inches - | 5.90 to 6.75 |
| Victoria Lawns, 12 yards, 42-3 inches - | 0.65 to 0.75 |
| Taffetas, 12 yards, 43 inches - | 1.75 to 2.05 |

WOOLLENS.

| | |
|----------------------------------------------------|----------------|
| Plain Orleans, 40-42 yards, 32 inches - | \$3.80 to 5.25 |
| Figured Orleans, 29-31 yards, 31 inches - | 3.25 to 4.00 |
| Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches - | 0.18 to 0.28 |
| Mousseline de Laine—Crape, 24 yards, 31 inches - | 0.15½ to 0.16½ |
| Mousseline de Laine—Itajime, 24 yards, 31 inches - | 0.18½ to 0.26 |
| Mousseline de Laine—Yuzen, 24 yards, 31 inches - | 0.30 to 0.37½ |
| Cloths—Pilots, 54 @ 56 inches - | 0.30 to 0.40 |
| Cloths—Presidents, 54 @ 56 inches - | 0.40 to 0.50 |
| Cloths—Union, 54 @ 56 inches - | 0.30 to 0.55 |
| Blankets—Scarlet and Green, 6 to 5 lb, per lb - | 0.35 to 0.40 |

IRON.

| | PER PICUL. |
|---------------------------------|----------------|
| Flat Bars, ½ inch - | \$2.50 to 2.90 |
| Flat Bars, ¾ inch - | 2.80 to 3.00 |
| Round and square up to ½ inch - | 2.80 to 3.00 |
| Nailrod, assorted - | 2.35 to 2.60 |
| Nailrod, small size - | 2.85 to 3.15 |

KEROSENE.

No business in Oil has been reported during the past week, dealers being unwilling to agree to the advance in prices now asked by holders. Deliveries have been 12,000 cases, leaving a Stock of about 711,000 cases. Quotations are nominally

| | PER CASE. |
|----------|-----------|
| Devoe - | \$1.70 |
| Comet - | 1.65 |
| Stella - | 1.60 |

SUGAR.

Business is at a standstill, and quotations are nominal.

| | PER PICUL. |
|-----------------|----------------|
| White, No. 1 - | \$7.50 to 8.00 |
| White, No. 2 - | 7.00 to 7.50 |
| White, No. 3 - | 6.75 to 7.00 |
| White, No. 4 - | 6.00 to 6.50 |
| White, No. 5 - | 5.00 to 5.20 |
| Brown Formosa - | 4.50 to 4.60 |

EXPORTS.

SILK.

The Market has been rather fitful during the week: alternate days giving small and large business in the staple. The total Settlements reach 750 piculs, and we cannot note much change in prices, although these may be quoted generally easy in favor of buyers; doubtless they would have experienced a decided fall, if a hardening *Satsu* Market had not made strong holders more determined not to sell at the moment. Arrivals are ample: Stock is over 5,000 piculs, with a good reserve up country to draw from. Export to date 10,240 bales, against 8,760 bales at same date last year.

Hanks have been freely sold at prices which, taking quality into account, are not much below last week's figures.

Filatures.—There has been some business doing in fine-sized Silks on basis of \$605 for 1½ to 2. Coarse kinds suitable for the American Market

have not been much enquired for and prices nominally are something easier: when buying commences for the *City of Peking*, prices will settle down. Some Hida and Mino sorts have found buyers at \$530 to \$570.

Re-reels are a dead letter on the week; the coming week may probably see some transactions.

Kakedas.—More doing in the Medium grades. Best are scarce, with small enquiry.

Oshiu.—Some more Sendai changed hands at \$500; Best kinds still absent from the Market.

Some coarse Nambu found a buyer at \$380 to \$400.

Hamatsuki.—Currently saleable at from \$490 (Best), to \$445 (Common).

Coarse Kinds.—Some few *Sodai* done at \$440, *Nagahama* \$400, and *Nambu* \$380 to \$410. There is a fair demand for anything decent in these descriptions.

QUOTATIONS.

| | |
|-----------------------------------|--------------|
| Hanks—No. 1½ - | \$510 to 520 |
| Hanks—No. 2 (Shinshu) - | 505 to 510 |
| Hanks—No. 2 (Maibash) - | 490 to 500 |
| Hanks—No. 2½ (Shinshu) - | 490 to 495 |
| Hanks—No. 2½ (Maibash) - | 475 to 485 |
| Hanks—No. 3 - | 450 to 460 |
| Hanks—No. 3½ - | 430 to 440 |
| Filatures—Extra - | 630 to 640 |
| Filatures—No. 1, 10/13 deniers - | 620 to 630 |
| Filatures—No. 1, 14/16 deniers - | 620 to 630 |
| Filatures—No. 1½, 14/17 deniers - | 590 to 600 |
| Filatures—No. 2, 10/15 deniers - | 590 to 600 |
| Filatures—No. 2, 14/18 deniers - | 550 to 560 |
| Filatures—No. 3, 14/20 deniers - | 565 to 575 |
| Re-reels—No. 1, 14/16 deniers - | 600 to 610 |
| Re-reels—No. 1½, 14/17 deniers - | 580 to 590 |
| Re-reels—No. 2, 14/18 deniers - | 570 to 580 |
| Re-reels—No. 3, 14/20 deniers - | 550 to 560 |
| Kakedas—Extra - | 620 |
| Kakedas—No. 1 - | 580 to 590 |
| Kakedas—No. 2 - | 540 to 550 |
| Kakedas—No. 3 - | 520 to 530 |
| Oshiu Sendai—No. 2½ - | 490 to 500 |
| Hamatsuki—No. 1, 2 - | 450 to 460 |
| Hamatsuki—No. 3, 4 - | 440 to 450 |
| Sodai—No. 2½ - | 440 to 450 |

TEA.

Business has been greatly restricted during the period since our last Market Report, and Settlements only reaching to 790 piculs, comprised of the following grades:—Common 35, Good Common 135, Medium 105, Good Medium 170, Fine 220, and Finest 130 piculs. Arrivals have been on a fair scale, and Stocks increasing; in consequence prices are rather easier, and native holders are more willing to meet offers. The cargo of the Pacific Mail steamship *City of Tokio* despatched on the 6th instant, consisting 390,427 lbs. Tea from this port as follows:—For New York 26,097 lbs., for Chicago 88,411 lbs., for California 178,811 lbs., and for Canada 97,108 lbs. The British steamer *Strathmore*, which sailed from this port for New York, via ports, on the 9th instant, also took 69,966 lbs. Tea for New York.

QUOTATIONS.

| | |
|---------------|------------|
| Common - | \$10 |
| Good Common - | 11 to 14 |
| Medium - | 15 to 17 |
| Good Medium - | 18 to 20 |
| Fine - | 22 to 26 |
| Finest - | 28 & up'ds |

EXCHANGE.

A moderate business has been transacted during the week, and rates have remained unaltered.

| | |
|-------------------------------------------|------------|
| Sterling—Bank Bills on demand - | 3/8½ |
| Sterling—Bank 4 months' sight - | 3/8 |
| Sterling—Private 4 months' sight - | 3/9 |
| Sterling—Private 6 months' sight - | 3/9½ |
| On Paris—Bank sight - | 4.65½ |
| On Paris—Private 6 months' sight - | 4.77 |
| On Hongkong—Bank sight - | ½ prem. |
| On Hongkong—Private 10 days' sight - | ½ o/o dis. |
| On Shanghai—Bank sight - | 72½ |
| On Shanghai—Private 10 days' sight - | 73½ |
| On New York—Bank Bills on demand - | 89½ |
| On New York—Private 30 days' sight - | 90 |
| On San Francisco—Bank Bills on demand - | 89½ |
| On San Francisco—Private 30 days' sight - | 90 |

KINSATSU QUOTATIONS.

The following table shows the rate of the day, and the fluctuation during the past week:—

| | |
|---------------------------|------|
| Monday, October 8th - | 116½ |
| Tuesday, October 9th - | 114½ |
| Wednesday, October 10th - | 115 |
| Thursday, October 11th - | 115½ |
| Friday, October 12th - | 115½ |
| Saturday, October 13th - | 115 |

IMPORTANT NOTICE.

SMALL CAPITALISTS, wishing to establish a business, should see if there is an opening for a Mineral Water Manufactory in their District. All information and recipes for the purpose of making Lemonade, Soda Water, &c. is given, previous knowledge is not necessary. The demand for these drinks is so much on the increase in all parts of the world, that the outlay for the machinery in all cases leads to a profitable and safe business. Catalogue forwarded free, on application to

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YOKOHAMA, OCTOBER 20TH, 1883.

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The Japan Weekly Mail.

"FAIS CE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, OCTOBER 20TH, 1883.

WEEKLY NOTES.

THE circumstances attending the loss of the Mitsu Bishi Steamship Company's ship *Sumida Maru* on the 15th of June last have been investigated by a Marine Court of Enquiry held in Tokyo. The Court decided that "ordinary caution and attention to the rules of navigation would have saved the ship from the disaster which overtook her," and placed on record an opinion that "the Captain navigated his ship from the time of passing North Shiroshima in a most unseamanlike and irregular manner." The evidence of the Captain himself and of the Third Officer brought out the singular fact that although they were both on the bridge before and at the time of the accident, they either could not recollect or did not know the courses steered. Everything seems to have been done by guess work. All the distances were guessed and no cross-bearings were taken: the speed was guessed and no log was hoisted: the condition of the compass was guessed and it was never corrected by magnets: no allowance was made for the tide: the helm was starboarded at least four times to clear fishing junks, and yet the ship was never brought to the Southward of her course to make up for the starboarding, and finally from the time of leaving Nagasaki until the *Sumida* struck on the Black Rock, her speed was never slackened for a moment. With such a record before them, the wonder is that the Court were satisfied with a sentence of

twelve months' suspension of the Captain's certificate. Probably the motive of their leniency must be sought in a comparison of previous findings. It is very much to be regretted, for the sake of the high reputation hitherto enjoyed by the foreign staff of the Mitsu Bishi Company, that such exceptional incompetence or carelessness should have been proved against one of their Captains, more especially having regard to the confidence that officer's previous record had inspired. Public opinion will inevitably incline to a belief that the series of disasters which the Company has suffered during the past two years are referable to other causes than the ordinary perils of the sea. We sincerely hope that the pending investigations into the loss of the *Akitsu Maru* and *Kwariyo Maru* may have the effect of removing this impression. The season has been unusually unfortunate for Japanese Shipping Companies. The Mitsu Bishi has suffered most, but the Unyu Kwai-sha's history is not much brighter. Twice as many disasters would be less serious, however, could we be sure that they have not their origin in causes similar to those which operated in the case of the *Sumida Maru*.

At this season the pressure of hard times always begins to be felt most severely in Japan. The period for making the first payments of the land-tax is at hand, and the agricultural classes, looking forward to the necessity of selling rice to the value of fifteen million yen within the space of three or four months, do not fail to make their complaints audible. This year, especially, the low price of the staple alarms them. Speaking from the uneducated agriculturist's point of view, his land-tax is nearly double what it was two years ago, because, although its monetary amount remains unchanged, he must dispose of twice as much rice to obtain that amount. Another circumstance which increases the hardship in his eyes is that he always finds himself selling in a falling market. This is, of course, an inevitable result of the excessive supplies offered for sale at the close of the year, but prices are already so low this season that the prospect of their further depreciation creates unusual alarm, and from many quarters voices are raised once more in favour of a return, in part at any rate, to the old custom of receiving the taxes in kind. The Japanese agricultural classes have not yet learned to disassociate the Government entirely from the feudal aristocracy to whose wants and caprices alike they were formerly obliged to

contribute. Probably they never will learn to make this distinction until they obtain a share in the management of their own affairs. It is not surprising, therefore, that they should expect the Treasury to receive their taxes in whatever form suits their convenience best, not reflecting that any loss suffered by the Government must ultimately be borne by the people themselves, and that the largely increased cost of collecting the taxes in kind would simply take the shape of an additional impost. That false impressions upon these and cognate subjects should exist among the uneducated classes is, perhaps, unavoidable, but the vernacular press chooses a pernicious route when it undertakes to foster such delusions. An article which we translate elsewhere from one of the Liberal journals is a strange medley of error and confusion. The writer's notions about silver are almost grotesque. He appears to imagine that the value of silver has been depreciated, and he includes the precious metals in the catalogue of commodities whose fall marks the stagnation of trade. Nay, he even goes so far as to think that a plentiful harvest is in some respects a misfortune since it has the effect of still further cheapening rice. It is difficult to grasp the theories of such economists, and we doubt very much whether they themselves know what their standard of value is. But, after all, there is nothing new about these Japanese experiences. Every country has similarly suffered, and been proportionately unreasonable about its sufferings, at times of currency contraction. What the Government can do is to increase the facilities for paying the taxes as much as possible, through the agency of its newly established Central Bank, and to provide a new market for Japanese rice by throwing open some of the northern and western ports to direct exportation. China would certainly take a considerable quantity of grain off this country's hands at present prices if the cost of transport were brought within reasonable limits.

We understand that the Armstrong guns mounted in the Japanese Navy's latest acquisition, the *Tsukushi Kan*, have evoked universal admiration. They are breech-loading pieces made at the Elswick Factory, and the handiness and strength of Sir W. Armstrong's breech-loading contrivance have won the hearts of Japanese artillerymen. The only types of gun now used by the Navy of this country are the Krupp and Armstrong. The preference was rightly given to the former so long as it was the only officially

recognized representative of breech-loading heavy ordnance, but since England has abandoned her prejudice in favour of muzzle-loaders, her manufacturers have taken the leading place from which her theorists have never been ousted. It is not likely of course, nor indeed would it be wise, that Japan should entertain any idea of suddenly changing her armament. The Krupp gun is an excellent weapon. It is still believed by some experts to be the best in the world, and certainly the superiority claimed—with justice, we believe—for the Armstrong, is not yet sufficiently marked to warrant any hasty rejection of its rival. But we may reasonably hope that this country will appreciate the advisability of adopting the cheaper and at least equally good gun little by little as convenient opportunities offer.

LATEST advices from France seem to indicate that the public are beginning to recognise the real nature of the task upon which Mr. Challemel-Lacour has entered with so light a heart in Tonquin. That Minister is reported to be much exasperated against the press both of his own country and of Germany. He declares, not without reason, that it is much easier to command a majority in the Chamber than to control the newspapers, and that their irresponsible utterances help largely to complicate the situation. The press, however, intimates that the Minister for Foreign Affairs has deeper causes of chagrin than the indiscretions of French journals or the insolent polemics of German. The failure of the expedition which set out from Hanoi on the 13th of August with the avowed object of sweeping the Black Flags away and laying siege to Sontai, so unequivocally indicates the insufficiency of the forces in Tonquin, whatever their quality, that the Government can no longer conceal from themselves the extent of the difficulties they have underrated. The accounts sent home by the special correspondent of the *London Standard* are accepted in Paris as substantially correct. They show that the Black Flags not only have an immense numerical superiority over the invaders, but that they are also perfectly armed and well led. Eight, ten, or even fifteen thousand men, says the French press, can effect nothing solid against such foes. A *corps d'armée* of twenty-five or thirty thousand must be sent: otherwise failure is inevitable. This, however, is a programme so very different from that laid down by M. Challemel-Lacour originally that the nation recoils before the change—a programme which demands fresh sanction from the representatives of the people. M. Jules Ferry will consequently be compelled to convoke the Chamber in special session, as indeed he has promised. But he hesitates to do so, fearing that the overthrow of himself and his colleagues will be the immediate result. Writing at the end of August, the Paris journals foretold that he would postpone summoning the Chamber till October, and that in the meanwhile he would confine himself to despatching insignificant reinforcements to the seat of war. "And this," said a leading newspaper, "to be obliged to

retire in two months, all the same, with the prospect of bequeathing to his successors a burden still heavier than that which he has to bear himself at present, for the state of affairs on the banks of the Red River will certainly have grown worse by the end of October. Sad issue of a campaign undertaken with a levity which did equally little honour to the Cabinet that assumed the responsibility and to the Republican majority that approved the assumption with eyes virtually closed!" These forecasts have been justified by the event. They help to explain our recent telegrams and to show that after all China may be able to make better terms for herself than was ever anticipated.

ACCORDING to the *New York Sun*, the "World's Fair" at Boston is a failure. There is nothing new to see there but the art collection, and that is not by any means what was promised. Here is what the *Sun* says about the Japanese and Chinese exhibits:—

The Japanese exhibition, of which so much has been said, makes but a middling show. The articles which have been brought directly from Japan are the poorest. The porcelain is none of it very good. By far the best of the modern work is in metal. Silver and bronze, colored in various ways and heavily gilded in parts (this heavy gilding is referred to as "inlaying" on the explanatory cards affixed to the objects), are wrought into a variety of useful and ornamental things, napkin rings, goblets, trays, vases, &c. The exquisite neatness of the handiwork, the novelty of the designs, and the charming color in these matters make them equal to anything of the kind that has ever been done. A pair of small trays are ornamented with figures of the gods of wind and of thunder. The artist has seen the wind, for he represents it as rushing in the shape of a golden fish-tail out of the mouth of a silver bag, which the god carries on his shoulders. The divinity has the features of a wolf, and a savage and spiteful expression. The thunder god has a malignant human countenance and is shown as amusing himself by rattling a huge chain, which appears and disappears among the clouds. In each of these little figures the modelling is excellent, the expression natural and strong, and the color effect produced by the use of silver, gold, and various mixed metals surprisingly good.

Specimens of modern red and gold lacquer are as good in their way as the metal work. The art of carving small objects in ivory and hard wood seems to hold its own very nearly. In other things there is a great falling off; in none more than in porcelains and enamels. In these departments everything shown has been produced for the European or American market, and a great effort appears to have been put forth to make them as ugly as possible. Most of this work is inferior to French and American imitations of older and better Japanese wares.

The portion of the Chinese exhibit which is now spread about on shelves and in cases in its exclusive small room is better than the Japanese. The large objects, vases and so forth, are of poor enough quality, but not bad in form, and a collection of small cups, vases, snuff bottles, and the like, contains many good pieces of fine shape, richly glazed and delicately colored. No one was present, however, to say whether these were modern or antique, and the presumption is that they are, at least, moderately old. There are some fine pieces of jade, clumsily carved. Up to the present there is nothing of the more utilitarian character.

NOTES.

It begins to be reported in semi-official circles that the disagreement between the civil and military authorities in Tonquin had been apparently imminent for some time before its consummation was announced by telegram. Since the middle of September the military authority had obviously sunk to insignificance there—whether in consequence of orders from home, or from sudden umbrage and determination to throw all the responsibility upon the civil

agents, it is difficult to determine. At all events, certain business, trivial in itself but still sufficient to show "which way the wind blew," had been in progress in Japan for three months, on the strength of instructions emanating from General Bouet originally. Suddenly this business hung fire. General Bouet's name did not seem to inspire the same respect as at first, until finally his requisitions failed to command the services of those to whom they were addressed. After a deadlock of a month or so, explanations came that M. Harmand held control of the situation, and that his orders only could be recognised. It was the same with matters at Hongkong and Shanghai, until fresh directions were finally sent by M. Harmand and the hitch was removed. The business in Japan, as we have said, was of small moment, but incidentally to its conduct there was acquired a knowledge that affairs of considerable importance elsewhere were likewise interrupted, and that great inconvenience and loss were likely to be entailed. It was, indeed, hinted pretty plainly, that if disasters came to the French, this squabble, and the subsequent assumption of all control by M. Harmand, even in military details, might be held accountable. Possibly in this hint "the wish was father to the thought."

Nor the least remarkable contrast between the lower orders of Chinese and Japanese is the view taken by each of the virtue of foreign medical practice. The experience of European medical men in China is almost universal in respect of the general unwillingness of the natives to submit to foreign methods of treatment. Dr. Henry adds his testimony to that of his colleagues. Writing from Ichang, the remotest treaty port on the Yangtze-Kiang, he says:—"Natives have shown no willingness to entrust themselves to foreign medical treatment, save in trivial cases. When severe illness attacks them, they dread the supposed powerful effects of foreign drugs. Some cases of ague, stomachic ailments, diarrhoea, ulcers, etc., have been, however, treated with fair success."

It is not often that one reads of Japanese giving trouble to the authorities or the hospitals of foreign countries. An exceptional case is related by Dr. McDougall, of the Kulangsu Hospital, Amoy. As the author only treated the wounds to which he refers we are ignorant of the circumstances in which they were inflicted:—

Mada Sinnuskie, Japanese boarding-house keeper, admitted 28th January, 1883, was suffering from bullet wound of chest, with compound comminuted fracture of the clavicle. Shortly before admission the patient had been shot by another Japanese with a large revolver, which was fired at a distance of about 4 feet from his body. The ball entered about an inch below the middle of the left clavicle, and, slanting upwards, shattered that bone and wounded the lung. A good deal of hæmorrhage took place from the external wound. A frothy mixture of blood and air came through the wound, and the patient coughed up some clots. On admission, one hour after the accident, the patient was suffering much from shock. He was put into bed, and efforts at finding the bullet having completely failed, the external wound was dressed with carbolic lotion (1/40), the arm put in a sling and bandaged to the side, to keep the broken bone in position. The next day the patient felt better, and the effects of shock rapidly passed away. There was an area of

tenderness at the margin of the trapezius muscle, where the bullet might possibly be lying deeply seated, but as its position could not be fixed exactly, it was not considered expedient to cut down upon it. There was some emphysema of the subcutaneous areolar tissue of the neck and shoulder. The hæmorrhage ceased. On the third day the temperature had risen to 100°.4, but the wound looked healthy. From that date the patient rapidly improved, and was discharged from the hospital, at his own request, on the 5th February, but continued to attend as an out-patient. Before the middle of March he left perfectly well, the fracture had thoroughly united, and his arm was strong and useful. The only sign of the external wound was a small cicatrix. He had neither pain nor tenderness anywhere, and the position of the bullet all this time one cannot with certainty affirm.

Sato Kana, a Japanese female, aged 26, was shot on the same evening as the previous case. The revolver was fired very close to her body, and the bullet entered at a spot on the outside of the upper arm 1½ inch above the elbow-joint. Failing to detect the foreign body with a probe, the arm was put upon a splint and bandaged. Several attempts were made to find the ball, but without success. The patient left Amoy shortly afterwards. Her friends report that she does not now suffer in any way from her accident.

A NEW YORK JOURNAL SAYS:—

Mr. J. Stahl, United States Consul at Osaka and Hiogo, Japan, reports to the Department of State that the tea trade of Japan has gone from bad to worse until it has now become unsatisfactory both to the Japanese producer and the foreign exporter. Whether as a result of over-supply or of such deterioration in the quality of the teas shipped as tends to check consumption, the prices to which tea has fallen in the United States are ruinously low, and if some improvement be not effected this important commerce will be shunned by all who have anything to lose. Consul Stahl says:—The Japanese government, recognizing the gravity of the situation, is urging producers in this country to reform their methods of preparing the leaf, so as to furnish a better article for export, and thereby reduce the excessive supply. One argument employed toward this end is that the law lately enacted by Congress against adulterated teas will, if strictly executed, exclude much of the inferior stuff which has of late years passed in the United States as Japanese tea. It is highly desirable, in the interest of all concerned, that this law should so work, and its operation will certainly be watched from Japan with keen interest. If it excludes not merely that which is not at all tea leaf but also all teas falsified by artificial coloring, it will afford powerful aid to all, whether exporters or producers, who now deplore the decay of honest commerce through the success of such impostures on the ignorance of the consumer. It will be difficult to effect any reform in Japan while consumers in America seem to prefer sophisticated tea of a wholly unnatural color.

Mr. Stahl's view of the situation is not very hopeful. It is not easy to unmake a taste, especially when the operation has to be undertaken in so large a field as the United States. The limited and partial effect of the recently enacted law respecting adulterations is much to be regretted. Doubtless a good many dealers would have been considerably inconvenienced had entry been refused to the coloured stuff which is sent across the Pacific as pure tea, and there was, further, real danger in the possibility that American consumers, awakened to the impostures which have been practised upon them, should distrust all Japanese tea as sophisticated and unfit for use. But there are good grounds for apprehending that nothing short of a radical reformation of American taste will render effective the measures taken a few months ago by the Government and certain producers for protecting the reputation of Japanese tea. This is essentially a case where foreign agency, though temporarily advantageous, is working permanent injury to Japanese commerce. Whether the origin of the existing system is to be traced entirely to the necessity of correcting Japanese faults of pre-

paration, or whether the natural tendency of the age to adulterate everything is chiefly to blame, it is certain that the Japanese producer has well nigh lost all incentive to be honest and painstaking. For all that is known of him in the markets he supplies, he might as well be the bush from which the leaf is culled or the pan in which it is fired. If he could be fully convinced that the injuries the trade is gradually receiving from dishonest practices both in the provinces and at the treaty ports will bear their fruit in his own lifetime and render his labour profitless, he might be persuaded to follow better courses. But he is not wiser in his generation, and he has far less inducement to be honest, than those English manufacturers whose suicidal fraudulence Mr. Consul Hall had the courage to denounce in his last Trade Report. So soon as the leaves pass into the middleman's hands the producer's part in the transaction is ended. The foreign agent then steps in; imposes a heavy tax upon the staple in the shape of large charges for firing and preparing, and sends the tea forward in his own name, stamped with his own mark. Nobody will pretend that a permanently prosperous commerce could be conducted on such a basis. The Japanese do not figure at all in the transaction, while by leaving to others the work for which they are eminently fitted themselves, they not only deprive the staple of some of its choicest qualities, but subject it to what is virtually an export duty of twelve to fifteen per cent. For the sake of this most important item of Japanese commerce, it is much to be desired that consumers should insist upon tea being up to its natural colour, and learn to reject the falsified stuff which now passes as "green tea," a consummation which can be much assisted by a vigorous effort on this side to supply them with a really sound and good article.

THE inauguration of the statue of the Republic at Paris seems to have supplied the monarchical journals with a never-failing subject for sarcasm. Every day some lyrical couplet finds its way to the address of the figure. The Republicans, however, have no reason to complain. They were not backward themselves on the occasion of the inauguration of the statue of Louis XV., nor will any of the Royalists' recent refrains bear comparison with the verse which was found, one fine morning, attached to the base of the monarch's effigy, among the figures of Peace, Prudence, Fortitude, and Justice which adorn the pedestal:—

Oh ! la belle statue ! Oh ! le beau piédestal !
Les vertus sont à pied ; le vice est à cheval.

It seems strange that while French artisans are growing more and more unreasonably exorbitant in the matter of wages, all the conditions of the time should point to a reduced scale of remuneration for workmen. The greater the spread of primary instruction of the better class and the larger the number of schools that spring up for teaching designing, modelling, sculpture, and so forth, the more slender do the rewards become that offer themselves to labour skilled in these directions. This is the democratic aspect of

modern civilization. To know how to design is no longer a rare speciality : it will soon become as common as an acquaintance with the alphabet. Passing over workmen of exceptional ability and originality, we find a large class whose second-rate skill grows daily commoner and more abundant, and who have consequently less and less value. Another condition unfavorable to manufacturers of articles of luxury, is the constantly increasing dissemination and mobility of fortunes. People become daily less exacting and better content with those objects of *demi-luxe* which please the eye and are of facile production. These two considerations seem sufficient to show that the remuneration of workmen employed in art industries has a tendency to diminish rather than to increase, and that any attempt to raise it by artificial means is to compromise home productions in favour of foreign.

LET not Japan be discouraged in her efforts to develop her mining industries. She in not, as some of her self-elected critics would teach her, if not directly, by negative inference, the only country that has difficulties to surmount in the road to ultimate success in that respect. An Indian paper newly points this moral. All mining is at first beset with great difficulties. "In countries not opened up, or not under enlightened and progressive Governments, this is to be regarded as a normal condition of things. The past history of Australia and California, and the present history of Siberia, Mexico, and other countries, sufficiently illustrate this. But what shall we say of mining in India, a country that boasts of a civilisation dating from the time when Britons went about in literal war-paint, a mining history that goes back to no one knows when, and, at present, more than a century's rule of one of the most enlightened Governments on earth, when we find, as was exemplified lately, the mining district, which is also an old established coffee district, virtually cut off from its sources of supply by a fortnight's rain ? Broken down carts, draught-cattle and coolies killed from the want of shelter, and the impossibility of making progress on the infamously bad roads, are the characteristics that mark the highway within from five to fifty miles of the palatial residence of the Governor. We have all read of the dangers of a journey across the snow in Asiatic Russia : a journey from Ootacamund to Devalla in the burst of the monsoon is nearly, if not quite, equal to it in severity to man and beast. During the monsoon the dwellers at the mines could only obtain supplies with the greatest difficulty, and at almost prohibitive prices. When, "people ask," are we to get passable communications with the mining and coffee districts ?"

A FREQUENT mistake among foreigners who profess to know something of Chinese habits is that cremation is almost universal among the people of the Middle Kingdom. It is much more prevalent in some parts of the vast empire than in others—more prevalent in some counties of certain provinces than in others. In his

report on the health of Ichang, Dr. Henry gives a few details concerning the practice as carried on in this neighbourhood. Sometimes children are cremated. This is only done for superstitious reasons. Where several young children of a family have died in succession, the body of one of them is burned, supposition being that the ceremony will ensure the survival of the next child that is born to the family. The doctor witnessed last summer one performance of the kind. The body was simply brought to the open field in a box: some firewood was piled round it and set fire to. The absence of odour was remarkable. The books in which the subject of cremation in China is treated of, says Dr. Henry, only speak of the rite being followed in the cases of Buddhist priests and lepers. "It is hard to reconcile with the present almost universal practice of burial, or with the absence of mention of cremation in Chinese historical works, the repeated assertions of Marco Polo that the Chinese people, in every place he came to, were in the habit of burning their dead. In the neighbourhood of Ichang, out of the many Buddhist temples around, there is only one the inmates of which are burned after death. The manner in which the process is carried out is both efficient and æsthetic, and, moreover, it is not expensive—at least, the cost does not bear comparison with the large sums that the admirers of the practice in Europe are reported to incur." In the grounds of the temple there is a small dome-like edifice the interior of which communicates with the open air by only a small door. On a stone seat inside the dome the deceased priest is seated. A charcoal fire is built around him: the door is closed; and in a comparatively short time the process of combustion is complete. The calcined bones are collected and placed in an urn which is stored away in a dome-shaped edifice, similar to that in which the crematory process is conducted.

THE *Echo du Japon* had recently a note upon H.E. Mr. Sienkiewicz, the purport of which we translate. It is well known to most residents in the Far East that the newly arrived French Ambassador is no stranger in these regions. His Excellency's career is thus related by the *Echo* :—

Mr. Sienkiewicz has been Consul in China; and if our memory does not mislead us it was from the Hong-kong Consulate (for France) that he was called to occupy in difficult surroundings the position of Consul-General in Egypt, where he succeeded Mr. de Ring, who had just been sacrificed by Mr. Barthélemy St. Hilaire, then Minister for Foreign Affairs at the close of the Ring-Blignières conflict, in which our compatriots realized that the first-named personified the French: the latter the anti-French, system.

Succeeding under such conditions to Mr. de Ring, who enjoyed the affection and esteem of the French colonies in Egypt, Mr. Sienkiewicz, appointed on the nomination of the Minister for Foreign Affairs to the Chamber of Deputies, appeared to our countrymen likely to be nothing more than a mere tractable instrument of the policy of Mr. de Blignières.

Victim of this situation, Mr. Sienkiewicz was at first very coldly received: a spirit of hostility appeared to surround his person, the settlers waiting with distrust his earliest actions (in Egypt) to give judgment—definite judgment—upon what they might expect in view of French interests—the amount of protection that in their view the Consul-General might be able to afford them. This situation could only be prolonged with peril to

the dignity of the new representative in Egypt, as well as to the general interests of our Egyptian colonies.

Mr. de Blignières, Controller of Finance, was requested to confine himself to the financial portion of his duties, Mr. Sienkiewicz refusing to be his abettor or aider. By the frankness of his manners the sympathy that he inspires without any effort, and by devoting himself intelligently to the protection of French interests, the new Consul-General quickly succeeded in acquiring the confidence and respect of his compatriots.

Mr. Sienkiewicz was no stranger either to the change of Ministry which took place in Egypt in the month of September, 1881, or to the programme, presented by Cherif-Pasha, Home Minister, announcing the appointment of a Council of State, the prolongation of negotiations for the maintenance of international tribunals, the absolute reform of native courts, etc., and affirmed, finally the necessity of maintaining the European control which was the principal force of the Egyptian Government—a programme full of promises which was to destroy Arabi and the self-called national party—which Gambetta with his usual foresight wished in its origin to arrest by common action with England, who held off till the moment when, restored to freedom of action by the snail-like policy which triumphed with Mr. Freycinet, she could act alone. The Representative of France in Egypt was powerless against a Minister who, supported by the coalition of the "Rights" and the "Extreme Lefts," so benevolently sacrificed French interests in Egypt.

The present Minister has conferred an act of justice in promoting Mr. Sienkiewicz to the post of Minister; and we trust that the first despatch of the new Representative of the Republic will not have the object of asking for a change of post. He will be able to render good service here, and we hope that he will take away with him a happy recollection of many years spent in a country so picturesque and so interesting to study.

We are sure of being the faithful interpreters of the sentiments of the French colony, in bidding welcome to our Minister and Madame Sienkiewicz.

THE Civil Tribunal of the Seine has at last given a decision in the much-talked-of case of Mario Uchard v. Sardou, and the judgment constitutes a valuable definition of the essentials of plagiarism. Mario Uchard maintained that his drama of *Fiammina* had inspired Sardou's *Odette*, and that the one so closely resembled the other in all its most important details as to constitute a genuine case of *contrefaçon*. The Tribunal, after a careful examination of the two works, decided against Uchard, maintaining, first that though the subject in both cases was identical, it was borrowed from the common source of the sentiments and passions that agitate the human heart. Secondly, that when Mario Uchard elected to embody this subject in a drama, it was not competent for him to appropriate it in such a fashion that no one else might touch it afterwards. Thirdly, that since the idea which forms the basis of the piece remained at the disposition of everybody, it was perfectly lawful for Sardou to develop it afterwards, under the sole condition that he should produce a work bearing evidences of originality. Fourthly, that in a piece destined for representation upon the stage, a subject cannot be arbitrarily separated from other elements the union of which constitutes a dramatic work—as, for example, the conduct of the action, the development of the characters, the management of the scenes, the dialogue, and even the episodes. Fifthly, that two theatrical pieces, founded on the same conception, necessarily contain similar characters and analogous situations. Sixthly, that it is for the judge to determine whether the writer who has entered the field in the second place, has simply borrowed the work of his predecessor, or whether, in spite of inevitable like-

nesses, he has conceived and executed a work essentially original. Guided by these premises, the Tribunal found numerous and important differences between *Fiammina* and *Odette*. Notably, the character of Odette, the éclat of her crime, the scandal of her life after her fall, the cynicism of her attitude towards her husband, her audacity with regard to her children, give to her a personality entirely her own, and stamp the whole drama with an aspect of originality. Other points in the treatment of Bérangère's rôle, as well as in the episodes of the play, were held to distinguish it thoroughly from Uchard's work and to dispose effectually of the charge of plagiarism. Doubtless this decision is in strict accord with justice, but a little consideration of the lines laid down by the Tribunal shows that according to this judgment an author may trespass pretty freely on a rival's preserves before the law takes note of his dishonesty.

NOTHING is more significant of the popular feeling in Europe and America, as regards the French controversy with China, than the almost unanimous reprobation of France's action and attitude, by the press of the civilized world. It is next, impossible to find a word, outside of French journalism, in defense of the invasion of Tonquin, the subjugation of Annam or the defiance of China's claim to respectful consideration. Even the newspapers which acknowledge the friendliest feeling for the young republic, have nothing but reproof and warning for the course to which she has now committed herself; and we observe, with some surprise, that, by a large proportion of writers, the reckless enterprise is not only denounced as extravagant and unwarranted, but is regarded as foredoomed to certain failure. This result is predicted rather on the ground of difficulties which the French will encounter among themselves, both at the seat of hostilities and nearer home, than on account of China's power to contend successfully against a European enemy; although the opinion is expressed in many quarters that the Middle Kingdom will use this opportunity to prove that her spirit, her resources, and her material strength, have been undervalued; and she will make this struggle, if it is forced upon her, a test of her ability to maintain her position among the nations. This estimate of China's power to withstand a resolute onslaught on the part of France will hardly be endorsed by observers in this part of the world; but the arguments based upon French domestic complications and upon the folly of the whole undertaking in its political and economic aspects, are sound and forcible. It is a pity that France is in no humour to receive and be-influenced by them.

A GERMAN newspaper says that the Duke Ernest of Saxe-Cobourg is about to publish a work which has cost him six years of labour and which will place the world in possession of the most carefully guarded secrets of English and Prussian diplomacy since the Crimean war to the foundation of the new German Empire. The

Duke, being the brother of the late Prince Albert, who took an active part not only in British politics but also in the national movement which prepared Germany for the events of 1866 and 1870, finds himself the owner of a crowd of documents whose publication would be in the last degree inconvenient to the Courts of London and Berlin. The story goes on to say that the two Governments most concerned have taken various steps to check the Duke's literary proclivities, but without effect. The manuscript has already been sent to M. Lorenz, professor at the University of Vienna, and it is there, or in Switzerland, that the first volume of this work, as important as it is piquante, will appear within a month or two. The only ray of hope in the matter is that the Duke Ernest, though a sovereign Prince, is also a Prussian General. It appears that he has already known what it means to offend against Bismarck's notions of discretion, and that he had to expiate his fault by an elephant shooting expedition in Abyssinia. It is, therefore, thought possible that the sequel of the Arnim affair will be recalled to his memory if he persists in his present design.

In a Shanghai paper we read that a few days ago a cheque was presented by a Japanese at the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank purporting to be signed by Mr. Peter Maclean. The amount, fifty-six taels, was paid without the cheque being very closely examined; but the signature was afterwards discovered to be a forgery, the writing bearing no resemblance to that of Mr. Maclean. The matter was placed in the hands of the police, and on the cheque being shown to Mr. Superintendent Penfold, he at once recognised the writing as that of a German named Leiningen, who joined the police force a few months ago, but was dismissed for drunkenness after serving for only one month. Mr. Penfold, after verifying his suspicion that the writing on the cheque was Leiningen's, at once obtained a warrant from the German Consular Court and despatched Sergeant Mack to take the man into custody. Sergeant Mack succeeded in arresting Leiningen; and at the preliminary examination at the German Consulate, it was found that the cheque-book used by the forger had been stolen from Mr. England. Sergeant Mack succeeded in finding the Japanese who cashed the cheque, so that he is able to prove that the money was handed to Leiningen, who spent the whole of it in a couple of days. The cheque-book was also recovered.

From the Board of Trade Returns for the seven months ending on the 31st of July we gather the following facts and figures:—Of tea from China (including Hongkong and Macao) lbs. 59,698,271 against lbs. 69,004,483 in 1883, values respectively £3,039,681 and £3,566,932. This shows an import of 11½ million lbs. for June against 26½ million in 1882. From all countries the quantities imported amounted to lbs. 87,494,274 in 1883 and 92,458,723 lbs. in 1882, and the values to £4,719,193 and

£5,176,005 respectively. From British India there was a good increase, 24,532,919 lbs. in 1883, against 21,462,833 lbs. in 1882; value £1,506,150 and £1,497,869 respectively. The Home consumption was lbs. 98,491,275, against 93,841,731 lbs. in 1882. The re-export was lbs. 21,884,983 in 1883 against lbs. 17,177,975 in 1882. The quantity in bonded warehouse was on July 31st, 1883, lbs. 85,361,241 against lbs. 95,239,349 in 1882. Of Silk, the import from China of Raw was 1,822,621 lbs. in 1883, against 1,528,893 lbs. in 1882, values £1,047,913 and £1,209,318. The import from all countries was 1,853,544 lbs. against 1,997,810 lbs. in 1882; values £1,543,483 and £1,997,830 respectively. The import of Waste, &c., was 31,450 cwt. in 1883 against 27,147 in 1882, values £466,687 and £354,325 respectively; of Thrown 168,907 lbs. in 1883 against 225,203 lbs., values £175,172 and £275,477 respectively. The Import of Silk manufactures showed a value of £6,565,695 in 1883 against £7,021,190 in 1882. The value of the total Exports and Re-exports of Silk and its fabrics amounted to £2,279,043 in 1883, and £2,974,122 in 1882. Of Sugar, the Imports from China and Hongkong of unrefined were 103,182 cwt. in 1883 against 290,780 cwt. during 1882. Of Hides, the total Imports from all countries were 412,474 cwt. Dry in 1883, against 361,786 cwt. in 1882, and of Wet 314,600 cwt. in 1883 against 318,871 cwt. in 1882; of Leather from all countries 44,148,259 lbs. in 1883 against 45,808,340 lbs. in 1882. Exports from Macao and Hongkong of Cotton Manufactures show a decrease from 1882 of ten per cent. in quantity of goods and fourteen per cent. in yarn, and of ten per cent. in value of goods and twelve per cent. in value of yarns. The figures are 237 million yards, value £2,662,245 in 1883 against 262 million yards, value £2,972,965 in 1882. To Japan, they are 29.6 million yards against 35.7 millions in 1882. The total Export of Cotton Piece Goods to all the world had increased from 1,693 million yards in 1882 to 1,797 in 1883. Of total Piece-goods, including Printed, &c., 2,632 million yards in 1883 against 2,486 in 1882, value 32.5 million pounds against 31.7 million pounds respectively. China is placed second consumer in quantity and in value, for although exceeded by two presidencies in India, she, in her turn, exceeds all other countries. Of Yarn the shipments to China and Hongkong were 7.7 million lbs. against 9 million lbs. in 1882; to Japan 11.3 million lbs. in 1883 and 12.5 millions in 1882. In Yarns, Japan held fifth rank amongst Great Britain's consumers, as regards quantity, and was eighth in value. The Export of Woollen and Worsted Manufactures to China and Hongkong was 1,813,100 yards in 1883 against 2,340,300 yards in 1882, and of Worsted Fabrics was 6,577,900 yards in 1883 against 7,410,600 in 1882. To Japan, 395,200 yards of Woollen and Worsted Manufactures against 513,600 in 1882, and of Worsted Fabrics 2,876,300 yards against 1,930,000 in 1882. Of Lead, the Exports were 6,943 tons against 7,999 in 1882.

Of the Precious Metals the Silver exported was £385,905 in 1883 against £354,385 in 1882, whilst the quantity imported was £56,710 in 1883 against £33,398 in 1882; of Gold £173,276 was imported in 1883 against £120 in 1882, whilst none was exported in 1883 against £10,000 in 1882. The total value of the imports into the United Kingdom during the seven months of 1883 was £251,014,708 and £241,478,294 in 1882; of the Exports, £137,784,629 in 1883 and £139,653,508 in 1882 of British and Irish Produce.

The frequent interruptions of telegraphic communication between Europe and the Far East are mostly caused by the depredations of Chinese fishermen or pirates. We read that the last breaks were near Shanghai. According to a newspaper of that settlement, three breaks in the cables of the Eastern Extension, Australasia, and China Telegraph Company have been reported. The last break was a gap of about one mile and a half, that length of the cable, about 12 tons in weight, having been taken away by the robbers. It is certain, judging from the nature of the cuts in the cable wires, first made with heavy files and then by cold chisel and iron mallet, that the thieves were numerous, that they had acquired much skill in their modes of operating, and that there is a well planned organization to compass the robbery, the breaking up into the short lengths of the cable wires, and finally the establishment and regular supply of markets for the copper and steel wires. Our contemporary adds "it is to be hoped the Mixed Court will deal with the thieves and receivers very sternly, as the damage done by the robberies is enormous, and unless the sentences of punishment are severe the Companies cannot reckon on future immunity, but on the contrary, on the continuation of the thefts."

The development of sericulture in Hungary is remarkable. Thus, in 1880, according to official reports, the communes where silk-worm breeding was regularly carried on numbered only 100, and the persons engaged in the production of silk only 1,050, whereas last year the number of communes had risen to 426, and the number of producers to nearly 3,000. In 1880 the product was only 20,000 pounds of cocoons, and the following year in was 80,000 pounds. The Government has established a model school of instruction, and arranged for the attendance of village school-masters, who will thus be able in time to instruct their own neighbourhoods. The Government has also paid for nearly 30,000 mulberry trees, and is considering the advantage of setting others along the public roads and the open spaces owned by municipalities and communes.

A CURIOUS case of abduction has recently been dealt with in the mixed Court at Shanghai. A young Soochow Chinaman charged his brother-in-law with abducting his wife, a young and rather-good looking woman. Another Chinaman, was charged with having sold the woman

to a Shanghai brothel-keeper. According to the husband's statement, he missed his wife some days before; he had received information that she left with her brother for Shanghai, whither he followed her and found her eventually in a brothel, to which she had been sold for \$30. This statement was confirmed by the woman's evidence. The money was divided in about equal parts amongst the three accused. Magistrate Chén ordered the Chinaman who sold the woman to the brothel keeper to pay \$30 as compensation to the husband, a judgment which, says the *Mercury*, "would not exactly agree with the ideas of Western civilisation."

A "SLAVE OF DUTY," as Gilbert calls his model Pirate of Penzance, has been captured in Shanghai. He was sentenced some months ago in Soochow to a long term of imprisonment for robbing Tls. 4,000. He succeeded, however, in breaking out of jail. The Shanghai Taotai was instructed by the Soochow authorities to search in Shanghai for the robber, and detectives and runners succeeded in capturing him.

GENERAL SCHENK is not forgotten in the great metropolis. His scientific exposition of a fascinating game has won him, as fame goes, a popularity that has proved more than usually enduring. At least, the *Whitehall Review* says that:—A certain American Minister to London who preceded Mr. Lowell caused some fluttering in respectable bosoms by issuing for the use of his English friends a little volume containing the rules and regulations of the game of poker. That was a few years ago, when games like pucker, euchre, and seven-up were supposed to be the exclusive property of Bill Nye, Truthful James, and the other heroes of the verse and prose of Mr. Bret Harte. Things have changed since then. Euchre is quite a popular game in London; poker is now likely to be so, thanks to the efforts of Mr. Richard A. Proctor. Mr. Proctor, who seems to have acted upon the suggestion of Bacon, and taken all knowledge for his province, enlightens the readers of *Longman's Magazine* for September as to the method of playing the game dear to Roaring Camp, Poker Flat, and Sandy Bar. Those who had not the advantage of receiving from the aforesaid American Minister or from any other Transatlantic acquaintance a copy of its rules, may learn from Mr. Proctor all the mysteries of an amusement in which it is possible to lose more money than in perhaps any other form of gambling known to civilised man. Mr. Proctor is very severe upon bluffing, which he seems to regard as "one of the most portentous phenomena of American civilisation"; but, undoubtedly, bluffing is an integral part of poker, without which poker would scarcely be. Poker is not indeed a moral game, but the game which combines extensive gambling with morality has yet to be found.

PADRE DENZA, the Director of the Observatory at Moncalieri, expresses, in a letter to the Bishop of Ischia, the opinion, based on the

information thus far obtained, that no ulterior disasters are to be feared in Ischia for the present; and especially if the forces at work under Mount Epomeo continue to find vents in the two active *fumaroli* . At the same time he adds:—"We have, however, to do with capricious and uncertain phenomena which are still a mystery to science. They are matters which require close study, and I have recommended them strongly to de Rossi's attention." Prof. de Rossi, in his second report, a brief summary of which lately appeared in *Nature*, limits himself to the consideration of the many warnings that Nature gave of the catastrophe. His third report will treat directly of the phenomena connected with it. In the meantime he is emphatic in recommending to the Minister of Agriculture and Commerce the completion of that chain of observatories over all the volcanic districts of Italy, for the reception and consideration of the signs and movements noted in which the Roman Observatory was founded. Had that chain been at least more complete, and had the long-talked-of observatory in Ischia constituted a link in it, the Roman Observatory would have recognised the fact that the widely extended subterranean movement, manifested with augmentation during the ten days anterior to July 28, had its centre of greatest, most continuous, and most variously marked activity at Casamicciola, and would have given that timely warning of the approaching storm which might have saved many lives. But, he adds, there is a question as to whether such warnings should be given. The inhabitants of Albano might, for instance, have abandoned their houses in alarm, and have spent the night in the fields, had the extraordinary state of the Solfatara there been known publicly on the 28th. "To this I reply," writes Prof. de Rossi, "that the inhabitants of Casamicciola would also have spent the night in the open air, and many lives would have been saved." But it is evident, according to *The Times* correspondent, from de Rossi's first preliminary report, that there is but little enthusiasm in favour of a system of earthquake warnings, like the storm warnings sent across the Atlantic, being adopted in Italy, where in many districts the inhabitants depend chiefly on strangers for their existence. He does not hesitate to attribute to a selfish fear of frightening strangers away the opposition made to the establishment of an observatory at Casamicciola. It has now been ascertained that the signs of warning at Casamicciola were numerous, and well known to those most interested in concealing them. But the possibility of danger was ridiculed, and part of the performance in the theatre on that fatal evening was Polchinello flying from imaginary alarms of earthquake. Prof. Palmieri summarises his observations on the earthquake in Ischia as follows:—"A small or moderate earthquake causing immense disaster. The continuous wearing away of the soil by the hot subterranean springs is sufficient to explain the immense catastrophe, which has been enhanced by the very bad construction of the houses.

Some damaged by the earthquake of 1881 had remained without repairs. The disaster of July 28 will be recorded more on account of the enormous loss of life and property than of its seismographic importance."

L'Economiste Français, which is, and ought to be, one of the most moderate of French journals in matters of foreign policy, speaks of France's present situation in Europe and the attitude of other nations towards her with an amount of bitter resentment which recalls the old proverb:—"Quod antecedit tempus, maxima venturi suplicii pars est." Discussing, in its last issue, the unequivocal menaces recently uttered by the *North German Gazette*, and now said to have been directly inspired, if not actually penned, by Prince Bismarck, the *Economiste* then proceeds to interpret, in the following terms, the sermon which the English, by word and deed, are accused of addressing to France:—"Sea and land belong to us, the sun and the moon and everything in the universe. All that is supposed to be uninhabited under the canopy of heaven, and all that is peopled by barbarians, are ours by divine right. You Frenchmen want to establish yourselves at some paltry places in our neighbourhood. We do not find it convenient that you should do so. We wish to have elbow room, and we want plenty of space. We like to be at our ease, and all neighbours are in our way. Content yourselves with your 520,000 square kilometres in Europe and we shall be the best friends in the world. Not that we propose to take up the cudgels in your behalf if any one attacks you. That is not our habit. But if you give up all ideas of colonization; if you abandon to us the Suez Canal; if you contrive that we shall never encounter your flag or your nationals on any foreign sea or shore, we will entertain for you the most sincere sentiments of good-will. Retire within yourselves; curl yourselves up; sleep: *abstine et sustine*—that is the policy which becomes you." Meanwhile, with German menaces ringing in one ear and English in the other, the French are constrained to confess that the measure of success they have achieved in Tonquin is not very large. Their standard floats over Hué, but elsewhere the famous Black Flags, with their Chinese auxiliaries, oppose a powerful barrier to foreign conquest. "Under these circumstances what ought France to do?" asks the *Economiste*. "Humble herself before the threatening remonstrances of the *North German Gazette*? Receive with docility and gratitude the friendly councils of her dear sister beyond the Channel? Treat with the Hovas, recalling her squadron from Tamatave and giving a good indemnity to her victim, the missionary Shaw? Treat also with the Chinese Emperor and withdraw her troops from Tonquin and Annam? Such behaviour might not procure for her the maximum of dignity and prestige, but it certainly would procure for her the maximum of security. Her friends would then deign to pardon her, and to address her in future in that tone of slightly haughty and cold

indulgence that men hold towards converted and submissive sinners." It will be easily understood after this exordium that the financial journal condemns a submissive course as contrary to the present and future interests of France. The difficulties of her situation are admitted. So far as Germany is concerned, it depends upon herself whether her relations with her sometime foe shall remain peaceable for the next quarter, or half, century. True, no Frenchman can recall the conditions of the peace of 1871 without a pang, but this feeling, however natural, is held in check, and need never assume dangerous strength. As for the Republican propagandism charged against France by some monarchical countries, the *Economiste* altogether denies its existence, and says that the politics of foreign nations are matters of supreme indifference north of the Pyrenees. On the other hand, if the struggle of 1870 is to be resumed, Germany is reminded that it will take place under very different conditions. Her troops will have to encounter, not a paltry army of 250,000 men, but one of at least a million, well disciplined, fully trained, and supported by a continuous net-work of fortresses. It cost her one hundred thousand men to reach Paris in 1870 and 1871. It would cost her three hundred thousand to perform the same journey in 1883, admitting the possibility of performing it at all. If she is willing to contemplate that prospect, the *Economiste* does not compliment her prudence. Great Britain's remonstrances are treated by the French journal with equal hauteur. France need give herself no concern about them. Her mistake was that she voted only five millions and sent only 3,000 men to Tonquin. She should have voted ten millions and sent eight thousand men. Now she must vote fifteen millions and send twelve thousand. What she has to do is to occupy the whole of Tonquin and Annam in perpetuity, and to establish herself, equally permanently, at Tamatave and other points in Madagascar. The *Economiste* thinks that the first law submitted to the Chambers when they reassemble ought to be one providing for the formation of a colonial army, and that the funds now squandered on luxuries of home policy, such, for example, as extravagant educational arrangements, should be devoted to the maintenance of this force. "England," says the French journal in conclusion, "when she sees that we are determined not to give way either in Tonquin, Annam, or Madagascar, will become the best and gentlest of our friends; and Germany, when she finds us removed alike from enduring humiliation or offering provocation, will respect a people resolved not to attack anybody, but equally determined, without any distinction of political parties to resist to the last breath, rash invaders of her soil." This is jingoism of the most unadulterated description. It would be more respectable if it were less demonstrative. We find some difficulty in reconciling French aggressions in Cochin-China and Madagascar with the statement that she is "resolved not to attack anybody." But an abnormal

development of pugnacity is not conducive to logical reasoning. If this vertigo of colonization and conquest has extended even to Frenchmen whose lives are devoted to economical speculations and the consideration of arithmetical problems, it becomes impossible to doubt that the *North German Gazette* was right when it accused France of troubling the peace of the world.

THE *Temps* publishes the following extracts from a private letter, dated Peking, July 10, of a gentleman who has resided for 30 years among the Chinese:—"The Chinese Mandarins show great avidity after everything written about their country. Interpreters go every day to the tribunals to translate European newspapers. Detailed reports were telegraphed hither of those sittings of the Chamber in which Tonquin was discussed. I know that last week the Marquis Tseng sent a telegram costing upwards of 5,000 piastres" (25,000f.) The writer represents Li Hung-chang as being really favourable to peace, while Court intrigues are pushing him towards war. The preparations he is making are mere show, intended to satisfy them. Moreover, the country is in a rebellious ferment. He says:—"Prince Kung and the conservatives of his party know that a serious foreign war would be the signal for a number of outbreaks. It was said last week that the Empress herself had fears for the dynasty, and that despite her brother-in-law, she inclines towards peace."

MR. WALTER R. BROWN, writing in *Nature*, says:—"Referring to the paper read before the French Academy (as reported in your last issue) on copper as a preservative against cholera, it may be worth while to state that, when visiting the great copper mines at Fahlun in Sweden (probably the oldest and largest in the world) I was informed that cholera had never appeared there, and that so well was the fact known that on the last visitation of cholera in Sweden some members of the Royal family took up their abode in Fahlun to escape the disease. The atmosphere was there loaded with copper fumes to such an extent that not a trace of vegetation was visible on the hills surrounding the town; so that this really seems to confirm by experience on a large scale the theory alluded to."

WE learn from a private source that the *Takasago Maru* returned to Hakodate from the wreck of the *Akitsuishima Maru*, and reports there is but little chance of saving her. She brought the passengers and part of the cargo, the mails having been forwarded overland. The balance of the cargo was being landed, and it will all be saved. The *Akitsuishima Maru*, it would appear, went ashore at 5 o'clock in the morning, in tolerably clear weather.

THE proposed parliamentary legislation respecting the storage of petroleum in London has, during the recess, been followed by an "exhaustive inspection of all the places where petroleum is stored for sale or deposit," not only in London, but in the provinces as well. The *Pall Mall*

Gazette says of this:—"That such an inquiry should only now be undertaken, with a view to legislation, is a curious illustration of the precipitancy with which the late Petroleum Bill was introduced into Parliament. To propose to legislate one session and then to spend the recess in accumulating materials to prove the necessity for such legislation next session is a somewhat roundabout mode of procedure."

IN H.B.M. Court for Japan before N. J. Hansen, Judge, R. Garbaretta sued H. A. Towse for four months rent of No. 26C, Bluff, at \$20.00 per month. The defendant pleaded that he was not indebted. Plaintiff stated that he let the house to defendant in October, 1882, at a rental of \$20.00 per mensem. Defendant occupied the house from the 1st October, and plaintiff gave him notice to quit in January, as he could not collect the rent. Defendant left at the end of January. Defendant gave a promissory note for the amount, which had not been paid. Defendant claimed that the promissory note was payment, as it was endorsed by a person who owed him money. His Honour said that it was not usual to sue the endorsee; the promissory note not having been paid when due the debt for rent remained. The giving of the note and the endorsement did not exonerate defendant, and he therefore gave judgment for the plaintiff for the amount claimed.

M. J. KEARNEY was charged before T. R. H. McClatchie, Esq., Acting Assistant Judge, yesterday, with being drunk and disorderly. The prisoner acknowledged being drunk. A Japanese woman, who keeps a grog-shop, stated that the prisoner and another man came to her shop and created a disturbance; he was drunk. Acting Sergeant P. C. James said he took the prisoner in charge at 8.30 a.m.: he was very drunk. After hearing the evidence of a Japanese constable, His Honour sentenced the accused to three days' imprisonment.

MR. P. LARROUY, First-class Consular Chancellor, who for two years has filled that post at Yokohama has, says the *Echo du Japon*, been appointed to an important post in the Chancellerie of the French Minister for Foreign Affairs.

THE *Official Gazette* states since the 13th inst. a constant haze has pervaded the atmosphere of Sapporo, and that the sun and moon are of a blood-red colour. Clouds of ashes fall continuously. The phenomenon is ascribed to some volcanic eruption.

EIGHT deaths are reported to have occurred from the fire in the Miike Mine.

THE American ship *Chocorua*, which left Hong-kong for Iloilo in ballast on the 26th of September, has been wrecked in Mindoro Straits.

AN officer of His Imperial Majesty's Household has been despatched to Kashima, Hitachi, with orders to procure a number of falcons.

THE LAND-RENTERS OF YOKOHAMA.

THE contention that the foreign Land Renters of Yokohama are "strictly within their rights as citizens," in "asking for the grant of what is virtually a municipal charter," is an amusing illustration of the "loose talk" that too often usurps the place of argument among a certain class of this community. The Japanese are assured that they are only asked to grant "a reasonable privilege which is accorded by the Governments of all countries in Europe and by the United States to all congregations of men forming townships or cities of their own." Statements of this sort derive their strength entirely from their truth. If they have the misfortune to be false, they react injuriously on the general thesis of those that employ them. Now it so happens that in no part of the world is the right of voting or of taking part in municipal government enjoyed by aliens. Mr. JAY GOULD, or some other American millionaire, might take it into his head to invest his whole fortune in house property in London—it is scarcely a dozen years, by the way, since the right to own real estate in Great Britain was extended to foreigners—but until he became a naturalized English subject, he would be as completely debarred as a Krouboy or a Cabinde from exercising the "reasonable privilege" claimed here as a right. If this community has a sound case to take into court, why prop it up with flimsy buttresses which the most superficial knowledge of facts suffices to knock away? So far as the precedents furnished by Western countries are concerned, we have no *right* whatsoever to a voice in the municipal control of this Settlement. That may be an unpleasant truth, but it is truth nevertheless, and it cannot be alchemized into falsehood by throwing unsavoury epithets at the heads of those that utter it. Anybody might have foreseen, many persons did foresee, that when the Foreign Representatives, with one exception, arbitrarily elected to interpret the treaties after a fashion contrary to right and reason, the inconveniences of that false interpretation would ultimately be felt by their own nationals not less than by the Japanese. It is an uncomfortable place of repose, this bed of Procustes, upon which we find ourselves stretched to-day, but it is of our own making, and it must be of our own unmaking also. So far as foreigners are concerned, there would not have been much reason to complain if their Governments,

when depriving the Japanese of the power to preserve peace and order in the Foreign Settlements, had made some provision for assuming the function themselves. But they did nothing of the sort, America alone excepted. Her reasonable and just decision was that the extraterritorial clauses of the Treaties do not confer on her citizens, when residing in Japan, exemption from observing Japanese laws, but only from Japanese jurisdiction. It has been declared by the highest authorities in the United States that Americans living in Japan are bound to respect and observe every Japanese law and regulation which does not conflict with the provisions of the treaty. To United States tribunals is reserved simply the power of protecting United States' citizens against the infliction of penalties not sanctioned by the codes of their own country, or not consistent with the dictates of civilization. It may be well to consider how this isolated position of the United States affects the scheme embodied in the Land Renters' memorial of 1882. That scheme, we are told, contemplated "the grant of what is virtually a Municipal Charter," and we have the assurance of the Doyen of the Corps Diplomatique that such a grant, to be effective, must be endorsed by "unanimous legislation on the part of all the Treaty Powers." Would the United States consent to legislate in that sense? Could they consent, having already declared officially that the power to make regulations binding upon American citizens in Japan rests with Japan and Japan only? Never was there a more hopeless undertaking than that to which the Land Renters committed themselves last year. Not until the appointment of the present Committee, upon the lines wisely defined by Mr. W. B. WALTER, did there appear to be any prospect of escaping from the ludicrous dilemma brought about by the jealous arbitrariness of our Representatives in the past. We have confidence that the Committee will adhere strictly to those lines, and, above all, that it will avoid falling into the error of associating itself with any official element whatsoever. In connection with municipal affairs it can have no official capacity that is not conferred by the Japanese Government, and if it clothes itself with any such capacity, the result will certainly be failure.

FOREIGNERS IN JAPAN.

AMONG the various essays inspired by the now celebrated measures of the RIPON Government to remove the disabilities of Indian Judges, one of the most moderate and closely reasoned appeared in the August number of the *Contemporary Review*. It contains a remark which possesses much interest to foreigners in Japan. Replying to one of the arguments advanced by the opponents of the Ilbert bill, the writer, Mr. HAGGARD, says:—

Nor does the allegation that in foreign countries, such as China, Japan, Turkey, and Egypt, special tribunals exist for the trial of Englishmen, and that accordingly they might very well be left to exist in India, apply to the case of India. China and Japan, Turkey and Egypt are governed by different codes of law from those prevailing in England. Not only is the procedure different in their courts from the English procedure, but I believe that the punishments inflicted differ in very many respects from those which the customs of Christian countries permit. Naturally, therefore, a separate tribunal is claimed where possible. Again, the administration of China, Japan, Turkey, and, for the present, even Egypt, is not an English administration. British subjects might be imperfectly protected, if left altogether to the rigour of the criminal laws of those countries. It is right, therefore, for this reason, to claim in foreign countries of this class, a separate tribunal as the only method of ensuring the performance of justice. In a country like France, or Russia, or Spain, where the Administration can be trusted to do justice, on the whole, even though foreign, no special tribunals exist for Englishmen. In the event of injustice, the British Minister interferes."

The general gist of these comments is doubtless sufficiently correct to serve the purpose of Mr. HAGGARD'S argument. He might, indeed, have strengthened his case by adding that the existence of an evil in one place is no valid reason for perpetuating it in another. But being evidently quite unversed in the actual conditions, both legal and political, of the particular systems he attempts to extenuate, it was not to be expected that he should possess any knowledge of their consequences, or understand the abuses and anomalies which disfigure the administration of foreign justice in Japan at all events. With this part of the subject we do not propose to concern ourselves. Our desire is merely to note the reasons which, according to an unbiased English writer, constitute an excuse for the existence of separate tribunals for the administration of Western law in Japan. Those reasons are three. First, the code of Japanese criminal procedure is different from that of England. Secondly, the punishments inflicted differ from those which the customs of Christian countries permit. Thirdly, the administration, not being an English administration, British subjects might be imperfectly protected if left altogether to the rigour of the criminal laws, although this objection ceases to be valid in a country like France,

or Russia, or Spain, where the administration, "though foreign" can be trusted to do justice "on the whole."

With regard to the first and second of these points—for the two may obviously be included in one reply—we cannot do better than quote the words of well known jurisconsults whose criticisms of the new Japanese Codes have now been before the public for nearly two years. M. VAN HAMEL says:—

A penal code free from every reminiscence of an unprogressive, old-fashioned or cruel law, inspired by a liberal spirit, displaying a scientific sense, composed with a legislative art worthy of praise;—a code of criminal procedure which does not deserve, it is true, to figure in the first rank, and which does not open up any new horizons, but which nevertheless sanctions, in general, the grand principles of modern procedure, the irrevocable conquest of civilization and of justice;—such are the precious gifts which the Japanese Government has just given to its people; such are the works which it submits to the impartial criticism of European and American States in order to obtain from them the privilege of being placed on a footing of equality in matters of jurisdiction.

M. ESMEIN says:—

They are French institutions and French principles that the new Codes introduce into Japan. * * Scarcely now and then does some detail concerning measures or monies, some special incrimination or ethical trait, occur to remind us that we are in Japan.

M. DESJARDINS says:—

The French codes have served as models, but the compilers have sought to improve upon the works they imitated. Thus in the laws prepared for Japan we may find the means of perfecting our own.

These verdicts are final. They effectually dispose of the first two points advanced Mr. HAGGARD—points which have a just application to China's case, but no bearing whatsoever on Japan's.

With regard to the third contention, it may be summed up in one word—distrust. "In countries like France, Russia or Spain," we are told, "the administration, though foreign, can be trusted to do justice, on the whole." And why not in Japan, too? If it could be shown that there survive in this country any of the race prejudices which sway the whole Oriental policy of Western states; if it could be proved that her disposition is to behave towards strangers with harshness and injustice instead of treating them, whenever the occasion offers, with the utmost fairness, liberality, and hospitality, then indeed there might be some reason to apprehend the consequences of entrusting to her a small measure of the jurisdiction now imperfectly exercised by tribunals the majority of which do not even pretend to be competent. But nothing of the sort can be shown. In this matter it may truly be said that Japan is condemned without a trial. Residents of Yokohama assert that justice is difficult to procure in her Courts, and then, forgetting that their

experience is confined to civil cases, forgetting that to obtain justice in an English civil court it is necessary to be rich enough to pay for it, and patient enough to thread one's way through a labyrinth of useless technicalities and processes, persuade themselves that if they submitted to Japanese Criminal Jurisdiction they would inevitably become the victims of partiality and malice. There is absolutely no justification for such a fear. It is wholly the outcome of race prejudice. Newspapers whose existence depends upon the immunity they are enabled to enjoy under these faulty systems, may search out and embellish stories prejudicial to the reputation of Japanese constables, but the proceeds of this miserable and malignant occupation cannot blind foreigners to the fact, that, as an almost invariable rule, they receive only politeness and consideration at the hands of the native police. The public may be asked to believe that a half-tipsy American sailor is brutally maltreated under circumstances entirely contradicted by his own evidence, or that a Chinaman is wantonly stabbed in a sequence of events too improbable to be credited by any sober-minded person, but if this is the species of testimony upon which Japano-phobists base their case, they had better consult the home journals, in almost every number of which will be found some similar charge preferred against European or American guardians of the peace. "In Spain the Administration can be trusted to do justice," we are told, and the same must be admitted of Bulgaria, since the Administration there is actually trusted. Yet let anybody read the history of the Spanish Customs to-day, or the story of the way justice was administered by Spanish Courts in a recent case of collision between an English and a Spanish ship; let anyone compare the state of the Bulgarian criminal codes with that of the Japanese codes, and then say, if he can say conscientiously, that there is any just cause for discriminating in Japan's disfavour. Finally, there remains the argument that in asking for a small retrocession of administrative power, the Japanese actually offer us a foreign Administration. They offer to appoint competent foreign judges to try cases in which foreigners are concerned. Thus from first to last, every point advanced by the *Contemporary Review* in extenuation of exterritorial jurisdiction is shown to be invalid so far as Japan is concerned. What, then, is the difficulty? Simply this—race prejudice. The truth had better be admitted at once. Not yet has there been advanced by any writer one sound argument to prove that the wretched state of isolation in which foreigners live here to-day is attributable to anything but their own prejudices of race.

THE CANTON SHOOTING AFFAIR.

ON the 20th of September JAMES HENRY LOGAN, an out-door officer of the Chinese Imperial Maritime Customs, was arraigned at Canton, before H.B.M.'s Supreme Court in China, on a charge of having murdered one PAK WAH KING, at Honam, on the 10th of August. The testimony adduced by the prosecution, though conflicting in some respects, was unanimous with regard to the character of the accused. He was declared to be a quiet, peaceable person, not at all likely to create a disturbance. Throughout the trial his demeanour was invariably composed, and both in the moment of terrible suspense when the jury were about to pronounce their verdict, and during the passing of the sentence, his calmness was so imperturbable that those present in the Court House marvelled at his iron nerves.

Against this man, then, the following charge was formulated by the Crown Advocate, in his capacity of public prosecutor:—

The prisoner was proceeding towards his house, and on either side of the street were coolies sitting down waiting to be engaged in a tea hong. The prisoner has in his hand a stick, and as he passes along, he strikes first one coolie and then another with the stick, saying as he struck the first "one," the second "two," and so till he got to the fifth. The first four coolies make no remonstrance, but when he gets to the fifth that man asks what he means by hitting him: he says—"I was not annoying you, and why do you strike me in this way?" Logan then, it appears, became excited, and he proceeded to his own house and brought out the pistol. He was proceeding at this time from west to east, and the coolies were sitting close to his house. He went to his door, got a pistol, and came out again, coming back along the course he before followed, towards the west. The two other Europeans appear to have come out with him, and they chased the Chinese in the street. The Chinese, when they saw him coming out with firearms, ran in every direction, and got out of the way as fast as they could. He runs along this street towards the west and fires his pistol, and the bullet strikes a woman. Fortunately it does not kill her, but only wounds her. She did not know she was wounded until the people pointed out to her that she was bleeding from her back, and then she found she had a wound on her back. The prisoner, having fired the pistol, returns again from the west towards his own house, and he was followed by the woman, who was shouting out to him—"You have wounded me, heal me," and the coolies and other Chinese about also shouted to the prisoner—"Heal her," that is to say—"You have wounded her, and you must look after her recovery." The prisoner then became further excited, and the evidence it will be my duty to bring before you will show that he then proceeded to his own house and brought out another firearm—whether it was a pistol or carbine there seems to be some doubt, but that is immaterial to the case. The evidence will be that the firearm was given him by his boy, that he brought it out, and proceeded towards the east of his house,—the opposite direction to that which he had taken before, where the woman was wounded,—towards the cross-street which crosses the end of the street in which he lives. About half way, or rather less, between his house and this cross-street is a bridge, and it appears that when he got to the bridge he stooped down and deliberately taking aim, fired this pistol or carbine, with the result that a Chinese boy was killed, and that a Chinaman was wounded.

Behaviour such as that here charged against the accused compels a supposition of intoxication, temporary insanity, or a disposition so wantonly truculent as to amount almost to madness. LOGAN'S disposition was eminently peaceable. He was not

intoxicated. The affray happened between 6 and 7 o'clock in the morning, and he had been sitting since midnight playing cards with two friends, during which time the three men had shared six bottles of German beer. Further, it was conclusively proved that he was perfectly sensible. Thus the charge, as set forth by the Crown Advocate, assumes a *prima facie* complexion of great improbability.

The evidence, however, at once enables us to modify the whole of the first portion of that charge. Among the Chinese witnesses two only knew anything about the stick and the striking of the coolies. Of these two, one swore positively that the accused was not the man who used the stick: the other swore that he was. Among the foreign witnesses, one only could speak to this part of the affair. He swore that he was walking with the accused at the time of the disturbance; that neither of them carried a stick, and that the first notice they had of any trouble was seeing a comrade struggling with the Chinese in front of them. Thus the balance of testimony goes to show that LOGAN was not guilty of the preliminary violence charged against him by the Crown Advocate.

After this it becomes necessary to separate the evidence into Chinese and foreign, not with respect to credibility, but for reasons which will presently be apparent.

The Chinese story is that three foreigners, walking in the early morning in Honam, found a number of coolies sitting in the street waiting to commence work in a tea hong. One of the foreigners carried a cane, with which, having already struck a dog, he now proceeded to fillip the heads of the coolies. The latter, of whom there were five in all, made neither resistance nor remonstrance until the fifth man was reached. He put up his hands, and observed that there was no valid reason why he should be beaten, inasmuch as he was sitting passively by the road side. By way of reply he received a blow much severer than those administered to any of his comrades. Then without further reason or parley, the man LOGAN procured a revolver from his house, and after chasing the people westward, shot a woman in the back. The woman followed him and asked for compensation, a Chinese crowd, assembled in the street to the eastward, shouting encouragement to her the while. Then LOGAN had recourse to fire-arms for the second time. He exchanged his pistol for a short rifle of some sort; again chased the crowd, on this occasion in a direction opposite to that of

his previous escapade, until, reaching a bridge, he stooped, or kneeled, down, and discharging his weapon, killed a boy of twelve and wounded a man. Such was the tale told by the Chinese witnesses. From first to last they persisted in refusing to admit that LOGAN and his comrades had been in any way molested by the people or exposed to any peril at their hands.

This version is at variance with all reasonable probability. That Chinese were wantonly assaulted and even beaten by foreigners in the streets of Canton we could believe without much trouble. Unfortunately the spirit of the coward and the bully, though no longer tolerated even at public schools in Europe, too often finds unrestrained expression in the intercourse of Occidentals and Orientals. But that an Englishman, wholly unprovoked,—unless, indeed, the just and temperate remonstrance evoked by his comrade's barbarous treatment of a helpless Chinaman can be called provocation—should twice pursue a crowd of unarmed Chinese, men, women, and children, in different directions, and twice fire into their midst, hitting an old woman on the first occasion, and killing a child and wounding a man on the second; and that the Englishman conducting himself in this savagely wild manner, should be a man of hitherto uniformly peaceable and inoffensive disposition, sober, and so little liable to accesses of excitement that not even the culminating incidents of a trial where his life or death depended on the verdict could shake his composure—all this is a combination of circumstances which cannot possibly command credence among intelligent men.

The foreign version presents none of these difficulties. It is this. Three foreigners in the employment of the Chinese Customs, were returning from a friend's house in the early morning. They were not all walking together. LOGAN and JOHNSON were in the rear, side by side; NEILSEN was in front, alone. NEILSEN passed round a corner, and when his comrades came in sight of him again they saw him struggling with some Chinese. How or why this struggle began there was no evidence to show, but that it culminated very soon in the gathering of an angry mob, crying "Ta! ta!" and throwing missiles of various sorts, the testimony clearly demonstrated. LOGAN, crying out that they were about to be mobbed, procured fire-arms from his house; JOHNSON, seeing this, called to him not to use them. At this juncture a Danish subject, living close by, looked out of his window. He saw the

street full of people who seemed greatly excited, and were shouting loudly. The Dane no sooner showed himself than a stone as large as a man's fist was thrown at him, striking heavily on the masonry beside his door. Meanwhile JOHNSON was hurt by a stone in the foot, and picking up the missile he ran at the crowd, chasing them eastward from LOGAN's house. Another Dane, living next door to the former, saw JOHNSON assume the offensive in this manner, and noticed that he looked very angry and excited. Meanwhile LOGAN appears to have driven the mob away in a westerly direction and to have fired over their heads when he ceased pursuing them. The bullet struck an old woman and gave her a flesh wound in the shoulder, but the shock was so slight that she knew nothing of her hurt till the people told her. Then, according to her own account, she went "a long distance to the foreigner's house" and asked for redress of some sort. What happened immediately afterwards is not quite clear, but combining the Chinese and foreign accounts, it would seem that the mob—collected now on the east of LOGAN's house,—encouraged the woman and became once more very violent, whereupon LOGAN again advanced menacing them with his firearm. As to the nature of that firearm there was much difference of opinion. The Chinese witnesses were almost unanimous in their assertions that it was a species of rifle or carbine, and that it was handed to him by his Chinese servant. If this be true it would seem to show that the danger to which the foreigners were exposed was real enough to be recognized by others. LOGAN was next seen on a bridge to the eastward moving his weapon as though "he meant to make the Chinese think that if they came on he would fire at them." Ultimately he did fire, "over the heads of the people," according to his comrade JOHNSON's statement, but at all events in such a way that the bullet struck a boy, some forty-five yards away, and passing through his body, wounded a coolie who was standing beside him. LOGAN and JOHNSON now returned, quite ignorant apparently of the fatal event. Passing by the house of the Dane first mentioned above, LOGAN, in reply to an enquiry from the former, said that "he had been mobbed by a crowd of Chinamen who attempted to take charge of his house"—a statement which was corroborated by the subsequent discovery of a number of stones and half bricks scattered about his door, and by the marks of missiles on the wall outside.

Reviewing this evidence carefully, it

seems quite plain that what LOGAN did was done under the influence of a strong sense of serious peril to himself and his comrades. The disturbance did not owe its origin to any act of his, but had already passed beyond the control of gentle measures before he interfered. It will not be extravagant to attribute his violent impulse, in great part, to a belief that the only hope of preventing bloodshed lay in an impressive demonstration of force; while, in the absence of all proof to the contrary, justice forbids us to suppose that he ever contemplated murder. The jury evidently took this view of the case. They returned a verdict of manslaughter. The Judge, in summing up, said that, "on the ground of self-defence, he could see nothing which justified the prisoner in firing," but, whether this be true or no, it is certainly true that LOGAN may have only meant to intimidate the crowd. When a man fires a rifle or a revolver into a mob, he knows that he can hardly fail to kill or maim somebody. Such an act is only possible under the influence of over-powering excitement, whereas it was proved that immediately before firing LOGAN was sufficiently collected to argue with his comrade, and that immediately afterwards the two went to a store and drank some beer. The reasonable inference is that his object was to deter assault, not to inflict injury. Under any circumstances, however, the man's method of using fire-arms was culpably reckless, and he has paid dearly for his fault. Seven years' penal servitude in Hongkong is only better than the extreme penalty of the law in being less disgraceful. The Chinese, with whom the old code of "a life for a life" has lost none of its force, are doubtless dissatisfied; but justice, we believe, is fully satisfied, and that is much more important.

FRENCH COMMERCE.

WHEN France emerged from the cruel ordeal she had to endure as a consequence of the Empire's corruption, the sympathy Englishmen felt with her sufferings was replaced by hearty applause for the eminently practical direction taken by her recuperative energies. Her commercial vigour appeared to have received such an impulse that it became a question whether she had not gained more by her disasters than the Power that inflicted them. But of late her trade statistics have begun to present a less satisfactory aspect, and though foreign attention is, for the moment, chiefly directed to the sudden restlessness

of her national policy, her own economists, as well as those of England, are disposed to regard these monthly returns with some anxiety. A short time ago, indeed, everybody was crying out that French commerce had entered upon a period of rapid decline, but more careful analysis subsequently proved that though the aggregate value of the yearly exports showed a considerable diminution, their bulk had not been similarly effected. Nevertheless it is indisputable that since 1875 the development of the Republic's foreign trade has virtually ceased, or at any rate received a sensible check, and many eminent writers have recently devoted themselves to consider the causes of this change. The conclusions they have formed are full of interest and instruction.

In the first place, it is maintained that many of France's former customers are now her competitors. The system of international exhibitions and the development of technical instruction have enabled the English and the Germans to manufacture many quasi-artistic articles of *demi-luxe*, the monopoly of which had previously been enjoyed by France. In the same context are mentioned the evils of a faulty legislation with regard to property in industrial inventions. French models are copied with impunity, and French marks used without reserve.

Second in the category of causes is placed the gradual increase of wages. These have become excessive in some cases, and the prejudice thus done to industrial enterprise is still further augmented by the extravagant ideas and demands of certain classes of artisans. Mr. JOHN BRIGHT once said, addressing an audience of workmen:—"Just now as I was on my way to this place to speak to you, I watched in the street a magnificent carriage pass me; and in that carriage were two splendidly dressed ladies. Who made that carriage? You did. Who made those splendid dresses? You did. Have your wives any such carriages to drive in? Do your wives ever wear clothes of that sort? I watched that carriage farther, and I saw where it stopped. It stopped before a stately house with an imposing portico. Who built that house? You did. Do you and your wives live in any such houses as that?" Similar democratic phantasies have apparently pushed common sense out of its place in the Parisian workman's mind. An artisan was recently heard to declare that with an annual income of \$700 he could not support himself, his wife, and his son. Better off than his *confrères* in Germany, Belgium, Italy, or England, he still believes

that Republicanism has not done enough for him. Thus his stipend figures for so large an amount in the cost of production, that foreign competition is powerfully assisted; while, at the same time, his peremptory and violent methods of enforcing his exactions diverts capital from channels where it is exposed to all the perils of strikes, interruptions of business, and constantly augmenting impediments to success.

The development of Protectionist ideas throughout a great part of the world is another condition which weighs heavily on France's export trade. Discussing this subject French economists employ an amusingly self-sufficient tone. It was owing, they say, to French initiative that the civilized universe entered the path of Free Trade in 1860. CHEVALIER and COBDEN were the pioneers. France converted the continent of Europe and the nations of the New World, and it only remained for France to keep her disciples in the right path. But the Republic had no sooner grown old enough to render itself intelligible than it began to shout for Protection. From 1870 France became a phrasedist propagandist of this old fashioned creed, and Italy, Austria, Germany, Russia, and the States of the two Americas were not less ready to follow her intellectual lead than they had been ten years previously. The result was that she succeeded in closing many of the most important foreign markets to her commodities.

Another, though admittedly a minor, disadvantage under which French merchants abroad, and therefore France's foreign commerce generally, are said to labour, is the incompetence of her Consular officials. The Consuls are accused of having no commercial education and, in a majority of cases, little if any aptitude for the mercantile duties of their posts. Englishmen will be disposed to smile at this complaint. Their conceptions of the benefits conferred on trade by official assistance are not such as to render the mercantile abilities or disabilities of Consuls a matter of serious moment.

Among all these embarrassments, however, none seems to interfere more seriously with the development of French trade in foreign lands than the law of military service. From this there is no exemption for any Frenchman. The emigrant, if he returns to France is treated as a deserter: though he be at the antipodes, he must rejoin the corps to which he belongs within three months after a declaration of war. A striking illustration of the difficulties thus caused was recently given by a mercantile firm in Havre. The head

of the house wrote to a French journal to the effect that the exhibition at Sidney had shown him the possibility of establishing an agency in Australia, and that he had two young men eminently fitted to undertake the work. Yet he dared not embark capital in such an enterprise, knowing that at any moment his agents might be compelled to quit their posts and leave his affairs absolutely without management. It is difficult to see what France could lose by a little more liberality in this respect. To exempt a few hundred conscripts from military service ought not seriously to inconvenience a nation which numbers its soldiers by millions. The contrast between these inelastic customs and those of Germany and Belgium is very marked. In the former country every young man obtains, without difficulty, exemption from all military service if he undertakes to live for a certain time in some part of Australia or the Orient; the expenses of his passage are repaid to him, and the Consuls give him every possible assistance. Belgium goes still further. There every graduate of the College at Anvers is entitled to exemption from military duties if he emigrates, and if he enters into an engagement to settle somewhere in Japan, Australia, or China, the Government gives him a pension of 6,000 francs per annum during five years. Without venturing to say that such a large measure of assistance is either necessary or wise, one cannot but marvel at the short-sighted harshness of the French system. France may annex Tonquin or the whole of the Cochinchinese peninsula if she pleases, but how are the new provinces to be peopled? Surely not by men who must either abandon their country altogether, or consent to be treated as military deserters if they revisit it.

WAR IN SIGHT.

"WAR IN SIGHT," is the heading of a remarkable article in the *Gazette Diplomatique* of the 31st of August, which we translate as follows:—In its recent sensational article the *Gazette of North Germany* propounds that France is the only State that constantly menaces the peace of Europe. If the moment were not grave the assertion of this sheet would appear puerile. Anyway, the organ of the German Chancellor chaffs pleasantly. You shall see how.

You will remember that in 1879 Europe was threatened with a big war. M. de Bismarck, ever since 1875, "had it in" for Russia, the only continental power then capable of opposing his will. Accordingly, he urged Austria aided by England against her, promising his own concurrence in the form of an armed neutrality. Russia, by the fall of Lord Beaconsfield, then

escaped a grave danger. The English electors poured cold water enough on the head of the great Chancellor to cause him to postpone his intentions until a more propitious occasion.

That occasion now appears to him to have arrived. Eastern affairs have for many years supplied him with an opportunity to create an acute antagonism between Russia and Austria. This latter power, always incited and encouraged by him, has no respect now for her rival's susceptibilities, and seeks openly to grab all the advantages which the Russians paid for so dearly with their blood in the Balkan peninsula. This policy, so long and so cleverly pursued by the Chancellor, is about to bear its fruit. At Vienna it is only M. de Bismarck's counsels that are listened to; and he, although very impatient to see war break out, has consented to have it postponed until next spring. Austria's armaments are far forward: her strategic railways are nearly finished; and at this moment a war-fund is being created at Vienna. The Austrian army is good, well provided with everything; and its staff has for a long time been instructed by Von Moltke. Hence Austrian military men hope to be able to hold their own with the soldiers of the Czar, especially because Bismarck has promised Austria the armed neutrality of Germany—a fact which would compel Russia to mobilise 250,000 men upon her German frontier. For his part, the Chancellor, obliged to consider somewhat the Emperor William, who is ever more or less of a Russophile, only asks for a rectification of the frontier towards Kalisch. He will allow Austria to take what she likes.

Nor is this all. Having promised Austria to prepare diplomatically for this war, Count Bismarck has not lost any time. Italy being capable, by disagreeable digressions and the work of the Irredentists, to impede the movements of Austria, has been, through the decision of the Chancellor, admitted into the Austro-Hungarian alliance. Her rôle is to hold her army on the North-western frontier, in order to oblige France to divide her forces, in case that country should show any disposition to meddle with the trouble. On the side of Spain similar efforts have been made. The Count of Solms, German Minister to Madrid, has worked well. King Alphonso appears well disposed to listen to the seductive proposals of that diplomatist, if, in any way he can find a Minister ready to second this somewhat risky policy—which is not quite certain. In short, from this side, too, Prince Bismarck has hopes.

As for France, the Chancellor deems her isolated, in difficulties with England, held in check by Italy and Spain, condemned to inactivity by her finances and that colonial policy which he himself so heartily encouraged. In these conditions he hopes that France will not dare to make a diversion in favor of Russia; and, if she dared do so, he is convinced that Germany and her allies could crush her, and this time definitely.

So much for the big Powers. Now let us consider the small. Here again Count von

Bismarck is near obtaining comparative success. First of all, Serbia has entered thoroughly into the Austro-Germanic orbit. King Milan takes counsel at Vienna, and will place his army at the disposal of Austria. As regards Roumania matters are not quite so far advanced. King Charles, it is true, should have received some precious advice on the occasion of his trip to Berlin; but his people have few Austrian sympathies. Nevertheless there is a way of arranging matters. The Roumanians hunger for territorial aggrandizement: they will be offered some in Bessarabia or Bulgaria. In these circumstances, the Ministers of King Charles will come to an understanding with Austria on the Danubian question. This is probably how things will go. Since France abandoned Roumania in the question referred to, her influence at Bucharest should be nil; and the Roumanians will doubtless end by following the counsels of Germany, whose diplomacy does not cease in encouragement to them to come to some understanding with Austria.

Roumania has an army of 80,000 men; and, by the accession of that country to the Austro-Serbian alliance, Prince Bismarck hopes to hold in check the Montenegrins, the Bulgarians, and even the Turks, of whom he is a little suspicious. In fact he does not rely upon the Sultan, who would like to await developments. But the co-operation of Roumania and Serbia on this side would suffice.

Thus the diplomatic campaign is almost finished, and, we must admit, the Chancellor, on this occasion, has once more displayed remarkable ability. Notably at Vienna he has managed to overcome all obstacles. Count Kalnoky, who was for a moment irresolute, has been won over to a course which the Austrian soldiers ardently desire. Even the Archdukes, formerly Russophiles, speak of war with the Muscovites as an impending event.

Only one thing is wanting to accomplish the Chancellor's wishes—namely that Russia herself should desire and accept war. Certainly she would be harassed, oppressed, and, so to say, sent to the wall; but her diplomacy is famed for its foresight and vast wisdom. She will well understand the immense danger of a war in the present condition of Europe. For it is useless to indulge in any illusion. If Russia were beaten Germany would be absolutely omnipotent: there would no longer be any limit to her power. One might as well say that Europe would become German for fifty years.

If, on the other hand, these manoeuvres should fail; if Russia knew how, as we hope she will, to avoid the war that threatens her, Prince Bismarck, in such case, would experience a check much more startling than that of 1879. His game was then too thoroughly exposed for him to recommence it, and Europe may yet enjoy the tranquillity she so much requires.

CORRESPONDENCE.

[Our readers must distinctly understand that we are in no sense responsible for the sentiments or opinion of our Correspondents, for the accuracy of their assertions, or for the deductions they may choose to draw therefrom.]

THE ABUSE OF THE FREEDOM OF THE PRESS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—In recent issues of your journal, I find a letter from Colonel Gordon to the *New York Herald*, and an extract from a speech made by Mr. Gladstone in the House of Commons. Colonel Gordon asks:—"Who would dare to oppose the European Colony in Egypt or China and remain in those countries?" Mr. Gladstone says he does not remember that political reforms in the Colonies "have ever been received except with opposition, by those who, up to that time, laid claim to be what was called the British party, and represented themselves as having a monopoly of loyalty."

For signal confirmation of the truth of these remarks, it is only necessary to refer to the extraordinary outburst which their publication provoked from the local press. It would appear that to be loyal and to be British in Yokohama, it is necessary to lay aside all respect for truth, generosity, and justice. Yet I venture to think that these are qualities which constitute the staple elements of what we are proud to call "English character."

Nine months ago the Rev. Charles Voysey, speaking at Langham Hall on the subject of "The Abuse of the Freedom of the Press," made use of the following language with reference to certain journals which he described as "infamous publications":—

"I can imagine some people to be rather shocked and almost hurt by my endeavour to reprove them for reading papers of this sort; they may not only resent as an impertinence this attempt at clerical interference, but also deem it a mistake to decry a large portion of the periodicals of the day which have won their place of recognition among people of wealth and rank; they may also quite honestly say that these papers do them no harm, that their minds have not suffered either perversion or corruption from reading them, and, on the whole, they are so clever and sometimes so sparkling that they rather like the 'fun' even when they do not agree with the sentiment. Now what I would fain prove is that the more leniently these papers are regarded, the more evident is the mischief which they have already done to the mind without its being conscious of the injury. There must, as it seems to me, be a moral torpor, a moral paralysis, a moral blindness, in being able to read such articles, etc., as I have seen lately, without horror, without shame, without disgust, or, without seeing the depth into which the writer has fallen, dragging with him his approving readers."

"If these articles be at all typical, then I say that, compared with them, the *Saturday Review*, in its worst days of bitterness and hostility to much that was good and noble (for which it was called the 'Saturday Reviler') was innocence itself. At its worst, I say, it was at least written by gentlemen who never forgot the rules of ordinary courtesy, even if they sometimes preferred slander to accuracy and satire to criticism. But these papers are not only bitter, they are intensely cruel and unspeakably vulgar. The combination of vulgarity and cruelty ought to be enough, without any other fault, to give a painful shock to our moral sensibility, and if we can read them without such disturbance, it only proves how deeply and grossly we have degenerated from even the 'bad old times.'

"The daily Press is generally free from any taint of the kind. As a rule it is marvellously just and often very merciful. I suppose it is contrary to newspaper etiquette for one paper to hold up another to animadversion, otherwise we might wonder at the silent endurance of our respectable

Press under the insolence and immoralities of that class of papers to which I am referring. But some one ought to speak out, some one ought to protest against the extremes of indecency which have been revealed; and therefore, although I know well what a terrible weapon they wield, how cruelly they can take revenge on anyone who has offended them, yet I would not be deterred by the worst they could do, or by the falsehood that they could say, from delivering my soul of its obligation to protest against so glaring and wicked a misuse of the sacred liberties of free speech. If any of my brethren do not share my indignation and shame, it is only because they have been poisoned and corrupted by the atmosphere in which they have so carelessly suffered themselves to live and breathe."

"I spoke this moment of the sacred liberty of free speech. I am, I hope, the last to desire to see that liberty curtailed, or to have the gag put upon any lips, lest the truth lurking behind them should be stifled. But liberty at its highest and best is never unrestrained; whenever not restrained it degenerates into license and lawlessness, and, worst of all, it must in the end beget despotism, by reaction of society in self-defence. Those who misuse their own liberty imperil the liberty of others. In the days of duelling, now gone by, no one would have dared to write such articles and personal attacks as I have recently read. Had such a thing been possible, the writer would have been shot at the next morning, or severely beaten with a horse-whip: and if such was the regard of our forefathers for the proprieties and courtesies of life, what shall we say of ourselves if we can read and possibly laugh over these scurrilous columns, and call them 'very clever?'"

"The holder of high rank is not less a man because he wears a title. His mind is quite as active, his heart is as tender, his sensibilities as keen, and his sympathy for his deeply insulted wife and family none the less for wearing the ermine and living in a palace. I would not ask that he should be screened from insolence and torture because he occupies a post of great dignity, though good taste would justify the appeal, but because he is a man like ourselves, and has feelings which can be lacerated and stung. But here is our shame that for the horse-whip we substitute the laurel-leaves, for just execration laughter, for indignant burning of the papers by the public hangman we give a place on our table and a file at our clubs. Shame, shame upon us for this!"

"I have often dwelt on the subject of popular morality, showing how very little real virtue there is, how our average decencies and proprieties are the result more of unconscious habit and custom than of any earnest struggle with ourselves. I have reminded you, and most of all myself, that we are all bound, each by his own effort, to raise if possible the moral standard of our time, certainly not to be contented with the prevailing dead level, still less to sink below it. And it seems to me that this part of our common life needs prompt and vigorous correction and cleansing. The moment the case is put before us in its true light, we cannot help seeing the facts. We read in a given paper words spoken of or addressed to others which we should be ashamed to say ourselves of or to anyone whom we know. The idea of our being so coarse, so brutal, is shocking to us, and yet because we find it in print, because it is decked out with the false diamonds of sparkling satire, we laugh at it instead of being sad and ashamed. By degrees the mind acquires a taste for this sort of literature and revels in what is racy or spicy or pungent, no matter what slander it covers or what cruel venom lies in its sting. Young men so corrupted begin to emulate what they admire, and cultivate that very element in their nature which for humanity's sake they are most bound to suppress."

"Can it be good for any one of us to see ridicule, scorn, and even coarse abuse made a profession of, made a prolific source of income, and studied as if it were one of the fine arts? And yet I am understanding the facts when I say this is the spectacle afforded us week by week by a large portion of the periodical Press. Now that duelling is put down, as of course it should be, we ought to be more, and not less, tender towards the susceptibilities of other men; and I say that the vulgarity and the cruelty of some of the attacks now made on quite defenceless persons are proofs of a cowardice

which deserves the condemnation and the chastisement of all true men."

"I ask again how would anyone of us like to be assailed in a manner even more painful and humiliating than being pelted in a real pillory? I do not know a single person so hardened and devoid of feeling as not to wince under an attack of this kind—unless it be possibly the person who wrote it."

"By this unvarying test, we see how severely this conduct must be condemned; for I deliberately say that the persons who are assailed have no consolation or compensation for this injury but one—and that is the knowledge of the source of the attack. It is almost a comfort to receive insults from those whose laudations would only soil us."

"I ask you then, my friends, is this the kind of paper that you will continue to patronize? If these papers fully represent the real world and society in which you live and move and bask, surely the world had never sunk so low or more needed prompt elevation and cleansing. Is this to be the tone of thought and feeling in which we desire to see our children grow up to manhood and womanhood? Are these the manners we would wish them to emulate? Is this the respect due, we will not say to office, but to human dignity? Is this the biting cruelty that we—gone half crazy over our dogs and cats—can witness towards our fellow-man without a word of remonstrance or a blush of shame? It is said you may know a man by his friends; quite as truly it has also been said 'you may know a man by his books.' So also it may be said 'you may know a man by his favourite newspaper.'

"Better it were almost to give up our liberty of the Press than to witness and endure its degradation. In common charity for those who cannot chastise their assailants, let us have an *Index expurgatorius* for the suppression of insolence and for the prevention of cruelty."

"No doubt it is most wholesome and necessary for all who occupy a public position that they should be open to the freest criticism, and that they should keep ever before their eyes the fear of deserved disgrace, and so any tendency to carelessness or overbearing be duly checked by the restraints of public opinion: but all this is totally distinct from the personal insults of which I have complained. Unreserved criticism of a public man's actions and words is not only legitimate but useful, not only useful but can only be made good by being kept perfectly free from vulgarity and malice. I do think the time has comewhen the clean and righteous portion of the Press should make its protest against the discredit brought down upon the whole order of editors and writers by the scandalous irregularities of the few. I have no faith in my own feeble powers to contend with this widespread abuse—but I may cherish the hope that what I have said to-day may reach the ears of the men and women who have it so vastly in their power to affect and to lead public opinion."

I do not think that it would be possible to write in more appropriate terms than the above of the journalistic displays of last Saturday.

I remain, &c.,

L. E.

Yokohama, October 15th, 1883.

TRANSLATIONS FROM NATIVE JOURNALS.

MUNICIPAL AGITATION AMONGST FOREIGNERS.

(Translated from the *Mainichi Shimbun*.)

The foreign residents of Yokohama have held two meetings since the 1st instant in order to introduce a great reform into their Settlement. We are informed that in March last they convoked a meeting and drew up a memorial suggesting the reform, which had been forwarded to the Japanese Minister for Foreign Affairs through their Consuls and Ministers. A short time ago, Mr. Oki, Prefect

of Kanagawa, addressed a reply to them. Dissatisfied, however, they held meetings on the 1st and 8th instant. A perusal of the report of the said assembly shows that the memorialists desire to control municipal affairs, police and construction of the roads, independent of the local Government of Kanagawa. The Prefect, however, opposed their demand and exposed its unreasonableness. The first meeting ended in the election of a committee of seven persons. The opinions then expressed were, with some exceptions, entirely valueless. In the second meeting, the following resolutions (our authority is the *Japan Herald*) were passed:—"That a fund be started to be called 'The Yokohama Municipal Fund' which shall be under the control of the Chairman of the Committee. That land-renters be invited to contribute thereto at the rate of 1 cent per *tsubo* for Settlement and half a cent per *tsubo* for Bluff lots held by them, provided always that no land-renter be asked to pay more than \$10 (Ten Dollars) for all the lots registered in his name. That householders not being land-renters, be asked to contribute to the fund \$1 per house."

The agitation of the foreigners demands a rebuke on our part. Before proceeding to point out their errors, it is important to know the history of the municipal management of the Settlement. It is as follows:—

At the opening of Yokohama and the settlement of foreigners in the designated part of the town, the municipal control of the Settlement was undertaken by the foreign residents, the expenses thereof being defrayed out of a fund created by deducting 30 per cent. from the ground-rents payable by the foreign lease-holders to the Japanese Government. The arrangement was as follows:—the lease-holders paid the ground-rents to their respective Consuls, who, after deducting 30 per cent. for municipal expenses, transmitted the remainder to the Governor of Kanagawa. The lease-holders having, however, found that the fund thus raised was insufficient to meet the municipal expenses, and that they were unable any longer to continue the control in their own hands, convened a general meeting, at which it was decided that the practice of retaining 30 per cent. of the ground-rent should be discontinued, and that the Japanese Government (i.e. Governor of Kanagawa), should be requested to assume control of the Settlement. Accordingly on the 15th July, 1867, a memorial embodying these resolutions was submitted by the foreign residents to the Ministers of the Treaty Powers, who after deliberation, forwarded to the Tokugawa Government a draft convention consisting of seven articles, signed by the Ministers for Great Britain, the United States, Prussia, and Holland, and bearing date the 28th October, 1867. This convention having been agreed to by the Minister Ogawara Ikinokami on the 4th November of the same year, it was arranged in accordance with Art. I thereof, to establish a municipal office for the Settlement and to appoint a foreign director subordinate to the Governor of Kanagawa. But as there was at the time no person deemed eligible for the post, Mr. Dohmen, of the British Consular service, was appointed provisionally. Subsequently, on the 11th May, 1868, Mr. Benson, an American citizen, was appointed by the Governor to the post of municipal director with an office on the premises of the Sainbashi. The principal duties of the municipal director were:—the direction of police matters; collection of ground-rents and taxes of houses of entertainment; issuance of title-deeds; determination of the boundaries of lots; repairs and cleaning of roads and streets; registration of Chinese subjects, &c.;—in short, the control of all executive measures affecting the Settlement. These functions were exercised under the orders of the Governor. The necessity for the establishment of such an office at the time, arose from the inexperience of our local authorities in matters of police, engineering works, &c.; but after a time, great improvements having been introduced into all branches of the local government, it was thought that the necessity no longer existed of continuing the special office of municipal director, and in consequence Mr. Benson was released from his duties, and the Municipal Office was closed on the 30th June, 1877. This determination was duly communicated to the foreign Consuls who raised no objections thereto, while the British Consul in his reply dated July 4, 1877, expressed his approval of the arrangement, and since the date named, the business of the office has been conducted directly by the Consuls.

As will be seen from the above foreigners themselves entrusted municipal affairs to the local authorities in 1867, and not by the demand of the local authorities. The foreign residents must be aware of this fact. In former years, they felt a burden in maintaining the Municipal Government

and requested the Japanese authorities to assume municipal control. But to-day, they attempt to regain it under superficial pretexts, and in doing so do not hesitate to formulate various charges against the local authorities. What an incongruity! They do not hesitate to reproach the Japanese authorities, but have not the slightest inclination to reflect upon themselves! Were the police system inefficacious since municipal control was placed in the hands of the local authorities in 1867, the complaints would be just. Were the construction of, and repairs to, the roads inferior to those undertaken by the foreigners themselves, the complaints would be reasonable. However, when we inquire into the actual state of affairs, we find that their complaints are groundless. We are convinced that they are no more than another abuse of extra-territoriality, that bulwark behind which the foreigners indulge in scoffing at the legislative rights of Japan, but nothing else. We will proceed to show that their clamour is groundless. The *Herald* and *Gazette*, both of them mouth-pieces of the foreign community (though the *Mail* often disagrees with us, in this instance its views are worth taking into consideration) publishing the minutes of the meeting held on the 1st instant, remark:—"Yokohama was opened in 1859. Five years later the necessity of local control pressed itself upon the attention of the residents. Meetings were held. On the 7th March, 1865, a scheme was proposed and approved by a meeting; it was subsequently ratified by the authorities; a council was elected, and held its first meeting June 9th, 1865. This council had undertaken a task for the due performance of which it soon discovered its income to be inadequate. The Japanese authorities had consented to permit the council to receive 20 per cent. of the ground rent: this yielded about \$6,000. There were other sources of revenue derived from the taxation of taverns, &c., and the total income of the council was approximately \$10,000. . . . The want of funds and of enforceable regulations, left the council no alternative but to surrender a function it was impossible for it to carry out, and it ceased to exist in November, 1867," &c. This is what the foreigners assert to be the correct version of affairs. Do they know that heretofore the Government expended only *yen* 10,000 to *yen* 20,000 for policing the foreign Settlement? But in the 14th fiscal year of Meiji (1881) the Government set down the sum of *yen* 30,000 for that purpose, and in the 15th fiscal year, increased it by *yen* 15,000 making the total *yen* 45,000. When the foreigners had the municipal control themselves, they expended only \$10,000 for all affairs; whereas the Government expend more than *yen* 40,000 for policing only. For this reason, they ought to thank the authorities. On the contrary, they libel the police officers and make an unwarrantable demand. However anxious the Government may be to treat the aliens with the utmost courtesy it should not listen to such a demand. As regards the complaints about the roads, we may mention that the local authorities spend a large sum of money thereon. For instance, sea shingle is only used for repairing the streets in the native town, but in the settlement small pieces of the flat stone called *warikuri* are used. This costs twice as much as the ordinary shingle. This is one of the proofs that the local Government is paying much attention to the maintenance of good roads in the foreign settlement. As regards the drainage, it is almost unnecessary to mention that last year a large drain was constructed at an enormous expense defrayed out of the

treasury. Its length is one mile and a half, and it is constructed with bricks. The expense was estimated at *yen* 100,000, and though it is expected to be reduced owing to the depreciation of all commodities, it will not be less than *yen* 70,000 or *yen* 80,000. As the foreigners confess, they had great difficulty in collecting the expenses (which amounted to \$10,000) when the municipal management was in their hands and when the Government granted them 20 per cent. of the land rent. In spite of this fact, they formulate groundless charges against the local authorities who expend *yen* 70,000 to *yen* 80,000 for the construction of drains only. We are at a loss to account for their clamour. Even though the total land-tax were appropriated for municipal expenses, the burden would prove too heavy for them. This view is more than confirmed by the statements made in the *Gazette* and *Herald* that 20 per cent. of the land-rent yielded \$6,000 and by the inference that, even though the total land-rent (which, according to the above calculation, amounts to \$30,000) were appropriated, it would be insufficient to defray the expenses of the construction of the drains only. It is not unfair to say that the foreigners are unable to defray the expenses. We are led to the conclusion that the Government treats them with excessive courtesy and that it expends too large a sum for the benefit of the Settlement. If it has sufficient means to expend this large sum, the money might be appropriated to reducing the taxes of the peasantry. The foreign residents ought to feel grateful for the action of the Japanese Government; but they do not. The more courtesy the Government extends to them, the more they demand.

In continuation, on this subject, the above paper says:—"The foreign residents say:—"The Council further urged the adoption of municipal regulations similar to those in force in Kobe and Shanghai." We are unacquainted with the municipal laws prevailing in Shanghai; but we think that the policing and the construction of roads are in the hands of the foreign residents, the system being somewhat similar to that resorted to by foreigners in Kobe some years ago. We will show that the charges against the police force of Yokohama are groundless. Foreigners are complaining that theft and prostitution are not checked. When foreigners in Kobe had the police control in their own hands, it was not successful at all. This is attested by the fact that they entrusted the police affairs to the local Government of Hiogo. Is the Japanese police law inefficacious, and that of foreigners efficacious? Why, if the foreign police system were good, did they surrender it to the Japanese authorities whom they constantly denounce? This will show that their demand is unreasonable. We are informed that, when the supervision of the Kobe settlement was in the hands of foreigners, they engaged Chinamen as police, but soon finding the arrangement inoperative, requested the local authorities of Hiogo to put Japanese police in the Settlement. Thus, at the nearest port foreigners have a conspicuous instance of their inability to manage for themselves. The residents of Yokohama should have learned by this lesson to place confidence in the Japanese police. On the contrary, they are following the same path to failure. This is to be regretted. Suppose they claim, in support of their contention, that the failure in Kobe was due to the fact that spiritless Chinamen were employed in place of European police. This opinion appears sound to a certain extent. European police may be better than Chinamen. The question suggests itself:—Can

foreign residents of Yokohama afford to employ European policemen? The land rent—\$60,000—in question, is not sufficient. The employment of European police in the Settlement can be talked about, but cannot be practically carried out. The only way open for foreigners to get out of this discomfiture is to comply with the wishes or the directions of the local Government of Kanagawa.

Foreigners argue that Japanese police are wanting in energy, and do not bring the thieves to justice and ascribe it to the following cause:—"The wages of the constables range from 7 to 10 yen per month; of the sergeants and inspectors from 15 yen upward. There is abundance of evidence obtainable that no respectable man (and the police are said to be enlisted from a superior class of the people) can maintain himself decently for less than ten yen per month; yet the average wages per capita of the 180 constables is yen 7.40 per month only. Where these men have families and dependents the difficulty is still greater; and in many cases the wives and female relatives of constables are compelled to seek employment in tearing godowns and other similar occupations.

• • • • • No police force can be efficient that does not consist of men adequately paid to place them above temptation," &c. They have not, however, proved that the police connived at robberies; but they speak only from mere presumption that because their wages are low the police participate in the robberies. True, the Japanese police are not paid well as compared with their foreign *confrères*. But it is not reasonable to assert that because their wages are meagre the Japanese police connive at the robberies. We are, however, convinced that the police supervision is not so efficacious in the Settlement as in the Japanese town. Two policemen on duty in the Concession cannot do what one policeman does in the native town. This is not due to the fact that the wages are low or that there exists a difference in the intellect and physique of the two. But it is due to a certain obstacle in the Settlement that prevents the Japanese police from exerting their full energy. What is that obstacle? It is the exterritoriality which we strive to abolish and which foreigners tenaciously cling to. Suppose a policeman chases a thief who runs to the Settlement and hides himself in a foreigner's house. The gate is not closed nor is there an entrenchment that prevents the officer from entering. But the police cannot enter the premises; because there is an invincible bulwark that he cannot demolish. It is exterritoriality. A secret prostitute runs into a foreigner's house and hides herself. The officer cannot catch her, because of the fear of violating the treaty. Hence, the police are obliged to apply to the Consuls for a warrant; and when they come back to the house armed with it, the offender has escaped. What the police then get as reward for their exertion, is the useless warrant and fatigue. Thus, they are prevented from executing their duty in a satisfactory manner. Even though they were endowed with the sharpness of Kiro and with the pedestrian swiftness of Kairen, they would not be as successful as desired by the foreign agitators. How much, then, must this be the case with the Japanese police who are not gifted with either one of the above faculties? Foreigners' anxiety to improve their municipal affairs is good. To attain their end, they should co-operate with us to abolish exterritoriality and to enable Japanese police to make free execution of their duty. After this, they can formulate charges against the police, if the latter are inefficacious. It is only reasonable that

the Prefect of Kanagawa should have rejected their memorial.

We predict that the Municipal Reform Convention will not achieve success and that the members will soon come to grief. They held two meetings, and at the second one, elected a committee of seven persons whose term of office is twelve months. They are taking steps to create a Municipal Fund to which the land renters are asked to subscribe, for the Town, 1 cent per *tsubo*, and for the Bluff, half a cent per *tsubo*. The house-owners not being land-renters have to pay \$1 per house. Can the convention succeed? We will reply that it is an assembly with no authority whatever; and so long as the impost of the dues has no legal sanction, it cannot be enforced. It is merely a private meeting composed of those citizens interested in the movement. Suppose there are upright men who are satisfied with the municipal management of the *Kencho*. They will say that they have not voted for the representatives to the convention; that it being a private meeting of the citizens, the agitators ought to defray the expenses; and that they will not pay the dues which resemble a tax. How then can the convention get over such opposition? Will they bring action against the opponents? No, they cannot. We cannot see why aliens who are credited with being clear-sighted should show such want of foresight. Although the meeting was called a general meeting of the foreign residents, yet that is a misnomer. Chinese residents who equal the Europeans in the amount of property they hold were altogether excluded from it. They are doubtless foreign residents, yet they were not represented at the meeting. There is a great discrepancy between the fact and the name.

Having thus far argued—we are actuated by an anxiety to prevent foreigners from wasting their time—we remind them that we do not contend that all meetings are useless. If a meeting were proposed for discussing the abuses of exterritoriality and reporting views thereon to the Japanese Government and the foreign representatives, we would gladly participate in it. If foreigners, however, importune the Prefect with unreasonable demands, insisting upon the continuance of exterritoriality, which prevents the growth of mutual benefit, and libel the police without ground, we are bound to show that they are wrong.

THE OPENING OF THE HORONAI RAILWAY.

(Condensed from the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*.)

The ceremony of opening a railway in the Horonai coal mining district, Hokkaido, was at first arranged for the 15th of September, but a postponement was necessitated on account of the death of the two infant Princesses. Finally the ceremony was performed on the 17th of the same month in the presence of His Imperial Highness Komatsu-no-Miya, His Excellency Oyama, Minister of War, and other dignitaries, who proceeded to Otani by a special train on the afternoon of the 16th. The terminus and the other stations were decorated with national flags and triumphal arches. His Highness Komatsu-no-Miya entered the train at the Temiya station, under the guidance of Mr. Matsumoto, an officer in charge of the works of construction. He was immediately followed by the Minister of War, General Soga, Mr. Yasuda, Superintendent of the Hokkaido Bureau, and many other officers and prominent citizens. The start of the train was greeted by a display of fire-

works, and an outburst of music from the Band. At 7 a.m. the train left the station. The tunnel at Suitengu was reached in a moment, and passing a bridge at Irifuncho, about thirty feet higher than the level of the road, the cars arrived at the Sumiyoshi Station. Here a short halt was made, after which progress was resumed, the train taking in passengers who had assembled from neighbouring localities. The train again passed through a tunnel, and by a place known as Shiwomidai, whence after several windings, with the blue sea on the left, and passing by the hills of Kamū and Kotan, it reached Zenibako through two other tunnels. From this place the road goes in an oblique direction. Passing Karukawa and Kotonri, the train arrived in Sapporo at 8.45 a.m. Fireworks were displayed in honour of the occasion.

The number of passengers in the train necessitated its division into two parts, which proceeded up the incline, and, crossing two rivers, reached Noboko, fifty feet above the level of the Shirosishi river, and over streams and mountain defiles until at last Horonai was arrived at. Here, after refreshment, His Highness inspected the pits under the guidance of Mr. Yamanouchi. The Prince and the Minister of War were first clad in Aino robes, made of bark, and called *adushu* or *mejiri*. A joke at the expense of the corpulent Minister and a stanza in honor of the Prince preluded the entrance to the mines. After inspecting the descent of the coal-cars down the Takinosawa incline, the distinguished party returned to Sapporo, arriving at 4.35 p.m. There was a bustling crowd of sight-seers at the concluding ceremonial.

As soon as it was reported to the Prince that preparations were completed, he repaired to the site under the guidance of the Superintendent of the Hokkaido Bureau, who represented the Minister of Agriculture and Commerce. His Highness Prince Akihito Shinno, of the second Imperial rank, having taken his seat, General Soga, His Excellency Inouye, the Vice-Minister of Public Works, and several other dignitaries who were specially invited to participate in the ceremony, were ranged on the right hand, while His Excellency Oyama, Minister of War, a delegate of the Agricultural and Commercial Minister, and the functionaries of the Hokkaido Bureau, were on the left. After the Band had played a few bars, His Highness rose from his chair and delivered an address as follows:—

"With a view to facilitate the transport of coal produced in the Horonai mine, the exploitation of which was recently commenced, a railway has been constructed, and in honour of the completion of the work, the ceremony of opening it for traffic is hereby performed. The difficulties and hardships which those in charge of the work have had to encounter in building a railway through the wilderness may well be imagined. The facilities now afforded for traffic can hardly fail to augment the amount of production as well as to benefit the locality by the development of its industries. The advantages we may expect to enjoy in future, if not at present, are by no means insignificant. I congratulate myself upon having had the honour of presiding at this ceremony."

In reply to the above address, Mr. Yasuda, Superintendent of the Hokkaido Bureau, spoke as follows:—

"The railway in the Horonai coal mine district was completed in November, 1882, and is opened by His Highness Akihito Shinno, of the second Imperial rank, on the 17th of September, 1883. A moment's reflection shows us that it is by virtue of the enlightened rule of Meiji that beneficial enterprises are perfected by the Government in all parts of the Empire, and that industries and the augmentation of productions has been extended even to Hokkaido. Nothing more redounds to

our happiness and honour than the measures thus adopted by the authorities for the promotion of the public weal. Coal abounds in various regions of Hokkaido; and the finest qualities are found in Horonai. The locality offers exceptional facilities for its exploitation. Nevertheless, as the region is surrounded by barren plains and is not intersected by rivers, there are great difficulties in the matter of transport. Simultaneously with the adoption of measures for colonization, and the scientific working of the mine, a suggestion was made as to the advisability of constructing a railway. The scheme had its origin in the brain of His Excellency Kuroda, Minister of Colonization. It is evident that the railway has an intimate connection with the mine, inasmuch as any insufficiency in the output of coal must mean that the working expenses cannot be covered. The recent completion of the railway not only enables us to attain our ends in two ways, but must tend to develop other industries by affording facilities for transit. Well, the scheme was sanctioned by the authorities in 1878. It was first suggested that the railway be constructed between the mine and Horomukiluto, whence the coal should be transported by the river Ishikari to the sea. But it was then remarked that, if the road were extended to Otaru and Temiya, through Sapporo and Zenibako, the obstacles to transport in winter, on account of the freezing of the river, would be surmounted. Facilities would also be afforded for the transport of the productions of the various localities traversed by the line. So a definite proposal was made for the extension, and official sanction was obtained. The railroad between Zenibako and Otaru runs along the sea shore, and might be thought liable to damage from the dangers attendant upon its position; but experience has shown that the careful method of construction has effectually protected it from the surf. Hence the building of the railway along its present course. As regards the mine, the position of the main measure was ascertained in December, 1879, and work was commenced in January of the ensuing year. In 1881 the coal veins were discovered in Motosawa and Takizawa, and eight pits were opened in the Eastern and Western parts of those localities. Special officers were appointed, and steam engines were provided at the main shaft. The first stratum of coal was found at a depth of more than 1,370 feet. Official sanction for the extension of the railway was given in 1879, and work was commenced in January of 1880, in which year the Temiya-Sapporo railway was completed. In November, 1881, the Sapporo-Nohoro line was finished; and in June last year, rails were laid as far as Yebitsu, and in November to the mine. Then the whole work was completed, the main line extending over a distance of 56 miles and 3,450 feet, with branches four miles and 1,000 feet, in extent. The gauge is three feet and a half, and four-fifths of the whole length of the line runs through mountainous or marshy districts, and one-fifth along the sea beach. Nine stations have been established: six tunnels have been bored, the longest being more than 550 feet through. A pier is constructed at Temiya, 1,440 feet long. There are bridges, large and small, to the number of 16. The greatest height of embankment hardly exceeds 50 feet, and that of suspension bridges 150. A railway of 14 feet gauge has been constructed in the main drive for communication with minor pits. In some cases, a self-acting four wheeled wagon is used for the transport of coal over artificial declivities. According to the principles of engineering, utility must be aimed at, and not mere magnificence of structure. For these reasons, unplanned timber of different lengths has been employed as sleepers; and the stations have not been painted, and are constructed merely to protect the passengers from rain and damp, wind and snow. As regards the erection of dykes along the shore, and a breakwater, —as regards the measures necessary for the prevention of inundations as well as for the removal of snow—the newest devices tending to reduce the employment of manual labor have been introduced. From the commencement of the work to its completion, three years elapsed, but if stormy weather be deducted from this period, the whole work did not occupy any considerable time. There are special difficulties in the accomplishment of such work in Hokkaido which is really a desolate island. In these circumstances we may reasonably admit that the success of the work is

mainly due to the assiduity of the officers in charge, and their judicious arrangement in providing material. Concerning the coal produced here, reports have been received from various parts of the Empire guaranteeing its excellence, which has been proved by its practical use in steamships as well as by private experiment. The road for its transport is now perfected, and any amount put out can easily be conveyed to Temiya, where it can be shipped and conveyed to any place where it may be in demand."

In reply to the above address, Mr. Yasuda, Superintendent of the Hokkaido Bureau, spoke as follows:—

"The construction of a railway in Hokkaido was at first commenced by the Colonial Department, and afterwards superintended by the Public Works Department, but finally the undertaking was transferred to the Hokkaido Bureau. But although the railway work has been carried on by the authorities of different Departments, the work has steadily progressed as though it were under the superintendence of a single functionary to its thorough completion. It is worthy of notice that the district between Sapporo and the mine was formerly nothing but a dreary wilderness. The construction of a railway between the two places, however, has had the effect of inducing settlement along the road, immigrants having fully recognised the advantages of the railway. Specially has the establishment of communication between Otaru and Sapporo furnished immense facilities for passengers as well as for the transport of goods. The scheme to establish a regular service on the river Ishikari having been deemed insufficient for purposes of extensive communication, a resolution was made to extend the railway; and this, it is anticipated, will hardly fail to produce beneficial results, whether in the encouragement of industry or in the promotion of local interests. The accomplishment of the present work will doubtless tend in some measure to enrich the whole nation. We have to congratulate ourselves upon the honour bestowed on us by the presence of His Highness Prince Komatsu-no-Miya, who has presided at the ceremony of opening the railway and delivered an address in recognition of the assiduity displayed by the officers in charge of the work."

Having concluded his address, Mr. Yasuda presented the Prince with a plan of the railway and documents showing the relation between the railway and the mine. The proceedings then terminated.

THE PAYMENT OF LAND-TAX IN RICE.

(Translated from the *Hochi Shimbun*.)

In November of the 10th year of Meiji (1877), our Government issued Notification No. 10 permitting farmers to pay half of their land-tax in rice at the average market price. Simultaneously with this Notification, a set of regulations was enforced defining the methods in which the payment of taxes in rice had to be effected. It was only a few years after the Restoration that the above Notification was issued. The authorities were engaged in the adjustment of internal and foreign affairs of the most intricate nature, while the people were not yet accustomed to the new form of administration. Moreover, depreciation in the value of rice in previous years did not fail to produce extreme distress among the agricultural classes, while the rebellion in the South-west, which lasted eight months, threw the whole country into great confusion. Popular suffering has now reached its climax. In January, 1877, the land-tax was reduced to 2.5 per cent. by Notification No. 1 to extricate the people from their extremity of trouble. Moreover, in accordance with their petition, the Government has at last issued a promulgation allowing them to pay their land-tax in rice. Such benevolent proceedings, it must be remembered, had their origin in the earnest desire of His Majesty the Mikado to

remove the evils from which the agricultural classes have suffered grievously. Nevertheless, the price of rice has tended to rise since 1878 on account of the reforms introduced into society. In 1880 and 1881 prices rose extraordinarily, and continued at their height till the middle of 1882. During these three years, the rice market was more than peculiar. Farmers were enabled to enrich themselves unexpectedly. In these circumstances, the notification permitting the payment of land-tax in rice was hardly appreciated. The following table shows the fluctuations in the value of rice between 1876 and 1882, as well as its average price in each year:—

| | Highest Price. Yen. | Lowest Price. Yen. | Average. Yen. |
|------------|------------------------|-----------------------|------------------|
| 1876 | 5.45 | 4.35 | 4.97 |
| 1877 | 5.86 | 4.64 | 5.28 |
| 1878 | 7.10 | 5.43 | 6.07 |
| 1879 | 9.34 | 6.94 | 7.87 |
| 1880 | 11.90 | 8.26 | 10.66 |
| 1881 | 11.55 | 9.55 | 10.57 |
| 1882 | 9.60 | 7.57 | 8.75 |

From the above it is plain that the highest price of rice was reached in 1880 and 1881, and that the farmers reaped large profits in these two years. But extraordinary occurrences are inevitably followed by serious reaction; a bent bow cannot long preserve its elasticity. The value of corn has shown a downward tendency since the middle of last year, and depreciation is at present such as was the case in 1876 and 1877. Distress is universal among the agricultural classes. It is anticipated that the rice crops this year will scarcely fail to cause further depreciation in the value of rice. Moreover, another element may probably contribute to depression, namely the reduction in the amount of rice reserved for brewing purposes. The considerable rise in the value of commodities in 1880 and 1881, and the unexpected gains of agriculturalists led our people to appear active and bustling. The increase in the demand for *saké* was as remarkable as was the case with other commodities. The profits thus obtained by the *saké* brewers induced them to base their estimates for the next season upon the quantity they had previously produced. The result was that they sustained considerable losses on account of the sudden decrease in the demand consequent upon the stagnation of trade since the middle of 1881. Brewers were obliged to store one-tenth of their stocks. Below is a table of the comparative amount of rice and *saké* produced between 1877 and 1881:—

| | RICE —KOKU. | SAKE —KOKU. |
|------------|-------------|-------------|
| 1877 | — | 2,336,714 |
| 1878 | — | 2,731,126 |
| 1879 | — | 3,965,219 |
| 1880 | 4,884,026 | 5,208,107 |
| 1881 | 4,297,700 | 4,947,511 |

Although we are unable to ascertain the exact amount brewed in 1882, yet we may assume, from several facts, that the quantity has gradually decreased as compared with previous years. From the above table, we can see that the manufacture of 1877 and 1878 did not exceed half of the quantity brewed in 1880 and 1881. It is plain that the value of other commodities must have fluctuated in proportion to the amount of *saké* manufactured in these years. The present depreciation in the price of commodities corresponded with the gradual decrease in the quantity of *saké* subsequently manufactured. When business was active and bustling in 1881, there was a brisk demand for *saké* and considerable profits were realized on its sale. The brewers complained of the increase in the tax levied upon them, but practically they did not fail to extend their business, and did not reduce the amount of their output. But a diminution of demand neces-

sitates a decrease of manufacture, inasmuch as the brewers may perhaps become unable on the one hand to sell their goods and thus sustain considerable losses, and on the other the mere fact of storage can scarcely fail to contribute to their distress. Thus, they are compelled to curtail their business; and this again necessitates a decrease in the manufacture of the beverage. About sixty *saké* manufacturers in the three Urban and two Rural Divisions of Osaka have held a meeting to discuss the best method of carrying on their industry. The members have, it is said, unanimously decided to suspend the manufacture of *saké* this year, stating that about seventy or eighty per cent. of the liquor brewed in the 15th year still remains unsold. In the second meeting, however, this decision was opposed by some of the members who expressed different opinions, and the meeting decided that the quantity manufactured should be reduced. A similar meeting was held in the Northern Urban Division which is distinguished by possessing the greatest number of *saké* brewers. A resolution was adopted, after consultation with several manufacturers in other prominent divisions, to decrease by thirty per cent. the usual production. Other *saké* producing districts such as Nada, Nishinomiya, Imatsu, and Kami, have, according to latest reports, all resolved to diminish their production by forty per cent., and Yamato has decided upon a decrease of fifty per cent. From these circumstances we perceive that the manufacture of *saké* this year throughout the Empire must have diminished by thirty per cent., namely, 1,200,000 or 1,300,000 *koku* in rice, as compared with the previous year. And it must be remembered that 1,300,000 *koku* of rice is the total consumption of the capital for two years. The abundant harvest promised this year will flood the market with a considerable surplus. A fall in the price of rice must be the inevitable consequence.

A glance at the present mercantile condition shows that inactivity is the chief characteristic of all markets and the populace have sunk into extreme distress. The rate of interest on money was formerly twenty per cent. a year, but it has now fallen to nine per cent. Silver which was once quoted at *yen* 1.80 is now only *yen* 1.10. The fall in the price of commodities and the decrease in their production has been the chief factor of the present stagnation of trade. Although the depreciation in the value of rice may in some measure be taken into account as one source of stagnation, yet it may be asserted that the fall in the price of commodities must have its origin in the general depression of trade. It is remarkable that, as the mercantile community of our country is inclined to establish the relation between silver and paper on the exchangeable rate of foreign dollars, with the conviction that silver alone represents the actual value of ordinary goods, rice which occupies the most prominent position among necessities, does not fail to rise or fall in value according to the fluctuations of the metallic currency. Such assertions are based on experience acquired during many years. In 1880 and 1881, the value of silver rose exorbitantly, and this did not fail to enhance the price of rice. Since the middle of last year, however, silver has shown a downward tendency, and this necessarily has had the effect of depreciating the value of grain. The present stagnation in the circulation of money may be traced to some other causes, yet it is undeniable that it has arisen from the depreciation in the price of rice, consequent upon the fluctuations of silver. If the money market in Yokohama shows a prosperous condition

in future, and the value of the metallic currency is restored, the price of rice will necessarily rise in spite of the abundance of the harvest this year and the decrease in the manufacture of *saké*. But although the fluctuation of silver does not exceed *yen* 1.10 or *yen* 1.20, it is impossible that rice can maintain its value?

Rice is an agricultural product, not a grain of which is produced without the labour of the farmer, and it is unquestionably by the production of rice that they are enabled to pay their taxes and to maintain their families. Nor is it unreasonable to assert that they derive their incomes, which are necessary both for public and private purposes, from the rice alone, and that the depression in the price of corn does not fail to curtail those incomes. A *koku* of rice was formerly saleable for twelve *yen*, but now two *koku* or two *koku* and a half can be obtained for the same amount. While there are limits to production, the value of grain has fallen more than fifty per cent. The stagnation in the circulation of money in the provinces as well as the distress of farmers may consequently easily be imagined. Moreover, the period of paying the tax is at hand, as the impost on rice fields has to be paid off between the 1st of November and the 15th of December next. According to the financial estimates for the 16th year (1883), the amount of land tax is *yen* 43,029,745. Of this sum, *yen* 30,768,191 are imposed on rice fields alone, and *yen* 7,031,224 on other fields, and the remainder on dwelling grounds in the various villages and rural divisions, mountains, forests, plains, ponds, and marshes. The amount of taxation to be paid in the third term, namely, between the 1st of November and the 15th of December, is *yen* 15,384,445.50, being one-fifth of the whole impost on rice fields. Should we suppose that Notification No. 80 allowing farmers to pay their tax in rice was not issued in 1877, and that therefore they must pay it in money as in the case of all other taxes, it is absolutely necessary for them to sell their rice and fulfil their duty to the Government. Under all circumstances they cannot hesitate to dispose of their grain even at a sacrifice. Suppose that trade is as stagnant as at present, and that the price of rice gradually declines, the abundance of the harvest and the curtailment in the manufacture of *saké* will considerably overstock the market with grain. Should the farmers attempt, notwithstanding such an anomalous condition of affairs, to dispose of their rice to the value of fifteen million *yen*, they must inevitably incur considerable losses, on account of the depression existing. If such be the case, failure in the collection of the tax will follow, and the Government is likely to suffer from pecuniary embarrassment through the diminished revenue which is bound to follow uncollected taxes. The evil can scarcely fail to bring great trouble upon the nation. In these circumstances we may be allowed to say that the issue of Notification No. 80 of 1877 is the outcome of the earnest wish of the Emperor to promote the welfare of his people and extricate them from their distress before they sink into a deplorable condition. We ought to congratulate ourselves upon the goodness of the Mikado.

(To be continued.)

THE LOSS OF THE "SUMIDA MARU."

MARINE COURT OF ENQUIRY.

A Marine Court of Enquiry was held at Tokyo on the 11th instant, into the loss of the Mitsu Bishi Mail Steamship Company's steamer *Sumida Maru*, whilst prosecuting a voyage from Hongkong to Kobe. The vessel went ashore at 3.30 o'clock a.m. on the 15th of June last, on a group of rocks near Futagashima, an island in the Genkai Nada, on the north-west coast of the province of Chikuzen,

The Court was composed of Geo. Ramsay, Esq. (President), Lieut. J. H. James, R.N., J. M. James, Esq., and J. F. Allen, Esq., commanding *Meiji Maru* (Assessors).

Captain H. Hubenet, late in command of the *Sumida Maru*, whose certificate of competency was handed into Court, was first examined:—

Q. What is the number of your certificate?—A. No. 59.

Q. How long have you been in command of the late steamer *Sumida Maru*?—A. 5 years and 7 months.

Q. Did you pass to the North or South of Yebosi Light? at what distance? and time?—A. To the North, a cable off. June 14th, at 10.40 p.m.

Q. After passing Yebosi Light what course did you steer?—A. Steered straight from Yebosi Light to Wilson Island. I do not recollect the course steered.

Q. What time did you pass Wilson Island? and at what distance?—A. I do not know. Passed at about $\frac{1}{2}$ a mile.

Q. Who was officer of the watch?—A. The third officer.

Q. What orders did you give the third officer?—A. To keep a good look out.

Q. Who were at the wheel and on the look out?—A. Quartermaster and a sailor. One quarter-master on forecastle, third officer on the upper bridge.

Q. After passing Wilson Island what course did you steer?—A. I do not know.

Q. By whom was the course altered?—A. By myself. The third officer steadied ship in her course. Course was by standard compass. (Deviation card produced and handed in to the Court.)

Q. Where is the standard compass placed?—A. On top of chart-room and in the centre of it.

Q. When was the ship last swung?—A. Six months prior to loss.

Q. Where swung?—A. Outside of Green Island, after coming out of Aberdeen-Dock.

Q. Who swung her?—A. Myself.

Q. By what method?—A. Distant object.

Q. What distance was the object off?—A. Two miles.

Q. What was the object?—A. A little island.

Q. How swung?—A. Under steam.

Q. Is the compass corrected by magnets?—A. No.

Q. When abreast of Wilson Island what was the weather?—A. Clear starlight night, but hazy horizon.

Q. What distance did you pass off Wilson Island?—A. $\frac{1}{2}$ a mile.

Q. How did you arrive at the distance?—A. Guessed it only.

Q. What course did you steer then?—A. I do not know.

Q. What was the speed of the ship per hour?—A. 10 $\frac{1}{2}$ knots.

Q. How did you arrive at the speed?—A. By distance run between the islands.

Q. Were you in company with any vessel?—A. Yes, the *Kashgar*.

Q. How and when did you pass the *Kashgar*?—A. I passed her by going through the Obree Channel; while she went outside Ikutsuki.

Q. Were you desirous of getting to Kobe before her?—A. No.

Q. What instructions had you given your Chief Engineer in reference to the speed of the ship?—A. I gave no orders.

Q. Produce your night order-book?—A. I have no night order-book.

Q. What orders did you leave with the officer of the watch?—A. I was on the upper bridge with the officer of the watch.

Q. How long had the officer of the watch sailed with you in the steamship *Sumida Maru*?—A. About 12 months.

Q. Had he a certificate?—A. No.

Q. Why did you entrust him with the watch?—A. I had confidence in him, the third officer had no certificate, and is not obliged to have one.

Q. Had you every confidence in him?—A. Yes. I trusted him in the open, but not in pilotage waters.

Q. What time did you pass North Siroshima?—A. At 2.40 a.m. June 15th.

Q. At what distance?—A. 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ miles.

Q. How did you estimate the distance off?—A. By judgment.

Q. Did you see Shirasu Light?—A. No.

Q. What distance can it be seen?—A. I do not know.

Q. What course did you steer from North Sirosima?—A. E. $\frac{1}{2}$ S. by standard compass. Magnetic E. $\frac{1}{2}$ N.

Q. That was the deviation on that course (E. $\frac{1}{2}$ S.)?—A. 11° Westerly.

Q. How long did you continue on that course?—A. As long as possible. I was constantly starboard for the fishing boats. I was on the bridge the whole time.

Q. When was Rockuren Light seen?—A. Could not see it. I was looking out for it.

Q. How do you account for not seeing the Light?—A. By the fishing boats, and the hazy weather.

Q. What distance could you see on the water?—A. About a mile.

Q. Was the ship's speed reduced?—A. The ship's speed was not reduced at all.

Q. How far is Rockuren Light visible?—A. I do not know.

Q. What is its height?—A. I do not know. Should think 150 ft.

Q. How long did you steer E. $\frac{1}{2}$ S.?—A. Until the ship struck.

Q. How was the tide?—A. Flood.

Q. Have you a "China Pilot"?—A. Yes, but never read it regarding the Black Rock.

Q. Was Masuisima seen?—A. Yes.

Q. At what time?—A. I do not know the time.

Q. When the island Masuisima was abeam, what was the distance off?—A. 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ miles.

Q. How did you estimate the distance off?—A. By judgment.

Q. Where did you first see the fishing boats (mentioned in your report)?—A. Met the boats 4 miles after passing North Sirosima.

Q. How often did you starboard?—A. About 4 times.

Q. What was the speed of the ship?—A. 10 knots.

Q. Where the boats under sail?—A. No, they were fishing.

Q. What reasons do you assign for getting on the Black Rock Reef?—A. I thought I was farther off North Sirosima than I really was, strong tide, and starboard helm used so frequently.

Q. How was the tide setting?—A. I do not know how the tide was setting.

Q. Are you certain that the courses shaped were steered?—A. Yes.

Q. Did you make any allowance for the tide?—A. No.

Q. How many passengers embarked at Nagasaki?—A. Four foreigners (two in cabin and two in steerage).

Q. What did your cargo consist of?—A. Sugar. Some machinery from Hongkong.

Q. Where was the iron stowed?—A. Fore hold.

Q. How many feet from the standard compass?—A. 60 feet.

Q. Were any means taken to ascertain the error of the compass on the various courses steered that night after leaving Nagasaki?—A. No.

By Lieutenant James, R.N.

Q. How far from Wilson Island was the ship when it was abeam?—A. Judged the distance from $\frac{1}{2}$ a mile to 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ miles.

Q. How far distant was Sirosima when abeam?—A. Judged distance $\frac{1}{2}$ to 2 miles.

Q. How did you shape your course?—A. By the chart.

Q. How often did you starboard?—A. Several times.

Q. Did you bring ship to the Southward of her course to make up for starboarding so much?—A. No I did not.

Q. Did you ease the engines?—A. No.

Q. Why not?—A. Was waiting to sight Rockuren Light.

This concluded the examination of Captain Hubenet, and the next evidence taken was that of the third officer, E. Axelson, as follows:—

Q. What certificate do you hold?—A. I have no certificate.

Q. How long have you been third officer of the steamship *Sumida Maru*?—A. Ten months.

Q. What was the course given to you when you took charge of the watch?—A. I cannot remember.

Q. What orders did you receive?—To call the Captain, when Wilson Island was sighted.

Q. Whom did you relieve?—The second mate.

Q. Where was the ship?—A. Abeam of Yebosi Light.

Q. Where was the Captain?—A. In the chart room.

Q. When did you call him?—A. When I thought I was three miles off Wilson Island.

Q. What distance did you pass off Wilson Island?—A. I do not know.

Q. What course was steered from Wilson Island?—A. I do not remember.

By Captain J. M. James.

Q. When you sighted Wilson Island on which bow was it?—A. On the starboard bow.

By the Court.

Q. What was the weather when you took charge?—A. It was hazy. Starlight overhead, but deceptive.

Q. In what part did you keep your watch?—A. On the upper bridge.

Q. Where is the standard compass?—A. On the upper bridge, on the top and in centre of chart-room.

Q. How do you know the ship was steered the course given?—A. Through a scuttle that gave a view of the wheel-house compass.

Q. How often did you compare the two compasses?—A. Constantly.

Q. Was the course altered after passing Wilson Island?—A. No. Not until reaching North Sirosima.

Q. Did you see Shirosi Lighthouse?—A. Yes.

Q. Did you report it to the Captain?—A. Yes; he was on the bridge.

Q. At what time did you call the Captain?—A. Before passing Wilson Island.

Q. Where was the Captain when you called him?—A. In the chart-room.

Q. When did you sight the Rockuren Light-house?—A. I could not find it out.

Q. What time was North Sirosima abeam?—A. I do not know.

Q. What distance was it off?—A. About one mile.

Q. How did you estimate the distance off?—A. By judgment.

Q. What course was steered after passing North Sirosima?—A. E. $\frac{1}{2}$ S. standard compass.

Q. What was the error of the compass on that course?—A. I do not know.

Q. Were any bearings taken by you?—A. Not by me.

Q. Did you report North Sirosima abeam?—A. The Captain was on the bridge.

Q. When was the course altered?—A. When North Sirosima was abeam.

Q. By whom was the course altered?—A. By the Captain; he steadied the ship himself by the standard compass.

Q. How long was the ship on that course before meeting the fishing boats?—A. I do not know.

Q. How often did you starboard?—A. Four or five times.

Q. For what length of time was the helm kept a starboard?—A. Not so very long.

Q. Was the ship kept to the Southward of E. $\frac{1}{2}$ S. to counterbalance the influence of starboard helm on the ship's course?—A. I do not remember.

Q. How long was the Captain off the bridge?—A. Only a minute.

Q. Why did he leave the bridge?—A. I do not know. I think to set the course.

Q. When did you see Masuisima?—A. I do not recollect the time.

Q. What distance was it off when abeam?—A. About 2 miles.

Q. Were you looking out for Rockuren Light?—A. Yes; but could not see it.

Q. What prevented your seeing the Light?—A. I could not see the difference between that light and the fishing boats' lights.

Q. What was the speed of the ship?—A. I do not know. The log was not hove.

Q. Had you ever on previous voyages seen the Black Rock?—A. No, never.

Q. How often have you passed Sirosima at night?—A. Several times.

Q. On previous voyages what was the mark for steering for Rockuren Light?—A. Always when sighting the Light.

Q. Had you before had Masuisima abeam before altering the course?—A. I do not remember.

Q. Where was the Captain when the ship struck?—A. On the bridge.

Q. Had he left the bridge before she struck?—A. Yes, when Masuisima was abeam the beam.

Q. Did you call the Captain when you saw the rock?—A. Yes. I saw it directly he went down.

Q. What did you say?—A. I asked the Captain what it was. I took it for a junk at anchor.

Q. How was the ship then steering?—A. E. $\frac{1}{2}$ S.

Q. What time elapsed from the time of sighting the rock and the ship striking?—A. Directly the helm was ported she struck.

Q. At what time did she strike?—A. 3.30 a.m. 15th of June, 1883.

Q. When were the engines stopped?—A. As soon as she struck.

Q. Were the engines reversed?—A. No.

Q. What steamer did pass?—A. The *Kashgar*.

Q. Was the *Sumida* racing?—A. I do not know. By Lieutenant James, R.N.

Q. Was the course altered after passing Wilson island?—A. The course was not altered after passing Wilson island.

By Captain J. T. Allen.

Q. Was any rough log kept?—A. The rough log was written up at each watch.

Q. Could you see Masuisima when North Sirosima was abeam?—A. I think I did.

Q. When you passed North Sirosima, how was the wind and at what force?—A. S.E., a fresh breeze.

Q. Did you expect to sight Rockuren Light after North Sirosima was abeam?—A. I expected to see it.

Q. Have you any idea, when you see Rockuren Light, what danger it clears?—A. I have no idea.

The next witness was Christian Georgsen, Chief Officer, whose certificate having been handed in, gave the following evidence:—

Q. What is the number of your certificate?—A. No. 29.

Q. How long have you been in the *Sumida Maru*?—A. 3 months and a half.

Q. What watches were kept in the *Sumida Maru*?—A. Chief officer 4 to 8 p.m. Second and third officers watch and watch.

Q. How many officers had the steamship *Sumida Maru*?—A. Three.

Q. What watch did you keep?—A. 4 to 8 a.m.

Q. When did you leave the deck on the night of the 14th of June last?—A. About 7 p.m.

Q. Did you come on deck again?—I did not come on deck again.

Q. Did the Captain consult with you at any time in reference to the navigation of ship?—A. Generally.

Q. How often had the ship been swung for the adjustment of her compasses?—Not so long as I have been on board.

Q. Were any azimuths or amplitudes taken during the time you have been Chief Officer of the vessel?—A. Not by myself; and none were taken so far as I know.

Q. What was the state of the weather that night?—A. Fine.

Q. How many passengers embarked at Nagasaki?—A. I do not know.

C. Volke, Chief Engineer, was next examined:—

Q. What certificate do you hold?—A. A chief engineer's certificate of competency.

Q. What is the number?—A. No. 38.

Q. Who was engineer on watch at the time of the disaster?—A. The third engineer.

Q. Is he now present in this office?—A. No. He is now on board the steamship *Kumanoto Maru*.

Q. What are your special duties in reference to the engine-room at sea?—A. To look after the watches being properly kept, the engines, and boilers.

Q. Were you on deck at all that night, or at the time of accident?—A. I was reading in my room.

Q. How far is your room from the engine-room?—A. About 60 feet; it is in the fore part of the ship.

Q. What was the state of the weather?—A. A little hazy, but clear.

Q. Was the ship slowed down at all after leaving Nagasaki.—A. No.

Q. What time elapsed from time of telegraph sounding and ship striking?—A. Both happened at same time.

Q. When ship struck or telegraph sounded, what did you do?—A. Ran to engine-room and stood on the platform; when the engine was reversed.

Q. By whose orders were the engines reversed?—A. By my own, and according to telegraph. I mean that the engines were stopped.

Q. How long did you remain in the engine-room after the ship struck?—A. About 1½ minutes.

Q. Why did you leave the engine-room?—A. Because I had to swim out. I only had time to lift the safety valve, and shut the valves.

Q. Did you at any time have any communication with the Captain about the speed of the ship?—A. No.

By Captain J. M. James.

Q. Where did the water come from?—A. From under the boilers.

By Captain J. F. Allen.

Q. Had you no instructions from the Captain as to the speed of the ship from leaving port?—A. None.

The Court then rose.

The following finding of the Court was delivered on the 15th inst. :—

After examining the Captain, the Third and Chief Officers, and Chief Engineer (the Third Officer being in charge of the watch at the time of the accident), and carefully weighing the evidence, we find that the steamship *Sumida Maru* belonging to the Mitsu Bishi Mail Steamship Co., sailed from Nagasaki on the 14th of June, 1883, and was off Yebosima at 10.40 p.m. on that night, the weather being fine, clear overhead, but hazy and deceptive as to distance. Yebosi was passed a cable to the Northward and a course shaped for Koshima-no-Oosima (Wilson Island) which was passed at 1.10 a.m. on June 15th at a distance according to evidence from ½ a mile to 1½ miles, and from thence to North Sirosima, which was abeam at 2.40 a.m., distance 1 to 2 miles; the course was then shaped E. ½ S. by standard compass (E. ½ N. magnetic course); this course was kept until the ship struck a shoal about 1 cable S.E. of the Black Rock at 3.30 a.m. A speed of 10 or 10½ knots was maintained during the whole voyage; and the vessel was navigated by the Captain, having the Third Officer under his immediate directions.

The ship's Log Book (produced) has been irregularly and carelessly kept, and affords no reliable evidence as to ship's courses steered, or as to her position at any time.

No steps were taken to verify the ship's position by cross bearings or otherwise, when off Wilson Island, or North Sirosima, the distances off which were merely judged by the eye, and courses shaped in accordance.

The speed of the ship was not ascertained either by patent log or hand log.

The deviation card produced has never been verified since the ship was swung at Hongkong six months previously under steam by a bearing of an object 2 miles distant.

It is certainly remarkable that neither the Captain or third officer could remember any course steered before reaching North Sirosima.

The distance from ship's position off North Sirosima to Black Rock is 6 miles; yet the ship had been permitted to run a distance of 8½ miles on a E. ½ N. magnetic course without any steps being taken to ascertain her position, nor had the speed of the ship been reduced in the least from 10½ knots until she struck the shoal off the Black Rock.

We are of opinion that the Captain navigated the steamship *Sumida Maru* from the time of passing North Sirosima (particularly) in a most unseamanlike and irregular manner :—

1st.—In failing to ascertain his exact position when off North Sirosima, or after having passed it.

2nd.—In shaping his course without having made any allowance for the set of the tide.

3rd.—In not hauling at once to the Southward when Masuisima was abeam distant 1½ miles, although Rockuren Light was not in sight; and also after starboarding to clear the fishing boats he

should have kept as much to the Southward in order to make his course good.

Ordinary caution and attention to the rules of navigation would have saved the steamship *Sumida Maru* from the disaster which overtook her. Unfortunately they seem to have been altogether neglected by the Captain.

We deem him to have shown great neglect in the navigation of his vessel, and do herewith suspend his Certificate of Competency No. 59 for a period of 12 months from the date of judgment.

I hereby approve of this decision, and direct that it be carried out accordingly.

(Signed) SHINAGAWA,

Vice Minister of the Agricultural and Commercial Department.

Tokio, October 15th, 1883.

IN H.B.M. COURT FOR JAPAN.

Before N. J. HANNEN Esq., Judge.—FRIDAY, OCTOBER 19TH, 1883.

RUTH FARNSWORTH V. C. WHITE AND F. E. WHITE.

This case was tried before a Jury composed as follows :—Messrs. N. McLeod, J. Haddow, J. B. Coulson, E. Powys, and J. Annand.

Mr. Kirkwood appeared for the plaintiff, and Mr. Lowder for the defendants.

Mr. Kirkwood asked that the witnesses be ordered to leave the court. His Honour granted the application.

Mr. Kirkwood stated that this was a claim brought against the defendants for gross slander of character. The plaintiff is Miss Ruth Farnsworth, and she, being a minor, is represented by her nearest of kin, namely, her father. The alleged slander is laid out in the petition and was uttered on the 13th September in a conversation between the defendants and Mr. A. Clark. The slander was uttered by Mrs. White; and her husband who was present said that he could prove it.

Mr. Ford was engaged to marry plaintiff, and in consequence of this slander he broke off the engagement. The damages claimed are \$10,000. Mr. Kirkwood continued that looking through all the cases of slander he could find, there was not one of so gross a nature. If he proved the case, no amount of damages would be sufficient. It was spoken of a young girl, not under the influence of anger, or passion or wine, but deliberately and in cold blood. It was not spoken privately, but in the presence of a third party. The defendant, Mrs. White, in reply to the petition denies having used the words, and also states that the engagement is not broken off. She contradicts this denial when she states further on that she spoke *bona fide*, without malice, and in the form of a privileged communication, and that she at the same time divulged the names of her informants. She likewise says that the actions against herself and her husband ought to have been brought separately. The defendant F. E. White makes a similar reply. Captain Farnsworth arrived here on the 12th of August with the ship *J. V. Troop*. He had his wife, two daughters, and his son on board with him. During his stay in Yokohama his eldest daughter, aged 19 years, became engaged to Mr. Ford. One evening Mr. and Mrs. White called him on one side saying that they had an important communication to make to him respecting Miss Farnsworth. Mr. Ford said he did not want anything said in private; they went back into the room, when Mrs. White opened the conversation and uttered the slander (which is far too foul for publication). Mr. Ford demanded their authority for the statement, and he and Mr. White went down to Honmura Road where they met the carpenter who denied having made any such statement. He had been two years in the ship and said he had never seen or heard any thing wrong about Miss Farnsworth. They then saw the cook and his wife, who spoke of her in high terms and denied having said anything derogatory about her. Mr. Ford then went on board and told her father. The next morning they went again to see the supposed informants, who again denied having said anything. The whole of this conversation is actionable. Where words are actionable you must take into consideration in assessing damages not

only the damage at present sustained, but any future damage that the slander may do. Counsel continued :—"I presume that it will be contended that the communication was a privileged one and made without malice. This is a point for His Honour to decide. But I think it will be impossible to bring in a communication of this character as a privileged one. In law the giving up of the names of informants does not exonerate the defendants: it can only mitigate the amount of damages, and then only if the case be proved that the informants did give the information."

Captain W. R. Farnsworth stated that he was master of the ship *J. V. Troop* and a part owner of that vessel. He had a small farm and private residence and a business at home, and is well known there. He arrived in Yokohama on the 12th August last. It is his first visit. It is also the first time he was in a witness-box. After the arrival of the ship his daughter was engaged to Mr. Ford. He had his wife, two daughters, and his son on board. Before he gave his consent to the engagement he made enquiries as to Mr. Ford's character and standing, which were satisfactorily answered. He enquired of Mr. W. B. Walter, Mr. Whittall, and Mr. R. Robertson. He first heard of this slander on the evening of the 13th September. Mr. Ford and Mr. Clark came off, and told him. It was too late to do anything that night. Next morning he took Mr. Carter with him and called on Mr. Ford. They went to the Star Tavern to see the steward and stewardess. He took every means in his power to find out whether Mr. and Mrs. White had been informed of any part of this slander. (Mr. Lowder objected to the question by Mr. Kirkwood as to what was the result of those enquiries. His Honour did not allow the question). Plaintiff said that in consequence of this conversation he went to Mr. Kirkwood and preferred this suit. He has taken no legal steps against any other party because the alleged informants of Mr. and Mrs. White denied having made the statement. He left Yokohama on the 15th September. He was ready to go to sea on the 13th. His ship was in Hakodate, and he came down to attend to this case as he wanted the matter sifted to the bottom. Before he left Yokohama the engagement of his daughter to Mr. Ford was broken off. There was no arrangement that he knew of between Mr. Ford and his daughter. He is going from Hakodate to San Francisco, and intends to take his daughter with him.

To Mr. Lowder—When Ford and Clark came on board they asked witness to come on deck, which he did; and Clark then told him that they were at Mr. Ford's in the afternoon when Mr. and Mrs. White came in, and Mrs. White called Ford on one side, saying that she had something to tell him. Mr. Ford, when she commenced to tell him, said that what he had to say he wished said in public. They went into the room and there she uttered the slander complained of. Mr. Ford was not present at the conversation on deck. In the evening of that day Ford walked down the street arm in arm with witness's daughter. The marriage was broken off. Mr. Ford said he could not marry witness's daughter. White and his wife were running about after us nearly all the time we were ashore. She would be waiting with a trap when we came ashore, and follow Mrs. Farnsworth even into stores. During the latter part of the stay Mrs. Farnsworth kept on board to avoid her: the reason was that witness thought the Whites not fit associates. At first they picknicked and dined together frequently. Probably a week before the ship sailed Mrs. Farnsworth began to avoid Mrs. White. Witness was at first opposed to Ford's engagement with his daughter; but consented to it a few days before he sailed. He sailed on the 14th. His consent might have been given on the 12th. White and his wife were the first to whom witness announced the engagement, and Mrs. White was consulted as to the purchase of dresses and so forth on the 12th, when witness gave Mrs. White some money for the purchase. On that day White and his wife and Ford came off and spent the evening on board, and were asked to go in the ship to Hakodate to be present at the marriage. Gave instructions that dresses should not be sent to White, but to Ford. That was some time, on the 14th, after the wedding was broken off. Ordered the dresses to be sent to Ford, because he had no reason to break off the

match. Wrote once to Ford from Hakodate, saying that he would be down shortly to attend to this case. On return from Hakodate went to see Mr. Ford and had remained on good terms with him, dining with him and finding the house in good order, with improved furniture. Expected his wife and daughter down daily; but the steamer in which they are coming had been delayed. Ford had offered witness the use of his house, but did not offer to let him remain in it until the marriage. When witness went on shore on the 14th he did not go to White and his wife to ask for an explanation of their conduct in telling the story to Mr. Ford. He thought that, instead of going to Ford, they should have come to him. His notion was not merely to get \$10,000 out of White, he wanted to punish him. He might have said to Mr. Lemon before sailing:—"I'll make that damned fellow, White, sweat for this! I'd rather sink my ship in the harbor than not get \$10,000 out of him!" He was very much excited at the time and did not exactly remember what he might have said. Never, since witness's return, had Ford said he would marry the daughter. When he refused to do so he did not say that he believed what had been said about her.

To Mr. Kirkwood—The reason why Mrs. Farnsworth got Mrs. White to help her to buy silks was because she knew no one else here. When the ship arrived Mr. White came alongside. Witness at first took him to be the Vice-Consul here. Before he went to Hakodate he had not made up his mind whether he would take civil or criminal action, but he finally concluded that he could punish White, who had money, more by making him pay \$10,000 than by subjecting him to a few months' imprisonment. He directed the dresses to be sent to Ford's house, because he had no animosity against him for breaking off the match, which, after the reports he had heard, he was quite justified in doing.

S. Fowler, captain of the steamer *Selebria*, deposed that he had known the plaintiff from boyhood. They both came from Granville, Nova Scotia, where Captain Farnsworth holds a good position, has one of the best houses in the place, is considered an independent man, and with his family moves in the best society of the community in which he resides. Plaintiff would never bring a claim that he did not consider a just one.

At half-past noon the Court adjourned till 2 p.m.

On the Court resuming,

Mr. Kirkwood called George Ford, who deposed that he recollected Mr. and Mrs. White coming to his house on the 13th of September last at about 6 o'clock in the evening. Mr. Alexander Clark was present. Mr. White led witness outside to the south verandah where he said he had heard something about Miss Ruth Farnsworth. Witness said that he did not wish to have anything said privately on the matter, and the two went back to the dining room. Mrs. White then uttered the slander complained of, and White corroborated his wife's statement and said he could bring proof. (The evidence which was then given cannot be reproduced.) Witness said to Mrs. White that he "didn't believe a damned word" of what she said, and asked White for his proof, when Mrs. White interfered in the conversation and said so and so. Witness repeated his expression of disbelief; and he and White went to Lemon's house, when he saw the carpenter in the bar. Mr. White addressed him first. Witness stopped him, because he didn't believe a word of what had been said, and himself asked the carpenter whether he had ever said anything disrespectful of Miss Ruth Farnsworth. White said nothing: he looked "as gloomy and black as a piece of coal." Witness next saw the cook and steward of the vessel, and asked the same question, to which the answer was "No." Left the tavern with Mr. White, and reproved him for telling "a lot of lies," but didn't say a word on his way home, where he told Mrs. White just what he had told her husband, and said that he would go on board the *G. V. Troop* and inform Captain Farnsworth of what had been said. White and his wife both advised him not to go, and tried to get Clark to advise him not to go; but he would and did go—Clark went with him. He told the Captain just what he had told the Court. Before the conversation on the 13th, he was engaged undoubtedly to be married to Miss Farnsworth. Was not engaged to her now. Had arranged to go to Hakodate to marry her, but did not do so on account of the

scandal. Since then had had no correspondence with her. There is no understanding now about marriage. Witness has property in China, which is let for Tls. 2,000 per annum, and has property in Yokohama, and earns something yearly in Yokohama as a general commission-agent.

To Mr. Lowder—Had known White and his wife by sight ever since he arrived in the country, in February two years ago, but had never been on intimate terms with them. He had frequently addressed Mrs. White as "mother," but didn't know why she allowed him that privilege; and called White "old man"—the compliment being returned. He had been in and out of their house, and they in and out of his. Witness refused to admit that Mr. and Mrs. White were welcome in his house, and didn't know whether he was welcome in theirs. He first met Miss Farnsworth in White's house about ten days before the ship sailed. The next Sunday he went for a drive with the family; but had no idea of proposing marriage. To the best of his knowledge he proposed four or five days later, having previously had some conversation with Mrs. White, whom "positively" and "solemnly" he did not consult on the subject. She did not advise him to ask the girl whether she'd have him. She had asked him what he thought of Miss Farnsworth, and said he thought her "modest, pleasant, and ladylike." Mrs. White said she was sure that if he proposed his request would not be refused. Afterwards he did propose, and the young lady was just as "astonished as he was bewildered!" In fact it appears that the witness was at first refused, and then told by Mrs. White that there "were as good fish in the sea as ever came out of it." Subsequently he saw Captain Farnsworth on board, renewed his proposal, and was accepted. The Captain conveyed the acceptance to witness, and it was arranged that, if the young lady remained of the same mind, witness should be telegraphed to from Hakodate, where the pair would be married. The definite engagement was made a few days before the vessel sailed. Mrs. White did not congratulate him upon his approaching marriage. Once, with White and his wife, witness went on board the *G. V. Troop* previous to the engagement and subsequently spent the evening there. White and his wife offered to accompany the party to Hakodate, but their offer was thankfully declined on all sides.

"Solemnly" witness did not ask them to go with him nor say he would not go and be married if they did not go up. On the day before the scandal he had "undoubtedly not" arranged to go with White and his wife on board the *G. V. Troop*. Remembered going down to the hatoba with a view of going on board the ship with them. It was blowing so hard that Mrs. White could not go off; and there was some talk of White and witness going off in the evening if the wind went down. They did not go off, and he had no knowledge of the Whites going to his house the same evening. Witness repeated his evidence given in his examination in chief as to his interview with the Whites when the scandal was related to him. May have gone up to the sideboard to have a drink, and did so whenever he felt disposed. Undoubtedly he did not repeat to Mrs. White in an excited manner his conversation with White. They said that they had their information from Mr. and Mrs. Waitman, nor did he remember either of them saying that, as he was going to marry Miss Farnsworth, they thought it their duty to inform him of what they had heard. Witness admitted being excited when he saw the steward and stewardess, but received no answer to his question from them. Emphatically "No" to the question whether he had arranged with the Whites and Clark after his return to his own house for the whole party to go off and inform Captain Farnsworth of what had been said; but went off with Clark in the evening and spent some time on board; but was not promenading about with the young lady on the poop. Sat down, and stopped as long as he pleased. The marriage was not definitely broken off till 8 o'clock the next morning. Witness admitted being excited and annoyed. No one advised him to break off the engagement. He acted for himself after due consideration, and on account of the accusations against the girl's character. He did not now, and didn't then, believe them. "Comprehensively" the fact of people telling what he believed to be "a lot of damned lies" was the

reason that he broke off his engagement. Carter the pilot, Captain Farnsworth, Lemon and witness—four in all—went to see the Waitmans. Witness did not hear Farnsworth say that "he'd make that fellow White sweat for it, and pay \$10,000." Mrs. and Miss Farnsworth came off at his request the same day and had midday meal and tea with him. Clark was there in the evening. The party went off about nine o'clock. Witness walked down with them to the French hatoba, side by side with the young lady, and went off with her father and mother to the ship. It was evident to the witness that Captain Farnsworth, his wife and daughter, had made up their minds to have the case tested in a court of law. The young lady, when witness announced his intention of breaking off the match, insisted upon her "pa" taking proceedings against the guilty parties. Witness induced the Waitmans to go to Mr. Kirkwood's office under the pretence that he was their landlord. It was not pretence it was reality. He did not tell them that he could show them how to get themselves off and let the Whites in. Directly they got to Mr. Kirkwood's office they knew they were in a lawyer's office.—(Laughter.) Witness had not deceived the Waitmans into going down to Mr. Kirkwood's. He furnished his house when he liked and as he pleased; and had bought furniture since the wedding was broken off. He has not recently told the Waitmans or Mr. and Mrs. White that he still meant to marry the girl, but had told the Waitmans that he had written to Captain Farnsworth at Hakodate offering him and his family the use of the house on their arrival in Yokohama; and that he himself would move to a house on the Bluff. He had not said that Mr. Farnsworth should have the place till the marriage.

To Mr. Kirkwood—Witness brought the Waitmans down to his (counsel's) office on business quite unconnected with this case (about house hiring). Witness did not believe Mrs. White about Miss Farnsworth partly because Mrs. White had once introduced a married woman to him as a single one; and he was sympathized with at Collyer's about the cheat.—(Laughter.)

Mr. Alexander Clark remembered being at Ford's house on the 13th of September, and Mr. and Mrs. White coming there about half-past five o'clock. (Mr. Clark begged the Court to excuse him from repeating the subsequent conversation; but His Honor said it was perhaps as unpleasant to himself and the Jury to hear what had been said as to witness to relate it.) Mr. Clark then stated what Mrs. White had said to Ford in his hearing, being in substance the slander which is the cause of this case. Mrs. White affirmed that she had proof of what she said. The rest of Mr. Clark's evidence was almost identical with that of Mr. Ford. The conversation ended by Ford exclaiming that the whole statement was a parcel of lies: that he would look for proof that very night. Mr. and Mrs. White tried to induce him to postpone his inquiries, but he would not and went away with White. On their return Ford told Mrs. White again that she had told him a parcel of lies; and that the steward and stewardess had positively denied her statements. Mr. and Mrs. White then told Ford that what they had said was for his good; and that if he did not follow their advice he would be a dead man in twelve months. He replied that he didn't care a G—d—, if he was a dead man in two months. He would see Captain Farnsworth that night, but added that he couldn't marry a girl whose character had been so slandered. White counselled him not to go on board that night. Witness knew no more of what followed. He was no more a friend of Mr. and Mrs. White's than he was of Mr. Ford's, and much regretted being called in this case.

To Mr. Lowder—Witness had seen the Waitmans yesterday, but not to induce them to come as witnesses in this case. Waitman told him that he and his wife had been to Mr. and Mrs. White's house, where they had some beer; and Mr. White produced a document which he asked Waitman to sign, saying that, if he would take the responsibility of the case on his shoulders it would only be a matter of two months in jail for him; and that he should be "taken care of" there and that his wife should also be cared for. When he came out their passages should be paid to Hong-kong. Waitman said to witness that "he'd be d—d if he'd do any such thing to save White or any one else." This was at Ford's house; and

it was because on a second occasion there that the Waitmans had said they would "go any where with Mr. Clark" that he had at Mr. Ford's request seen them in connection with this trial. They said they feared that if they went to Mr. Ford's he, too, like White, might ask them to sign some document. Witness recollected when Ford came in on the 13th of September with White from the verandah that he called his boy to get a glass of milk for Mrs. White, who had asked for it. Did not remember Ford's going to the sideboard. Ford was excited. Mrs. White said something about bad news to witness while the other two were outside; but he did not hear the details of the scandal until their return. Witness repeated that he did not recollect hearing Ford call Mrs. White "mother." Had seen the Whites several times at Ford's place, and had seen Ford riding in a trap with them.

This closed the case for the plaintiff.

Mr. Lowder, being unprepared to make his statement, the Court adjourned at 4.30 p.m. until 10 a.m. to-day.

NOTIFICATION NO. 33 OF THE COUNCIL OF STATE.

It is hereby notified that the following Convention has been entered into between the Government of Japan and that of Korea for the treatment of Japanese fishermen committing offences on the Korean Coast.

SANJO SANETOSHI,
Prime Minister.
INOUE KAORU,
Minister for Foreign Affairs.

15th October, 1883.

RULES FOR THE TREATMENT OF JAPANESE FISHERMEN COMMITTING OFFENCES ON THE KOREAN COAST.

Art. 1.—Should Japanese transgress the laws of Korea on the coast of that country, whether ashore or afloat, they shall be dealt with according to the following provisions:—

Art. 2.—Should Korean officers arrest Japanese for violating Korean law, they shall forward the Japanese implicated, together with the testimony available, to the Japanese Consulate in the nearest treaty port, and demand investigation. The Japanese Consul shall immediately comply with the request to examine the matter and deal with the offenders according to law. The Korean authorities shall not treat the Japanese with harshness whilst escorting them to the Consulate.

Art. 3.—Korean officers are at liberty to forward Japanese offenders by sea or land, but must not detain them in the place of their arrest without due cause.

Art. 4.—Korean officers are at liberty, when conveying accused Japanese fishermen by sea, to take them in the offenders' own boat or in any other that the officers may deem more convenient. In the latter case, the boat in custody must be taken in tow by the officers. When the prisoners are conveyed overland their boat must be cared for and protected from damage until such time as it is delivered into the charge of the Japanese Consulate. Adopting this alternative, the Korean officials shall forward to the Consulate a list of such of the vessel's gear, stores, and shipping apparatus as is too weighty for immediate transport.

Art. 5.—In case of offences committed by one or more Japanese, who have gone ashore to buy fuel, water, or provisions, or for the purpose of selling their fish, only the actual offenders shall be forwarded to their Consulate: none of their companions shall be arrested. When an offence is committed, all but the actual offenders must be allowed to go free, provided the remainder are insufficient to man the boat.

Art. 6.—These provisions are subject, with the mutual consent of the contracting parties, to such alteration and addition as may prove necessary hereafter.

These stipulations are agreed to by the undersigned.

TAKEZOYE SHINICHIRO,
Minister Resident for Japan.

BIN YEIKOKU,

Chief Commissioner of Foreign Trade.

27th July, 1883.

METEOROLOGICAL REPORT.

FOR WEEK BEGINNING FRIDAY, OCTOBER 12TH, 1883.

Observatory of Daigaku, Moto-Fujicho, Hongō, Tokujo, Japan.



REMARKS.

Heavy line represents barometer.
Light continuous line—maximum and minimum thermometers.
Dotted line—percentage of humidity.
The barometer is reduced to the freezing point and to the level of the sea.
* Rain in inches. † Direction of Wind. ‡ Weather.
Maximum velocity of wind 38.8 miles per hour on Saturday at 3 p.m.
The highest reading of the barometer for the week was 30.59 inches on Thursday at 11 p.m., and the lowest was 29.533 inches on Saturday at 3 p.m.
The highest temperature for the week was 76.0 on Saturday, and the lowest was 51.5 on Thursday. The maximum and minimum for the corresponding week of last year were 68.0 and 47.0 respectively.
The total amount of rain for the week was 1.183 inches, against 1.142 inches for the corresponding week of last year.

MAIL STEAMERS.

THE NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From Shanghai, } per M. B. Co. Thursday, Oct. 25th.*
Nagasaki, & }
Kobe }
From Hongkong, per P. & O. Co. Saturday, Oct. 27th.†

* Left Shanghai on October 17th. † Zambesi left Hongkong on October 17th.

THE NEXT MAIL LEAVES

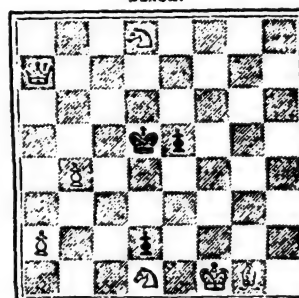
For Hakodate ... per M. B. Co. Saturday, Oct. 20th.
For Hongkong ... per O. & O. Co. Sunday, Oct. 21st.
For Kobe ... per K. U. Co. Monday, Oct. 22nd.
For America ... per P. M. Co. Tuesday, Oct. 23rd.
For Shanghai, } per M. B. Co. Wednesday, Oct. 24th.
Kobe, and }
Nagasaki }
For Europe, via }
Hongkong ... per M. M. Co. Saturday, Oct. 27th.

The arrival and departure of mails by the Occidental and Oriental, the Pacific Mail, and the Peninsular and Oriental Companies, are approximate only.

CHESS.

By F. B. COOK.
From "American Chess Nuts."

BLACK.



WHITE.

White to play and mate in 3 moves.

Correct answer received from Tesa to last week's problem.

W.B.M.—Your problem has unfortunately a second solution beginning with Kt. to Q. 3.

LATEST SHIPPING.

FREIGHTS.

The New York berth is now held only by the steamship *Selembrina* which vessel is reported to have already shut out a considerable quantity of cargo; the sailing vessel *Gilead* holds the berth for New York direct. For Havre and London the *Sagitta* has been postponed to the 31st instant, owing to further cargo coming forward. Coastwise, Hongkong is asking for coal tonnage, but nothing else is on offer, if we except about 1,000 piculs of wheat for Amoy at low rates.

ARRIVALS.

Godavery, French steamer, 1,049, Du Temple, 15th October.—Hongkong 7th October, Mails and General.—Messageries Maritimes Co.
Kairio Maru, Japanese steamer, 370, Amano, 15th October.—Handa, General.—Seiriussha Co.
Kengi Maru, Japanese steamer, 236, Masuda, 15th October.—Kobe, General.—Seiriussha Co.
Naniwa Maru, Japanese steamer, 185, Shisawara, 15th October.—Yokkaichi, Mails and General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S. S. Co.
Seirio Maru, Japanese steamer, 459, Tamura, 15th October.—Yokkaichi, Mails and General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S. S. Co.
Arago, British steamer, 1,061, L. Jones, 16th October.—Manila, General.—Butterfield & Swire.
Wakanoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,133, A. F. Christensen, 16th October.—Kobe, Mails and General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S. S. Co.
Sattara, British bark, 910, Jenkins, 16th October.—Antwerp and Middlesboro', General.—Max Raspe & Co.
Taganoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 448, Matsu-moto, 16th October.—Yokkaichi, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S. S. Co.
Totomi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,197, W. J. James, 17th October.—Sunderland, July 12th, via Antwerp, Singapore, and Manila 8th inst., General.—Kiyodo Unyu Kwaisha.
Haddon Hall, British ship, Leighton, 17th October.—Middlesboro' 19th April.
Seisho Maru, Japanese steamer, 210, Isoda, 17th October.—Osaka, General.—Seiriussha.
Tokio Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,146, R. Swain, 18th October.—Shanghai and ports, Mails and General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S. S. Co.
Vigilant, British paddle despatch-vessel, 2 guns,

1,230 H.P., 1,000, Lieut.-Commander Maxwell, 18th October, from a Cruise.
Oceanic, British steamer, 2,350, Davison, 19th October, —San Francisco 27th September, Mails and General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.
City of Peking, American steamer, 3,129, Berry, 19th October, —Hongkong 13th October, Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.
Kosuge Maru, Japanese steamer, 775, H. Kawakura, 19th October, —Hakodate, General.—Kiyodo Unyu Kwaisha.
Takasago Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,229, C. Young, 19th October, —Hakodate 17th October via Oginohama, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.
Tokai Maru, Japanese steamer, 604, H. J. Carrew, 20th October, —Kobe, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

DEPARTURES.

Niigata Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,096, Hubbard, 13th October, —Hakodate, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.
Taganoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 448, Matsu-moto, 13th October, —Yokkaichi, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.
Pearl, American bark, 536, R. Howe, 14th October, —Hakodate, Ballast.—J. E. Collyer & Co.
Seirio Maru, Japanese steamer, 591, Tamura, 15th October, —Yokkaichi, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.
Pegasus, British composite screw sloop, 6 guns, 970 H.P., 1,130, Commander Bickford, 17th October, —Kobe.
Wakanoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,343, A. F. Christensen, 17th October, —Kobe, Mails and General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.
Kairin Maru, Japanese steamer, 370, Amano, 16th October, —Handa, General.—Seiriusha.
Kenjin Maru, Japanese steamer, 236, Masuda, 16th October, —Yokkaichi, Mails and General.—Koyekisha.
Genkai Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,914, G. W. Conner, 17th October, —Shanghai and ports, Mails and General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.
Khiwa, British steamer, 1,419, P. Harris, 19th October, —Hongkong via Kobe and Nagasaki, Mails and General.—P. & O. S. N. Co.
Taganoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 448, Matsu-moto, 19th October, —Yokkaichi, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.
Shidenuo Maru, Japanese steamer, 334, Nakai, 18th October, —Shimidzu, General.—Seiriusha.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

* Per French steamer *Godavery*, from Hongkong: Messrs. Zappe, Hoffreggen, Abbé Midon, Sakurai, Saito, Taguchi, Makino, Kumada, and Wakamatsu in cabin.
 Per Japanese steamer *Wakanoura Maru*, from Kobe:—Mr. W. Bairie and 5 Japanese in cabin; 2 Europeans, and 153 Japanese in steerage.
 Per Japanese steamer *Taganoura Maru*, from Yokkaichi:—13 Japanese in cabin; and 100 Japanese in steerage.
 Per Japanese steamer *Totomi Maru*, from Manila:—Mr. De Wellesp in cabin.
 Per Japanese steamer *Tokio Maru*, from Shanghai and ports:—Mr. Dodds, child and infant, General A. C. Jones, U.S. Consul-General, General Kurokawa, Mrs. Takezoze, Mrs. Mitsunaga, Messrs. H. R. Buckley, Aslendale, Blum, Lévy, O. Colomb, J. Greenberg, F. Naudin, F. Stokes, Helga Melbye, and 24 Japanese in cabin; and Messrs. L. Diesel, U.S.N., and Retchner, U.S.N. in second class; and 2 Europeans, 2 Chinese, and 277 Japanese in steerage.
 Per British steamer *Oceanic*, from San Francisco:—Rev. and Mrs. G. T. Smith, Rev. and Mrs. C. E. Gorst, Mr. and Mrs. Benj. Smith, Mr. and Mrs. Francis Joynton, Mrs. Brinckman, Miss Arderne, Miss J. E. Dudley, Miss S. J. Scarle, Miss Brinckman, Miss J. K. Cummings, Miss Bell

Irving, Rev. J. L. Amerman, Rev. F. Cobb, Messrs. Henry M. Arderne, Smith, Jules Arranger, F. Baker, F. H. Cook, Arthur H. Shumway, and Robert Millar in cabin. For Hongkong: Mr. W. K. Hughes in cabin. For Shanghai: Rev. and Mrs. J. W. Lowrie, Rev. and Mrs. H. Blodgett, Rev. and Mrs. H. P. Beach, Mrs. J. Tyler, and Miss Alma Polmer in cabin.

Per American ship *City of Peking*, from Hongkong:—Mr. and Mrs. Gray, 2 children and servant, and Mr. Kumamoto in cabin. For San Francisco: Lieutenant Ernest Champin and Mr. A. J. W. Allen in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Kosuge Maru*, from Hakodate:—Mrs. and Miss Farnsworth, and 12 Japanese in cabin; and 168 Japanese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Takasago Maru*, from Hakodate via Oginohama:—50 Japanese in steerage.

DEPARTED.

Per Japanese steamer *Genkai Maru*, for Shanghai and ports:—Count Strickland, Mr. E. Zappe, Mr. and Mrs. Noble, Mr. and Mrs. Kaneko, Mr. and Mrs. Weidhold, Mr. E. C. Ray and 2 children, Mrs. Fitzgerald and 2 children, Captain C. M. Young, Messrs. W. N. Ray, E. Hunt, P. Mayet, N. Ladyginsky, A. Anatoly, A. J. Lines, Asada, Awasaka, Watanabe, Akabane, and Okamoto in cabin.

Per British steamer *Khiwa*, for Hongkong via Kobe and Nagasaki:—Rev. and Mrs. Rapalje, 2 children and servant, Mr. and Mrs. Von der Heyde and child, Hon. and Mrs. E. L. O'Malley, Miss Okaru, and servant, Captain Miller and servant, Colonel Parnell, Captain N. Davis, Messrs. C. Cappelle, R. Maguire, E. Ravenhill, P. Hart, G. Leith, Cassumbhoy, and St. J. Browne in cabin; and 48 Japanese and 2 Chinese in steerage.

CARGOES.

Per Japanese steamer *Tokio Maru*, from Shanghai and ports:—Treasure, \$106,000.00.

Per British steamer *Khiwa*, for Hongkong via Kobe and Nagasaki:—Silk for France, 514 bales; for London, 112 bales; Total, 626 bales.

REPORTS.

The Japanese steamer *Wakanoura Maru*, Captain A. F. Christensen, reports leaving Kobe on the 11th October, at 5 p.m. with light northerly winds and fine weather to O-sima; thence to port strong north-easterly winds and cloudy weather. Arrived at Yokohama on the 15th October, at 6.15 p.m. On the 15th October passed two American ships bound for Yokohama; ships had strong N.E. winds at the time of passing.

The British bark *Sattara*, Captain Jenkins, reports having been in company with the British ship *Haddon Hall* bound to this port from Middlesboro', experiencing very bad weather on this coast; on the 8th October, very heavy S.E. gale blowing away lower top-sails, and mizen stay-sail blown out of the ropes.

Per Japanese steamer *Takasago Maru*, Captain C. Young, reports leaving Hakodate on the 17th October, at 1 a.m. with fine weather throughout the passage. Arrived at Yokohama on the 19th October, at 10 p.m.

VESSELS ON THE BERTH.

Cairnsmuir, for New York via Suez Canal—Quick Despatch.—Smith, Baker & Co.

City of Peking, for San Francisco—23rd October.—P. M. S.S. Co.

Oceanic, for Hongkong—21st October, at Daylight.—O. & O. S.S. Co.

Mensaleh, for Hongkong—27th October, at 9 a.m.—Messageries Maritimes Co.

Tokio Maru, for Shanghai and ports—24th October, at 4 p.m.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Sagitta, for London via Havre—20th October.—MacArthur.

Selmbria, for New York via Suez Canal—23rd October.—Smith, Baker & Co.

YOKOSUKA STEAMERS.

The Yokosuka steamers leave the English Hatoba daily at 8.15 and 10.45 a.m., and 12.30, 3.00, and 4.15 p.m.; and leave Yokosuka at 7.00 and 9.45 a.m., 12.15 m., and 2.00 and 4.00 p.m.

SHIPPING IN YOKOHAMA.

STEAMERS.

Arago, British steamer, 1,061, L. Jones, 16th October, —Manila, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

City of Peking, American steamer, 3,129, Berry, 19th October, —Hongkong 13th October, Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.

Godavery, French steamer, 1,049, Du Temple, 14th October, —Hongkong 7th October, Mails and General.—Messageries Maritimes Co.

Mensaleh, French steamer, 1,273, B. Blanc, 29th September, —Hongkong 22nd September, Mails and General.—Messageries Maritimes & Co.

Oceanic, British steamer, 2,359, Davison, 19th October, —San Francisco 27th September, Mails and General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.

Selmbria, British steamer, 1,992, S. Fowler, 12th October, —Kobe, General.—Smith, Baker & Co.

Tokio Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,146, R. Swain, 18th October, —Shanghai and ports, Mails and General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Totomi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,197, W. J. James, 27th October, —Sunderland 12th July via Antwerp, Singapore, and Manila 8th October, General.—Kiyodo Unyu Kwaisha.

SAILING VESSELS.

Alma, American schooner, 35, Tibbey, 17th November, —Hakodate 8th November, Furs.—J. D. Carroll & Co.

Black Diamond, German bark, 585, Folley, 30th September, —Puget Sound, Lumber and Salmon.—P. Bohm.

Bride, British bark, 300, Sutherland, 6th October, —Nagasaki 18th September, Coals.—H. MacArthur.

E. von Beaulieu, British bark, 353, 20th November, —Nagasaki 7th November, Coals.—A. Clark.

Gloaming, British ship, 1,408, R. F. Densmore, 13th September, —New York 15th May, 52,000 cases Kerosene Oil and General.—China and Japan Trading Co.

Guam, British 3-masted schooner, 294, Marns, 23rd August, —Takao 2nd August, Sugar.—Master.

Sagitta, British bark, 579, Taylor, 9th September, —Newcastle, N.S.W. 17th July, Coals.—H. MacArthur.

Sattara, British bark, 940, Jenkins, 16th October, —Antwerp and Middlesboro', General.—Max Raspe & Co.

MEN-OF-WAR.

Aadacious, British double-crew iron armour-plated ship, 14 guns, 4,830 H.P., 6,010, Captain R. E. Tracey, 3rd October, —Hakodate.

Albatross, British composite screw sloop, 4 guns, 840 H.P., 940, Commander Hicks, 3rd October, —Hakodate.

Duke of Edinburgh, Russian ironclad, 18 guns, 900 H.P., 4,600, Captain de Giers, 11th October, —Kobe 9th October.

Fuso Kan, Japanese ironclad, 12 guns, 1,340, Inouye, 28th August, —Yokosuka 28th August.

Kongo Kan, Japanese corvette, 13 guns, 1,341, Captain Aiura, 22nd May.—Yokosuka.

Najednik, Russian corvette, 1,330, Captain Kologeras, 11th October, —Kobe 9th October.

Penicola, American frigate, 3,000, Captain Henry Esben, 10th October, —Honolulu 2nd September.

Richmond, American flagship, 14 guns, 300 men, 2,700, Captain J. S. Skerrett, U.S.N., 24th September.—Yokosuka.

Skobelev, Russian corvette, 1,200, Captain Blagodareff, 11th October, —Kobe 9th October.

Tourville, French frigate, 27 guns, 5,300, Captain Bose, 12th October, —Hongkong.

Tsukushi Kan, Japanese steel ram, Captain Matsu-mura, 19th September, —England via Nagasaki 15th September.

Vigilant, British paddle despatch-vessel, 2 guns, 1,230 H.P., 1,000, Lieut.-Commander Maxwell, 8th October, —Cruise.

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

The past week has again been very quiet for staples, business in Yarns and Shirtings being altogether of a retail character. In other Goods, there has been more doing in Turkey Reds. Metals generally are quiet, although there has been some demand for small sizes of nailrod Iron.

COTTON YARNS.

| | PER PICUL. |
|----------------------------------|------------------|
| Nos. 16 to 24, Common to Medium- | \$25.00 to 25.50 |
| Nos. 16 to 24, Good to Best - | 29.25 to 30.00 |
| Bombay, No. 20, Good to Best - | 25.25 to 25.50 |
| Nos. 25 to 32, Common to Medium- | 30.50 to 31.50 |
| Nos. 28 to 32, Good to Best - | 32.00 to 35.00 |
| Nos. 38 to 42 | 35.00 to 37.50 |

COTTON PIECE GOODS.

| | PER PIECE. |
|----------------------------------------------|----------------|
| Grey Shirtings—8½, 38½ to 39 inches | \$1.70 to 2.15 |
| Grey Shirtings—9½, 38½ to 45 inches | 1.92½ to 2.40 |
| T. Cloth—7½, 24 yards, 32 inches | 1.42½ to 1.50 |
| Indigo Shirting—12 yards, 44 inches | 1.55 to 1.70 |
| Prints—Assorted, 24 yards, 30 inches | 1.10 to 2.40 |
| Cotton—Italians and Sateens Black, 32 inches | PER YARD. |
| | 0.07 to 0.09 |
| Turkey Reds—2 to 2½, 24 yards, 30 inches | PER PIECE. |
| | 1.15 to 1.35 |
| Turkey Reds—2½ to 2½, 24 yards, 30 inches | 1.35 to 1.55 |
| Turkey Reds—3½, 24 yards, 30 inches | 1.70 to 1.82½ |
| Velvets—Black, 35 yards, 22 inches | 5.90 to 6.75 |
| Victoria Lawns, 12 yards, 42-3 inches | 0.65 to 0.75 |
| Taffachels, 12 yards, 43 inches | 1.75 to 2.05 |

WOOLENS.

| | |
|--------------------------------------------------|----------------|
| Plain Orleans, 40-42 yards, 32 inches | \$3.80 to 5.25 |
| Figured Orleans, 29-31 yards, 31 inches | 3.25 to 4.00 |
| Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches | 0.18 to 0.28 |
| Mousseline de Laine—Crape, 24 yards, 31 inches | 0.15½ to 0.16½ |
| Mousseline de Laine—Itajime, 24 yards, 31 inches | 0.18½ to 0.26 |
| Mousseline de Laine—Yuzen, 24 yards, 31 inches | 0.30 to 0.37½ |
| Cloths—Pilots, 54 @ 56 inches | 0.30 to 0.40 |
| Cloths—Presidents, 54 @ 56 inches | 0.40 to 0.50 |
| Cloths—Unions, 54 @ 56 inches | 0.30 to 0.35 |
| Blankets—Scarlet and Green, 6 to 5½, per lb | 0.35 to 0.40 |

IRON.

| | PER PICUL. |
|-------------------------------|----------------|
| Flat Bars, ½ inch | \$2.50 to 2.90 |
| Flat Bars, ¾ inch | 2.80 to 3.00 |
| Round and square up to ½ inch | 2.80 to 3.00 |
| Nailrod, assorted | 2.35 to 2.60 |
| Nailrod, small size | 2.35 to 3.15 |

KEROSENE.

Sales during the past week consist of 12,000 cases Devoe at \$1.68, and 6,500 cases Comet at \$1.64, per case. Deliveries have amounted to 18,000 cases. We quote:—

| | PER CASE. |
|--------|-----------|
| Devoe | \$1.68 |
| Comet | 1.65 |
| Stella | 1.60 |

SUGAR.

Prices for Brown Formosa have slightly advanced, and transactions during the interval have lessened the Stocks on hand, which are now light. An improvement in White sorts has also to be noted, and the price of No. 1 has advanced to the quotation given below.

| | PER PICUL. |
|---------------|----------------|
| White, No. 1 | \$8.40 to 8.45 |
| White, No. 2 | 7.00 to 7.50 |
| White, No. 3 | 6.75 to 7.00 |
| White, No. 4 | 6.00 to 6.50 |
| White, No. 5 | 5.00 to 5.50 |
| Brown Formosa | 4.55 to 4.65 |

EXPORTS.

SILK.

A good current business in this staple during the week, and Settlements reach a total of 1,250 piculs. In spite of the large business passing, Stocks have again increased, and now stand at 5,500 piculs. Quotations, with but few exceptions, are lower, and the Japanese seem willing to go on selling at or under the prices given below. Export to date is now 10,967 bales, against 9,691 bales to same date last year, and the outgoing American mail has a fair quantity engaged.

Hanks.—There has not been quite so much doing in these, buyers having apparently filled their requirements for the present. Prices are lower for all grades.

Filatures.—Buying for the American market is proceeding on basis of quotations given below. Prices are down, the better grades suffering most.

Re-reels.—Not very much doing in these, some old contracts have been at last settled at a "cut" in the godown.

Kakeda.—These in fair demand, bulk for America, some small lots Good Medium kinds in request for Europe.

Oshu and Taysam Kinds have been taken freely at quotations.

QUOTATIONS.

| | |
|---------------------------------|--------------|
| Hanks—No. 1½ | \$500 to 510 |
| Hanks—No. 2 (Shinshu) | 495 to 500 |
| Hanks—No. 2 (Maibash) | 480 to 490 |
| Hanks—No. 2½ (Shinshu) | 480 to 495 |
| Hanks—No. 2½ (Maibash) | 470 to 475 |
| Hanks—No. 3 | 440 to 450 |
| Hanks—No. 3½ | 430 to 435 |
| Filatures—Extra | 620 to 630 |
| Filatures—No. 1, 10/13 deniers | 610 to 620 |
| Filatures—No. 1, 14/16 deniers | 600 to 610 |
| Filatures—No. 1½, 14/17 deniers | 580 to 590 |
| Filatures—No. 2, 10/15 deniers | 580 to 590 |
| Filatures—No. 2, 14/18 deniers | 565 to 575 |
| Filatures—No. 3, 14/20 deniers | 550 to 560 |
| Re-reels—No. 1, 14/16 deniers | 590 to 600 |
| Re-reels—No. 1½, 14/17 deniers | 575 to 585 |
| Re-reels—No. 2, 14/18 deniers | 565 to 570 |
| Re-reels—No. 3, 14/20 deniers | 550 to 560 |
| Kakedas—Extra | 610 |
| Kakedas—No. 1 | 575 to 585 |
| Kakedas—No. 2 | 535 to 545 |
| Kakedas—No. 3 | 500 to 510 |
| Oshu Sendai—No. 2½ | 490 to 500 |
| Hamatsuki—No. 1, 2 | 480 to 490 |
| Hamatsuki—No. 3, 4 | 440 to 460 |
| Sodai—No. 2½ | 440 to 450 |

TEA.

The tone of our Market has shown a decided improvement since the 13th instant. Settlements for the period amount to 2,140 piculs, consisting of the following grades:—Common 130, Good Common 470, Medium 810, Good Medium 340, Fine 270, and Finest 117 piculs. Arrivals have been limited probably not exceeding 920 piculs, and Stocks in Yokohama are estimated about 5,000 piculs. Quotations remain nominally unchanged. No shipments of Tea from Yokohama have been made to the United States or Canada since last issue.

QUOTATIONS.

| | |
|-------------|--------------|
| Common | \$10 & under |
| Good Common | 11 to 14 |
| Medium | 15 to 17 |
| Good Medium | 18 to 20 |
| Fine | 23 to 26 |
| Finest | 29 & up'ds |

EXCHANGE.

There has been considerable tightness in our Money Market the last few days, and rates have advanced fully ½d., the demand for Bank Paper has been small, and more than an average amount of Private Bills here been placed during the week. Rates at the close are firm.

| | |
|-----------------------------------------|-----------|
| Sterling—Bank Bills on demand | 3/8½ |
| Sterling—Bank 4 months' sight | 3/9 |
| Sterling—Private 4 months' sight | 3/9½ |
| Sterling—Private 6 months' sight | 3/9½ |
| On Paris—Bank sight | 4/79 |
| On Paris—Private 6 months' sight | 4/79 |
| On Hongkong—Bank sight | 1/20 dis. |
| On Hongkong—Private 10 days' sight | 1/20 dis. |
| On Shanghai—Bank sight | 72½ |
| On Shanghai—Private 10 days' sight | 73½ |
| On New York—Bank Bills on demand | 89½ |
| On New York—Private 30 days' sight | 90½ |
| On San Francisco—Bank Bills on demand | 89½ |
| On San Francisco—Private 30 days' sight | 90½ |

KINSATSU QUOTATIONS.

The following table shows the rate of the day, and the fluctuation during the past week:—

| | |
|-------------------------|------|
| Monday, October 15th | 113½ |
| Tuesday, October 16th | 112½ |
| Wednesday, October 17th | 113 |
| Thursday, October 18th | 113½ |
| Friday, October 19th | 113 |
| Saturday, October 20th | 113½ |

IMPORTANT NOTICE.

SMALL CAPITALISTS, wishing to establish a business, should see if there is an opening for a Mineral Water Manufactory in their District. All information and recipes for the purpose of making Lemonade, Soda Water, &c., is given, previous knowledge is not necessary. The demand for these drinks is so much on the increase in all parts of the world, that the outlay for the machinery in all cases leads to a profitable and safe business. Catalogue forwarded free, on application to

BARNET & FOSTER, Engineers,
23c, Forston Street, London, N.

May 1st, 1883.

THE GREATEST WONDER OF MODERN TIMES.

HOLLOWAY'S PILLS.

PERSONS suffering from weak or debilitated constitutions will discover that by the use of this wonderful medicine there is "Health for all." The blood is the fountain of life, and its purity can be maintained by the use of these Pills.

SIR SAMUEL BAKER,

in his work entitled "The Nile Tributaries in Abyssinia," says—"I ordered the dragoman Mahomet to inform the Fakar that I was a Doctor, and I had the best medicines at the service of the sick, with advice gratis. In a short time I had many applicants, to whom I served out a quantity of Holloway's Pills. These are most useful to an explorer, as possessing unmistakable purgative properties they create an undeniable effect upon the patient, which satisfies them of their value."

SIMPLE, SAFE, AND CERTAIN!

HOLLOWAY'S OINTMENT

Is a certain remedy for bad legs, bad breasts, and ulcerations of all kinds. It acts miraculously in healing ulcerations, curing skin diseases, and in arresting and subduing all inflammations.

MR. J. T. COOPER,

in his account of his extraordinary travels in China, published in 1871, says—"I had with me a quantity of Holloway's Ointment. I gave some to the people, and nothing could exceed their gratitude; and, in consequence, milk, fowls, butter, and horse feed poured in upon us, until at last a tea-spoonful of Ointment was worth a fowl and any quantity of peas, and the demand became so great that I was obliged to lock up the small remaining "stock."

Sold by all Chemists and Medicine Vendors throughout the World.

May 1st, 1883.

E. P. & W. BALDWIN,

TIN PLATE AND SHEET IRON MANUFACTURERS.

Works:—Wilden, near Stourport; Swindon, near Dudley; Horsley Field, Wolverhampton, London Office:—4, Corbet Court, Gracechurch Street, E.C.

For the excellence of our Manufactures, we have received following AWARDS:—

Vienna Exhibition, 1873, Diploma of Merit.
South African Exhibition, 1877, Gold Medal.
Paris Exhibition, 1878, Gold Medal.*
Sydney Exhibition, 1879, First-class Diploma.
Melbourne Exhibition, 1881, First-class Award.

* The ONLY ONE awarded to any Tin Plate Manufacturer.

Sole Export Agent—BROOKER, DORE & CO.,
Corbet Court, London, E.C.

May 1st, 1883.

**ROOT'S PATENT
TUBULOUS STEAM BOILER,**

Safe, Economical, and Easy of Transport in Mountainous Countries.

Knap's Patent Mechanical STOKERS, applicable to all kinds of Boilers and Furnaces, economical and smoke consuming.

The Patent Steam Boiler Company,
HENEAGE STREET, BIRMINGHAM.

May 1st, 1883.

FOR SALE.

FOR SALE, Volumes No. 1 and 2 of the "China Review," bound in Half Calf, and in good condition.

Apply to the *Japan Mail* Office.
Yokohama, May 2nd, 1883.

NOTICE.

PRINTING of every description, at Prices which will bear favourable comparison with any in the East, can now be executed at the Office of the *Japan Mail*.

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ESTABLISHED 1799.

Printed and Published for the PROPRIETOR, at 72, Main Street, Settlement, by JAMES ELLACOTT BEALE, of No. 105, Bluff, Yokohama.—SATURDAY, October 20, 1883.

THE Japan Weekly Mail,

A REVIEW OF
JAPANESE COMMERCE, POLITICS, LITERATURE, AND ART.

No. 26, Vol. I.]

YOKOHAMA, OCTOBER 27TH, 1883.

[£24 PER ANNUM.]

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authorities, who, though informed of the intention to hold an inquest, and invited to attend, if not to take part in, the proceedings, failed to do either the one or the other. The truth is that no such information or invitation was given at all. Wai Egno died early on the morning of the 16th of September. A few hours afterwards the Japanese authorities received an intimation from the Chinese Consulate to the effect that an examination of the corpse was about to be held. To this intimation response was made by sending two sergeants of police, a constable, and the Japanese physician of the Civil Hospital. These officials, in company with Dr. Renwick and the Chinese representatives, visited the hospital and viewed the body. There the Japanese share in the investigation terminated; for, though an inquest was held next day by the Chinese Consul, no intimation whatsoever of any such intention was conveyed to the Local Authorities. We understand that the evidence of the police—without which it was obviously impossible to arrive at any final conclusion—would have been readily furnished if any notice of the inquest had been given, and it is scarcely necessary to observe that the failure of the Japanese authorities to watch the proceedings, or take part in them according to the right conferred by the treaties, was too palpably unwise to permit an assumption of deliberate intention. We can only conclude that our correspondent omitted to furnish himself with accurate information upon this point—an omission which is the more to be regretted in that it affects the general credibility of his conclusions.

THE cold weather has set in suddenly, and once more—to parody the old song—"through the muddy rice-fields resounds the frequent gun." So far the season does not promise well. The recent unseasonable rain-fall seems to have flooded the paddy so as to keep the snipe away from their usual feeding grounds, and, with one exception, small bags are reported. That exception, however, is noteworthy. A well known resident, who snatched a day from his legal duties, brought home twenty-eight and a half couple of snipe—an achievement which stands high in the best records of the best days of Japanese sport. It is said that a good deal of dissatisfaction was caused by a somewhat peculiar proceeding on the part of the Local Authorities, who refused to issue licenses before the season had actually commenced. Doubtless this reluctance had its origin in some failure on the part of a foreigner to respect the date entered on his license, but to withhold everybody's license because some-one has misbehaved, is not the most logical method of preventing a repetition of similar abuses. The subject, however, is not worth discussion, as nothing of the sort need be apprehended in the future. More important to sportsmen is the much discussed question of game preserving—a question which is not likely to find a satisfactory solution during the lifetime of the present generation, at all events. It is of course

within the competence of the Government to prevent the slaughter of game in the close season, but anything like preserving is hopeless under existing conditions. The Japanese farmer has enjoyed and exercised, from time immemorial, the right of killing whatever bird or wild animal he happens to find upon his land, and certainly the present Government is not in the least degree likely to interfere with this privilege for the sake of the very questionable advantage of providing amusement for a few sportsmen. Good shooting in this country must be procured, as everywhere else, by private effort, and even that cannot be very efficacious so long as the laws of Japan refuse to recognise and enforce the principle obtaining in more civilized countries, namely, that people who cannot afford the luxury of devoting their days to sport have no right of property in the pheasants or deer that live upon their land and feed upon their crops.

BARON ROMAN R. ROSEN, who until recently occupied the post of His Imperial Russian Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires in Japan, sailed for San Francisco last Tuesday. A number of his friends, both foreign and Japanese, assembled at Shinbashi terminus to witness his departure from Tokyo by the last train on Monday night, and a party scarcely less numerous visited the steamer on Tuesday morning to bid him farewell. It has been the rare lot of Baron Rosen to perform the duties of his office in Japan with such tact and sympathy that those with whom he was brought into contact remember him not less as a genial friend than as an able official.

THE Ratepayers of Shanghai, finding that Chinese policemen do not fully come up to the standard of an efficient force, have been discussing the advisability of importing a body of Sikhs. Some of the old residents approved of the notion; others condemned it, and the voice of the latter ultimately prevailed. The principal arguments of the non-contents were that the Sikhs, not understanding the Chinese language, would be placed at a great disadvantage in dealing with Chinamen, and that there might be danger of their treating the people with unnecessary roughness and violence. At the meeting where this question came up for consideration, it did not appear that any of those who took part in the debate could speak from intimate knowledge or experience of the Sikh's propensities and abilities. Everybody could appreciate the linguistic disqualification, but nobody seemed to be quite sure whether the Sikh police at Hongkong had shown themselves gentle and patient in the performance of their duties or exactly the reverse. The fact is that the Sikhs of Hongkong can scarcely be regarded as a fair criterion. The circumstances under which they were first employed there were exceptional—so exceptional that for many years those circumstances exercised a powerful influence on the character of the force, if, indeed, they did not permanently affect it. In 1865-66 Hongkong was a nest of thieves, pirates, and other violent ruffians of the worst class. Burglaries and assassinations were things of daily

occurrence, and crime enjoyed absolute immunity from detection or punishment. The inefficiency of the police was the apparent trouble, but the gambling houses were at the root of the mischief. Their profits were so large that they could afford to bribe the whole police force, and they bribed so thoroughly that their thresholds were never crossed by a constable. Under such circumstances no Chinese employed as police were trustworthy, and the device of importing Sikhs was conceived by the Governor, Sir Richard MacDonnell. The language disqualification was fully appreciated, but at the same time it furnished an additional security against such corruption as that to which the Chinese constables had succumbed. That it might, indeed, become a serious difficulty was soon demonstrated by a Sikh who, seeing a man plant a ladder against a lamp-post and begin to climb up in the early dawn, called out "thief" in his own dialect, and receiving no answer, put a bullet into the leg of the official lamp-lighter. Even this, however, was not thought much of. The time did not admit of gentle measures, and every Sikh went on duty with a rifle in his hand and ten rounds of ball cartridge in his pouch. Of the result of these and other caustic remedies it is unnecessary to speak now. The Sikhs showed themselves trustworthy, courageous, and vigilant; but their first training was less that of guardians of the peace than of soldiers in an enemy's country, and it was remarked afterwards that the habits of those early days survived the conditions which had created them. Even apart from these abnormal conditions, however, it may fairly be doubted whether a band of Sikh policemen either in Hongkong or Shanghai would ever develop a full measure of the unflinching patience and good temper which distinguish an English constable. Such qualities would too unfaithfully reflect the general demeanour of the foreign communities themselves. And from this point of view we cannot but applaud the motives of the gentleman who opposed the project in Shanghai. It is not often that the advocates of gentleness and kindness find themselves strong enough to command a majority in a foreign settlement in China or Japan. Their position was strengthened, indeed, by another consideration which deserved more attention than it seems to have received. The proposal to employ a force of Sikhs was openly connected with a project of drilling and arming them in such a fashion that they would be convertible into a body of soldiers if an occasion arose for employing them in that capacity. Whether the very unusual power of enrolling and maintaining such a force is vested in the Municipality of Shanghai, is a question we will not venture to discuss, but it is easy to see that the measure might involve unpleasant complications. It is certain that no body of foreign troops can be landed, for whatever purpose, in Chinese territory without the consent of the Chinese Government, and the latter might reasonably object to the constant presence of an armed force of foreign mercenaries in Shanghai.

The Colony of Hongkong will probably be a

little startled by the extreme anxiety which the good people of Shanghai display to avoid the imputation of imitating it. At the meeting of rate-payers where the scheme of employing Sikh police was discussed, a leading member of the Shanghai community expressed himself as follows:—

Another objection taken to the scheme is that it is too "Hongkong." That is an objection which we are specially anxious to remove. Certainly in preparing our scheme we avoided as much as possible anything like a servile imitation of the Police Regulations of that Colony. Probably the objection may have occurred because we mention Sikhs. But if any other nationality can be named with its recruiting ground so near, and with a people so familiar with European customs, we will adopt it—to say nothing of the suitability of the men to the work proposed. It may occur to some that our recommendation as regards drilling and arming the police and teaching them the use of arms is an imitation of Hongkong; but if you will allow me to read an extract from the Police Regulations which have been in force in Shanghai for the last twenty years, you will see that we have not borrowed this part of the scheme from Hongkong. (Mr. Holliday here read an extract from the Shanghai Police Regulations.) No one would advocate putting firearms into the hands of men without showing them how to use them. If it is thought that the pensional provisions are taken from Hongkong, I can only say they are common to all the English colonies. If it is thought that the title Captain Superintendent is from Hongkong, here again we are simply adhering to the system throughout the English colonies. But if these titles are objected to, we can substitute those of Chief Constable, Deputy Chief Constable, and Superintendents. It may be that the scheme does somewhat reek of Hongkong; but in taking Hongkong as our guide we have done so to profit by their experience. Where we have gone to a slight extent upon the lines of the Hongkong Police Regulations is in the salaries, to benefit by their experience. In one place we draw a comparison between the cost of clothing here and at Hongkong, and we find that, roughly speaking, we pay here just double what they pay in the South. We have had up complete suits of the clothing issued to the force in the South, and the Superintendent and the storekeeper both say that the workmanship is as good as, and the material is better than, that supplied to the police here. Is it fair to the Rate-payers that we should go on paying on this scale for fear of copying Hongkong? Why let our patriotism interfere with our pockets?

One is slightly puzzled to comprehend why the Municipal Council—in whose name the gentleman we quote seems to have spoken—should be "specially anxious" to avoid the suspicion of being "too Hongkong." Apparently there is a point of "patriotism" involved, but what is it? The leader of the Japanese Liberals did not approve of the British method of administering the affairs of that Colony, yet he involuntarily furnished powerful testimony in their favour when he said that the Chinese who settle there seem to forget that they are Chinese and soon learn to treat their English masters as fellow-countrymen. For our own part, we have always thought that Hongkong is a tolerably fair example of what British energy and British determination can accomplish with comparatively insignificant materials, and were Yokohama presented with a municipal charter to-morrow we should not be at all ashamed to be told that the executive methods of the new municipality were "too Hongkong." Moreover we shrewdly suspect that the gentleman who undertook to conciliate this anti-Hongkong bias in Shanghai did not share it at all himself. But Rate-payers and Land-renters have caprices like all other mortals. They require to be humoured, and "patriotism" is a very happy euphemism for prejudice.

NEWCHWANG appears to be much exercised about a certain want of judicial calm recently detected in the British Consul at that port. A gentleman had the bad taste to die at a friend's house, appointing his host sole executor to his will.

The Consul then stepped in, and declared that all the papers and property of the deceased must be handed over to official keeping. Perhaps the executor thought that this ruling reflected, directly or indirectly, upon his integrity. At all events he declined to comply, and there ensued some proceedings of a more or less arbitrary nature. At this stage, however, Sir Richard Rennie appeared upon the scene, and gave the Consul a hint that his action was a little *ultra vires*. But the Consul had another arrow in his quiver. So soon as Judge Rennie had departed, he ordered the executor to pay a fee of \$2, and on the latter's refusal, summoned him for contempt of Court. The order to pay was not as clear as official documents sometimes are. It measured four inches by three, and bore the words "*Memorandum*—11th September, 1883. To be collected from H. E. Bush forthwith, two dollars, fees for order and service of do. H. J. A." Bush was foolish enough to display his litigious disposition by wanting something in better form than this fragment of foolscap, and in the course of the ensuing argument, the Court rose from its seat, "dashed the bible, which it had in its hand, on the table with terrific violence," uttering, at the same time, some words rendered inarticulate by a sense of the gravity of the situation. Ultimately, however, his honor's judicial cholera subsided so far that he withdrew the charge, and Mr. Bush, we presume, obtained probate without further difficulty. The only material sufferer was—the bible.

NOTES.

THE *New York Herald* is not particularly happy when it ventures into the mysterious depths of Oriental policy. The ineffable self-sufficiency of its recent forecast, in which the United States were indicated as the universally elected arbitrators of national destinies, was worthily capped by its crass ignorance of Chinese and Japanese relations, and may be fitly bracketted with the cargo of Korean corpses, enclosed in coffins of pure gold, which a Japanese transport brought to Japan at the close of the hitherto unheard-of war of 1876. One imagines, however, that the big journal ought to be on firmer ground when it devotes itself to the comparatively simple task of advocating additional protection for American interests in China. The data of the problem are not complicated. On the one hand, we have quite a large number of United States' citizens engaged, directly or indirectly, in Chinese commerce, and exposed to immense loss and danger in the event of a war between France and the Middle Kingdom; on the other, we have five antiquated wooden ships, barely seaworthy and of insignificant power, charged with the duty of guarding the whole Chinese coast. Beyond these facts it does not seem necessary to travel. They are amply sufficient to justify the *Herald's* contention. But they are scarcely sufficient to furnish food for a leading article, and accordingly the *New York* journal proceeds to supplement them by "another and

a broader reason." It is, that "if France goes to war with China she will encounter not only the open and direct hostility of the Chinese, but the indirect and malevolent opposition of the English, whose jealousy of the French advances and pretensions in the East already begins to show itself." This reason is certainly "broad," but it needs explanation, and the *Herald* does not fail to explain that "there will be misunderstandings, disputes, various troubles arising out of English arrogance and jealousy;" and that "the presence on the scene of representatives of a strong Power like the United States, which yet by its traditional policy and by its interests is impartial and leans towards peace, may be of the last importance in preventing a spread of war by providing suitable arbitrators in those petty disputes which so often precipitate war between two proud and powerful nations." Thus after a little abuse of his kinsmen, the English, the American writer gets back to his old hobby—arbitration by the United States. Whether or no that arbitration would be accepted, appears to be a secondary consideration. Parties to a dispute, when they agree to submit their cause to a referee, generally attach some value to his freedom from manifest bias, but the *New York Herald* disdains such pettiness and says frankly:—"If we speak of the United States as impartial, we do not forget that American sympathies are naturally and properly with the sister Republic, France. Americans would be false to themselves did they not heartily wish the French experiment of Republican government prosperity and permanence. Nor are we of the United States blind to the fact that the well wishers of a peaceable and orderly French Republic are very few in Europe. The example and success of France are regarded as a menace to monarchical institutions, and when the Republic blunders, Kings and their Ministers rejoice." The principle having been thus definitely enunciated that the one potent bond of sympathy between two nations is similarity of political institutions, and not consanguinity, community of history and traditions, or identity of laws and language, it follows easily that America is morally bound to countenance and assist that "peaceable and orderly Republic" which is at present the solitary disturber of the world's quiet. Of course after this confession of partiality, America's qualifications for the post of arbitrator, will be thoroughly appreciated both by England and China.

On the very next day after this confession of faith, the *New York Herald* approaches the question from a different direction. "The cablegram from Paris," it writes, "published in the *Herald* yesterday stating that the fanaticism of the Chinese was such that during the Canton *émeute* Americans were classed with other foreigners as *yung yin*, or devils from across the sea, and the editorial comments thereon occasioned wide-spread comment yesterday and attracted public attention to the sensitiveness of our great foreign commerce to disturbances even in such remote regions as China. That any

social or internal trouble in China could affect America or Americans was quite remote from even the suspicions of most people, but the explanation of the real danger and the necessity of some action on the part of the United States government revealed the true state of affairs." It is plain that the good people of America have a rather exaggerated notion of the popularity enjoyed by their nationals in China. They lose sight of a few important points:—First, that the treatment the Chinese receive in the United States is not always of a nature to encourage affection for American courtesy and kindness; secondly, that the anti-immigration law does not appeal to the Chinaman's ideas of justice and liberality; and thirdly, that although Chinese statesmen may, and doubtless do, recognise the superior features of America's Oriental policy, the mass of the Chinese people know nothing and care nothing about political matters, but regard all "foreign devils" with similar aversion. In the event of a war between France and China, we can scarcely doubt that the open ports would become the scenes of riots similar to, but on a very much larger scale than, that which occurred recently at Canton, and on such occasions a Chinese mob would no more distinguish between different nationalities than between blondes and brunettes. American citizens would be pillaged and murdered just as readily as any one else, and the United States fleet would have to turn its attention to something more urgent than its self-imposed rôle of arbitration. The "indiscreet, malevolent opposition of the English" to France's arbitrary advances in the East is not inspired by jealousy—though we do not pretend that jealousy counts for nothing in the matter—but by the apprehension of disasters which would be equally prejudicial to the interests of all China's treaty friends.

This discussion, on the necessity of increasing the United States squadron in Chinese waters, derives additional interest from the publication of opinions expressed by eminent Americans to reporters of the *New York Herald*. Amongst others, Commodore Shufeldt was interviewed. He is said to have explained his views as follows:—

I have to say, first, that in my opinion China has no good cause of war with France. In 1874 France made a treaty with the King of Annam as a sovereign power, and without any protest from the government of China. Any violation of that treaty is a question between Annam and France alone—China, of course, possessing the right of protecting her own boundaries. In 1876 Japan made a treaty with the government of Corea, followed in 1882 by a treaty on the part of the United States with the same country, on the basis of the absolute sovereignty of Corea and irrespective of any rights of sovereignty on the part of the Emperor of China. These treaties were made without any protest on the part of China, although the relations of Corea to China are identical with those of Annam to China. Nations may, however, possibly drift into war, and if a war should arise it will be because China, feeling strengthened by the partial creation of a navy and army, has become desirous of assuming her position as a Power among the nations of the world and not because of any inherent right to interfere in the affairs of Annam. In point of fact, the French have as much right in Annam as the English in India and Burmah, or the Dutch in Java and Sumatra, or the Spanish in the Philippine Islands. It is simply a question of conquest and the right of superiors to rule over inferior races of men. On this question, as the *Herald* very

justly remarks, the sympathy of the people of the Republic of the United States should be with the people of the Republic of France, for, in any event, the conquered races are benefited more or less by contact with civilization, and France, the only Republic in Europe, is strengthened at home. In the meanwhile, however, the prospect of a war between these two nations has undoubtedly created great excitement among the people in China.

Secondly, therefore, I am of the opinion that it is a mistake to suppose that there is any discrimination on the part of the Chinese for or against any foreigner. The dictatorial policy of European Powers has had quite as much, and even much more, effect in creating such an influence as any anti-Chinese legislation by the United States Government. But the truth is that, irrespective of these influences, there is an irreconcilable antagonism between the Chinese people of every grade and the people of every Caucasian nationality. Legislation, indeed, on the part of the United States has been no more unfavorable than that of the English in Australia, the Dutch in Java, or the Spanish in the Philippines. This prospect of a war, therefore, is simply the pretext for an outbreak in all the open ports where foreigners reside. Those only who have resided in China, perhaps, will realize the uncontrollable character of a Chinese mob. On such occasions the authorities are not only ignored, but if need be are crushed. It is this danger which foreigners have to apprehend at the present moment in China. Take, for instance, the city of Shanghai, fronting on a river, with a commerce third or fourth only compared with the great commercial centres of the world. It has a population say, at the outside, of five thousand foreigners, absolutely in a defenceless condition, with a population in its rear in the Chinese town and cities running up into the millions.

Nothing can save the lives of these people or their property in such an outbreak except the presence of men-of-war anchored in the stream immediately opposite the foreign residences. It matters comparatively little whether these ships of war are of modern construction and armed with the longest range guns. It is the knowledge of the officers commanding and the discipline of the men and the pluck of the race which renders them arks of refuge for those who may have to flee from the wrath of a bloodthirsty mob. Besides, the sight of the flag of one's own country gives every citizen in that remote land a sense of security which, without it, he would not and could not feel. To be sure, the interests of Americans in China are not great nor the citizens numerous. If I am correctly informed eighty-six per cent of the foreign trade in China is English, leaving only fourteen per cent to be divided among the other nations of the world, yet if this is not a reason for keeping an American force in these waters, the prestige of the country and its prospective trade are certainly a warrant for so doing.

The Commodore's definition of France's rights in Annam—"a question of conquest and the right of superiors to rule over inferior races of men"—is more candid than convincing, but the rest of his remarks are well worthy of attention.

One of the leading Italian journals comments in the following sensible terms on the brutalities recently published by M. Rochefort in the *Intransigent*:—"One would never suppose, having regard to the excitement into which certain persons have been thrown, that there are published every day, both in France and in Italy, thousands on thousands of newspapers whose articles are as ephemeral as the clouds which the winds waft across the heavens. To imagine, for example, that an article in the *Intransigent* could insult the King of Italy is as naïf as to think that a statue is dishonored because a little dog forgets itself at the base of the pedestal. Our brave citizens who are so much perturbed forget that they are doing M. Rochefort a great pleasure. He would be *désolé* if his articles did not move anyone or make any passers by turn their heads. It is he who triumphs, since there are people sufficiently magnanimous to play his little game. . . . But what we understand still less is the resolution voted by the

Local Committee of Naples to refuse all humiliating aid. Are Paris and France represented by M. Rochefort and the *Intransigent*? True the Committee has couched its resolution in terms which leave a loop-hole, since it is difficult to tell whether the contribution of M. Rochefort alone is referred to or that of all France. This ambiguity is fortunate. . . . But it is a pity that a few lines from the pen of a foreign pamphleteer should suffice to drive Italians to such extremes. We are much too nervous, and therein lies a danger."

The little dog misbehaving itself at the base of the statue's pedestal is a subtle conception. M. Rochefort is well photographed. But even this, bitter as it is, will hurt him less than the discovery made by M. Achille Fazzari and published by *Fanfulla*. Immediately after the appearance of Rochefort's slanders, M. Fazzari sent him a telegram asking how many thousand francs he had subscribed to the sufferers of Ischia in order that he, M. Fazzari, might return them at once. Rochefort was informed that twenty-four hours would be given him to reply, but he never replied at all. For a very good reason. He had not subscribed a sou either in his own name or in that of the *Intransigent*! *Fanfulla*, in announcing this fact, adds, "M. Rochefort may possibly have contributed something through the medium of the *tombola*. That remains to be proved." It would be difficult to conceive a worthier finale to this miserable episode of journalistic brutality.

The Russian schooner *Nemo* left Hakodate on the 23rd inst. for this port. The *Nemo* has been absent two hunting seasons, but whether she has been proportionately successful remains to be seen.

One can scarcely wonder that the possibilities of a rupture between England and France in connection with the latter's Chinese policy have become matter of common talk. Did hostilities break out to-morrow between the Republic and the Middle Kingdom, Great Britain's position as a neutral would be extremely difficult. China might justly require her to close her coaling stations to French transports and vessels of war, and were the demand complied with, the resulting inconvenience to France would go far to accentuate her present feeling of umbrage against her former ally; while its rejection would naturally be regarded with indignation by China. After all, however, what is most difficult to contemplate is an alliance between England and China against France. Nothing appears less consistent with tradition and propriety than such a combination. Yet, having regard to the vast preponderance of English interests at all the open ports of China, and to the immense injury those interests would inevitably suffer in case of war between France and the Middle Kingdom, it is easy to foresee that England might be thrust into a position which she would never voluntarily elect to occupy. On the other side, her hand might equally be forced by some lawless pro-

ceedings on the part of the Chinese inhabitants at the open ports, who would naturally be unable, even if they were disposed, to discriminate between foreign friends and foreign foes, were their country at war with an European Power. The danger from this source becomes still more imminent when we remember that there are in China many secret societies who, to contrive the downfall of the Manchu Dynasty, might even be willing to embroil the latter with three or four Western States at the same time. Thus, from whatever direction the situation be considered, Great Britain's chance of being suffered to remain neutral may well seem slender enough to justify uneasiness.

When a strong man, having been taken at a disadvantage by his neighbour and severely punished, is burning to reassert his strength, it seems questionable whether the best way of pacifying him is to remind him of his impotence and to counsel an attitude of prudent forbearance. This, however, is pretty much the line of argument adopted by the *London Times* in its rôle of peacemaker. Evidently desirous of saying something consolatory to "our natural ally," as Mr. Gladstone calls France, by way of set-off for Prince Bismarck's unpleasant utterances in the columns of the *Nord Deutsche Zeitung*, the *London Journal* charges Germany with employing a "blustering and minatory" tone and with creating "petty scares." The accusation would be pretty enough if it stood alone, but *The Times*, tormented by the necessity of showing no favour, adds a very ungraceful rider, to the effect that Germany has no business thus to offend a Power which behaves with such becoming humility. French statesmen, Prince Bismarck is reminded, "conduct their foreign policy in a spirit of the utmost deference to Germany;" their bearing towards their powerful neighbour is "almost obsequious," and they are for the most part silent when she is concerned, or if they speak at all, do so with "almost bated breath." A clumsy fashion this of pouring oil on the troubled waters. Frenchmen will not feel particularly grateful to a friend who tells them that "they know perfectly well Germany is still immeasurably stronger than their country," and that the attitude which best befits the former is one of "proud confidence in her acknowledged strength and of dignified indifference to the private sentiments of Frenchmen." To a sensitive nation which does not believe, any more than any one else believes, that its title to stand in the very first rank of Military Powers was permanently vitiated by the Treaty of Frankfort, and which looks forward eagerly to the time when it will be in a position to re-establish that title, the *London Journal's* contemptuous method of dismissing any such possibility will seem only a trifle less distasteful than the menacing admonitions of the Bismarckian organ.

The method of enlisting recruits for the band of artists and artisans charged with the manufacture of articles of luxury for use in the palace of the King of Annam is not calculated to de-

velop industrial ability quite so much as the customs that prevail in other countries. These workmen live in a species of barracks in a certain quarter of Hué. So soon as the reputation of an artisan comes to the ears of the King, the latter causes him to be conducted to the barracks, where he is thenceforth obliged to work for a scanty pittance, sure of being dismissed at the first symptom of incapacity whether from old age or sickness. Such, at any rate, is the story told by M. Chaigneau, the only French traveller who has hitherto enjoyed an opportunity of examining the lives of the citizens of Hué in detail. The result naturally is that artists, worthy of the name, do not exist. Yet there was a time, according to Japanese traditions, when Annam contributed some choice specimens of art industry to Oriental collections. There remains a great deal to be investigated with regard to the history of art in Eastern Asia.

It is not a little remarkable that there should be so wide a discrepancy between the Consular estimates of the losses sustained by the European community in the recent Shamien riots. Mr. Seymour's estimate, which even American papers speak of as "very moderate," is less than a quarter of that of the other Consuls, who value the property destroyed at \$1,000,000. We hear from private sources that the larger claim is principally upheld by the German Consul, who has, all along, taken a decisive stand with regard to the indemnity. After the very prompt—not to say forcible—manner in which the Foochow and Swatow claims were brought to the notice of the T'sung-li Yamen by the German Minister in Peking, it is not at all surprising that Baron von Kettler and Dr. von Möllendorff should have been chosen to represent the common cause in settling the Canton question. No secret is made of their intention to force the Chinese authorities to pay an ample indemnity. Yet the relations between Germany and China were never friendlier than at present, —a fact upon which France has of late put special significance. The Swatow affair, it is true, seems rather to have been deprecated by the German Government, but at the same time the claims of Messrs. Dircks & Co. are just as warmly upheld now by the German officials in China as they were from the outset. It has been rumoured, in fact, that Bismarck thoroughly sanctioned the steps taken by Vice-Consul Schaar at the time, even to the landing of German marines on the disputed territory; and the manner in which Minister von Brandt "memorialised" the T'sung-li Yamen certainly points to entire concurrence on the part of the German Foreign Office in the steps taken with regard to the Swatow land question. Germany is palpably unwilling to let China have the advantage in a dispute.

Private letters from Canton and Hongkong confirm the report that the German authorities are actively engaged in obtaining redress for the Canton outrages; and it is a significant fact that, when the native Cantonese officials

paid their first visit to Shamien, after the riots had taken place, they went immediately to the German Consulate and *kow-towed*, or performed the profoundest salutation known to the Chinese,—an unparalleled condescension, which was in this case a sign of sincere regret, mingled doubtless with some justifiable apprehension.

But to return to the indemnity claimed, Mr. Seymour's estimate certainly is curiously small. Take Mr. Holwell's large collection of curios—his house was completely looted by the rioters—as a solitary item, and we have many thousands of dollars worth of property destroyed. It has been since reported that several fine pieces belonging to the collection have been recovered from the pawn-shops in the native city, but these can at best represent only a very small fraction of the total number lost. Then there are several hongks looted and one or two totally destroyed: an average loss of at least \$50,000. The pretty theatre, which was erected only a few years ago at considerable expense, also adds an important item to the deficit list. It cannot be doubted for a moment that the Consuls are perfectly candid and honest in their belief that one million dollars worth of European property was destroyed; nor can any credence be given to the rumour that this large sum not only represents the actual loss of property but includes as well a sort of pecuniary "rider," to the end that the riotous Chinese may grow wiser by having their pockets considerably lightened.

One of the unexpected developments of the Chinese agitation is the opening of recruiting offices, in New York and Philadelphia, for the enlistment of patriots of the Middle Kingdom who desire to resist the threatened invasion of their ancestral soil by the rash and intrusive Frenchman. The first outburst of warlike ardor occurred in a laundry on Mott Street, where an excited Asiatic convocation was discovered waving petticoats and shirts, in lieu of flags, and brandishing crimping irons with a valor which only awaited a proper opportunity to be transferred to more formidable instruments. A demonstration so unusual provoked inquiry as to its origin. This apparently simple question elicited responses of the most divergent character. Some said opium, others whiskey; while a few hinted at a combination of those inspiring influences. But a commanding figure wrapped in a partially ironed dressing gown put an end to all contradictory explanations by proclaiming himself an ex-pirate of the Pearl River, qualified by experience, study, and personal inclination to lead any number of his race to glory and triumph against the banners, bodies, and bullion chests of the French. Fired by his inflammatory eloquence, sixteen Chinamen enrolled their names in a single day, as the advance guard of a body on whose devotion their hundreds of millions of fellow Mongols at home might implicitly rely. On the following day, a similar imposing manifestation took place in Philadelphia, also in a laundry, and, by a peculiar

coincidence, likewise stimulated by an influential retired pirate, named Bang Foo. His exertions resulted in the massing together of no less than twelve volunteers, all prepared to join the cohorts in New York, in defence of the altars and the fires of the entire Celestial Empire. These spirited proceedings in America will not be disregarded by those concerned. The French are a brave race, but there are boundaries which the most desperate and abandoned courage is not expected to overleap.

"MAN yields to custom as he bows to fate," says Crabbe, and it is doubtless because they recognized this truth that the Chinese philosophers placed on record the precept:—"It is better to correct one evil habit than to inaugurate ten virtues." France has room at present for a good many Chinese philosophers, and their first care might be to put a stop to the absurd custom of duelling. There is something utterly repugnant to reason and common sense in the notion that because a man deliberately steps outside the pale of civilized society by grossly insulting his neighbour, the latter is forthwith to offer the barbarian an opportunity of lodging a piece of lead in his brain or boring a hole in him with a rapier. Duelling as practiced by German students is not without merits. Its uses as an educator of nerve and muscle are exceptional, and the danger it offers to life and limb is reduced to a minimum. But the duel as it is fought in France by journalists, statesmen, and private citizens, has no redeeming features of any sort. It is simply a parody on the habits of wild beasts. Whatever benefits the Republic has conferred on France, its influence in fostering this savage and illogical disposition contrasts ill with the wholesome checks imposed under the Imperial régime. It is to be hoped that Japan will have the discrimination to reject so repulsive a feature of Western civilization. There does not seem to be much danger of her adopting it, indeed; yet the following item of news which appears in a recent number of the *Alla California* shows that Japanese in France do as they do in France:—

Paris, September 25th.

Baron Beaufort and Viscount Armand have fought a duel. The latter was seriously wounded. Two Japanese residents also engaged in a duel. One was slightly wounded.

Possibly, when these truculent Japanese return to their country, they will bring back with them a notion that it is fine thing for grown men to perpetuate the habits of school-boys, and that a gentleman's honour can only be vindicated by an assault upon the flesh and bones of its insulter.

No case, perhaps, has ever illustrated the absurdity of duelling more forcibly than the story of M. Rochefort's slanderous attack on the King of Italy. Rochefort, who if not insane is too thoroughly brutalized to be treated as a responsible being, wrote a leading article in his journal accusing King Humbert of "pocketing French money subscribed in aid of the sufferers in Ischia, while at the same time he and the repiles in his pay were urging Germany to anni-

hilate France." Such a wild and foul accusation certainly did not merit anything but contempt, unless indeed a public whipping could have been inflicted on M. Rochefort with the consent of the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals. Nevertheless an officer in the Italian army, Lieutenant Bettini, did Rochefort the honour of calling on him and demanding satisfaction; in other words, offered a blackguard the privilege of stabbing or shooting at a gentleman! If Rochefort had not elected to evade the consequences of his slander by a cowardly subterfuge, he might have gone out and perhaps killed or maimed Lieutenant Bettini, in which event, it would have been established, we presume, to the satisfaction of all duelling Frenchmen, that King Humbert had really pocketed money intended to relieve the people of Ischia. Rochefort, however, stupidly declined this chance of escaping from the dilemma. He said that if he consented to fight an officer of the Italian army on such grounds, he must equally consent to fight any Italian official who chose to take up the quarrel; and he made his refusal the occasion for offering fresh insults to the King. We doubt whether such a vile abuse of the privilege of free speech could happen in any country where the functions properly devolving upon public opinion had not been usurped in part by the savage custom of bullet-and-blade ordeals.

The pity of the thing is that the unfortunate sufferers whom all the world was anxious to help, have allowed themselves to be carried away by a vertigo which, though very respectable, is also eminently ridiculous. The *London Times* tells us that in consequence of Rochefort's ruffianism the Local Permanent Committee of the survivors in Ischia unanimously voted the following resolution:—

However great may be the misfortune which has been suffered, still Italian blood flows in the veins of the survivors. When charity is offered to them, in order that it may serve as a pretext for insulting their King, they proudly feel it their duty to refuse, at such a price, charity, not only from M. Rochefort and the whole of France, but from all the world. For these reasons they have unanimously decided to refuse all such humiliating offers that may be sent them; and they request the Relief Committee of the Sufferers in Ischia to make this resolution fully known.

Everybody can sympathise with the spirit of honest indignation that prompted these words, but surely it is a little childish on the part of the Ischia folks to deny all the world the privilege of helping them because there happens to be a blackguard among French journalists.

Among the latest extracts from judicial chronicles is to be found a story of real life stranger than any fiction. The hero of it is now known by the name of '*l'homme au verrou*,' for reasons which will be understood from the following letter received at the Prefectural Offices of the Seine towards the end of August:—

"*Monsieur le procureur général:*—

"You did not occupy your present post in 1872, but perhaps you will nevertheless remember a crime committed at that time and much talked of in the public journals under the title of '*Affaire du passage Saint Pierre*.' At all events you have only to consult the archives of the period. On the 10th of April, towards

midday, the waiting maid of Madame Marguerite Postelet, entering her mistress's room, found her strangled. Her husband had left the house at 9 o'clock in the morning, after dressing himself as leisurely as usual. Suspicion consequently did not fall on him at first, more especially since he had always seemed to live on good terms with his wife. But when he failed to return in the evening, the truth was at once divined. It was he who had strangled his wife. But they searched for him in vain. I—for it is I, Joseph Postelet, who write to you—had had time to conceal myself effectually. To-day I am resolved to confess my crime, for I am weary of being pursued by the remorse which has never left me for an instant during the last eleven years. So soon as I have posted this letter I am going to commit suicide at Liège, and I shall adopt precautions to prevent the discovery of my body. I pray you to believe, however strange may seem the motives of my crime, that I speak only the truth. About six months before the day when I killed my wife, I became the victim of a cruel disease. Every day I had in my head neuralgic pains which lasted for hours and made it impossible for me to sleep during the greater part of the night. My poor wife nursed me with the greatest devotion, but no remedy gave me any relief. At the end of a few weeks my attacks acquired a horrible regularity, and came upon me always at the same hour. I suffered unceasingly from 2 o'clock till 9 every morning. My servant had orders to come into my room every day at 7.30 a.m. to get my clothes ready. It was the hour when I was at the height of my suffering, but he never made any noise and I was scarcely conscious of his presence, so that he gave me no annoyance. One day, unfortunately, burglars got into the house, and my wife, terrified, had a lock put to the door of our room. The next morning I was of course obliged to get up to open the door, and in my state of pain the effort was exceedingly disagreeable. It was the same on subsequent days, and soon it came to this—that no sooner did my sufferings awake me at 2 o'clock in the morning than I began to think with horror of the moment when I should be obliged to get out of bed to unlock the door. The idea oppressed me, haunted me, and strangely tormented my sick mind. I would have given at that moment I know not what to be rid of that forced labour. Finally I used to wake my wife and entreat her to have the lock taken off. She always answered me, between two yawns, that I tormented her, and that she was afraid of thieves. Then I was seized with a furious anger against her. I hated her for sleeping so tranquilly and having no pain. Each day my ideas became blacker. Every night I thought of suicide. At half-past seven, when my servant knocked, I shook my wife rudely and bade her open the door. She gave me an angry answer and said I hurt her. I declare that it was not my will but my nerves which then threw me upon her. In an instant, before she could even sigh, I strangled her. Then I covered her up and went to let my servant in. I was overwhelmed by what I had done, but I recollected that to save my life I must seem calm. As for my pain, it had suddenly disappeared. I dressed as usual; took what money and valuables I had by me, and before anyone thought of looking for me I was here at Liège, where I have lived ever since under the name of Maralcher. I send by this same post a letter to my notary, in order that he may be in a position to transmit what property remains of mine to my heirs."

(Signed) JOSEPH POSTELET.

Subsequent enquiries have shown that the statements contained in this letter are probably true.

By a private letter from a prominent member of the Corps Legislatif, we are informed that notwithstanding the growing excitement over the Tonquin question, there is in France no clearer general understanding of the situation than at the first outbreak of the difficulty; that ninety-nine out of every hundred persons who declaim, in the cafés and on the boulevards, about the vindication of French honor and the atonement for French blood, have not the faintest idea of what has been done, or who are engaged in the quarrel, or even where the scene of action really is; and that the majority of the people's representatives,—so far as they can be heard from at the moment,—appear equally ignorant with the noisy multitude. As to the Ministry, who are compelled to bestow a certain amount

of intelligent investigation, their inquiries are directed solely to the question of self-preservation. If they could hold their own by pushing forward with energy, they would do so; if they could be assured of safety by dropping the whole business without ceremony, they would do that. But they cannot see their way clear in any direction, and there is no consistent public opinion for them to rely upon. These are the criticisms of a member of the Opposition, but we apprehend that the judgment of impartial observers would go far to sustain them. From other late sources we learn that the dissensions at Tonquin have caused much disquietude in Paris, and that the union of all authority, civil and military, in one person, is strongly advocated in the highest quarters. M. Waddington's share in the diplomatic negotiations continually increases, and there is said to be a prospect of his assuming control of the French part in all discussions concerning China. Rumour whispers, indeed, that his expected withdrawal from the office of Ambassador to England may be followed by his appointment as Minister of Foreign Affairs. This would be hard upon M. Waddington, all things considered, but the most fortunate event that could happen, for France,—provided that he has the resolution and the force to carry the Government with him in the course which he knows to be necessary for French prosperity.

On the 18th of September the Korean Envoys to the United States, with their suite, were formally received by President Arthur, not in Washington, but in New York, where, at the Fifth Avenue Hotel, the Chief Magistrate was temporarily sojourning, on his way from the Yellowstone Park to the seat of government. The ceremonies were brief and not especially interesting, consisting chiefly of the delivery of credentials and an autograph letter of greeting from the King of Korea, on one side, and the acceptance thereof, on the other. Speeches appropriate to the occasion were made, in the reports of which nothing noticeable appears. The newspapers, naturally, make the most of this interview. But for the well known assumption of omniscience, by virtue of which reporters are accustomed to evolve from their internal consciousness a full set of impromptu explanations for every new or unfamiliar incident, we might congratulate ourselves upon obtaining some valuable information as to Eastern usages; but we fear that in this instance, as in others, the pretended exposition is the merest ebullition of journalistic imagination. For example, we are instructed that the Envoys, on approaching the President, "made a salaam according to the fashion of Oriental Princes,—that is, bowing to one side, instead of directly to the person saluted." We also learn the important fact that, while Mr. Arthur was responding to the courteous address of the principal Envoy, the latter was observed to "lift his hand twice to his forehead,—a Korean gesture implying respectful attention." On the whole, the descriptions of the meeting are more amusing than we presume the event itself to have been.

We observe that the confusion as to proper names, which under similar circumstances is usually confined to the unknown strangers and their titles, appears in this case to be transferred to the European or American Secretary of the Legation; for, though frequently spoken of, he always appears under a different designation. By one journal he is called Mr. Percival Lowell; by another, Mr. Lowell Osborne; by another, Mr. J. Perceval, and still again, Mr. Parton Jordan. If called upon to explain, the subtle reporter of New York would probably remark that it is a Korean tradition for Foreign Secretaries of Legation to change their names five times a day. On the whole, the *New York Herald's* account seems most credible. It is as follows:—

"We pray that the people of both our lands may live forever without change in peace and happiness."

Such was the salutation which the Ambassadors from the Hermit Land of Tah Chosun or Corea uttered yesterday to the people of the United States represented in the person of their Chief Magistrate. With all due form and ceremony, with many bows and much fair speech, the presentation of the envoys to the President took place. Behind the diplomatic forms and phrases there appeared genuine friendly sentiments—on the one hand, the reaching out of the hitherto secluded Oriental people for aid and comfort in their first plunge into the whirlpool of "civilized" life; on the other, a cordial welcome of the shy sister to the great community of nations.

The scene of the presentation was a parlor in the Fifth Avenue Hotel on the Twenty-third street side. President Arthur entered it about eleven o'clock and it was at once announced to the Ambassadors in their apartments that he awaited them. As they approached the President stood near the middle of the room facing the door. He was dressed in ordinary morning costume, and looked as if he were impressed with the dignity of the occasion. On his right stood Secretary of State Frelinghuysen, on his left Assistant Secretary Davis, Mr. Chew, of the State Department, and Lieutenant T. B. M. Mason and Ensign Foulk, United States Navy, and several other gentlemen stood a little behind.

THE AMBASSADORS' APPROACH.

The Korean magnates issued from their apartments in single file, and in single file proceeded along the corridors towards the room where the President waited for them. First in order came the first in dignity, Min Yong Ik, a relative of the Queen, a noble of the highest order and Minister Plenipotentiary of the King of Tah Chosun. He was dressed—as were all his companions—in his richest robes of State. A loose garment of flowered plum colored silk showed through its openings a snow white tunic, also silken. The whole was belted in with a broad band covered with curiously wrought plates of gold. Upon the Ambassadors' breast hung an apron with two storks embroidered in white upon a purple ground, and bordered with many brilliant colors. On his head he wore his hat of ceremony, a singular structure of silk, bamboo, and horsehair, which, according to Korean custom, it is indispensable to wear upon all official occasions.

Second in the procession came the Vice-Minister, Hong Yong Sik, a son of the Prime Minister of the Korean Kingdom. His dress in the main resembled that of Min Yong Ik, his lower rank being denoted by the fact that only one stork was embroidered upon the apron covering his breast. He was succeeded by Lo Kwang Pom, the Secretary of the Embassy. He wore simply the tunics of white and plum-colored silk and the official hat. Mr. Percival Lowell, a relative of Minister James Russell Lowell, and Foreign Secretary to the Korean Embassy, followed. He was in evening dress. Yu Kil Chum, who was dressed in a green pelisse; Pyon Su, who wore black; and Ko Young Chol, in blue, brought up the rear.

Standing in the broad hall, just outside the open door of the reception room, the Ambassadors and their suite formed a single line facing the President. At a signal from the Minister they dropped together on their knees. Then, raising their hands above their heads, they bent their bodies forward with a slow, steady sweep until their foreheads touched the ground. Remaining in this attitude a few moments, they arose and advanced into the room, President Arthur and the gentlemen with him bowing deeply as they entered. Then Frelinghuysen, coming forward, led Min Yong up to the President and introduced him. The President and Minister joined hands, looked earnestly in each other's faces for a moment, and through the interpreter exchanged some words of compliment. Then Hong Yong Sik, and after him the other members of the Embassy, were presented to the President, and all the American gentlemen present were introduced to the Koreans.

Then Minister Min Yong Ik pronounced his formal address to the President, speaking in his native tongue in a solemn and rather pleasant voice:—

TO HIS EXCELLENCY THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA:—

We, Min Yong Ik and Hong Yong Sik, are present in person to address Your Excellency the President of the

United States of America. Together we have come to Your Excellency as the representatives of the government of Tah Chosun. We desire to convey to Your Excellency from our hearts our sincere wishes for the health and welfare of Your Excellency and the people of the United States. The people of our countries having entered into friendly intercourse with each other, and having both on our side and yours bound themselves mutually to continue these happy relations, we pray that the people of both our lands may live forever without change in peace and happiness. We beg to offer to Your Excellency two official papers from our government. The first is a reply to Your Excellency from His Majesty the King of Tah Chosun. The second is our letter of credentials, which we herewith ask leave to present.

The following is a translation of the credentials:—
His Majesty the KING OF TAH CHOSUN to His Excellency
CHESTER A. ARTHUR, President of the United States of America:—

The ratifications of the treaty concluded between our countries having now been exchanged and friendly relations established, I now send to the United States of America as Minister Plenipotentiary and Envoy Extraordinary, Min Yong Ik, and a Vice Minister, Hong Yong Sik, in order to convey to Your Excellency the assurance of My gratification.

Being in My confidence and instructed so as fully to express My ideas, they will no doubt satisfactorily perform their duties, and I hope that full faith and credence will be given to them, in order that the friendship of our countries may increase and that perfect harmony may be attained.

I have no doubt that Your Excellency will fully share My views.

Done under My own hand and seal in the four hundred and ninety-second year of My House, sixth moon, eleventh day (14th July, 1883).

[Seal.] THE KING OF TAH CHOSUN.
By order. MIN YONG IK,
[Seal.] President of the Foreign Office.

The words of the Ambassador having been translated to him, President Arthur received the documents alluded to, and spoke in reply, his words being duly repeated to Min Yong Ik in Korean. The President's remarks were these:—

MR. MINISTER AND MR. VICE PRESIDENT.—It gives me much pleasure to receive you as the representatives of the King and government of Tah Chosun. I bid you a cordial welcome. We are not ignorant of your beautiful peninsular country, with its surrounding islands, or of their productions, or of the industries of your people, who in population number more than twice that of the United States when they became an independent nation. The ocean, which intervenes between our respective domains has, by means of the introduction and perfection of steam navigation, become a highway of convenient and safe intercourse—you are our neighbors.

The United States, from their geographical position, are, of all others, the nation with which the Orientals should cultivate friendship and a commerce which will prove to them and to us alike beneficial and profitable, and which must constantly increase.

This Republic, while conscious of its power, of its wealth and of its resources, seeks, as our history shows, no dominion or control over other nationalities and no acquisition of their territory, but does seek to give and receive the benefits of friendly relations and of a reciprocal and honest commerce.

We know you can be a benefit to us, and we think that when you become familiar with the improvement we have made in agricultural implements and processes and in the mechanical arts generally, you will be satisfied that we can give you fair return for the benefit you may confer on us, and it may be that in our system of education and in our laws you will discover something that you will be glad to adopt.

It was fit and becoming that you should have made with us your first treaty of intercourse, amity and commerce. You will be so good as to present to your King my respectful regards and to express to him my gratification and that of our people that he should have seen proper to honor us by the visit of the Embassy. I trust that while you are in our country you will have health and enjoyment.

It will be the purpose of our government and people so to receive you that you shall carry home with you pleasant recollections of the American Republic.

After the speeches the President and the Ambassadors again shook hands, and the latter retired, accompanied to their rooms by Secretary Frelinghuysen, Lieutenant Mason and Ensign Foulk. Outside the door of the parlor they stopped, and, turning, repeated the obeisance they had made at entering. This salute is the highest honor that a Korean can pay. It is never used except in approaching kings or other rulers of independent States.

The party will be taken to Boston this evening on the United States steamship *Despatch*. They will be accompanied by Lieutenant Mason and Ensign Foulk, who have been assigned to travel with them and care for their comfort during their stay in this country. In Boston the Ambassadors will be received by Governor Butler. They will be taken to the Exposition and all other points of interest.

"The Korean language," said Mr. Percival Lowell, Secretary to the Embassy, to a *Herald* reporter, "is very different from the Japanese or Chinese; so different, in fact, that one of the three reading aloud would not be in any degree understood by the other two. The Koreans, however, have the advantage of possessing an alphabet, while the Chinese use syllables as their linguistic unit, using one character to denote an idea or group of ideas. Korean

has, however, an analogy to Japanese, and, like most Oriental languages, it reads from right to left and from the top down."

"What will be the value of this treaty to American commerce?" asked the reporter.

"Very great," answered Mr. Lowell. "We have a great opportunity opened to us in this country, such as we had twenty years ago in China. The Americans to-day command the confidence of the Koreans, and if any foreigners are in a position to enter into profitable mercantile relations with this new country it is the United States. The country has great wealth stored up, which foreigners must exploit. It is rich in gold and silver. The people lack machinery for developing the natural resources of their land, it is natural to suppose that much of what they need in this line will come from here. Then, again, like the Japanese, they will doubtless develop a strong taste for all the social comforts and fashions of Europeans. This, again, will be an opportunity for advantageous commerce."

"But how will their extreme exclusiveness affect our relations with them?"

"In respect to that point," said Mr. Lowell, "they may be compared to some men who, while ordinarily of a retiring disposition, yet when approached in the proper manner, exhibit unexpected cordiality in their behavior. There can be no doubt but that at present the feeling is strongly in favor of what comes from America and that any advances we may make at present, in a commercial way will be well received."

"In other respects, besides her mines also the country is rich. Her rice, cotton, tobacco, hemp, and silk are all largely exported and are of excellent quality. Her trade hitherto has been almost entirely with China and Japan, but if we follow up the advantage offered by this treaty the benefits of her commerce will be shared also with ourselves."

A navigator in Korean waters has practically made his own charts. A gentleman who visited China and Japan in 1876 was in the harbor of Simonsaiki, of the Inland Sea, toward the close of the Japanese war against Korea. He said to a *Herald* reporter yesterday:—"Simonsaiki was not a treaty port, but by special arrangement with the Custom House officials I was permitted to land and visit the town and the outlying fortifications that had been badly battered by the guns of the combined fleet a few years before. A mass of Mongolian population that to me seemed millions followed me about as though they had paid admission to a rare show. I was beginning to feel that so white face had ever before been seen in that neighborhood when, to my surprise and pleasure, I heard a down East nasal accent, and discovered a Salem skipper, who took me off to see his steamer. Over a bottle of sake, which is a native drink made of fermented rice, I learned from my Yankee companion that I was on a Japanese government transport and that he was a Japanese naval officer. If he told me that his craft was a Philadelphia coal steamer it would have seemed more natural. The freight of this mysterious man-of-war consisted, not of lead and iron, but of Korean corpses, enclosed in coffins of solid gold."

"The coast of Korea at that time was one that made the boldest adventurer hesitate in approaching it. Rocks were numerous and not indicated on any chart. My new found skipper friend showed me a chart of his own, which indicated the tedious soundings he had made as he approached the coast first. The fact that Japan in 1875 saw fit to ask as a concession that Japanese seamen in distress might seek a Korean port shows the complete isolation of this strange nation, even from a neighbor as near as Japan. The fact that even Japan sought the privilege of making surveys of the Korean coast after the war may serve to show the dense ignorance which the maritime nations are in regarding even its outlines."

President Arthur's address to the Ambassadors is singularly frank. Hitherto it has been the habit to tell Oriental nations chiefly, if not entirely, about the benefits they derive from admission to the comity of nations. The President begins at the other end, and speaks first of the benefits Korea can confer on American commerce, confining his statement of the reciprocal advantage to a modest thought that in America's agricultural and mechanical contrivances her new acquaintance will be able to find a fair return. To people at this end of the world the President's words smack of sarcasm. Not many will be found to believe in the advantages likely to accrue to the United States from intercourse with a squalidly impecunious country like Korea. But the fact is that—if we may be permitted to apply a somewhat common-place expression to a very exalted personage—somebody had been pulling the President's leg, and we strongly suspect that somebody to be Mr. Percival Lowell. He is evidently a secretary of very vivid imagination, out of which it has not been difficult for

him to evolve the "great wealth stored up, which foreigners must exploit;" the "richness in gold and silver;" "the mines; the rice, cotton, tobacco, hemp, and silk, which are of excellent quality and which are all largely exported." What mere matter of fact persons see in Korea is a country where, if gold and silver exist at all, they have never been used either as money or in the arts; a country with "a population of eight or possibly ten millions, who have long been secluded from the world, who have had no incentives to industry and no means of developing it, and who have therefore been content to produce only the necessities of life and the few luxuries required in the present inert condition of the upper classes of society."* We do not know where Mr. Lowell obtained his information about Korea's large exports of rice, cotton, tobacco, hemp, and silk. Her export of these and other articles to Japan—her sole customer besides China—amounted, during the five years ending June 30th, 1882, to less than five million dollars, and her total trade with Japan, during these five years, averaged less than two million dollars. Whether such a country offers "a great opportunity," or any opportunity at all, to American commerce, there ought not to be much difficulty in determining. Up to the present Korea has evinced her appreciation of the benefits of foreign intercourse by borrowing money from her treaty friends, and we shall not be surprised to learn ere long that she has taken solid advantage of the United States's rosy mood.

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But Mr. Percival Lowell's enthusiasm is as nothing compared with the romances of the "gentleman who visited Japan in 1876 towards the close of the Japanese war against Korea," and who fell in with the Salem skipper at Shimonsaiki. How easy it is to imagine the things that befel this gentleman: how he went ashore to find himself pursued by "a mass of Mongolian population" whom his heated imagination magnified into millions; how, when he was just beginning to be nervous and perturbed, he met the lanky skipper with the nasal accent, and betrayed so much relief and joy at the encounter that the Salem man took his measure at once and proceeded to fill him up, telling him, as he carried him on board ship, about the Japanese war with Korea, which had never taken place at all, and, as he primed him with Japanese *sake*, whispering mysteriously about the man-of-war's cargo of Korean corpses enclosed in coffins of solid gold! It would be fortunate for the Koreans Ambassador, if he could come across a few American gentlemen of the same lymphatic temperament as this traveller. Mr. Min Yong Ik might then achieve a unique *coup* by borrowing a few million dollars on the security of Korean cemeteries.

In Paris there is a dog for every ten citizens—two million of the latter in all and two hundred thousand of the former. A census of the

* Sir Harry Parkes' remarks at the meeting of the Asiatic Society on June 1st, 1883.

quadrupeds has just been taken, not as a simple matter of curiosity, but because the great city's insatiable need of money has compelled its Government to tax even the dogs. Every one of them pays the municipality ten francs per annum, watch-dogs, however, escaping for half that sum. The yearly income from this source ought to be two million francs, but it is only half that amount. The other half is saved by a little trickery. Therefore it is that a census has been taken, and an order issued requiring that every dog shall carry a collar bearing the name and address of his proprietor, as well as a mark stamped on it by the police agents. Animals not thus distinguished will be liable to immediate destruction. Unless we are mistaken, there used to be a similar regulation in force in Tokijo, though of late it appears to have fallen completely into abeyance, much to the discomfort of quiet-loving citizens. In this respect, at all events, the advantage is with the municipality of Yokohama.

MANY instances have been related in which pouring oil upon the troubled waters, literally, has had the effect of lessening the force of a heavy, broken sea, and in some cases with which we are acquainted—notably in two of steamers disabled—the oil has doubtless been the means of saving the ship and consequently the lives of the crew. It is as well to place such instances, when well authenticated, on record. A vessel arrived here a few days ago in which the experiment was attended with marked success. The British bark *Sallara* was in the gale of the 8th inst., that swept a large portion of the Coast of Japan, and on that day she had her two lower topsails blown clean out of the bolt-ropes, and a new mizen-staysail, afterwards hoisted, was immediately split. At this time the vessel made very bad weather, heavy seas in rapid succession sweeping the deck and flooding the cabin. Captain Jenkins then determined to try the oil experiment, and three canvas bags full of oil were got over the weather side, a few prods of a sail-needle having been given to allow the oil to escape. The rapidity with which the oil spread out to windward was astonishing, and was only equalled by the way in which the big seas one after the other, rising high and apparently about to break on the ship, were met by the oil and suddenly seemed to collapse by the contact.

THE Chinese residents of New York have recently been gratified by the appointment of a Consul, to watch over their interests; and in announcing his assumption of office, he has issued a notification which can hardly fail to render him an object of contumely and derision on the part of a spirited section of the foreign community in this settlement. He entertains ideas of the powers and privileges enjoyed by the police, in the city where he resides, totally at variance with the opinions let loose in Yokohama, from time to time, respecting the duties of those humble functionaries, not only in this neighbourhood, but all

the world over. He impresses upon his fellow countrymen the importance of orderly habits and peaceful pursuits, and reminds them of their liability to arrest and punishment if they violate the law. He does not inform them that, if they turn their shops into gambling resorts, or include the entrancing opium pipe in their list of tea-house refreshments, thereby creating disturbance and disorder, they may scoff at the blue-coated guardians of public tranquillity and resist their interference, unless evidence is given that they come duly accredited with warrants signed by a magistrate. He does not encourage the theory that Chinese dwellings may be converted into places of refuge for criminals, and that the occupants,—with or without sympathy for the malefactors—may close their doors upon the legitimate pursuers, requiring the latter to abandon their purpose, until they shall have made their way to some distant fountain of authority, and supplied themselves with documents empowering them to enter premises in which the law is violated or evaded. He might do this, if he were a diligent student of a certain class of periodical literature peculiar to the Far East, but as he probably draws his conceptions of justice and morality from other sources, he does nothing of the kind. He reminds his people that it is their duty to coöperate with the police, and not to obstruct them, in the preservation of order; and especially to conform to the municipal regulations under which they are living. It never occurs to him to state that the application of these regulations would mean the submission of the private houses of all Chinese to "a species of police espionage which must inevitably bring the law into direct conflict with the people." Even if it did occur to him, he would not risk the ridicule which such a declaration would provoke from the better part of his own race, as well as from the citizens of New York. Nor does he venture the remotest suggestion that practices founded upon the established law of Western nations are "arbitrary and barbarous." Still less does he intimate that it is "impossible to conceive a civilized people" who would tolerate them. He is doubtless aware that by doing so he might render himself liable to the charge of inviting his countrymen to defy and trample on the local authority;—perhaps of stimulating them to breaches of the peace, if not offering a direct incentive to riot. He confines himself to a series of admonitions, by observing which the Chinese residents may not only secure for themselves immunity from reproach, but may also contribute to the general welfare of society. It is not, he shows them, by breaking laws themselves, nor helping others to do so, nor impeding the actions of the police, nor facilitating—with or without evil intent—the escape from justice of rogues and jail-birds, that they can creditably distinguish themselves, but by pursuing a directly contrary course. Altogether, it is evident that this consul takes a thoroughly sensible view of his position and its responsibilities. It would be a matter for congratulation if his Government were served by an official of the same stamp in Nagasaki; and far

from disadvantageous if many similar men, of various nationalities, were to be found among the foreign population of the larger Japanese ports.

THE Municipality of Shanghai has just adopted the following resolution:—

No person shall open or keep a house of public entertainment, music hall, theatre, circus, billiard, bowling, or dancing saloon, or shop or store for the sale of wines, spirits, beer, intoxicating drugs, butcher's meat, poultry or game, slaughter-house, or livery stable, or sell or vend any wines, spirits, beer, intoxicating drugs, butcher's meat, poultry or game, or ply, let or use any boat for loading or unloading on or alongside of the Municipal jetties or pontoons, any cargo or merchandise or ply, let or use for hire any boat, horse, or public vehicle, within such limits, without a license first obtained from the Council, and in the case of foreigners countersigned by the Consul of the nationality to which such person belongs. In respect of such licenses, the Council may impose such conditions and exact such security, or dispense with any license conditions or security, as the nature of the particular case may require, and charge such fees in respect thereof as may be authorized at any meeting of Land Renters or Ratepayers, or others entitled to vote, in any public meeting duly assembled, under and in accordance with the said Land Regulations. And any person offending against or infringing the provisions of this By-law shall be liable for every offence to a fine not exceeding one hundred dollars.

Imagine an attempt to impose such a regulation in Yokohama!

As an example of the extraordinary bias sometimes imported into arguments affecting Oriental matters viewed from an Occidental standpoint, the following, which we extract from a leading article recently published in the *China Mail*, is almost unique:—

It is true that in England official communications passing between officers of Government and what are classed as state secrets, are privileged from disclosure in a court of justice. But this is done on the general ground of public policy, the same ground that makes communications between attorney and client or husband and wife privileged, namely that greater evils would follow to the public from their compulsory disclosure than from their being withheld. And we have never heard that the rule applied to any foreign government. It could be rarely detrimental to the British public that the communications or state secrets of foreign nations should be made public if the necessity arose, indeed it might be of the greatest possible advantage. How this rule can therefore be imported into China has yet to be shown.

The question under examination by our Colonial contemporary is whether an Englishman in the employment of the Chinese Customs Service can be required, without reference to his employers, to give evidence, before British tribunals in China, regarding facts which have come to his knowledge in the pursuit of his duty. The *China Mail* admits that in the case of officers of the English Government the plea of privilege would be valid in certain contingencies as against the ordinary obligations of a witness, and thinks that a refusal to furnish evidence might often be dictated by considerations of public welfare. "But," continues our contemporary, "we have never heard that the rule applied to any foreign government." English convenience is one thing; foreign convenience, another. The former must be consulted on all occasions, but as for the latter—well, we have never heard that there is any particular rule about it. And lest there should be any doubt about the import of its sentiments, the *China Mail* proceeds to explain that the disclosure of foreign state secrets

"could rarely be detrimental, and might even be of the greater possible advantage, to the British public." True, but what about the Chinese public? Does it count for nothing where its own officials are concerned? Does our Colonial contemporary really mean to assert that England's just course in this matter is to deny to Chinese officials in Chinese territory the same privilege which she accords to her own officials in her own territory, and to deny it on the grounds that she cannot herself suffer, and may possibly benefit, by the distinction? If Englishmen in the service of the Chinese Government are liable to be summoned before any English local tribunal in China, and then and there, on pain of imprisonment for contempt of court, required to disclose everything that may have come to their knowledge in consequence of their official position, it is plain that the employment of Englishmen by the Chinese Government is not unlikely to be permanently interrupted.

THE Tientsin correspondent of the *Shanghai Mercury*, writing on the 3rd inst., says:—On the 2nd instant, H.I.H. Prince Kung received H.E. M. Tricou and Sir Harry Parkes at the Tsung-li Yamen, where they had very lengthy interviews and discussed the Canton and Annam affairs, both of which are to have a very speedy and satisfactory solution. Sir George Bowen has left for the Great Wall. Baron von Wrangel left for Kalgan to meet H.E. Mr. Popoff and suite. The Chinese have been very insulting to foreigners of late; since the glorious victory of the Black Flags over the French. The Archers selected a German gentleman and his pony for a target; one of the arrows fixed itself in the pony. This called for a protest from the German Consul to Li Hung-chang. It is surprising to note that some few days ago they assumed a quieter tone, not from any proclamations from H.E. Li, but from the telegrams from Hong-kong, which must have reached them earlier, of the desertion of the Phuhoi entrenchments; also the more yielding and peaceful disposition of the members of the Grand Council at Peking, finding, as you say, that neither the ironclad nor the Krupp guns are to come forward.

ACCORDING to the *Official Gazette*, when the *Kworio Maru* was wrecked at Kamodono-mura, Kishu, she had 57 bags of mail matter on board, including the foreign mail from Tokio and Yokohama to Kobe, Nagasaki, and Shimonoseki. The whole of the bags were lost with the ship, but two days afterwards 18 bags were recovered, and subsequently through strenuous efforts 34 more bags have been fished up. There are only 5 bags now missing, but the correspondence in those recovered is so damaged that the addresses in many instances are almost illegible.

WE (*Shanghai Mercury*) hear from native sources that Mr. Chên, Magistrate of the Mixed Court, has resigned his post, which he has held for upwards of ten years. Mr. Oung, the Chinese official of the Mixed Court in the French Settlement, will succeed him, and another official by the name of Wang will take the latter's place.

THE NAGASAKI AFFAIR.

THE question of the recent affray at Nagasaki between the police and certain Chinese residents is, we believe, undergoing, or has just undergone, judicial investigation. Meanwhile our attention is again called to it by a letter—which we publish elsewhere—from Mr. POU LIN SING. Our correspondent takes exception to several of the comments which have appeared in this journal. In the first place, he thinks that the impression our remarks conveyed is calculated to prejudice the reputation of the Chinese Consul by whom the inquest on the body of WAI EGNO was held. Without pausing to consider whether to be credited with holding an inquest after the forms of Western procedure is likely to injure a Chinese Consul in Western eyes, we may at once endorse Mr. POU's statement that "the duties of Coroners, whether Chinese or European, are mainly and essentially the same," but that forms of procedure must be in accordance with "the various usages of different nations." It is precisely, however, because these forms did not appear to be in accordance with Chinese usages in the case under consideration that we drew attention to them, not with any captious intention, but merely for the sake of noting a curious and interesting incident. Mr. POU now tells us that the so-called "Jury" at Nagasaki consisted, in reality, of four leading Chinese, substitutes for the aldermen whose attendance is always necessary at a Chinese Coroner's inquest. We are obliged to him for the information, but he would have removed our doubts more effectually had he explained in what respect the functions of these aldermen resemble the functions of a jury, and whether the resemblance is sufficiently marked to justify the use of the latter term. Our correspondent must remember that we had only the published proceedings of the inquest to guide us. Finding there that a Chinese Acting-Consul and Coroner assembled a "jury" of his countrymen, examined witnesses, charged the jury, and based his own verdict on their finding; and finding further, from a letter signed "Vermillion Pencil" and published in a Nagasaki journal, that "the Acting Chinese Consul, having taken the advice of several of his English friends, held an inquest," we had valid grounds for our observation that a precedent for these proceedings does not exist in Chinese judicial annals.

This, however, is a point of small moment, and the same may be said with regard to the form of oath or declaration administered

to the witnesses. Mr. POU says they were duly warned to speak the truth, but if so, the fact is entirely unnoticed in the published version of the proceedings.

With regard to the Acting Consul's address to the "Jury," we must be allowed to differ *in toto* from our correspondent. The Consul's words may have lost something of their polish by translation, but their substance cannot have been materially altered. Mr. POU, at all events, does not take the trouble to tell us what they really were, and in default of his corrections, we are left to suppose that the Coroner did appeal to the "loyalty and patriotism" of the four jurors; that he did describe the death of WAI EGNO as a "murder," and that he did make use of language signifying, "I am not surprised at the strong feeling of our people in Nagasaki over the unfortunate young man's most cruel death." Such expressions as these can only be described as "intemperate and inflammatory." We shall be glad to describe them differently when our correspondent supplies the necessary modifications.

The fact that the evidence of the Japanese police was not taken at the inquest is referred, by Mr. POU, to the supineness of the Japanese authorities themselves, who though officially invited to attend, took no notice of the proceedings. Accepting our correspondent's explanation, we can only say that he shifts the blame of what must be considered a most unwise and unwarrantable omission from Chinese to Japanese shoulders. The treaty between Japan and China provides that "any offender who shall resist capture by making use of a murderous weapon, may be slain in the act without further consequences; but the circumstances of his death shall be investigated by the Consul and the local authorities conjointly." The only exception to this rule is that "when the case occurs in the interior and the Consul cannot arrive in time for the investigation, it shall be held by the local authorities alone, who communicate a report of the facts to the Consul." With this clause in the treaty we fail to see that a mere intimation to the local authorities was sufficient to warrant the Consul in holding an investigation without their attendance. But whether Japanese or Chinese perfunctoriness be to blame, we repeat our statement that "without the testimony of the police it was impossible for the Jury to arrive at an intelligent understanding of the case," and that the failure to obtain, or the refusal to supply, that testimony rendered the result of the inquest practically worthless.

Our correspondent's next charge is of a

graver nature. "What is worse still," he says, "the editor takes upon himself the responsibility of saying that 'there was absolutely no evidence,' &c. Undoubtedly he must have overlooked WOO HWA and CHUN DIE'S testimonies." Well, even in the face of this rebuke, we reiterate our assertion (quoting it, however, in full) that "as regards the origin of the 'murder' there was absolutely no evidence except that of a Chinese who said that 'whatever may have been the primary cause of the attack, he truly believed deceased was innocent and free from blame.'" The Chinese here alluded to is Mr. WOO MOA. Undoubtedly we did not overlook his evidence. He was the only man who professed to have actually witnessed the stabbing, and the value of his testimony is not enhanced by the fact that nine-tenths of it was either hearsay or pure conjecture. As for the other Chinaman, CHUN DIE, whose testimony also we are charged with "overlooking," he could tell nothing whatsoever about the origin of the stabbing, seeing that, according to his own statement, he was "thrust down upon the floor with his face touching the ground" at the time of the occurrence. The plain fact is that there was not one tittle of evidence adduced to show why WAI EGNO was killed. CHUN DIE said that the lad "resisted because his money was being taken away." But CHUN DIE could not see what happened, unless indeed, it was reflected in the floor against which his face was thrust. WOO MOA repeated this statement, but WOO MOA only witnessed the stabbing. He saw nothing of what preceded it. This sort of testimony may satisfy those who wish to credit it. But it cannot satisfy any tolerably impartial mind. We find it impossible to believe that six Japanese policemen, of whom four were armed with swords, finding themselves in a room occupied by a man and a lad of 17, arrested the man, whom alone they wanted to arrest, meeting his acknowledged resistance without recourse to their weapons, and having mastered him, proceeded to draw their swords and kill the lad, whom they did not want to arrest, and whose resistance was confined to guarding his own property which they had no right to seize. This is incredible. "Mr. KOH" and the four Chinese gentlemen" doubtless arrived at what they considered "a clear understanding of the origin of the murder," but it is not given to all men to be equally perspicuous, and, in the total absence of evidence, singular improbabilities do not command credence.

Our correspondent's explanation with

regard to the place where Dr. RENWICK found WAI EGNO seems, at first sight, satisfactory. But it conflicts somewhat with the evidence given at the inquest. Mr. POU says that, after being stabbed, WAI was "immediately brought to the Chinese Consulate." Now the evidence of WAI'S uncle, WAI BANG-CHING was:—"About 8 p.m. on the night of the 15th, I heard a disturbance in the street, but did not know the cause of it. Mr. SHIN WOO MAO shortly afterwards informed me that my nephew had been killed by Japanese policemen, in the house No. 24, Shinchii. I ran to the scene of the disturbance, and found that my nephew had been stabbed in two places, and that he was suffering severely from his wound." Further, of the three men who declared that they were in the house No. 24 at the time of the occurrence, one said that he found "the deceased lying on the floor insensible;" another that "he found the deceased in a dying state," and the third that he "saw deceased was dying." It appears somewhat strange that a man in such a condition should have been carried off to the Consulate, more especially when his uncle, with whom he lived, was present to take care of him. Further, Dr. RENWICK'S statement is that he "found WAI EGNO in one of the streets of Shinchii, and seeing he was very ill, directed that he should be removed immediately to the hospital." Is this language compatible with the notion that the man was in a jinrikisha and already on his way to the hospital? Doubtless our correspondent's information bears out his version of the occurrence, but the investigations just concluded by a Japanese Judge at Nagasaki go to show conclusively that the fracas took place, not in a house, but in the street, and that what Mr. POU LIN SING calls "a pretty good piece of Japanese fabrication" is a substantially correct account of the occurrence.

THE STATUS OF CHINESE IN JAPAN.

IN connection with the recent affray between the Japanese police and some Chinese residents of Nagasaki, it has been openly stated, indeed the public generally appears to be persuaded, that the status of Chinese subjects living in Japan is exactly the same as that of all other foreigners. The treaty between China and Japan does not justify any such hypothesis. It is there provided, *inter alia*, that "in mixed cases of disputes between merchants of both countries, a plaint in the form of an application shall be made to the Consul,

who will first endeavour by friendly counsel to prevent litigation as much as possible. If this fails, he will communicate the matter to the local authorities, and in conjunction with them will impartially try the case and decide it." Again, it is elsewhere laid down, that "when arrested and brought up for trial, an offender, if at a port, shall be tried by the local authorities and the Consul conjointly: if in the interior, he shall be tried by the local authorities alone, who will officially communicate the facts of the case to the Consul." Finally, there is a clause providing that in the absence of a regularly appointed Consul—with regard to whose qualifications certain restrictions are laid down—jurisdiction over Chinese residents shall be exercised by the Japanese authorities. Plainly this treaty places the Chinese in a position very different from that occupied by other nationals in Japan. The jurisdiction of the high contracting parties is concurrent, and in certain contingencies that of Japan alone is competent. The latter was the case for many years in Nagasaki, and during those years the Japanese local authorities adopted stringent measures to prevent opium smoking. Finally, when a Chinese Consul was appointed, it was considered essential that the same course should still be pursued with regard to opium, and although the Chinese Government did not formally acknowledge Japan's interpretation of the treaty as conferring the power to pursue such a course, she not only left that interpretation uncontradicted, but even admitted the local authorities' right to summarily arrest all persons found with opium in their possession. This admission obviously included the still graver offence of smoking opium, and it is said that subsequent to the correspondence on this subject, two Chinese opium smokers were actually arrested by the Japanese police in Nagasaki, and handed over for punishment to the Chinese Consul. It would appear, therefore, that the latter's protest in the case of the recent stabbing affair came rather late in the day. To be late is, however, a Chinese official idiosyncrasy. It was displayed in the case of the original French treaty with Annam: it was displayed in Korea's case, and it is, in fact, displayed whenever the occasion offers. The essence of Celestial diplomacy is to leave a question unsettled until some fresh, and, it may be, irrelevant, complication crops up to facilitate its solution in a sense favorable to China. Thus at Nagasaki the Japanese police might have gone on for ten or twenty years arresting Chinese opium smokers and handing them over to their

Consul without evoking any protest from the latter, or in the smallest degree disturbing public equanimity; but so soon as a Chinese life is sacrificed in the operation, the Chinese authorities seize the opportunity to enlist sentiment and sympathy on behalf of a contention which their own passiveness had long deprived of all validity. We strongly suspect that but for the agitation originated and fomented a short time ago by an English local journal in Nagasaki, the idea of resenting a perfectly legitimate and necessary exercise of Japanese municipal authority would never have occurred to the Chinese residents. It would have seemed to them not only natural, but essential to the maintenance of order, that when the police witnessed a crime in the very act of commission, they should then and there arrest the perpetrators, whether in a street or in a house. No rational man will pretend that the hearth of a civilized citizen in the nineteenth century offers to malefactors those privileges of sanctuary which belonged to heathen temples of old. Judging, indeed, from the rodomontade written by irresponsible foreign journalists in Japan on the subject of police espionage and the arbitrary exercise of official authority, one is disposed to imagine that the proper function of journalism is to impede the assertion of the laws and to weaken the hands of their guardians. Imagine a metropolitan constable in some Western city who having detected two men in the act of committing a crime inside a house, should run off to obtain a warrant before arresting them! Fortunately such dotards do not disgrace any police force in the universe, except that of Japan, where Westerners, in the wake of their boasted civilization, have imported the privilege of paralysing the arm of the law. It is well known that throughout this country there exists a most accurate system of registration, by which the whereabouts of every Japanese and his occupation are periodically recorded by the authorities. It is a system which entails no inconveniences and does not interfere with the privacy of every-day life, but which nevertheless renders large aid to those charged with the maintenance of law and order. The only Japanese exempted from it are those employed at the open ports, and the consequence is that the compounds of foreign residents offer a secure asylum for bad characters of every description. This result may be an admirable assertion of rights based upon distorted treaties, but what are its advantages? Does there exist any respectable foreign resident in Japan who thinks that

his Lares and Penates would be more dishonoured by an occasional visit from the police than by the possibly constant presence of thieves and panders? Here, however, steps in the same unreasoning prejudice which renders every apparent assertion of Japanese authority intolerable. The European out of Europe is a species of petty divinity independent of all foreign laws. He comes to Japan; establishes himself in a corner of Japanese territory; "calls upon the Japanese" to assume municipal control of the corner; tells them that it must be a control without regulations, since he is altogether too lofty a personage to be subservient to Japanese regulations, though possessing, unfortunately, no power to enforce any regulations of his own; and finally takes a number of Japanese into his employ whom he expects the Japanese authorities to govern, declining, however, to let them be brought within the reach of Japanese governmental machinery. Such an attitude is eminently creditable to our intelligence, and the fact that the Chinese residents at Nagasaki are disposed to follow it, will doubtless be regarded with much complaisance by some agitators. But it happens that we have read very recently of Chinese subjects in Peking whose houses were visited and searched by officials armed with no warrant beyond information that opium smoking went on there. On what grounds can Chinese residents in Japan claim a license so much larger than they enjoy in their own country; and on what grounds can Japanese police be restrained from exercising the power vested in police all over the world—the power of arresting a malefactor whenever and wherever they discover him *in flagrante delicto*? BURKE once said that "liberty is folly, vice, and madness without tuition or restraint." He might have found a remarkable illustration of his thesis had he lived to study the conditions of foreign residence in Japan to-day.

THE REAL CONDITION OF KOREA.

THE long isolation Korea was suffered to preserve has sometimes been adduced as an evidence that even Western aggressiveness is not without limits. Little by little, however, as our knowledge of the peninsula, its people, and its resources grows fuller, it becomes plain that if Korea lived alone until 1882, it was not because her seclusion was respected, but because her acquaintance was not worth cultivating. Any lingering doubts upon this subject that may have survived in sanguine minds or been kept alive by interested journalists,

must be finally dispelled by a perusal of the last number of the Asiatic Society's proceedings. There will be found there three papers from the pens of members* of Her Majesty's Consular Service, the contents of which are calculated finally to dispel all delusions. It is true that recent American travellers accredited the country with immense wealth of minerals, and as yet we are without practical proof that among the beautiful hill-regions of the north there do not exist deposits rich enough to attract enterprise. But should any such resources be found easily accessible, Korea will be distinguished from all other countries by the possession of riches which she has never utilized in any form. It is the fashion now-a-days with a certain class of writers to assert that Japan did not formerly possess any respectable store of the precious metals, and that what she has now come to her chiefly through her foreign commerce. But it is at least certain that gold and silver were always used with profusion in her art industries. There was not a well-to-do household in the kingdom that did not possess among its furniture or utensils some ornament or vessel into the manufacture of which gold or silver entered largely. Of Korea, however, the very opposite is true. Vessels or ornaments of the precious metals have nowhere been observed, either by Japanese or European travellers. Yet the people are by no means insensible to the pleasures of wealth. Any evidence of riches is certain to entail official squeezing, and we have seen that the very first advantage the Koreans have taken of their admission to the comity of nations is to borrow money from their new friends. In short, we can discover no valid grounds for assuming that the future of the peninsula will fulfil any of the golden prophecies still credited by hopeful writers.

The system of Government appears to be about as bad as possible. The present resources of the country are essentially agricultural, yet the agricultural classes occupy the position of serfs to whom no prospect of rising in the social scale is visible. All the lucrative official posts are monopolized by the nobles, while those of minor value fall to the middle class, nominally by competitive examination but in reality by patronage. Deprived thus of the stimulus of ambition, the lower orders also lack incentives to industry. For the ownership of the soil is divided nearly equally between the nobles and the royal family, and as neither of these set any limit to their exactions, there remains

to the cultivators, in many instances, a pittance barely sufficient to keep body and soul together. To such an extent are these exactions carried that the people do not care to make any profits over and above what they can spend on food and clothes. Probably even that humble ambition is seldom gratified, for although the denizens of the capital are generally well, if not handsomely, dressed, a Japanese traveller, who made his way into the interior eight years ago, and whose diary Mr. W. J. KENNY has translated, found that the most characteristic feature of the viands set before him was putridity. They were cheap enough, to be sure, seeing that he was furnished with more rice than he could possibly consume and a number of decayed condiments for a sum of less than 3 *sen* (about a penny); but, after all, the first desideratum in food is that it should be eatable. The result of the suicidal policy which has reduced the national scale of living to this miserable level is that the whole revenue of the State is less than one million dollars, and that large tracts of land, every foot of which would be cultivated in Japan, lie waste, or serve only as sites for the innumerable graves which appear to constitute a salient feature of Korean landscapes.

In all parts of the world dirt is the companion of thriftlessness, and this is eminently true of Korea. The Japanese traveller referred to above, says that the people "make no particular change in their garments for inside and outside wear. Their bodies and limbs are impregnated with filth; their clothing is a nest of vermin. As they usually lie down and get up without washing their feet, their houses are in a complete litter, the stench of which offends the nose in a well nigh unendurable manner." To this testimony Mr. HALL adds a statement that the "Koreans never tub," and Mr. BONNAR thus describes the capital:—"Along the middle of the street there often runs a small stream of thick black mud, and on each side are continuous pools into which the latrines of the houses open. Dung-heaps, in many instances, occupy more than half the street: other gutters run across the road, and are perhaps covered over with rotten boards or large uneven stones, or not at all. The sight of many of these streets is most disgusting: not the slightest attempt at drainage or sewage is made, and the air is poisonous with the offensive smells. Add to this a long row of blackened, wretchedly built houses, and a number of dogs, horses' and bullocks' skulls lying about, and one may have an idea of

* Messrs. J. C. Hall, H. A. C. Bonnar, and W. J. Kenny.

some of the streets of the capital of Korea. We were told that for a month or more the streets had been cleaned somewhat: it is difficult to conceive what existed before this attempt was made. A small stream runs through the city from west to east, but the little water in it is stagnant, and is hardly to be seen among the heaps of rubbish thrown into it." The houses are one-storied buildings, eight or nine feet high, many of them in the last stage of decay, and since the smoke from the cooking hearth is conducted under the sleeping chamber, it finally emerges through an opening some three or four feet above the ground. Thus the streets are constantly brooded over by a cloud of smoke. Fuel and water seem to be equally scarce. There are but few wells in the city, and the water in them is of bad quality. It is generally stored in earthenware utensils in the houses for daily use. Both from the southern coast, and from the inland regions to the north of the capital, the chief staple of the cityward trade seems to be fire-wood. Junks and pack-horses laden with it were remarked in considerable numbers by Mr. HALL on his journey from Nam-Yang to Söul, and by Mr. BONNAR on the road from the latter place to the Chinese frontier. The wares sold in the shops are evidently of a very common-place description, as, for example, books, fans, foot-rules, oiled paper hat-covers, men's and women's caps, bamboo screens of delicate workmanship, leopard skins, pipes, tobacco, saddles, cabinets, paper screens, women's hair-pins, pottery of rude manufacture, horse hair cuffs and skull caps, hats, iron utensils," &c. The only tolerably respectable stores in the capital are "a row of warehouses, two stories high, the lower portions of which are divided off into little shops, opening into a small central court-yard, instead of facing the street." The trade in silks and cottons appears to be confined to these stores, though other goods, such as boots, paper, and brass-ware, are also sold. Mr. HALL tells us that "these wares are stowed away in shelves and closets inside," so that the customer is considerably puzzled to discover where he may find what he wants, and is, moreover, obliged to conduct his business in the court-yard as "the shop itself is too small for a man to stand upright or turn about in."

In this very sombre picture of Korean civilization there is only one redeeming feature: the nation is so little priest-ridden that an ordinary traveller sees neither cassock nor tonsured head anywhere. Mr. HALL indeed, is disposed to attribute the

backward condition of the people, in some degree, to this absence of Buddhist influence, and his idea certainly consists with the totally opposite conditions which exist in Japan. But we suspect that Buddhism would have established itself firmly enough in Korea had the temporal prospects of the effort been more enticing. A country whose capital remains to this day without barber's shops, public bath-houses, theatres, gardens, or places of entertainment, and a people whose only pleasures in life are revelling in dirt and tobacco, were not likely to attract the propagandists of a religion which depends so much upon the attractiveness of its material aspects.

Modern Korea being such a squalid, impecunious place, and its people so incapable apparently of any industrial achievement, one cannot but marvel at the well authenticated fact that less than three centuries ago one of Japan's most important art industries received its first appreciable development from an importation of Korean workmen, and that in centuries three times as far back Japanese civilization drew largely from the same source. Yet evidences are not entirely wanting that the country was once capable of better things. Thus we read that the city residence of the former regent is "surrounded by a strong stone wall," "some of the stones of the main gate-way being of immense size;" and Mr. BONNAR, speaking of one of the four city gates, says:—"The solid stone-work of large granite blocks smoothly finished off and about twenty-five feet high is surmounted by a heavy two-storied wooden structure, painted red and green and rising another thirty feet above the masonry. The slightly curved roof is tiled and ornamented with small stone figures, giving the whole gate a very finished appearance." The same traveller saw, on the north of the capital, a "handsome monumental arch supported on two columns of granite," and "stone foundations where formerly large houses must have stood." Among the Japanese it is a common tradition that Korea has never shown any sign of recovery from the disasters she suffered both at the end of the sixteenth century, and, fifty years later, at the time of the fall of the Ming dynasty. Certain it is that she has long ceased to produce any of those noble works of art, specimens of which reached Japan among the *spolia opima* of KIYOMASA's army. She presents to-day the spectacle of a nation which the sufferings of war followed by long years of official oppression and spoliation have reduced to a condition of abject poverty and almost unparalleled squalor.

CORRESPONDENCE.

[Our readers must distinctly understand that we are in no sense responsible for the sentiments or opinion of our Correspondents, for the accuracy of their assertions, or for the deductions they may choose to draw therefrom.]

THE NAGASAKI AFFAIR.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL."

SIR,—Your issue of the 29th ult., commenting upon the Coroner's inquest held at the Chinese Consulate, contains allusions which will undoubtedly turn the public mind against our new Acting Consul, if we are not permitted to say a word about them. I beg that you will be kind enough to allow me to encroach upon your esteemed and most valuable columns, to offer a few explanations.

The inquest was held purely "*à la Chinoise*." There was neither "conception" nor desire to hold it after the fashions of a European Coroner. If our proceedings appeared to you in that light, then it must have been an accidental coincidence. I suppose the duties of Coroners, whether Chinese or European, are mainly and essentially the same, but customs and forms, however, must be necessarily different according to the various usages of different nations. It is only right for all Coroners to follow the principles of their own country. Mr. Koh did, on that occasion, what other Chinese official would have done under the same circumstances.

As in regard to the formation of the jury, there was nothing strange about it. The Acting-Consul had neither "empaneled" a jury, nor did to the four Chinese gentlemen, what a European Coroner would have done; but strictly speaking, he was only holding a Chinese inquest, and Mr. Koh invited the four Chinese (presidents of the various Chinese societies in Nagasaki) in order to substitute for the want of "Tipaos"—or aldermen—whose attendances are always necessary in a Chinese Coroner's inquest. Therefore, Mr. Koh did not, and had never wished to hold the inquest "*exactly as an European Coroner would have done*."

In regard to the administering of an oath, we have a way of our own; it was so simple and contains so little of ceremony, which undoubtedly was the direct cause of its omission in the report. Europeans mostly embrace the Christian religion, consequently the "process of swearing" by kissing the Holy Bible is necessary, but all Chinese Mandarins are professed to follow the doctrines of Confucius, with the same process for obtaining evidence would be most detestable in the eyes of all Chinese. We do not consider the Bible alone can effect the necessary consequences of a perjuror; so our Acting Consul Koh did what was most appropriate for the occasion by warning each witness to speak the truth ere he may not be attended with punishment for any misstatement or wilful falsehood. When all the witnesses had testified, they were ordered by the Acting Consul to sign their names under their respective evidence which were taken on paper.

It is a pity that the Editor of the *Weekly Mail* was not aware before, that Mr. Koh is a Chinese official, and as a necessity, the inquest *should be conducted* entirely in the Chinese fashion. If the Editor chooses to take the trouble of looking into the 'Chinese Judicial Records', he may be astonished to find that his statement—"inasmuch as Chinese judicial annals contain nothing that could have been taken as a precedent"—is a gross mistake. It shows that the Editor was, however learned, not at all acquainted with the knowledge of Chinese Judicial formalities.

As regards the statement that no testimony was taken from the Japanese police,—well! Who was to be blamed for that? The Japanese authorities were notified by our Acting Consul of the inquest, and at the same time formal invitations were sent to the Governor and the police authorities requesting their attendances, but the Japanese had utterly disregarded that and declined to attend. Will this justify the Editor to insinuate that no Japanese police were permitted to give testimony? What is worse still, for the Editor to take upon himself the responsibility of saying that—"there was absolutely no evidence," &c. Undoubtedly he must have overlooked Woo Moa and Chun Die Chie's testimonies. I am sure, Mr. Koh and the four Chinese gentlemen had heard sufficient evidences to present them a clear understanding "of the origin of the murder." It is true, the report published in the press was not so minute in details as it might have been, but the whole proceeding of the inquest was conducted entirely in the Chinese language—(Dr. Renwick's testimony excepted), a full report of it would be next to impossible. On the whole, we all thought that Mr. Koh, although in the height of indignation, controlled his temper most calmly, had not the slightest "display of" mental "intemperance." His address was spoken in Chinese and he delivered it in a most quiet style. The words translated into English may seem a little irritating, but we can conceive nothing there to be "inflammatory."

It is but just for us to applaud Mr. Koh for the zeal and energy he has shown in trying to quell down the popular indignation among the Chinese Community of Nagasaki. Mr. Koh has been doing his duties well, and he will continue to do so by urging the Japanese authorities to perform speedy execution of the law and to grant reasonable compensations for deceased's family.

Now turning our attention to page 529, in the same issue, we were made to understand that Wai Egno was testified to have been slain in the house, and afterwards was found in the street by Dr. Renwick. Well, the fact was this; Wai Egno was stabbed in the house about 8 p.m. and was immediately brought to the Chinese Consulate. The Acting Consul saw the man was dying then, immediately ordered him to be sent to the hospital, and at the same time Dr. Renwick was summoned to attend him. While Wai Egno was carried by a jinrickshaw, slow moving towards the hospital, he was found by Dr. Renwick in Sinchi-street about 8.30 or 8.45 p.m.

This, I hope, is sufficiently clear to remove the discrepancy which as you say "may involve important points."

Glancing upon the next column I am surprised to find the statement that "two Japanese policemen were severely hurt!" Were they so badly injured that they had not the strength even to utter a word of complaint to our Acting Consul? No one in Nagasaki was ever aware that any Japanese was injured, and more astonishing still, that the three or four policemen were mobbed by thirty or forty Chinese! A pretty good piece of Japanese fabrication!

Whatever may be the substance of the Japanese story, we aliens in Japan await most anxiously for the result of the trial and the settlement of the case between the two powers. I beg herewith to enclose my cards and remain,

Yours most faithfully,

POU LIN SING,
Chinese Resident, No. 3, Bund,
Mugasaki Settlement,
Nagasaki.

Nagasaki, October 12th, 1883.

A CRY OF THANKFULNESS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—By the universal law of compensation, there are few sorrows, hardships, or calamities to individuals, in which some germ of comfort or advantage to others may not be found. In every human experience, the truth of the homely adage, "It is an ill wind that blows nobody good," is at some time realized, and in the fulness of a sudden and deep sense of relief which has come over me, albeit the result of an event fraught with inconvenience to many, I am impelled to narrate a possible, and I must say (though with an admixture of doubt), a happy, consequence, to me and mine, of a recent occurrence in a neighboring country. I shall mention no names, but the facts of my recital will be recognized by many, in Europe, who are acquainted with the circumstances of a strange family history, which has for generations darkened one of the most respected escutcheons in my native land.

The fatalities of lineage are inscrutable. The origin of the terrible burden which rests upon the house of which I am a humble member is lost in the distant past. It is sufficient to say that, from our earliest records, we have known it to be the doom of the second-born male of each successive marriage to be cursed with an insatiable thirst for human blood. This awful propensity is accompanied by no indication of ferocity, and it has been noted that the victim, in most cases, has been singularly free from the defects of nature which should naturally attend so dreadful a characteristic. Gentleness, amiability, refinement of taste and feeling, have distinguished the youth of almost every one of these second sons, who at the age of twenty-five, have abruptly developed the unconquerable appetite to which I have referred. Up to that age, no sign or token of taint in the blood has appeared. In numerous instances, as may be supposed, the effort has been made to conceal the wretched secret from the sufferer, and to keep him in ignorance until the critical period shall have passed. But always in vain. Excepting where he has been held in strict captivity throughout his life, the dire impulse has asserted itself, and he has been hurried by destiny into the commission of what, under other conditions, would be deemed the crime of murder.

In earlier centuries when our house was powerful, amid a horde of vassals it was our custom to select a thrall who was willing to be sacrificed for the welfare and honour of the chieftains's son,—(and such were never wanting in the staunch old feudal days)—and submit him to the temporary frenzy of the young master. With this single act, all slaughterous desire was satisfied, and the instrument of a stern fate passed on through happy and contented years to an honored age and a lamented death. But with the growth of modern ideas, it has been found requisite to dispense with that traditional formality, the prejudices of the majority regarding our expedient with disapproval. For more generations than I care to say, we have therefore been forced to the unspeakably humiliating necessity of confining our second born through the term of his mournful existence. Such exceptions as have occurred, were marked by circumstances which it would be inexpedient for me to reveal.

For the past two or three years, the family has been plunged in more than common grief, owing to the arrival at manhood of a second son whose gifts and attainments have caused him to be beloved in an unusual degree. Young, noble in aspect as in name, rarely accomplished, and to crown

all, the recipient of a princely fortune by the bequest of a relative who was unaware of the doom which hangs over him, the sad crisis of his life has been looked forward to with an anguish beyond the power of words to depict. To avert the catastrophe, we *know*, is impossible. How to carry him through the miserable ordeal has been our eager study, ever since his accession to the vast fortune I have spoken of. It was, indeed, upon this anxious yet well-nigh hopeless quest that I started upon the journey which has brought me to this remote region. Whether my half formed expectations tended, I need not, or rather must not, disclose. Happily they may now be laid aside. Imagine the desert-stranded Bedouin, parched and agonized with the beating rays of the sun, and blistered with the scorching sands, who suddenly descries a laughing stream in a green oasis. Picture the desperate, soul-harrowed felon awaiting capital sentence on the rack, who hears at the last moment that a flaw in the proceedings sends him forth a free man,—and you many gather some conception of the emotions with which I have discerned the certain means of escape for my cherished relation, in this the last year of the margin which destiny allows him.

I say, "the certain means of escape!" True, and I fervently rejoice, although the escape is not without harsh penalties,—from which I cannot but feel that one so richly endowed by nature and by splendid inheritance should be exempt,—and is attainable only under conditions peculiarly oppressive and irksome to a haughty spirit finely tempered by high breeding, and constitutionally accustomed to look upon birth and wealth as releasing him from some of the severities rightly applicable to the masses of the lower social scale. My meaning will be understood when I state that the clouds have been lifted from my mind by a perusal of the reports connected with the late unpleasant incident at Honam, and the consequences thereof. Every intelligent mind will follow, without an effort, my train of reasoning. My unhappy relative—but I need no longer say unhappy, in the worst sense,—shall visit the East, his journey being so timed as to bring him within Chinese territory at the beginning of his twenty-fifth year. Then we shall do—nothing. Yet I am wrong to say nothing. It will be in better taste for us to provide him with gentlemanly weapons, the day before we leave him;—as we must leave him, since it would be a painful reminiscence through his life, if he were compelled to abbreviate the existence of one of his own lineage, or even his own race. Among Mongols, then, we shall leave him, with proper weapons, I say, lest the fit should seize him with nothing at command but his hands and his teeth, as has sometimes happened in former paroxysms, to our inexpressible chagrin. And then, the deplorable requirement of his momentarily perverted nature being fulfilled, we shall await the consequent affliction with fortitude. Seven years are not an eternity. He will be only thirty-two when he returns to his proud position in society, again the recipient of its smiles, its caresses, and its honours. His fortune will be accumulating in the meantime, which will prove some consolation during his gloomy term of probation. But on that grievous feature of the proceedings,—his incarceration,—I will not dwell. It is not without bitter pangs that I think of what he must undergo, but we shall strive to discover means of alleviating his misfortune,—a misfortune which all must feel to be undeserved, since the spell of fate compels him to an act foreign to his disposition. Perhaps we

may, with our influence at home, and the resources—but I dare not look too confidently into the future. The present happiness may well suffice.

And now, sir, I ask you it is not natural that the overflow of my joyous feeling should seek expression, even in this unusual channel. So strange and sudden is the lightness of my heart, that I ask myself if that organ is not wanting within me. I am alone, and have no one with whom I can exchange congratulations, and as I turn my face Westward, with far different emotions from those which weighed me down as I set forth, I believe I may carry with me the soul-felt sympathy of every father who has a son to love and to lose; every mother of an adored offspring; every brother and sister who cherish one of their home circle perhaps above the others, hoping that, as the years roll on, he, their idol, may escape the woes and perils which environ mankind. And I trust this sympathy will not be lessened by the knowledge that the object of my solicitude is not of the common herd, but one who stands as much above the general level as, for example, the vagrant Mongol falls below it;—a type of true nobility; an ornament, apart from his rank and his possessions, to the best society of his native land,—as would at once, I think, be admitted by all, if I ventured to disclose his name or that of the country to which he belongs.

Enclosing, for your satisfaction, my card (which I beg may be destroyed),

I am, Sir, Yours,

LIGHT IN DARKNESS.

Yokohama, October 20th, 1883.

THE RECENT STORMS.

NOTES ON THE STORMS OF OCTOBER 7TH TO 9TH, AND 12TH TO 13TH, 1883.

The geographical position of Japan between the continent of Asia on one side and the Pacific Ocean on the other makes its climate dependent on these two great expanses of land and water, which in their influence on the distribution of pressure in summer and winter show the greatest contrasts.

In winter a wide area of high pressure, or anti-cyclone, lies over Central Asia while a deep depression occupies the Northern Pacific near the Aleut Islands, causing a constant air current over Japan from the North and West. In summer the positions of the highest and lowest pressure are nearly reversed, the lowest being then in Asia, the highest over the Eastern part of the North Pacific. At this time of the year South to East winds are prevalent in Japan.

Whenever these two commanding areas of high and low pressure are well established in the middle of winter and summer the weather in Japan shows the greatest constancy, but as soon as they commence shifting in the spring and fall the weather becomes unsettled and changeable.

The autumn changes of this year began on September 1st and brought a number of smaller and 3 large depressions. The first of the large ones passed September 11th to 14th (see *Japan Mail* of September 24th), the second October 7th to 9th, the third October 12th to 13th, the two last ones being similar in many respects.

The storm of October 7th to 9th traversed the whole country from South-West to North-East with great rapidity and fury. It passed probably through or near the Riukiu Islands, crossed 30° North latitude in about 130° East longitude or

more, was off Kii Channel on the 8th at 6 a.m., passed East of Wakayama and Osaka (noon), Kioto (1 p.m.) to Kanazawa in Echizen (2 p.m.), thence via Niigata (5 p.m.) to near Aomori (10 p.m.) and through Tsugaru strait into Hokkaido, passing Sapporo earlier than 6 a.m. on the 9th.

In these 24 hours the centre thus travelled more than 25 n.m.p.h. on an average, the distance Wakayama-Sapporo being 605 n.m., but from noon to 5 p.m. on the 8th its rate of progress was 55 n.m.p.h.

The weather map for Sunday October 7th 2 p.m. shows first the approach of this depression. The barometer had fallen at Kagoshima 3 mm. since the morning, while pressure was banking up over the Inland Sea and in Eastern Nippon by 2 mm. As these changes were not known at the time in Tokiyo, the first intimation of a storm approaching the Southern coast was received by special telegram from Kagoshima and Nagasaki, heavy gales blowing at both stations at 9 and 10 p.m. respectively so that the warning issued immediately to the South-West coast was late for these two stations.

On Monday morning the 8th the depression had made rapid progress advancing towards the North-East. The centre was then off Kii Channel, with very steep gradients* over Central Japan from 5 upwards to 9; North to East gales from Kochi to Hamamatsu, little wind yet in North-Eastern Japan and also in the extreme West, heavy rain all over Southern Nippon.

At noon the centre was abreast of Wakayama and Osaka; at 2 p.m. near Kanazawa, the barometer having fallen there 17 mm. in 8 hours, the heaviest fall recorded at any station since the publication of the weather maps in March. In Eastern Nippon gradients ranged about 6, and the rain extended further Northward to Hakodate.

From 2 to 10 p.m. the fluctuations in pressure were greatest, a fall of 17 mm. being recorded at Aomori, a rise of 20 mm. at Kanazawa. The former station had a calm at 10 p.m., the centre of the storm being near the station, while Hakodate had an Easterly gale, all Eastern Nippon, South to West gales.

On the 9th at 6 a.m. the centre was beyond Sapporo. In the whole South the wind had gone down and Sapporo near the centre had light wind, but in Tsugaru Strait and in Northern Nippon strong South-Westerly gales were blowing, changing afterwards to West and at Sapporo with increasing force to North-West. At night the last gales were recorded in the North.

At both Hokkaido stations the wind reached force 6†, at 13 others force 5, at 3 more force 4, leaving 4 out of the 22 stations with force 3 or less.

The lowest pressure recorded was at Wakayama 738 mm., Osaka and Kioto 737, Kanazawa and Niigata 738, Aomori and Sapporo 743 mm., the centre travelling with the greatest speed at the time when the pressure near the centre was lowest.

At two stations the change of wind near the centre lagged considerably behind the passage of the minimum of pressure, namely at Osaka, where the lowest barometer was noted at noon, North

* Greatest barometric slope in mm. for 60 naut. miles.
† At stations provided with anemometers for registering the velocity of the wind, the following table is used:—

| Scale 0-6 | |
|------------------------------|---------|
| Up to 1.5 metres per second | force 0 |
| Up to 3.5 metres per second | force 1 |
| Up to 5.5 metres per second | force 2 |
| Up to 7.5 metres per second | force 3 |
| Up to 9.5 metres per second | force 4 |
| Up to 11.5 metres per second | force 5 |
| Above 11.5 metres per second | force 6 |

Not provided with anemometers are—Kagoshima, Miyazaki, Shimonoeki, Sakai, Hamamatsu, Numadzu, Akita; at these stations the force is guessed.

wind at 1 p.m., West wind at 2 p.m.; and at Niigata with lowest reading at 5 p.m., South-East wind at 6 p.m., South-West wind at 7 p.m. In slowly moving cyclonic storms the greatest change of wind takes place usually about the time when the barometer is lowest.

The amount of rain for 2 successive days was—

| | | | |
|-------------|---------|------------|-----------------|
| At Wakayama | 139 mm. | Kanazawa | 63 mm. |
| Osaka | 90 mm. | Hiroshima | 59 mm. |
| Sapporo | 93 mm. | Gifu | 58 mm. |
| Kioto | 89 mm. | Numadzu | 40 mm. |
| Sakai | 82 mm. | Tokiyo | 39 mm. |
| Miyazaki | 66 mm. | Hakodate | 34 mm. |
| Miyako | 64 mm. | All others | 10 mm. or less. |
| Kochi | 63 mm. | | |

Not two days after the disappearance of this storm in the North, on the 11th, the aspect in the South grew threatening again, another depression advancing with the same symptoms and in the same quarter as the one which had just passed.

Saturday, the 13th Oct., at 6 a.m., its centre was near Wakayama with the pressure then at 746 mm., exactly the same as five days earlier and also with very steep gradients in Central Japan, ranging from 4 to 11. After passing Wakayama, however, the centre did not cross to the Sea of Japan, but went straight ahead, being about midway between Niigata and Tokiyo at 2 p.m., entering the Pacific near Nobiru at 4 p.m.

The rainfall in this storm was also heavy, the following amounts being recorded:—

| | | | |
|----------|--------------------|------------|-------------------|
| Gifu | 150 mm. in 3 days. | Numadzu | 50 mm. in 3 days. |
| Wakayama | 113 mm. in 3 days. | Himatsutsu | 44 mm. in 3 days. |
| Osaka | 74 mm. in 3 days. | Akita | 37 mm. in 1 day. |
| Tokiyo | 74 mm. in 3 days. | Miyazaki | 37 mm. in 1 day. |
| Miyako | 60 mm. in 1 day. | Niigata | 35 mm. in 1 day. |
| Kioto | 60 mm. in 1 day. | Aomori | 24 mm. in 1 day. |
| Kanazawa | 60 mm. in 3 days. | Hakodate | 18 mm. in 1 day. |
| Nobiru | 45 mm. in 3 days. | Sakai | 18 mm. in 1 day. |
| Kochi | 50 mm. in 1 day. | | |

None at Nagasaki, Kagoshima, Hiroshima, Shimonoeki, or Sapporo.

Both storms travelled in general about North-East, the first a little more Northerly.

| First Second Storm. | |
|-------------------------------------------|----------------|
| The greatest velocity of the centre was | 55 38 n.m.p.h. |
| The lowest barometer | 737 746 mm. |
| The greatest fall of bar. in 8 hours | 17 15 mm. |
| The greatest rise of bar. in 8 hours | 20 8 mm. |
| The steepest gradient | 9 11 |
| Number of stations with gales (out of 22) | 18 8 |

In both storms due warnings were given to the coast, late at some Western stations in the first one owing to want of telegrams. In 16 hours the interval during which the coast may at present be considered as not properly guarded, a storm travelling at the rate of 25 n.m.p.h. may be at 2 p.m. on one day South of Okinawa, at 6 a.m. the next morning at Kagoshima.

Twin depressions following each other in short intervals and similar in many respects do not seem to be quite rare, as 2 instances were noted in July, one pair crossing Nippon with an interval of 2 days, another pair going over Southern Hokkaido within 6 days. In July as well as in October the first of the pair was always the principal one.

E. KNIPPING.

Tokio, October 17th, 1883.

THE PAYMENT OF LAND-TAX IN RICE.

(Translated from the *Hochi Shinbun*.)

[CONCLUDED.]

It is certain under the circumstances that if a man succeeds in attaining one end, he naturally endeavours to accomplish another. Nor is it possible for him to acquire profits to the point of satiety. Notwithstanding the benevolent Notification of the Government, our people, it appears, complain from time to time of the difficulty of paying their taxes, and have frequently petitioned the authorities for the decrease of their rates. It must

be noticed, however, that their petition is grounded on the text of Notification No. 272, issued in the sixth year of Meiji (1873), which provides that a distinction should strictly be made between taxes on commodities and those on dwellings, which were formerly collected under the head of local taxes; that, although the revised local taxes ought to be fixed at one per cent., arrangements should be made to collect three per cent. of the value of land, as the tariff of commodities had not yet been enforced; that in case the duties were to be imposed upon tea, tobacco, timber, and other articles, so that the revenue might be increased by two million yen, the amount of new taxes would be levied exclusively upon the land, the duties on which had already been revised; and that the land-tax would thus at last be decreased to one per cent. In January of 1877, the land-tax was reduced to 2.5 per cent.; but simultaneously with this reduction, there was remarkable increase in the impost upon commodities. The sake tax alone amounts at present to more than ten million yen; and if this be added to taxes on other articles, the total will not be less than twenty million yen.

The Government had at first declared that it would reduce the tax to one per cent. should it succeed in increasing its revenue by more than two million yen. The taxes on commodities have now reached almost ten times the prescribed amount. In these circumstances we may be justified in saying that, in consideration of the present distress among farmers, the authorities ought to adopt measures for the reduction of the land-tax. The petition forwarded to the Government by the agricultural classes, is in some measure reasonable. We ought to take pity on their present condition. Yet we may be allowed to assert that their memorial in question is based on the desire to promote their own interests, and may be looked upon as the outcome of their ignorance of the general condition of the administration. The earnest desire to extricate oneself from immediate distress leads to a disregard in most cases of the necessity of extending consideration to the general state of affairs. Such is even the case with intelligent men, and much more, then, with unenlightened agriculturists. An impartial survey at the financial condition of our country, shows that farmers ought never to attempt to petition the authorities for the reduction of their taxes. As for us, we believe that they should consider it their duty to assist the Government in adjusting its financial affairs and refrain from giving it any trouble for the sake of an unattainable object.

The Government and people are distinguished by their position, and bear the different relations of the governor and the governed. Thus there is a difference in nomenclature, but substantially they may be regarded as one body. Evils existing in society ought to be equally shared by the Government and people, just as is the case with the human body, which, though it consists of different organs performing different functions, transmits throughout its whole frame any pain caused in any part of it. An abundant harvest and social prosperity not only tend to promote the happiness of the people, but also secure the welfare of the whole Empire. In other words, such happiness must be regarded as the happiness of the whole community. This being the case, it is plain that the Government and people must, on the other hand, have an equal share in suffering. This principle may be specially applied to our Government, which is managed by an intelligent Emperor, assisted by wise councillors who appear

to devote their energies to the furtherance of popular happiness. What the people complain of at present is likewise complained of by the Government. Both are bound to suffer from evils, if there are any, to the same extent. Agriculturists must refrain from attempting to promote their own interests as well as from giving any trouble to the Government. According to the financial estimates for the 16th year of Meiji (1883), the revenue amounts to yen 75,606,059, which shows an increase of yen 8,791,637 as compared with the previous year. This augmentation is due to the enforcement of new taxation as well as to the increase in the rates of old taxes, with a view to the extension of the Army and Navy, simultaneously with the improvement of the internal administration. The most prominent measures taken toward this end may be traced to Notification No. 51 of 1882, for the levy of taxes upon patent medicines; to Notification No. 65, for the import of duties upon Rice and Stock Exchanges as well as brokers; Notification No. 61, for taxing sake; and lastly, Notification No. 63, defining taxes upon tobacco. A glance at the social condition shows that all sorts of trades have sunk into melancholy depression as we have already stated in the foregoing lines. Commerce and industry threaten to become gradually extinct. Reports have lately been received from various parts of the Empire announcing that some of the tobaccoists, as well as *sakk* and medicine dealers, have given up their callings, while others have suspended the purchase of goods for their stock. Nor is it an exaggeration to state that the Rice and Stock Exchanges have sunk into utter decline. While such anomalies exist in the Empire, how is it possible for the Government to collect the new tax to the value of yen 8,430,000, although it has mentioned that amount in the report of its financial estimates with remarks showing the necessity of increasing the revenue? Moreover, a lethargic condition is also noticeable in foreign trade. There is hardly any business doing in the import and export market. The following table shows the comparative value of exports and imports in 1882 and 1883:—

| | JANUARY, 1882. | JANUARY, 1883. | DECREASE IN 1883. |
|-----------------------|-----------------|-----------------|----------------------|
| | YEN. | YEN. | YEN. |
| Taxable imports | 8,342,713.83 | 1,519,771.34 | 7,223,942.49 |
| Taxable exports | 1,865,444.51 | 1,672,583.97 | 192,860.54 |
| | FEBRUARY, 1882. | FEBRUARY, 1883. | DECREASE IN 1883. |
| | YEN. | YEN. | YEN. |
| Taxable imports | 8,506,190.45 | 1,480,477.77 | 7,025,712.68 |
| Taxable exports | 1,865,444.51 | 1,672,583.97 | 192,860.54 |

We are informed that there was more or less increase in the exports and imports in March this year as compared with the previous year. Owing to the want of reports to ascertain the condition of foreign commerce from March this year to the present date, we are unable to make precise statements concerning the amount of exports and imports. Yet it is undeniable that transactions have considerably decreased this year as compared with the previous years. From the above table alone, we perceive that the decrease in the exports and imports in January this year amounted in value to yen 1,694,346.69, and in February to yen 1,218,773.23. Although these figures may not be taken as the standard for measuring the average decrease or increase of exports and imports, yet they serve to show that a considerable diminution occurred during the past few months. If the market does not resume its bustling aspect by the restoration of social activity, the foreign trade can scarcely fail to sink into a state of further depression. The prosperity of foreign commerce corresponds with success in domestic transactions. Neither can by any means prosper independently of the

other. The present stagnation of trade may be ascribed to the decrease in exports and imports, and in other words it may be asserted that the lethargic condition of foreign commerce has been the legitimate cause of the stagnation of internal trade. Therefore, the restoration of social activity will not fail to promote foreign transactions. Nevertheless, in so far as the present state of affairs is concerned, the restoration of prosperity is beyond all hope. The further depression of trade must be the inevitable result. Can the authorities succeed in increasing the customs dues to the amount of yen 2,600,330, which they have mentioned in their estimates of revenue? Nor is it unlikely that they will fail in some measure to collect the taxes on vessels, vehicles, and mercantile companies. We may be allowed to predict that the Government will inevitably have to suffer from pecuniary embarrassment through unexpected decrease in its revenue.

Notwithstanding these circumstances, there are serious difficulties in the collection of land-tax in rice. According to the estimates for this year, the amount of tax on rice-fields is yen 30,768,891, half of which—yen 15,384,445.50—will be received for the third term of collection. Should the people apply to the authorities for permission to pay their tax in rice according to Notification No. 80 of 1877, it will be necessary to receive half of the above amount in rice, namely, yen 7,692,222.75. The value of rice must be determined by the average market price between the 1st of October and the 30th of December, in the localities where the applicants reside. Such is the text of Notification No. 80, but as the old regulations were adopted for defining the period of collecting the land-tax, another set of regulations were issued showing the methods in which the collection of taxes on rice had to be effected. In February of 1881, the period of collecting taxes was entirely changed, and it becomes necessary that the farmers should not resort to the old methods of determining the value of rice. The Government has not revised the regulations for the collection of taxes in rice, and we are therefore unable to conjecture how it will be possible to settle the price of rice. Nor do we pretend to know that there are standards for determining the value of grain, or legitimate methods of calculation. At all events, we believe that the Government will never adopt the value of rice last year as the standard for what it has to receive after November this year. Nor is it unreasonable to suppose that it will ever be so stupid as to accept the rice at the high price of previous years, while the value has considerably fallen. From these circumstances we may infer that the value of grain to be received by the Government as land-tax will no doubt be settled by the average of prices that prevailed during one or two months prior to the collection. According to the second item in the regulations for payment of the land tax in rice, promulgated by Notification, No. 85 in the 10th year of Meiji (1874), the officials of the provincial Governments were required to make out the average price of rice from the 1st of October till the 30th of November and send the report to the Finance Department before the 15th of December. At that time, the old system was in force, that is, the farmers had to pay the tax on and after the 1st of December. Thus, the Government formerly spent two months in ascertaining the market price of rice. In February of the 14th year of Meiji (1881), however, the period for payment of the tax was altered; but no change whatever

took place in the method itself. We are at loss to account for this. But it is apparent that the old and new rules do not work in concert. Now the question arises: what measures shall the Government take to ascertain the market value of rice in case the dues are paid in it? We cannot solve the question, but are justified in thinking that the authorities will spend at least two months in learning the average price. Supposing this to be correct, let us make out the average price for two months prior to the first period for the payment of the tax, 1st of November. It is as follows:—

| MONTH. | TOKYO. | OSAKA. | HIYOGO. | KUWANA. | AVERAGE. |
|--------------------|--------|--------|---------|---------|----------|
| | Yen. | Yen. | Yen. | Yen. | Yen. |
| September 1st ... | 5.04 | 5.00 | 5.03 | 5.29 | 5.09 |
| September 5th ... | 5.06 | 5.05 | 5.09 | 5.34 | 5.09 |
| September 10th ... | 5.06 | 5.05 | 5.09 | 5.34 | 5.09 |
| September 15th ... | 5.10 | 5.09 | 5.12 | 5.19 | 5.11 |
| September 20th ... | 5.26 | 5.29 | 5.05 | 4.97 | 5.10 |
| September 25th ... | 5.25 | 5.25 | 5.14 | 4.95 | 5.15 |
| September 30th ... | 5.21 | 5.18 | 5.10 | 4.90 | 5.12 |

The above are the average prices for the month of September taken every other five days. The average on the whole average price is yen 5.648. Now let us take the average price for October:—

| MONTH. | TOKYO. | OSAKA. | HIYOGO. | KUWANA. | AVERAGE. |
|------------------|--------|--------|---------|---------|----------|
| | Yen. | Yen. | Yen. | Yen. | Yen. |
| October 1st ... | 5.07 | 5.08 | 5.45 | 4.75 | 5.13 |
| October 5th ... | 5.01 | 5.10 | 5.31 | 4.90 | 5.09 |
| October 10th ... | 4.96 | 4.95 | 5.00 | 5.33 | 4.73 |
| October 15th ... | 4.79 | 5.02 | 5.09 | 4.48 | 4.83 |
| October 20th ... | 4.81 | 4.98 | 4.98 | 4.43 | 4.79 |
| October 25th ... | 4.97 | 4.81 | 4.77 | 4.34 | 4.50 |

The total average for September and October is yen 5.149. Although the above tables, being taken from the rate in the Exchanges in various provinces, do not show the real market price, yet they enable us to form some idea about the rice market. Supposing rice costs yen 5 per *lots* and the farmers pay the tax half in rice and half in money, then according to Notification No. 80 of the 10th year of Meiji, the amount of rice the Government will receive for four months from the 1st of November till the end of February next would be 3,076,891 koku and 1 to, which, according to the above price, is worth yen 15,384,460. The tax payers have of course to defray the expenses incurred for transport, stowage, etc. But the Government will incur a considerable expense after the rice is handed over to it for further conveyance to Tokiyo and the like. It will sell rice where it is received to save the trouble and expense of transport. But considering the present stagnant condition of trade and the eager efforts of farmers to sell what is left to them to pay the other half of the tax, we are convinced that the Government cannot sell its rice in the provinces. It must be finally sent to Tokiyo at considerable expense and trouble. In such case, the grain will diminish in quantity from various causes. In Tokiyo, the Government cannot store it away till the market improves, since it is financially embarrassed. It must, therefore, sell it at all events to replenish the Treasury. But the market is already flooded with rice. The only way open that we can see is to have recourse to export. But in foreign markets we cannot find a demand for such a large amount of rice. Subjoined is a table showing the amount of the export for the last few years:—

| YEAR. | QUANTITY. Kin. | VALUE. Yen. |
|------------|-------------------|----------------|
| 1878 | 199,042,276 | 4,644,280 |
| 1879 | 13,597,233 | 416,879 |
| 1880 | 6,827,076 | 210,863 |
| 1881 | 10,656,096 | 261,737 |

From the above, it will be seen that, as regards both quantity and value the export is not very encouraging, being about one-tenth of what the Government is about to receive. Even though the Government could export four or five times as much as the above, the larger quantity remains hand. Unless some extraordinary events have taken place in foreign markets, the export of such a large quantity of rice must be attended with loss,

because of the want of demand. Ah! What a serious embarrassment to the Government! To statesmen of ordinary capacity, even a slight decrease in the customs revenue and internal taxes would be a source of great anxiety. How much more would this be the case when there is such an immense quantity of rice for which there is no demand. Fortunately for the welfare of the people, our ministers are endowed with great intelligence, and seeing that they succeed where our ability falls short, we trust that they will successfully get out of this difficulty. But financial perplexity may not be entirely unfelt. In face of such a difficulty, the Government do not shrink from re-adopting Notification No. 80 of the 10th year of Meiji. We must express our sympathy with the Government, and remember the considerate manner in which it executes its duty toward us. We must, also, remember our duties as tax-payers by paying the dues and trying to mitigate the difficulties in which the Government is now involved.

IN H.B.M. COURT FOR JAPAN.

Before N. J. HANNEN, Esq., Judge.—SATURDAY, OCTOBER 20TH, 1883.

RUTH FARNSWORTH V. G. WHITE AND F. E. WHITE.

This was a claim for \$10,000 for defamation of character. The case was tried before a Jury composed as follows:—Messrs. N. McLeod, J. Haddow, J. B. Coulson, E. Powys, and J. Annand.

Mr. Kirkwood appeared for the plaintiff, and Mr. Lowder for the defendants.

On the opening of the Court on Saturday morning, Mr. Lowder asked that the case against the defendant, F. E. White, be dismissed on three grounds:—(1) that he had only repeated a statement which he had heard (2); that he is improperly included with his wife in the complaint; and (3) that the allegation against him had not been proved by the other side.

The morning was occupied by argument on these points of law, Mr. Kirkwood being allowed to amend the petition in its second paragraph, so as to include White in the prosecution according to the precedent of recent decisions under the Married Woman's Property Act, and the Judicature Act of 1882. Shortly before noon the Court adjourned until half past one o'clock, in order to allow Mr. Lowder time to consider how he might reply to this amendment. The Court having ruled against Mr. Lowder on the first and second points, took from him for consideration a long list of cases in support of his second contention, and adjourned until half-past one p.m.

On resuming, His Honor referred to the causes cited by Mr. Lowder and ruled that the case should proceed as against Mr. White conjointly with his wife on the amended petition. On Mr. Lowder's earnest request for an adjournment on the ground that he had not had time, between noon and half-past one, to prepare his answer to the amendment in the petition, His Honor adjourned the case until to a.m. on Monday.

MONDAY, OCTOBER 22ND, 1883.

On the opening of the Court Mr. Lowder was allowed to amend paragraphs 3 and 4 of his answer to the petition to the following effect:—Paragraph 3.—“The said cause of action against him is for *bona fide*, and without malice, corroborating the words alleged to have been spoken by Catherine White, his wife. He denies that Catherine White spoke the words in the petition, or that he corroborated them, and he alleges that what was said by him was said *bona fide* and without malice and under circumstances which constituted a privileged communication.” Paragraph 4.—“He alleges that George Ford in the petition mentioned, on the occasion and at the time of the petition mentioned, repeated in the presence of Alexander Clark, of Catherine White,

and of himself, the defendant, certain statements that he, the defendant, had communicated to the said George Ford in confidence, *bona fide* and without malice, on a private occasion and as having been communicated to him, the defendant, by a person whose name had been divulged; and on being requested by the said George Ford to take him to the person who had made the said statement he complied with the said request.” Mr. Lowder then addressed the Court for the defence, apologizing to the Jury for the length to which the case had extended, but reminding them of his own imperative duty to his clients, which had compelled him to ask for delay in order to amend his answer as above, and their duty to both sides in the case. He then proceeded to outline the course that his defence would take, laying stress on the points that there had been no “expressed malice” on the part of the defendants; that any communication they had made was privileged; that the relations between the defendants and Ford had been so uniformly friendly as to prove that there could not have been any malicious intent on their part. He alluded to the fact of White, directly he heard the story, going to Ford's house and calling him out on the verandah, and laid weight on the fact that, though Mrs. and Miss Farnsworth had arrived on Friday from Hakodate, as Captain Farnsworth had said “to attend to this case,” they had not been called at all. Another point that Counsel wished the Jury to consider was whether the marriage had really been broken off at all. Mr. Ford's conduct tended to show that it was not, as he had embellished his house, and helped Mr. Farnsworth to get up this case. Perhaps the marriage was held in abeyance: it did not appear that it was broken off altogether. Indeed, Mr. Ford had said, since the alleged rupture, that he “would marry the girl if he died in three days,” and as lately as Saturday night last had told Waightman that he didn't know “if he would marry the girl now as old Farnsworth had been trying to dictate to him and he was not used to be dictated to.” This statement was said to have been made during the visit paid by Mr. Ford to Waightman on Saturday night, when the former said that if White “got off” he (Waightman) “would get in,” and added that though Captain Farnsworth would not be here to prosecute the case, he (Ford) would do so himself.

In the course of Mr. Lowder's address the quiet of the Court was interrupted by the tipsy eccentricities of one Brady, who is, apparently, an ex-seaman of the *F. V. Troop*. He was reprimanded and left the premises, but made another interruption in the course of the afternoon and was ejected.

Mr. Lowder then called George Waightman, who deposed that he had been steward on board the *F. V. Troop*. He had been discharged, and was now living at No. 102. He knew Mr. White and his wife, and remembered speaking to them in Honmura Road on the 13th of September last, when he asked White whether his discharges were made out yet, and was told “yes.” Mrs. White asked him where his wife was. He said “in this store,” and Mr. White went in. Witness said to White that he “was damned glad he'd left that ship.” The conversation turned on the approaching marriage, and witness said “it was a damned shame that Mrs. Farnsworth did not let Ford know about the daughter being sickly.” . . . Witness added that, as Mrs. White had been the means of making the match, it was her duty to let Mr. Ford know the facts or he might blame her afterwards. He had told them the slander which is the prominent ground of the present action. Remembered Ford coming round to his place on the 13th of September, and asking him excitedly and abruptly a question about Miss Farnsworth, to which witness replied that, if he were addressed rationally, he would reply, and offered to go to Ford's house the next morning. Ford said “We are all at sixes and sevens!” Next day Captain Farnsworth came to his place with Ford, and asked whether witness knew that the slanders stated were correct. To each of three questions asked about the young lady he answered “No.” Then the captain said:—“By God, White's the man and not the steward. White's got money, and he shall pay for this, and nothing less than \$10,000 shall satisfy me.” Since then witness has seen Ford a number of times. One night he and his wife were at Ford's, when that person said he

"would marry Miss Farnsworth if he was dead in three days: he had bought a piano and furniture for her; he was going to give Captain Farnsworth and his family possession of his house when they came back from Hakodate. For himself he had engaged a place on the Bluff to stop in until such time as this case had come off, when he'd get married." On Saturday last about two o'clock Ford came to witness and asked him if he was always of the same opinion; to which witness replied that he was, and that he'd tell the truth no matter who lost the case, and asked whether Captain Farnsworth was at Ford's house. Witness's wife wished to see the captain on other business. About 8 or 9 o'clock Ford came again, and witness accompanied him to the house which they entered by the front door, and saw Captain Farnsworth, to whom witness spoke on business, and objected to answer any question connected with this case. He said, when Ford insisted, that "that was the way he (Ford) was going on, hollering all over the street," and he, witness, could do nothing with him. Ford said—"For God's sake, if you have children of our own, don't slander a poor, innocent girl!" Witness replied that he had told Ford a dozen times that he had said nothing against Miss Ruth Farnsworth. Ford said—"If you tell a lie to screen White, woe be to you in Yokohama!" Witness answered that he wouldn't tell any lie for either Ford or White, and Ford continued that "White wanted to get out of the case and let witness into it. Captain Farnsworth would not have time to remain in Yokohama to prosecute the case; but he (Ford) would go on with it against witness, if White got off." Witness had read the reports of the case in the newspapers, and told Mr. Ford that a statement in Mr. Clark's evidence wasn't right, referring to the offer alleged to have been made by White to witness (as to taking care of him and his wife if he went to prison, and paying their passage to Hongkong). Ford denied having said he would let the Farnsworths have his house or that he was going to be married. At a quarter past twelve on Saturday Ford again went to witness's house, and said he wasn't going to marry Miss Farnsworth, "as old Farnsworth had been dictating to him, and he had never been used to be dictated to." Ford went off saying, "Good night, Waightman!"

To Mr. Kirkwood—Know nothing against Miss Ruth Farnsworth's character: he had never said anything about her being immoral: no idea ever entered his head to say anything about her being immoral. Had only told the Whites that she was "sickly," by which he meant that she was delicate. Never knew of Miss Ruth Farnsworth being in the lazarette with the cabin-boy. Generally spoke of the younger daughter as "Minnie," and it was to her he referred. He made the statement probably because he was a little bit put out at the time: would think Minnie was now about twelve or thirteen. The event referred to was two or three years ago. It was the carpenter told him. These conversations are "as near as he could make it out." Did not know whether his wife was going to be called as a witness; but thought not, and did not know why. She would not come unless she was called. She was discharged from the ship at her own request and for no other reason. He was angry with her once since her arrival in Yokohama because she had stopped ashore all night; but the circumstances had subsequently been explained to his satisfaction. (The Judge here stopped Mr. Kirkwood in an attempt in this cross-examination to throw discredit upon witness's wife.) Witness supposed he had as much affection as any other man for his wife. She was suspended during forty-one days on the voyage. Witness saw White about nine o'clock yesterday, and went with him to Mr. Lowder's. White arrived at the house in a jinrikisha, and Brady sung out for witness. Lemon was in the house frequently during the day: he last left it about half-past twelve at night. The last drink he and witness had together was champagne, at about twenty minutes to twelve. Witness and his wife went to Ford's house one evening and made a statement to the effect that he had never said a word against Miss Farnsworth. He had some time previously been to White's house. White had not asked him to sign a document; he had read one to him, and witness had answered that he could not say that the things contained in it were true. Mrs. Waightman had always maintained that she could say

nothing against Miss Farnsworth's character. She would always say that Miss Farnsworth was a well-behaved and virtuous young lady.

To Mr. Lowder—When he spoke of the incident in the lazarette to the Whites he did not say anything to lead them to believe that he alluded to Minnie. He had not known, himself, what White had said about Miss Ruth. He had meant to say (to Mr. Kirkwood in cross-examination) that if the Whites had said what Clark and Ford said they said, they (the Whites) would have told a "pack of lies."

The case was adjourned from noon till 1.30 p.m. On the Court resuming,

Mr. Lowder called the defendant, F. F. White, who was sworn and said that he is a constable in the English Consular service. He first made Mr. Ford's acquaintance about two years ago, and has known him ever since, becoming on very intimate terms with him. Ford used to address witness as "old man" and Mrs. White as "mother." Remembers the arrival of the *J. V. Troop* about the middle of August, and first knew Captain Farnsworth at the Consulate when he entered his vessel. At the same time there was in harbor a barque, the *Stillwater*, belonging to the same owners, commanded by a Captain Gowry. In consequence of a conversation with Gowry witness and his wife went off to see the Farnsworths, who returned the call in the afternoon a day or two later, and remained during the evening, when it was arranged that on the following Sunday, after church, the whole party would drive to Totsuka. Sunday morning, returning from church, witness called on Ford and asked him to join the party which he did. The party consisted of the Farnsworths, another captain and his wife, and the White family. Subsequently had daily intercourse with the Farnsworths. Two or three days only elapsed before witness learned that Ford wished to marry Miss Farnsworth, and was present when Ford talked to Mrs. White on the subject. Mrs. White was anxious to see Ford married; and both she and witness were anxious to bring the matter about. Mrs. White asked Miss Farnsworth to tiffin, so that Ford might meet her and have an opportunity to propose. At 4 p.m. on his return from office, witness heard that the proposal had been made and accepted subject to the consent of the young lady's parents. Farnsworth consulted him as to the character and position of Mr. Ford. Witness said that financially Ford was well off, and in answer to a suggestion that he drank, replied that the worst he had ever seen him was the night the captain met him at witness's house when he was only a little talkative: His feelings towards Mr. Ford were very friendly at that time, and he said the best he could about him to Farnsworth. Heard of the engagement from Ford himself. Remembers the 12th of September. At 4 p.m. left the office, and on his way home met Farnsworth coming from the house, and stopped and spoke to him, he saying that the affair was settled and that he had been to Mrs. White, and given her some money asking her to assist Mrs. and Miss Farnsworth in shopping. Witness congratulated the captain, and said he thought Ford would make a good husband. Went home and remained till between 7 and 8 o'clock, when Mrs. White, and Mrs. and Miss Farnsworth returned from shopping. Meanwhile Farnsworth and Ford had arrived. The Farnsworths would not remain to tea. Farnsworth handed Mrs. White ¥58 to pay the dress maker, and it was understood that if anything more was required witness should advance it. The things were to be sent to Hakodate where the marriage would take place. Then the whole party went on board and stayed to tea. Mr. Ford provisionally, and then, objected to go to Hakodate, on account of the trip interfering with his business. Witness and his wife had said that he must think very little of the young lady if he didn't care about going to Hakodate. Mrs. White and witness that evening promised to go to Hakodate with Ford. The following day Ford asked White to go off with him and see Miss Farnsworth as the ship had not got away. Witness said he had better ask Mrs. White too. At 4 o'clock found Ford and his wife at the Consulate gate and went with them to the Hatoba. It was blowing hard: the vessel was a long way off, and the water was rough. Witness decided that the weather was too bad to go off, and suggested waiting till after tea. Ford declined to go to tea,

and witness and his wife went home and thence to the Honmura Road, where, while waiting outside a store for his wife, he was accosted by Waightman, who asked if his discharge was ready, and was told "Yes." Waightman then asked if it was true that Miss Ruth Farnsworth was to be married to Mr. Ford. Witness replied that he was glad to say it was true, and they were going to Hakodate to the wedding. Waightman said it was a damned shame that Ford should have been deceived by Farnsworth, who had said what was false about his property and so forth. He had been compelled to bring his wife and family away from home, because his partner had robbed him, and he had thereby become bankrupt, and if witness and his wife (who had then come up) had any interest in Mr. Ford and he was their friend, he thought it would be their duty to tell him that Miss Ruth Farnsworth was suffering from an incurable disease. . . . that she would be a continual expense in doctors' bills, and would probably die within twelve months. Witness and his wife were grieved and astonished and started to go away. Waightman stopped them and said that he might add a great deal more; but didn't wish to do so because they might think it mere spite on his part; but did add something that shocked and disgusted witness. They walked straight to Ford's house, as they thought it their duty to acquaint him, as friends, with what they had heard, and Captain Farnsworth as well. Arriving saw that Mr. Clark was in the house. Mrs. White went in; and witness called Ford out saying that he wished to speak to him privately as he had bad news for him. They went together to the end of the verandah, where witness quietly and feelingly repeated the conversation that had just passed with Waightman. Mr. Ford got very excited and went into the dining room, to the sideboard, took a drink of whisky, inviting witness to have some, and then said aloud what had been said, and called Farnsworth all the names he could think of. Witness tried to pacify him without success. Ford asked Mrs. White if she had heard the conversation. She said "Yes," but did not repeat it. Ford asked witness to go down with him to see the steward and stewardess. He went to Lemon's and met in the bar the carpenter who had been discharged from the *J. V. Troop*. Ford asked the carpenter if he knew anything wrong or immoral about Miss Ruth Farnsworth; and the carpenter replied, "No!" Witness asked, "what is this story about the lazarette?" and the carpenter said, "Oh, that's not Miss Ruth: it's Minnie!" and with Ford went into the inner room where there was some very loud conversation. Ford came out and with witness went back to the house, where when he arrived Ford said, "There you are, Clark! just as I said. A pack of lies!" Witness suggested going off to see Captain Farnsworth, but Ford wouldn't go off before he had eaten his meal. It was then about seven o'clock, and the Whites went away with the understanding that Ford would come later and the three would go off together. As Ford didn't come in an hour, witness and his wife went round to his house, and found Ford and Clark had gone out. Followed them to the hatoba, and found that they had gone off to the ship, so witness and Mrs. White returned to their house. Witness denied the whole of the statement of Mr. Waightman alluded to in Mr. Clark's evidence (about the provision to be made by witness for Waightman and Mrs. Waightman) except inasmuch as that he (White) did produce a document, destroyed because Waightman objected to a certain clause. It was witness's duty to look after the arrival of vessels. The *Kosuge Maru* arrived from Hakodate on Friday bringing Mrs. and Miss Farnsworth.

To Mr. Kirkwood—The term "old man" is a familiar one. Witness would not use it or "mother" except with people with whom he is very familiar. Did not advise Farnsworth not to leave his daughter with Ford, as he was a fickle man; but did at first coincide with Mr. Farnsworth that the engagement was a short one. The reason he did not go direct to Farnsworth when he had had the conversation with the steward and stewardess, was because he went to his nearest friend first, intending to go with him afterwards to Captain Farnsworth. Did at that time believe that the statement was true. Would therefore have gone

to Captain Farnsworth because he was interested in the matter. Did not make any enquiries about what he had heard from the steward; but went direct to Ford whose first business, not witness's, the matter was. Witness was grieved and ashamed when he heard the story, and did not give himself time to think any further than that, as he said to his wife, it was his duty to tell Ford at once. He does not remember that the stewardess said anything. It would not be true to say that his only object in telling Ford was to have those people punished. (Extract from letter to Captain Farnsworth by witness read.) A letter of apology had been written at Mr. Kirkwood's and Mr. Robertson's suggestion to Captain Farnsworth. Knew at the time of the conversation that the stewardess had been discharged from the ship: when the vessel arrived he had seen the official log book with a complaint made by the captain at this consulate against her. Knew that she had been suspended for forty and odd days on board for a trivial offence. When he found that Ford and Clark had gone off to the ship, it was still blowing rather hard. Mrs. White was not very well, and they were sure of seeing Captain Farnsworth, "the old man" in the morning. (A letter from Mr. Kirkwood threatening this action was read.) Witness had been much shocked at reading the letter which he described as disgusting. He does not think he answered that letter in writing: but he consulted Mr. Robertson, who went and saw Mr. Kirkwood to explain that White had acted honestly in the matter. Ford was angry at the time when witness left his house. Witness never thought that the matter was serious until the following morning at nine o'clock, when he heard at the Consulate what the captain had said of him, and then he knew that it would be no use to see the explain. Further knew that Ford was taking Farnsworth to Mr. Kirkwood for consultation. Did not explain to himself why the captain was so excited: did not think that he would be excited against him. Witness had sympathized with him, and could understand that he should be excited against the originators of the slander. Did not take any measures to find out whether the captain had heard any more than he had stated to Ford. He had heard of the threatened action, and thought it dangerous to go near him. On witness Sunday saw Mr. and Mrs. Waightman, and to-day in court. (Seeing is not speaking to him.) Went on Sunday in jinrikisha with a gentleman to Waightman's house and asked a man standing outside to call him out as he (witness) could not enter his house. Afterwards went with him to Mr. Lowder's house on the Bluff. With reference to being "shocked" at Mr. Kirkwood's letter, witness admitted letting a house on No. 88 to a fast woman. The terms were arranged in Mr. Ford's house, at his request, and discussed in the presence of Mrs. White, who happened to be present. The premises on No. 187 are his property, and he had once let a house there to a woman of the same class, also through Mr. Ford. (His Honor here had occasion to rebuke levity in the Court, and Mr. Kirkwood for leading a laugh.) Mr. Lowder called for the letter from which Mr. Kirkwood had read an extract. It explained that the defendant had acted without malice, and concluded with a full apology.

Catherine White, wife of the last witness, was called. She had known Mr. Ford for a long time. He generally called her "mother." If she had no affection for him she would not let him do so. She remembered the arrival of the *F. V. Troop* and making acquaintance with the Farnsworths. The day after the drive to Totsuka Ford first spoke of his admiration for Miss Farnsworth: about eight days later he spoke of proposing for her. No third person was present. He asked witness to invite Miss Farnsworth ashore, which she promised to do and did at the first opportunity, Ford dining at noon in witness's house with her. After dinner the pair were walking in the garden for about twenty minutes, when Ford came to the bed-room door and said he was going to take Ruth for a walk, the young lady then speaking and saying, "I am going to Mr. Ford's house, Mrs. White." They were absent for about two hours. On their return, Ford announced their engagement subject to the consent of the parent-, and witness congratulated the young lady, saying she was sure Ford would make a good husband. Ford came frequently to the house after. Once he was very

excited, and said the father had refused him. Recollected once seeing Mr. Clark at Mr. Ford's house. Ford was lamenting that he could not obtain the parents' consent, and Mr. Clark said that, in his case, he would have a carriage and take her away somewhere where the father would never see her. Witness deprecated any such proceeding. Later Captain Farnsworth himself announced his daughter's engagement and asked witness to go with Mr. and Mrs. Farnsworth to a silk store. At the same time he handed witness a roll of Japanese notes. She helped the ladies to make purchases, and give orders; and when the shopping was over returned with them to the house, where she saw her husband; and soon after Mr. Ford and Captain Farnsworth came in. The whole party went on board, and Miss Farnsworth begged witness to go to Hakodate to be present at the marriage. Mr. Ford made the same request, and the defendant promised to go. Witness ordered a new dress for the occasion, and put herself to a great deal of expense. (Mrs. White corroborated her husband's evidence about meeting Mr. Ford, going down with him to the hatoba, the arrangement made about going off to the *F. V. Troop* after tea and the meeting in Honmura with Waightman, part of whose conversation she related. Her narrative corresponds with Mr. White's.) Witness begged Waightman to say no more. She was very much hurt, and went direct with her husband to Ford's house which she entered, and her husband called Ford out. On their return to the room Ford walked to the cupboard and had a drink, and then walked up and down the room in a very excited manner telling Mr. Clark all the conversation that had taken place. He then turned to witness and asked if she had heard the steward make the statement, which she admitted, expressing her sorrow. White and Ford went away together and on their return an arrangement was made for all to go off together to the ship. As Ford did not come round she and White went to his house and found he had left. Remembers Ford after the ship had left for Hakodate calling to see her about some pine trees that White had promised him for his garden. He said he would like to have the place finished as he was going to get married very soon to Miss Ruth Farnsworth.

To Mr. Kirkwood—Did not ask the steward what disease Miss Farnsworth suffered from. Was not curious but shocked at what she had heard. Did not think it shocking to hear that the young girl was likely to die in twelve months. Mr. Ford's and Mr. Clark's evidence was false. Clark was never a friend of hers, and she'd only once invited him. Witness's family is coming from England but not shortly. Her niece is coming. Does not remember anything said by Ford about a gold chain for her, and does not know that she has property in Yokohama. Went with her husband for a walk on Saturday evening, and in French hatoba street, but did not stop there an hour nor a moment even.

To Mr. Lowder—Went to Mr. Helm's on Saturday evening and remained there while her husband went away. She once invited Mr. Clark to her house at Mr. Ford's request, in order that he might play the violin. Mr. Ford had seen the photograph of witness's niece; but there was no chaff about it.

Mr. Kirkwood asked leave to call Mrs. Waightman, which, after some discussion, was allowed.

Mrs. Waightman remembered meeting Mr. and Mrs. White on the 13th of September in the Honmura Road. She was in a store and didn't know what they said to her husband. Mrs. White came into the shop, and mentioned that Ruth and Ford were going to get married, and she answered that she had heard so. Mrs. White left the store and a moment later witness did so, and went to where her husband and Mrs. White were talking. Reference was made to the approaching marriage, and her husband said that the girl was sickly and delicate. Mrs. White remarked that "you could see that by her face." Witness repeated a remark that she had made on what Mrs. Farnsworth had said about her daughter's sickness. She could not be cured. Witness's husband mentioned the lazarette incident; but said it happened two years ago. Mrs. White said she would go and tell Mr. Ford. The statement now made is the same that was made to Captain Farnsworth on Saturday night. Mr. Kirkwood asked to be allowed to recall Mr.

Ford in reference to the conversation of the 19th of September between the Waightmans and Mr. Clark in Ford's house. Mr. Lowder objected but the objection was overruled.

Mr. Ford recollected Mr. and Mrs. Waightman calling at his house on the 19th of September. It is untrue that he said he "would marry Ruth Farnsworth if he was dead in three days," nor did he remark that he had "bought a piano," &c. The piano he bought this month (October). A memorandum of the conversation was made next morning. (Memo. produced and admitted). A. Clark made it. Mr. Waightman said he had been to White's who asked him to sign a document. He had asked what the signature would amount to? (Witness repeated the substance of the allegation that White said that Waightman and his wife would taken be care of if he got two of three months' imprisonment and so on.) Waightman added that he would not sign the paper as its contents were untrue.

To Mr. Lowder—Knew that the Waightmans came on the 19th from his own memory. On the 18th "several" people came to his house: on the 20th "several" people came. That was his answer.

This closed the case as far as evidence is concerned; and the Court adjourned until 10 a.m. next day.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 23RD, 1883.

The Court sat at 10 a.m. when Mr. Lowder addressed the Jury for his clients. He said that the points for the Jury's consideration would be:—

(1) Was the occasion on which the remark alleged to have been made by defendants a privileged one? (2) Assuming the occasion to have been a privileged one did the plaintiff show express malice on defendants' part in making the communication? (3) Had the plaintiff's marriage been broken off in consequence of such communication? (4) In that case what is the value of the damage sustained? They had heard from Mr. and Mrs. Waightman, and from the defendants White and his wife, the story of the meeting in Honmura Road, the nature of the first communication as to the sickness, Waightman's addition about the lazarette incident, and the manner in which it had been received by defendants. These four witnesses had made substantially the same statement. Counsel called the attention of the Jury to the petition, wherein the order of the allegations had been reversed, the lazarette being first mentioned: the sickness second. Moreover, the statements alleged to have been made had been much exaggerated. If they had been made, no matter by whomsoever, as they were attributed to White and his wife they were gross, vile, and wicked. Whoever had perverted the allegations said to have come from Waightman must have been guilty of great depravity. If the Jury found that the defendants had so perverted Waightman's statements the Jury would have to admit express malice. He stated the case thus frankly and fairly; but he would ask the Jury to believe that there had been no such exaggeration, both according to the probability of the circumstances and the credibility of the evidence. It must be seen that White and his wife had proved themselves of a kindly and generous disposition, and that they had certainly been animated by no animosity against either Ford or the Farnsworths. In the case before the Jury they had been accused by the steward in Honmura Road, and were so distressed by what they had heard that they thought it their immediate duty to communicate it to their friend, whose house was not far off, and thither they went at once. It had been suggested that their story had been concocted between them. There were here two questions to consider. (1) What could be their motive in concocting such a story? and (2) had they the time in a two minutes walk to do so. It was admitted that when they arrived at Ford's house Mr. White called Ford into the verandah to speak to him privately, and that Mrs. White had gone into the dining-room and sat down in the presence of Mr. Clark, to whom she did not address a word. If the allegation were true she would, it was to be supposed, then have communicated the slander to Mr. Clark. On the verandah White and Ford had a conversation privately when something was stated which Mr. Ford said had been repeated by the defendants in the room. White's allegation is that the statement

was repeated by Ford himself, in great excitement, walking up and down the room, to Mr. Clark while White endeavored to pacify him. Which statement was the more likely? Was it likely that Mrs. White seeing Ford and White come into the room would have said the words complained of? The probabilities of the case were all in favor of defendants; and it must not be forgotten that the onus of proof rests on the plaintiff, and that the defendants must be assumed to be innocent until that proof is established. Mr. Lowder then read his notes of White's account of the interview in the dining-room and referred in eulogistic terms to the demeanor of Mr. and Mrs. White under examination and the honest straightforward way in which their evidence had been tendered under cross-examination. Another point to be considered was that of the credibility of the witnesses. On one side there were Mr. and Mrs. White; on the other Mr. Ford and Mr. Clark—two and two. The jury had seen Mr. Ford's pyrotechnic display under cross-examination. His answers were given not to him (Counsel), but to the audience. Ford's demeanor was painful to him in the circumstances; but there are some witnesses who do not understand the responsibility of their oath, and behave as if all they need do under cross-examination was their best to baffle the questioning Counsel. Had not it been proved that Ford was on intimate terms with the defendants? In affirmative answer to this question Mr. Lowder cited a familiarity of address between Ford and the Whites, and the fact of his having first met Miss Farnsworth at the house of the latter, and went on to ask, if the witness would mislead the jury in a small matter like this, he would not mislead them on the more momentous question of the interview of the 13th of September. The learned Counsel reviewed Mr. Clark's evidence also disparagingly. With reference to the next question, was Miss Farnsworth's marriage broken? Waightman had repeated Ford's assertion that he intended to let the Farnsworths have the use of his house until the trial was over. Ford had gone to Mrs. White, subsequent to the *J. V. Troop* sailing for Hakodate, for trees to beautify his grounds, and had told Waightman, no later than half-past twelve o'clock last Saturday, that then "he would not marry the girl because old Farnsworth had dictated to him, and he was not used to be dictated to." Mrs. and Miss Farnsworth had arrived on Friday from Hakodate. Why were they here? They had not been called in evidence. Why then the expense of bringing them hither. But supposing that the marriage had been broken off? Had that happened or was it not only held in abeyance in consequence of this scandal? Here there arose three points for the jury to decide. The only remaining question was that of damages. That and other points referred to, His Honor would develop far better than the learned Counsel thought he had been able to do; and he was now quite content to leave the matter in their hands.

Mr. Kirkwood complimented his learned friend upon the ability of his address in which not a single point that could help his case was untouched. Every particle of evidence that could tell in his favor had been brought out. But when he (Mr. Kirkwood) undertook the case he thought it would be much more complicated than it now appears. There is only one grand issue upon which all the others hang. Do or do not the jury believe the story of the plaintiffs as to the interview in Ford's house on the 13th of September? If they do believe it they must give a verdict for the plaintiffs; but if they do not so believe they must find for the defendants. The two versions are utterly inconsistent, and which was true and which false the jury would have to decide. He agreed with his learned friend that no punishment would be too severe for anyone who had maliciously started a story so "vile, gross, and wicked," and had committed the perjury that must be evident on one side or other. The story was too awful to have been concocted by the witnesses that he had brought. By Ford? Why against persons with whom he had long been in friendly relations—the Whites? Against the girl he was engaged to marry? It was preposterous to suppose any such thing, as his action immediately after the report was retailed to him amply proved. It must

be remembered, in this connection, that Mr. Ford was a man of means, deriving an income of 2,000 taels from his property in China, having property here, and earning money in business. What gain then had he in conspiring against the happiness of the young lady to whom he was engaged? Then, as for Mr. Clark, who on the defence's theory must be a conspirator with him: what gain had he in the concoction of this story? He was a friend of both parties—of Ford and the Whites; and he knew the Farnsworths a little. What gain had he in perjuring himself in such circumstances? No. Mr. Ford and he had acted immediately and before this charge was brought, but the defendants had been able to make up their plausible story while the case against them was being conducted. On this point counsel went on to argue that the defendants had their pecuniary interests and their characters at stake, and proceeded to review the evidence of his witnesses and the conduct of the case in support of his contention that the defence had been made up since the inception of the trial. The evidence of Farnsworth and Ford and Clark had been taken separately. None had heard what the others had said. Each had been kept absent from the Court-room while the others were being examined; and yet no contradiction was observable in their evidence or in their cross-examination. As for the defendants, they, Mr. and Mrs. White, were both in Court the whole time, and hearing the evidence against them were able to take the precaution of putting their witness, the steward, in the box before themselves so that they could know what to say after his evidence had been given. Such a course is one well understood by lawyers; and implies a weak case on the part of a defence such as the present. After reviewing the evidence of the interview in Ford's house, which took place about 6 o'clock, and the subsequent proceedings, Mr. Kirkwood asked whether there could be any idea of conspiracy between Ford and Clark, who had gone on board the ship by eight o'clock and had no time, apart from the impossibility or inclination on their part, to concoct any such scheme as that implied. There was Captain Farnsworth's evidence. The story that he related was identical with that which they said they had related to him, and in support of that again was Farnsworth's testimony as to his visit to the steward and the latter's emphatic "No" to the three question then addressed to him. And in further corroboration was the fact of Farnsworth's immediately afterward going to Counsel (Mr. Kirkwood himself) and placing his daughter's case in his hands. Another point was Ford's great excitement on his return from his visit to the steward, and his saying, "There, Mrs. White, I told you it was a parcel of lies!" and his anxiety to go off to the ship at once. Why didn't White go? "It was too rough." The state of the weather, Counsel contended, might affect the case as it concerned Mrs. White, but not her husband, who admitted that his business for the Consulate constantly took him afloat, and when he knew that Clark and Ford had gone off in a sampan. Mr. Kirkwood next animadverted on Mr. White's conduct in holding aloof from the Captain on the following day, his neglect in not answering his official letter of the 15th, and his general neglect to furnish any explanation to Captain Farnsworth until he addressed him a letter of apology on the 19th of September, his failing to make inquiry into the circumstances of the lazarette incident when it was related by the steward, and avoidance during the evidence of any question about the steward's alleged statements that the girl would die within a certain time. Next the delays in the conduct of the case were commented on by Mr. Kirkwood with the inference that they had been brought about to enable the defence to build up the case. His own amendment to the petition, for instance, had been made to comply with legal technicalities and involved no change in the line of his argument; but it was apparent that the contrary was the case with the amendments of his learned friend to the answer. On the mere pleadings he asked the jury to find that the case had been concocted and that within a very few days. With reference to the application to withdraw the case from the jury, he asked whether such a request was compatible with the innocence of the defendants, and whether an innocent person would not rather have had the case, once instituted, con-

tinue at all risks. Again, in the letter of apology written on the 19th, there were no denials of the charges brought. One point he had so far forgotten in his address. Mr. Farnsworth's position, as testified to by Captain Fowler, should have great weight with the jury in connection with the evidence of Mr. Clark and Mr. Ford. Insisting on the fact that the marriage had been broken off, Mr. Kirkwood cited his own letter instituting the suit and the direct evidence. It was perfectly true that Mrs. and Miss Farnsworth were now in Yokohama. They arrived during the first day of the case, and Miss Farnsworth would have been produced if her evidence had been necessary in rebuttal of any statements in evidence to her discredit, as, for instance, if the steward had said other than he did say. He had emphatically declared that Miss Farnsworth was a well-behaved and virtuous young lady. If she had been put in the witness-box she could only have said the same thing herself.

The question of costs and that of privilege were here alluded to.

The question of costs was not considered; but His Honor said he should rule that the communication was privileged. Mr. Kirkwood asked that, in case of appeal, his contention as to the privilege be noted, which was done.

Mr. Kirkwood concluded his address by saying that, then, the question of malice remained only for the jury to decide, and malice in this case would be malice in law and in fact. In only one of two ways could they find; and he was confident that their verdict would not be to the effect to convict Ford and Clark of conspiracy. As regards the damages, no damages would be too much in such a case. A recent cause had been decided in London, and reported in the newspapers, in which a sculptor had recovered £5,000 from one who slandered him in writing—the heaviest verdict of the kind, Counsel believed, on record. There had been numerous less important cases, wherein £4,000, £3,000, and so on, had been recovered; but no case could to a woman be so important as this. Nothing was of more vital importance to a woman than her honor and her virtue.

His Honor, summing up, after alluding to the long time that the case had occupied, and complimenting the jury upon their attention to a painful case in which he fully shared their anxiety, said that, whatever the finding of the jury might be, it could not fail to be terrible to one of the two parties. Before proceeding to the consideration of the general case he alluded to the side issues. The Counsel for the defence had attached some importance to Captain Farnsworth's words on the occasion of his visit to the steward, the day after hearing of what had been said about his daughter. He then exclaimed, "Damn that fellow, White!" and so on. His Honor asked the jury to imagine what would be the feelings of "anger and despair" of any father hearing such an accusation. Despair, because such an accusation spreads, permeates the air, and can never really be retracted. What expressions might not be excused in such a case; and not only so what sympathy must not be felt for the father? But that consideration must not blind them to the possibility that grievous, or perhaps graver, injury may be sustained by the other side. Of the allegations in this case that of sickness was not much; but that about the lazarette incident was such as to throw a serious responsibility upon White in his duty to his friend. It might be reasonably supposed by one in White's position that it was his duty to communicate what he had heard to his friend. There are duties in law and duties of society; and others might interpret as White did their duty in such case to a young man whom they had known for two years. So far for the sympathy that might be felt for both sides—the father and the Whites. It had been said for the plaintiffs that the defendants had perverted a statement made to the latter in the Honmura Road into a filthy scandal. Whether that were so would be for the jury to decide; but as for the statement of the defendants, of itself, he had ruled that it was a privileged communication; and it remained for the jury to judge whether it had been made with actual malice; and the onus of affirmative proof of this rested with defendants. His Honor then expounded from decisions of Justice Bradford and Chief Justice Brett the laws defining "privilege" and "malice" respectively;

and applying them to the present case, reviewed the evidence as it bore upon the question of actual malice. With respect to Farnsworth's evidence there was nothing astonishing in an angry father, in such circumstances as those of Captain Farnsworth, using any expression concerning those whom he deemed his daughter's traducers. The Judge then reviewed the evidence of Messrs. Ford and Clark and read extracts therefrom as well as from that of Mr. White. Referring to the imputation against the latter that he had taken no steps to see Mr. Farnsworth, he warned the Jury that in such cases imputations had to be credited with due caution. In this case probably no inference should be drawn; unless perhaps it was better that in the circumstances the two parties should not have met. After a brief exposition of Mrs. White's and Mrs. Waightman's evidence, His Honor instructed the Jury that it was frequently the case with counsel, believing that their own clients' cause was just, to attribute perjury and concoction to the witnesses of the other side. Here it was evident that grave moral blame attached somewhere. Few men come into a Court of Law prepared to perjure themselves; but many come with a determination to tell the truth; and yet, from misapprehension of circumstances or notions of what is due to themselves, will not go back on their original statements, whether made in Court or previously to their Counsel. What was said here applied equally to both sides. He did not think that in this case there was any ground for the accusation of either perjury or concoction. An indelicate mind had been at work somewhere; but that did not imply either perjury or concoction of a story. In reference to the contention of Mr. Kirkwood that the change of the line of defence had been altered since the amendment of the petition, His Honor referred the Jury to the cross-examinations of Ford and Clark, and remarked that the pleas of "not guilty" entered by the defendants were answers to the petition. On the other hand the tenor of White's letter of apology was in a sense a denial but not so complete a denial as to be fully compatible with the understanding that he had never used the words. One result of this trial, whatever would be the finding of the Jury, would be most important. It entirely cleared the character of Miss Ruth Farnsworth, who had been triumphantly freed not merely from any accusation; but from the faintest breath of slander. In finally directing the jury to consider their verdict, His Honor propounded to them the following questions:—

1.—Assuming that the occasion was privileged, did defendants, or either, and which, make the statement? In this is included the question whether the statement was made by White and confirmed by Mrs. White, or was it made by Mrs. White and confirmed by Mr. White. The Jury will do well to say which of these accounts they think is true.

2.—Were the statements made with express malice?

3.—Was the marriage broken off?

4.—Was it on account of the words spoken by the defendants?

5.—What damages?

The Jury retired at half-past noon and returned into Court at 3.45 p.m., when their foreman said that they could not agree upon any of the questions put to them.

His Honour observed that he did not see any other course open for him but to discharge the Jury. They had been deliberating for three and a half hours; and he did not deem that any advantage would be gained in sending them back. Before discharging them His Honor again reminded them of their responsibility. The Jury repeated that there was no prospect of their coming to an agreement on any of the questions, and His Honour then dismissed them.

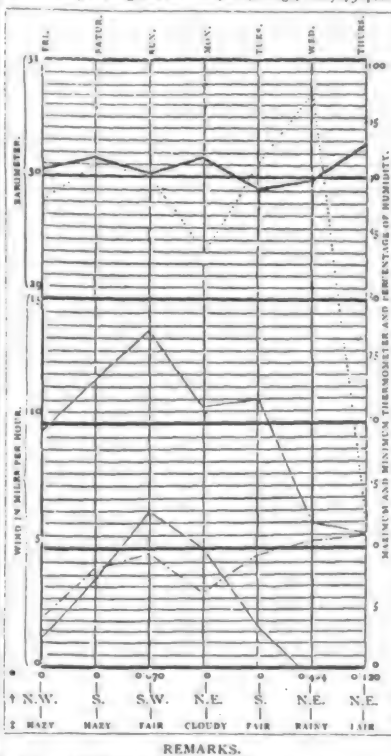
SUNDAY CHURCH SERVICES.

Christ Church: 11 a.m. and 5.30 p.m.
Union Church: 11 a.m. and 8 p.m.
Roman Catholic Church: 8 and 9.30 a.m.
English Church, No. 12, Sakaicho, Shiba, Tokiyo: 11 a.m.

METEOROLOGICAL REPORT.

For Week Beginning Friday, October 19th, 1883.

Observatory of Daigaku, Moto-Fujicho, Hongo, Tokiyo, Japan.



REMARKS.
Heavy line represents barometer.
Light continuous line—maximum and minimum thermometers.
Dashed line—represents velocity of wind.
Percentage of humidity.

The barometer is reduced to the freezing point and to the level of the sea.

° Rain in inches. † Direction of Wind. ‡ Weather.

Maximum velocity of wind 22.1 miles per hour on Thursday at 1 p.m.

The highest reading of the barometer for the week was 30.363 inches on Thursday at 11 p.m., and the lowest was 29.863 inches on Tuesday at 6 p.m.

The highest temperature for the week was 77.03 on Sunday, and the lowest was 48.0 on Thursday. The maximum and minimum for the corresponding week of last year were 75.0 and 48.0 respectively.

The total amount of rain for the week was 0.614 inches, against 0.023 inches for the corresponding week of last year.

TIME TABLES.

YOKOHAMA-TOKIO RAILWAY.

The Trains LEAVE YOKOHAMA Station at 6.45, 8.00, 8.50, 9.45, and 11.00 a.m., and 12.15, 1.30, 2.45, 4.00, 4.45, 6.00, 7.15, 8.30, 9.45, and 11.00 p.m.

The Trains LEAVE TOKIO (Shinbashi) at 6.45, 8.00, 9.15, 9.45, and 11.00 a.m., and 12.15, 1.30, 2.45, 4.00, 4.45, 6.00, 7.15, 8.30, 9.45, and 11.00 p.m.

Those marked with (*) run through without stopping at Tsurumi, Kawasaki, and Omori Stations. Those with (†) are the same as above with the exception of stopping at Kawasaki Station.

UYENO-KUMAGAI RAILWAY.

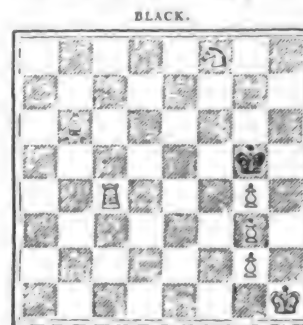
The Trains leave UYENO at 7 and 11.30 a.m. and 4 p.m., and HONJO at 6.30 and 11 a.m. and 3.30 p.m.

The Fares are:—Special-class (Separate Compartment), yen 2.35; First-class, yen 1.40; Third-class, sen 70.

CHESS.

By G. B. STOCKER.

From the Westminster Papers.



White to play and mate in 3 moves.

Solution to Chess Problem of 20th October.

White.

1.—B. to R. 2.

2.—Q. to Q. 7.

3.—Q. to B. 5, mate.

Black.

1.—K. to K. 5.

2.—K. to B. 6.

if 1.—K. to Q. B. 5.

2.—Q. to Q. B. ch.

3.—Kt. to K. B. 2, mate.

2.—Q. to K. R. 7.

3.—Q. to Q. 3, mate.

2.—K. to Q. 6.

1.—K. to Q. 3.

2.—K. to Q. 4.

Correct solution received from "TESA."

LATEST TELEGRAMS.

[REUTER "SPECIAL" TO "JAPAN MAIL."]

London, October 25th.

OPENING OF THE FRENCH PARLIAMENT.
The French Chambers were opened yesterday.

CHINA'S DEMANDS.

A Yellow Book has been published, which states that China requires France to abandon her treaties and evacuate Tonquin.

OPINION IN PARIS.

It is generally considered in Paris that the French reinforcements will accomplish great things when they arrive at the scene of action, and that the results when obtained will induce China to take a very different view of the situation.

London, 13th October.

FRENCH REINFORCEMENTS FOR TONQUIN.
A French transport has sailed for Tonquin with 540 men and a quantity of war material.

A NEW KNIGHT OF THE GARTER.

The Duke of Argyll has been created a Knight of the Garter.

London, 16th October.

SPAIN AND FRANCE.

The Spanish Ambassador to France has resigned.

THE BRITISH TROOPS IN EGYPT.

Sir Evelyn Wood favours the withdrawal of the bulk of the British troops from Egypt.

London, 15th October.

SPAIN AND FRANCE.

A new Minister has been formed by Senor Herrera at Madrid and the dispute with France has been dropped.

FRANCE AND CHINA.

The Marquis Tseng, replying to an address at Folkestone, said that he still hoped that mutual concessions would lead to a peaceful settlement of present difficulties between France and China.

LATEST SHIPPING.

FREIGHTS.

The steamship *Selebria* sailed for New York, via Japan and China ports on the 25th instant, and that berth is now held by the steamship *Cairnsmuir* only; for New York direct the *Gilead* is loading at Kobe, and possibly another sailing vessel will be on the berth in this port before long. For Havre and London, the British bark *Sagitta* is loading, very much hindered by the delay of dealers in fulfilling their contracts, she sails, however, on the 31st instant. The British bark *Bride* sailed on the 24th for Amoy with a full cargo of wheat, for which destination the *Selebria* took about 1,400 tons; in other directions coastwise, nothing is offering.

ARRIVALS.

Haddon Hall, British ship, 1,416, W. R. Leighton, 20th October, — Middlesboro' 19th April, General.—C. Illies & Co.
Ise Maru, Japanese steamer, 748, J. Efford, 20th October, — Cardiff via Singapore 6th October, Coals.—Kiyodo Unyu Kwaisha.
Sooloo, British bark, 350, Baikie, 20th October, — Nagasaki, Coals.—Mitsu Bishi M. S. S. Co.
Chitose Maru, Japanese steamer, 293, T. Kasuga, 21st October, — Put back.—Mitsu Bishi M. S. S. Co.
Niigata Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,096, John C. Hubbard, 22nd October, — Hakodate, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S. S. Co.
Taganoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 448, Matsumoto, 20th October, — Yokkaichi, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S. S. Co.
Kworio Maru, Japanese steamer, 370, Amano, 20th October, — Yokkaichi, General.—Seiriusha.
Shidauoka Maru, Japanese steamer, 334, Nakai, 21st October, — Yokkaichi, General.—Seiriusha.
Kenjin Maru, Japanese steamer, 236, Masuda, 22nd October, — Yokkaichi, General.—Seiriusha.
Evangeline, British schooner, 345, S. A. Bell, 22nd October, — Nagasaki, Coals and General.—H. MacArthur.
Seirio Maru, Japanese steamer, 459, Nirei, 22nd October, — Yokkaichi, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S. S. Co.
Wakanoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,133, A. F. Christensen, 22nd October, — Kobe 21st October, Mails and General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S. S. Co.
Flintshire, British steamer, 1,017, A. Haine, 24th October, — London via Hongkong 16th October, General.—Adamson, Bell & Co.
Kamtchatka, Russian steamer, 702, Ingman, 24th October, — Nagasaki 20th October, Coals and General.—Walsh, Hall & Co.
Nagoya Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,900, Wilson Walker, 25th October, — Shanghai and ports, Mails and General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S. S. Co.
Taganoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 448, Matsumoto, 25th October, — Yokkaichi, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S. S. Co.
Toyoshima Maru, Japanese steamer, 946, Thomas, 25th October, — Niigata, 21st October, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S. S. Co.
Yechigo Maru, Japanese steamer, 750, E. Jones, 26th October, — Kobe 24th October, General.—Kiyodo Unyu Kwaisha.
Zambesi, British steamer, 1,540, L. H. Moule, 26th October, — Hongkong 17th October via Nagasaki and Kobe, General.—P. & O. S. N. Co.
Kumamoto Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,240, Drummond, 26th October, — Hongkong via Kobe, Mails and General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S. S. Co.
Hiogo Maru, Japanese steamer, 896, R. N. Walker, 27th October, — Singo Bay, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S. S. Co.
Seirio Maru, Japanese steamer, 329, 27th October, — Yokkaichi, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S. S. Co.

DEPARTURES.

Arago, British steamer, 1,061, L. Jones, 20th October, — Nagasaki, Ballast.—Batterfield & Swire.
Seisho Maru, Japanese steamer, 210, Ioda, 20th October, — Kobe, General.—Seiriusha.
Tokai Maru, Japanese steamer, 652, Carrew, 20th October, — Hakodate, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S. S. Co.
Oceanic, British steamer, 2,350, Davison, 21st October, — Hongkong, Mails and General.—O. & O. S. S. Co.
Chitose Maru, Japanese steamer, 293, Kuga, 22nd October, — Hakodate, Mails and General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S. S. Co.
City of Peking, American steamer, 3,129, Berry, 23rd October, — San Francisco, Mails and General.—P. M. S. S. Co.
Gloaming, British ship, 1,498, R. F. Densmore, 23rd October, — San Francisco, General.—China and Japan Trading Co.
Pensacola, American frigate, 3,000, Captain Henry Esben, 23rd October, — Kobe, &c.
Tourville, French frigate, 27 guns, 5,300, Captain Bose, 23rd October, — China ports.
Naniwa Maru, Japanese steamer, 185, Shisawara, 23rd October, — Yokkaichi, Mails and General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S. S. Co.
Niigata Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,096, Hubbard, 23rd October, — Yokosuka.—Mitsu Bishi M. S. S. Co.
Seirio Maru, Japanese steamer, 591, G. R. Nirei, 23rd October, — Yokkaichi, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S. S. Co.
Wakanoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,343, A. F. Christensen, 23rd October, — Kobe, Mails and General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S. S. Co.
Audacious (14), Captain R. E. Tracey, 24th October, — Kobe.
Bride, British bark, 300, Sutherland, 24th October, — Amoy, Wheat.—H. MacArthur.
Duke of Edinburgh, Russian ironclad, (18), Captain de Giers, 24th October, — Hongkong.
Kairin Maru, Japanese steamer, 370, Amano, 24th October, — Handa, General.—Seiriusha.
Kosuge Maru, Japanese steamer, 751, H. Kawakawa, 24th October, — Osaka, General.—Kiyodo Unyu Kwaisha.
Matsushima Maru, Japanese bark, 444, Yamashita, 24th October, — Oginohama via Ishinomaki, Oil and General.—Takahashi Co.
Najadnik, Russian corvette, Captain Kologeras, 24th October, — Shanghai.
Richmond, (14), Captain J. S. Skerrett, 24th October, — Kobe.
Skobelev, Russian corvette, Captain Blagodareff, 24th October, — South.
Tokio Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,146, R. Swain, 24th October, — Shanghai and ports, Mails and General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S. S. Co.
Albatross (4), Commander Hicks, 25th October, — Kobe.
Kosuge Maru, Japanese steamer, 775, H. Kawakawa, 25th October, — Hakodate General.—Kiyodo Unyu Kwaisha.
Selebria, British steamer, 1,092, S. Fowler, 25th October, — New York, via Japan and China ports, General.—Smith, Baker & Co.
Taganoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 448, Matsumoto, 25th October, — Yokkaichi, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S. S. Co.
Takasago Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,229, C. Young, 27th October, — Hakodate, Mails and General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S. S. Co.
Mensaleh, French steamer, 1,273, B. Blanc, 27th October, — Hongkong Mails and General.—Messageries Maritimes & Co.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per Japanese steamer *Onoura Maru*, from Fukuda:—11 Japanese in steerage.
 Per Japanese steamer *Ise Maru*, from Kobe:—Mrs. Smith in cabin.
 Per Japanese steamer *Niigata Maru*, from Hakodate:—Mr. and Mrs. Boegel and 2 children,

Messrs. F. Krebs, Molt, MacMillan, Werner, and 9 Japanese in cabin; and 139 Japanese in steerage.
 Per Japanese steamer *Seirio Maru*, from Yokkaichi:—113 Japanese.

Per Japanese steamer *Wakanoura Maru*, from Kobe:—Mr. A. De Ath and 5 Japanese in cabin; and 163 Japanese in steerage.

Per British steamer *Flintshire*, from London via Hongkong:—Mr. Mason in cabin.

Per Russian steamer *Kamtchatka*, from Nagasaki:—Baron and Baroness Rudolph and servant, and 2 Japanese in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Nagoya Maru*, from Shanghai and ports:—Messrs. E. C. Kirby, F. H. Tiegfeld, H. Melbye and servant, Kaufmann, H. Kern, Hojo, Namura, Kiyooka, Hirohashi, Hiyama, and Honjo in cabin; and 1 European, 3 Chinese, and 236 Japanese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Yechigo Maru*, from Kobe:—30 Japanese.

Per British steamer *Zambesi*, from Hongkong via Nagasaki and Kobe:—6 Europeans and 30 Chinese and Japanese.

Per Japanese steamer *Kumamoto Maru*, from Hongkong via Kobe:—Messrs. G. C. Campbell and J. Driscoll in cabin; and 18 Japanese in steerage.

DEPARTED.

Per British steamer *Oceanic*, for Hongkong:—Captain and Mrs. Young and 2 children in cabin.

Per American steamer *City of Peking*, for San Francisco:—Mrs. Tatsuta and 3 children, and Miss Birdsall in cabin; and 304 Chinese in steerage. For New York: Rev. and Mrs. Wm. Imbrie and 2 children, Mrs. M. K. True, Mrs. D. H. Mahan, Commander C. S. Cotton, U.S.N., Messrs. E. Willach, and Mass Henry in cabin. For London: Baron Rosen, and Lieutenant A. J. W. Allen in cabin. For Liverpool: Mr. J. Goodair in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Tokio Maru*, for Shanghai and ports:—Rev. and Mrs. Blogett, Rev. and Mrs. H. P. Beach, Mr. and Mrs. Uriu, Mrs. and Miss Lowrie, Mrs. G. A. Appleton and infant, Mrs. Estrand and 2 children, Mrs. J. C. Hepburn, Mrs. Crosby, Mrs. F. T. Alexander, Mrs. O'Neil, Mrs. Hunker, Mrs. Potter, Mrs. Carey, Mrs. Alexander, Miss Dudley, Miss Searle, Miss Porter, Miss Cummings, Miss B. Raymond, Miss Addie Tyler, Rev. J. B. Porter, Rev. J. W. Lowrie, Captain Hubert, Messrs. A. B. Glover, J. S. Casey, Colvin, Hargreaves, Greenburg, J. Ananger, Libbey, J. Wincler, F. Naudin, O. Reimers, H. P. Buckley, J. R. Elliott, Otsuka, Betsuhio, Hirayama, Hoshiyama, Nagaya, Sakimoto, and Nishikawa in cabin.

CARGOES.

Per American steamer *City of Peking*, for San Francisco:—

| | TEA. | NEW YORK. | OTHER CITIES. | TOTAL. |
|-----------------|-------|-----------|---------------|--------|
| SAV. FRANCISCO. | | | | |
| Shanghai | — | 1,194 | 2,797 | 3,991 |
| Hiogo | 1,148 | 521 | 1,066 | 2,735 |
| Yokohama | 5,343 | 733 | 2,319 | 8,395 |
| Hongkong | 270 | 74 | 997 | 1,331 |
| Total | 6,761 | 2,522 | 7,169 | 17,452 |

| | SILK. | NEW YORK. | OTHER CITIES. | TOTAL. |
|-----------------|-------|-----------|---------------|--------|
| SAV. FRANCISCO. | | | | |
| Shanghai | — | 152 | — | 152 |
| Hongkong | — | 396 | — | 396 |
| Yokohama | — | 1,038 | — | 1,038 |
| Total | — | 1,586 | — | 1,586 |

Per Japanese steamer *Tokio Maru*, for Shanghai and ports:—Treasure, \$111,000.00.

Per Japanese steamer *Nagoya Maru*, from Shanghai and ports:—Treasure, \$179,500.00.

REPORTS.

The Japanese steamer *Wakanoura Maru*, Captain A. F. Christensen, reports leaving Kobe on the 21st October, at 3.15 a.m. with light variable winds and cloudy weather throughout the passage. Arrived at Yokohama on the 22nd October, at 1 p.m.

The Russian steamer *Kamtchatka*, Captain Ignman, reports having experienced fine weather to Vries Island; thence to port fresh north-easterly wind and thick rainy weather.

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

The quietude noted in our last has developed into stagnation as far as staples (Yarns and Shirtings) are concerned, and it would be difficult to select any Goods for which there is even a moderate demand. All quotations therefore must be considered nominal.

COTTON YARNS.

| | PER PICUL. |
|----------------------------------|------------------|
| Nos. 16 to 24, Common to Medium- | \$25.00 to 28.50 |
| Nos. 16 to 24, Good to Best - | 29.25 to 30.00 |
| Bombay, No. 20, Good to Best - | 25.25 to 28.50 |
| Nos. 28 to 32, Common to Medium- | 30.50 to 31.50 |
| Nos. 28 to 32, Good to Best - | 32.00 to 35.00 |
| Nos. 38 to 42 - | 35.00 to 37.50 |

COTTON PIECE GOODS.

| | PER PIECE. |
|-----------------------------------------------|----------------|
| Grey Shirtings—8½, 38½ to 39 inches - | \$1.70 to 2.15 |
| Grey Shirtings—9½, 38½ to 45 inches - | 1.92½ to 2.40 |
| T. Cloth—7½, 24 yards, 32 inches - | 1.42½ to 1.50 |
| Indigo Shirting—12 yards, 44 inches - | 1.55 to 1.70 |
| Prints—Assorted, 24 yards, 30 inches - | 1.10 to 2.40 |
| Cotton—Italians and Satens Black, 32 inches - | 0.07 to 0.09 |
| Turkey Reds—2 to 2½, 24 yards, 30 inches - | 1.15 to 1.35 |
| Turkey Reds—2½ to 2½, 24 yards, 30 inches - | 1.35 to 1.55 |
| Turkey Reds—3½, 24 yards, 30 inches - | 1.70 to 1.82½ |
| Velvets—Black, 35 yards, 22 inches - | 5.90 to 6.75 |
| Victoria Lawns, 12 yards, 42-3 inches - | 0.65 to 0.75 |
| Taffachelas, 12 yards, 43 inches - | 1.75 to 2.05 |

WOOLLENS.

| | PER CASE. |
|----------------------------------------------------|----------------|
| Plain Orleans, 40-42 yards, 32 inches - | \$3.50 to 5.25 |
| Figured Orleans, 20-31 yards, 31 inches - | 3.25 to 4.00 |
| Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches - | 0.18 to 0.23 |
| Mousseline de Laine—Crape, 24 yards, 31 inches - | 0.15½ to 0.16½ |
| Mousseline de Laine—Itajime, 24 yards, 31 inches - | 0.15½ to 0.26 |
| Mousseline de Laine—Yuzen, 24 yards, 31 inches - | 0.30 to 0.37½ |
| Cloths—Pilets, 54 @ 56 inches - | 0.30 to 0.40 |
| Cloths—Presidents, 54 @ 56 inches - | 0.40 to 0.50 |
| Cloths—Union, 54 @ 56 inches - | 0.30 to 0.55 |
| Blankets—Scarlet and Green, 6 to 5½, per lb - | 0.35 to 0.40 |

IRON.

| | PER PICUL. |
|---------------------------------|----------------|
| Flat Bars, 4 inch - | \$4.50 to 2.90 |
| Flat Bars, 1 inch - | 2.80 to 3.00 |
| Round and square up to 1 inch - | 2.80 to 3.00 |
| Nailrod, assorted - | 2.15 to 2.60 |
| Nailrod, small size - | 2.85 to 3.15 |

KEROSENE.

Business in Oil has been at a standstill during the week, dealers being unwilling to pay the prices asked by holders. Deliveries have been 13,000 cases, leaving a Stock of 681,000 cases sold and unsold Oil.

| | PER CASE. |
|----------|-----------|
| Devoe - | \$1.65 |
| Comet - | 1.63 |
| Stella - | 1.55 |

SUGAR.

With a small business, but a firm Market, prices remain without alteration.

| | PER PICUL. |
|-----------------|----------------|
| White, No. 1 - | \$8.40 to 8.50 |
| White, No. 2 - | 7.00 to 7.50 |
| White, No. 3 - | 6.75 to 7.00 |
| White, No. 4 - | 6.00 to 6.50 |
| White, No. 5 - | 5.00 to 5.20 |
| Brown Formosa - | 4.60 to 4.65 |

EXPORTS.

SILK.

A good daily business in Silk during the week, Settlements reaching fully 1,000 piculs. Arrivals have again been in excess of the demand, and Stocks are increased to 6,000 piculs. Quotations cannot be much changed, but the tendency is in favor of buyers; Japanese seem willing to go on at late rates, but the stringency in the Sats Market makes them chary of reducing prices. On the other hand the spurt in Foreign Exchange has hampered shippers considerably. Export to date is now 13,220 bales, against 10,852 bales to the 28th October, 1882.

Hanks.—These have been in fair demand at something under late rates. We note a good parcel of *Shinshu* at \$505, with some fair Silk at \$490, *Onama* \$480, *Maibash* \$460, and *Hachoji* \$430 down.

Filatures.—A few bales *Nihonmatsu* brought the large price of \$640, but it is doubtful if the sale could be repeated. Some few lots ordinary *Shinshu* done at \$590. *Tokosha* \$600.

Re-reels.—A good quantity were shipped by Japanese direct per *City of Peking*. Since her departure sales reported to foreigners at \$590 for Five Girl *Maibash*. Fan chop *Shinshu* quote \$595.

Kakeda still enquired for at late rates. A parcel of *Sano-musume* changed hands at \$610, \$575, and \$535 for first, second, and third choice respectively. *Oshu* and *Tayssam* kinds freely taken at quotations. Some fairly large parcels *Sendai* finding buyers at from \$480 to \$495 according to quality. *Hamatsuki* current at \$450 for Medium.

QUOTATIONS.

| | |
|-----------------------------------|--------------|
| Hanks—No. 1½ - | \$500 to 510 |
| Hanks—No. 2 (Shinshu) - | 495 to 500 |
| Hanks—No. 2 (Maibash) - | 480 to 490 |
| Hanks—No. 2½ (Shinshu) - | 480 to 485 |
| Hanks—No. 2½ (Maibash) - | 470 to 475 |
| Hanks—No. 3 - | 440 to 450 |
| Hanks—No. 3½ - | 420 to 430 |
| Filatures—Extra. - | 630 to 640 |
| Filatures—No. 1, 10/13 deniers - | 610 to 620 |
| Filatures—No. 1, 14/16 deniers - | 600 to 610 |
| Filatures—No. 1½, 14/17 deniers - | 590 to 590 |
| Filatures—No. 2, 10/15 deniers - | 580 to 590 |
| Filatures—No. 2, 14/18 deniers - | 565 to 575 |
| Filatures—No. 3, 14/20 deniers - | 550 to 560 |
| Re-reels—No. 1, 14/16 deniers - | 590 to 600 |
| Re-reels—No. 1½, 14/17 deniers - | 575 to 585 |
| Re-reels—No. 2, 14/18 deniers - | 565 to 570 |
| Re-reels—No. 3, 14/20 deniers - | 550 to 560 |
| Kakedas—Extra. - | 610 |
| Kakedas—No. 1. - | 575 to 585 |
| Kakedas—No. 2. - | 535 to 545 |
| Kakedas—No. 3. - | 500 to 510 |
| Oshu <i>Sendai</i> —No. 2½ - | 490 to 500 |
| Hamatsuki—No. 1, 2 - | 480 to 490 |
| Hamatsuki—No. 3, 4 - | 410 to 460 |
| Sendai—No. 2½ - | 440 to 450 |

TEA.

We have no change to report in the course of our Tea Market. A small but steady demand has ruled throughout the week; daily Settlements aggregating about 215 piculs at prices on the whole, perhaps a shade lower than those quoted below. Producers appear to show more anxiety to sell, and might accept lower prices. Receipts are daily something less than the demand, and Stocks are gradually becoming reduced. Total Settlements for the week are 1,505 piculs, against 850 piculs settled at the corresponding date last year. The cargo of the Pacific Mail steamship *City of Peking*, despatched on the 23rd instant, consisting 330,564 lbs. Tea from this port as follows:—For New York, 33,850 lbs.; for Chicago, 69,171 lbs.; for Portland (Oregon), 6,400 lbs.; for California, 140,709 lbs.; and for Canada, 80,434 lbs. The O. & O. steamer *Arabic* and *Oceanic* are advertised to leave here for San Francisco, the former on the 6th proximo, and the latter on the 27th of the same month, both taking Tea at 2½ cents per lb. gross to the Eastern States and Canada, and \$12 per ton of 40 cubic feet for San Francisco.

QUOTATIONS.

| | |
|---------------|------------|
| Common - | \$10 |
| Good Common - | 10 to 12 |
| Medium - | 15 to 16 |
| Good Medium - | 18 to 20 |
| Fine - | 23 to 26 |
| Finest - | 25 & up'ds |

EXCHANGE.

The extreme scarcity of money noticed in our last issue has continued during the week, and rates advanced to 3/10½ for 4 months' Bank Paper. This rise, however, was not of long duration, and rates during the last two days have receded fully ½d.

| | |
|-------------------------------------------|------------|
| Quotations at the close are:— | |
| Sterling—Bank Bills on demand - | 3/9½ |
| Sterling—Bank 4 months' sight - | 3/9½ |
| Sterling—Private 4 months' sight - | 3/10 |
| Sterling—Private 6 months' sight - | 3/10½ |
| On Paris—Bank sight - | 4/75 |
| On Paris—Private 6 months' sight - | 4/86 |
| On Hongkong—Bank sight - | 1/0/0 dis. |
| On Hongkong—Private 10 days' sight - | 1/0/0 dis. |
| On Shanghai—Bank sight - | 73 |
| On Shanghai—Private 10 days' sight - | 73½ |
| On New York—Bank Bills on demand - | 91½ |
| On New York—Private 30 days' sight - | 92½ |
| On San Francisco—Bank Bills on demand - | 91½ |
| On San Francisco—Private 30 days' sight - | 92½ |

KINSATSU QUOTATIONS.

Saturday, October 27th 113½

IMPORTANT NOTICE.

SMALL CAPITALISTS, wishing to establish a business, should see if there is an opening for a Mineral Water Manufactory in their District. All information and recipes for the purpose of making Lemonade, Soda Water, &c., is given, previous knowledge is not necessary. The demand for these drinks is so much on the increase in all parts of the world, that the outlay for the machinery in all cases leads to a profitable and safe business. Catalogue forwarded free, on application to

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No. 27, VOL. I.]

YOKOHAMA, NOVEMBER 3RD, 1883.

[\$24 PER ANNUM.]

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The Japan Weekly Mail.

"FAIS CE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL," must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith. It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 3RD, 1883.

WEEKLY NOTES.

EXCEPT as illustrating the shameful abuses that flourish in this country under systems of lawlessness resulting from false and arbitrary interpretations put upon the treaties by certain Representatives of European Powers, it would be little better than waste of time to allude to the articles and notes that have been published by a section of the local press in connection with the police case at Nagasaki. We have no inclination whatsoever to discuss the motives by which the editors of these sheets are actuated. Our duty being to believe that they are honest, we are compelled to adopt the alternative conclusion and to attribute the intemperance and inaccuracy of their writings to carelessness and incapacity of a very exceptional nature. Thus the *Echo du Japon*, speaking of the Prefect of Kanagawa's proposal to be endowed with the powers exercised by every police magistrate in the universe outside Japan, wrote:—"The moment was badly chosen for making this request. The Consular body of Nagasaki had considered it necessary to grant such an authorization, but has just been obliged to withdraw it, in consequence of a murder committed by the agents of police, in the house of a Chinaman, where they had

entered on the pretext of searching for opium. This short paragraph contains two wholly false statements, and two others which the commonest principles of justice and fair-play ought to have prevented. The two errors are:—first, that the Consular body of Nagasaki was obliged to withdraw the general warrant granted to the police in consequence of the opium affair. The facts are that the opium affair happened on the 15th of September whereas the warrant was withdrawn on the 3rd of August. The connection between the two events exists only in the imagination of the editor of the *Echo du Japon*. The second error is that the police entered the house of a Chinaman "on the pretext of searching opium." The police entered Chün Die's shop for the purpose of arresting two Chinese who were then and there smoking opium, and whose deliberate violation of the laws was visible from the street. This is shown by the evidence of the Chinese themselves. The two unjust and unwarrantable assertions are:—first, that the agents of police committed a murder; and second, that they committed it in the house of a Chinaman. The police may have committed a murder, and they may have committed it in the house of a Chinaman, but until these things are proved—and as yet they are at least doubtful—their public assertion is a disgraceful violation of justice and fair-play. The same recklessness carried into the affairs of private life would inevitably expose its author to a criminal prosecution.

• • •

But even this discreditable specimen of journalism is wholly eclipsed by a recent editorial in the *Rising Sun and Nagasaki Express*. In its issue of the 27th ultimo, that journal informs its readers that "the Chinese Consul has been notified by the Judge of the Criminal Court that the trial of the police implicated in the Chinese murder case will be opened at the Saibansho at 8 a.m. on Monday next. Whether the trial will be a genuine one, or only a *ruse*, remains to be seen; our own opinion inclines to the latter." This was written on Saturday. The paragraph containing the statement is appended, in the form of a note, to a leading article in which occur such comments as the following:—"The prospects of the Japanese policemen and detectives being brought to justice and adequately punished for the murder of Wai Egno, and for variously wounding three other Chinese subjects, on the night of the 15th ult., in a Chinese private house, in the Chinese quarter of the Foreign Settlement of this port, seems to be growing more and more remote as time

passes on. A month-and-a-half has already elapsed, and no trial has yet been held." • • • If the police were acting under orders from their Superintendent, and the Superintendent under orders from the Governor, and the Governor under instructions from the Minister for Foreign Affairs at Tokio, the Chinese community of Nagasaki, and all others in any way interested, may rest perfectly satisfied that, as on all previous occasions of a similar nature, not a particle of justice or satisfaction will be obtained from the Japanese Government, unless the Chinese Government is fully prepared to take the only means that ever has been, or ever will be, available with Japan, viz:—*force*. And there the matter rests, and, so far as we can see, there it seems likely to end. The Minister for Foreign Affairs gives instructions to the Governor, which are in direct contradiction to the Treaty, the Governor hands them down to the Superintendent of Police, who carries them out, with the result that an innocent man is murdered in his friend's house, and three other friends are wounded. A demand is made for satisfaction, and the police throw the blame upon the Superintendent, the Superintendent upon the Governor, the Governor upon the Minister for Foreign Affairs, and that is the last of it, unless the injured nationality is prepared to declare war. Thus two days before a trial announced in its own itself, this English journal declares that the men who are to be tried have murdered an innocent man, that there is no prospect of obtaining redress unless the injured nationality is prepared to declare war and that, in its opinion, the Japanese Criminal Court is about to conduct a trial which will be "only a *ruse*." If anything resembling these assertions were published by a journal in any European country on the eve of a judicial investigation, the editor would be lodged in jail in a few hours. But in Japan he escapes without a word, being protected by that beautiful piece of civilized mechanism, exterritoriality. The Japanese authorities are doubtless right, under existing circumstances, to give themselves no concern about such exhibitions of foreign fairness and friendship, but these reckless journalists are not more unjust than it would be to judge foreign sentiment in general by their utterances.

On Thursday morning the Fourth Exhibition of Japanese Antiquities was opened at Hibiya, Daijingu, Tokiyo. Year by year the inability or reluctance of amateurs to furnish articles for these exhibitions seems to increase. The first

attempt, in 1880, was eminently the most successful. Many of the nobles and other private collectors sent heir-looms of much beauty and rarity, and it was then generally understood that still greater liberality might be expected in the future if the general conduct of the affair gave satisfaction. Unfortunately this essential condition was not fulfilled. Exhibitions held under the auspices of bric-a-brac dealers can never be anything but commercial speculations, and it is inevitable that the exhibits for which a sale is sought should command the best places. So conspicuously was this the case in 1880 that, with very rare exceptions, the exhibitors were finally disgusted, and the finest collections became thenceforth inaccessible. Nobody will be surprised to learn, therefore, that the antiquities now on view at Hibiya are the reverse of numerous. In fact they consist almost exclusively of pictures. Three Departments of the Government are represented—the Household, Educational, and Industrial, but among their exhibits there is only one of exceptional merit, namely, a pair of screens painted by Taniu, the designs being children at play, executed in the very best style of this celebrated artist. There is, however, one room, the contents of which alone will amply repay a visit. Its walls are entirely covered with pictures by the old Chinese masters. Two of the gems, from an antiquarian standpoint, hang inside a case which stands at the entrance. They are both by painters of the Sung period—Baian and Riushomen—and apart from their merits as works of art, one of them establishes the curious fact that reels were used by Chinese anglers in the eleventh century! What is there that Chinese civilization did not possess? More interesting than either of these, to our thinking, is a landscape by Kakei—also a Chinese artist of the Sung period—which shows, beyond all question, the source of the inspiration of the Japanese master, Motonobu, and of the Kano School. On the northerly side of the same room there hang five pictures of rare merit. Four of them are *en suite*—landscapes and birds by Joki of the Ming period—and one is a figure subject by Kinyei, also a painter of the fifteenth century. These are works which must be seen to be appreciated.

Whether a barrister who instructs a client to exhibit a resolute demeanour in the assertion of his rights may be punished for assault, is a subtle question which the Acting Assistant Judge of H.B.M. Court in Japan was in some danger of being called on to answer a few days ago. A certain Mr. Bohm, who has recently been engaged in establishing for himself a variegated reputation, desired to obtain, or retain, possession of a quantity of lumber which had been hypothecated by him to the Chartered Mercantile Bank. The lumber was in the form of two rafts, and on the 29th of September the representative of the Bank and his legal adviser came down to the creek where the rafts were lying and took them in charge. Bohm retreated to the German Consulate and, having procured the as-

sistance of the Constable, attempted to recapture the timber that did not belong to him. Discerning a prospect, however, of having to step into the creek if he persisted, he prudently abandoned his design. Renewing it, four days later, quite a lively controversy seems to have taken place. The proceedings were opened by a gentleman called Ford, who, according to Bohm's account, devoted sixty minutes to the delivery of a disjointed address intended to intimidate the occupants of the rafts and provoke them to a violent assertion of their supposed rights. The address was followed by some throwing of stones which took trifling effect on the heads of the occupants. After this the details of the affair are enveloped in some obscurity, the only ascertained facts being that there was a mutual exhibition of revolvers, and that Bohm again adopted the discreet expedient of retiring. His next step was to sue the Bank for the recovery of the papers which would have legalized his claim to the timber—a step which might well have preceded his manoeuvres at the creek. The law was against him, however, and he then had recourse to an action for assault, not only against Ford and his followers, but also against the agent of the Bank, whom he accused of inspiring this natural resistance to an unlawful trespass, and a barrister whom he suspected of advising the inspiration. Want of evidence enabled the Court to abstain from pronouncing judgment upon these vicarious misdemeanours, but Mr. Bohm had the double satisfaction of entertaining the public and of being revenged upon his enemies to the extent of wasting a great deal of their time, and arraigning them upon a criminal charge which had its sole basis in his own seemingly confused notions of right and wrong. It is only just that the law should confer upon gentlemen in difficulties these benevolent facilities for getting even with people who have the bad taste to assert inconvenient rights.

THROUGH the kindness of the Agent of the Union Steam Navigation Company (*Kiyodo Unyu Kaisha*), we are enabled to place before our readers the following list of steamers which have been built, or are now in process of construction, for the company, on the Clyde and Tyne, by Messrs. Napier, Shanks and Bell, Sir William Armstrong, Mitchell & Co., and other eminent firms:—

| NAME. | DEAD WEIGHT CARRYING CAPACITY. TONS. | DESCRIPTION. |
|----------------------|--------------------------------------------|-------------------|
| Ise Maru | 1,250 | Iron awning deck. |
| Owari Maru | 1,150 | Iron spar deck. |
| Totomi Maru | 2,500 | Iron spar deck. |
| Suruga Maru | 700 | Iron awning deck. |
| Satsuma Maru | 1,970 | Steel spar deck. |
| Nagato Maru | 1,970 | Steel spar deck. |
| Sagami Maru | 2,300 | Iron spar deck. |
| Higo Maru | 1,400 | Steel spar deck. |
| Kii Maru | 1,300 | Iron spar deck. |
| Mutsu Maru | 800 | Iron awning deck. |
| Mino Maru | 800 | Iron awning deck. |
| Idzumi Maru | 700 | Iron awning deck. |
| Harima Maru | 700 | Iron awning deck. |
| Yamashiro Maru | 1,800 | Iron three decks. |
| Omi Maru | 1,800 | Iron three decks. |
| Yetchiu Maru | 1,400 | Iron. |
| 22,540 | | |

The above vessels are all specially adapted

for the coasting trade of Japan, and are intended to carry passengers as well as cargo, except the *Yetchiu Maru* which is for cargo only. They are built under Lloyd's special survey and classed 100 A1. Their cost, laid down in Japan, with very full and complete specifications, spare shafts and other gear, will be £450,000, or something less than £20 per ton. The *Yamashiro Maru* and *Omi Maru* will have a speed of 13 knots, when laden, and will each carry two large Krupp guns, with magazine, &c. The speed of the *Satsuma Maru* and *Nagato Maru* will be twelve knots, laden, and that of the other steamers is guaranteed 10 knots. The contracts for the construction of the ships were concluded in Great Britain by Admiral Ito, assisted by Mr. R. Irwin and Captain A. R. Brown. In addition to the above sixteen vessels, the company has purchased in Japan the following passenger and cargo steamers of a dead-weight carrying capacity of tons 4,150 at a cost of about £82,000:—

| | |
|--------------------|--------------------|
| Kosuge Maru | 1,300 tons wooden. |
| Sukune Maru | 800 tons iron. |
| Yechigo Maru | 1,500 tons iron. |
| Shima Maru | 350 tons wooden. |
| Iki Maru | 200 tons wooden. |

Total..... 4,150 tons.

These five steamers, together with the *Ise Maru*, *Totomi Maru*, and *Yetchiu Maru*, are now running on the coast of Japan. The *Omi Maru* sailed from Glasgow on October 23rd. Further, the Government has chartered to the Company the steamers

| | |
|---------------------|-----------|
| Gembu Maru | 650 tons. |
| Hakodate Maru | 350 tons. |
| Kiyoriyo Maru | 375 tons. |

Total 1,375 tons.

We have thus a grand total of 24 steamers of a dead-weight capacity of 28,065 tons, eleven of which are now running on the coast and the remainder will all arrive before October, 1884. We learn also that the whole capital of the Company has been subscribed: viz., \$2,600,000 by Government and \$3,400,000 by over five thousand merchants and others. The Charter of the Company, while prohibiting the acquisition of any steamers not new, sanctioned the taking over of 22 sailing vessels (about 7,000 tons) belonging to the Fuhansen Kwaisha and others. When this fine fleet is fairly at work we ought not to hear many more complaints about the insufficiency of the coastwise carrying facilities.

A NEW factor seems to have made itself felt in the Tonquin embroglio, at least if we may trust the Saigon *Independent*, endorsed, to some extent, by the Hongkong journals. That the Black Flags were assisted, and very largely assisted, by Chinese regulars, is a fact about which the public long ago agreed to entertain no doubt. China, shrewdly enough, was keeping France at bay by this indirect process, until either the Government of the Seine grew weary of an arduous and profitless undertaking, or foreign intervention had time to be effective. But the Black Flags seem to be losing their Chinese allies with inconvenient rapidity. The contingent of Celestial

braves is meeting away, and according to latest reports, there is a probability that the so called "Pirates of the Red River" will soon be reduced to their original number—something between two and three thousand. The trouble is that the sinews of war have been cut by the rigorous action of the French at Hué. The Chinese soldiers were content to fight side by side with the Black Flags so long as a substantial recognition of their services came from the treasury of Annam every month. But after the treaty of Hué the supplies ceased, and the braves are not sufficiently enamoured of warfare to fight for fighting's sake. It is said that if things go on in their present route a little longer, the French will be able to occupy Sontai without firing a shot, and after that they will have nine tenths of the law on their side. Even assuming that this news is trustworthy, there remains the reflection that if a handful of Chinese troops were able to give the French so much trouble, the favorable estimates (published by some of the London journals) of China's competence to offer a stout resistance were not greatly exaggerated. She may have been ultimately defeated in her attempts to sustain an indirect opposition to French advances, but she has at all events shown that her troops are more formidable in the field than is generally admitted by Europeans in the East.

THE last American Mail brought news of the death of Mr. John Robertson, who expired at Stuttgart on September the 12th. Mr. Robertson's name is intimately associated with the early history, both social and commercial, of this Settlement. He took a leading part in the financial questions that presented themselves for solution in those remote days, and in most cases the soundness of his views was demonstrated by the event. We had hoped to hear that the troublesome malady which shortened his visit to this country last year, had yielded to skilful treatment and a more congenial climate. But this was not to be. Little by little his health gave way; and in recording a loss which will be felt very keenly by all the old residents of Yokohama, we have only the consolation of knowing that his end was eminently composed and peaceful.

NOTES.

A DISPATCH from London to a New York newspaper,—which appears hitherto to have escaped notice in this locality,—states that immediately after an interview at Walmer Castle, on September 14th, between Earl Granville and the French Ambassador, a long communication was telegraphed from the Foreign Office to Sir Harry Parkes, instructing the Envoy to inform the Chinese authorities that the English Government strongly advised the acceptance of the French terms, as set forth by Mr. Waddington. It was distinctly announced, according to the dispatch in question, that France "was willing to admit the claim of China to suzerainty over Annam, with right of veto over the succession

to the throne;" and would "discuss favorably the Chinese views with respect to a neutral zone," etc. Sir Harry Parkes was directed to "press for an early settlement," on this basis, "to prevent further demonstrations against Europeans." On the evening of September 14th, after Mr. Waddington had left Walmer Castle, the Marquis Tseng arrived, having been summoned from Folkestone, near at hand, and was made acquainted with the latest French proposals. He is said to have heard them with much satisfaction, but professed himself unable to give a decisive response until further advices from Peking. This, perhaps, was the origin of the extensive employment of the telegraph by the Chinese Government, as recently reported. Among the numerous conflicting stories on the subject, sent hither and thither on no assured responsibility, the above has at least a reasonable appearance. The circumstance that the Chinese banks and business houses in London continue their transactions on unaltered terms is referred to as evidence of the general confidence of a peaceful issue. The markets are said to be entirely unaffected, although the supply of tea in London is sufficient for only three months.

THE "right of superiors to rule our inferior races of men" is receiving practical demonstration in Africa. A telegram from Madeira, dated September the 17th, says:—"Lieutenant Vandeveldt, who was lately with Stanley, but who is now at Madeira, says that the village of Loango was burned by Captain Cordier, of the French steamer *Sagittaire*, because the natives refused to sell territory." There is a story told in a book with a tolerably wide circulation about a wicked King who coveted his neighbour's vineyard, and had its owner killed because he declined to trade away his land. Posterity has been very unjust to the memory of that monarch, for while holding him up to the execration of all the ages, the people of the most refined nation in the universe at the end of the nineteenth century imitate his example on a wholesale scale.

EVERYBODY who has studied the domestic habits of the Japanese is acquainted with the curious Law of Aspects (*Ishô*), in accordance with which each point of the compass gets the credit of exercising a certain influence upon the welfare of human beings. Most of us will be disposed to regard this faith as a mere idle superstition, but who is rash enough to assert that one day or other science may not demonstrate the existence of some subtle electrical affinities between our bodies and the complicated motions of our planet or of the system to which it belongs. There died at Paris, the other day, a medical man more than a century old. Many enquiries had been addressed to him with the object of ascertaining the recipe—the elixir of life—which preserved him, sound in body and mind, to such a great age. His invariable reply was, "it is a secret which I will not reveal till after my death." He was as good as his word. After his decease, his heirs found among his papers the following directions:—"To attain

the result I have attained, it is necessary to dispose one's bed from north to south in the direction of the great magnetic currents of the globe. It has been demonstrated that the flow of the electric current is more intense in the direction of the north during the night than during the day. By considering the favorable effects of the current, so often made the subject of experiments, it is evident that one is placed in the position most favorable to enjoying perfect repose when one sleeps with one's head to the north, or rather, slightly turned towards the east, in the very stream of the magnetic river." Unfortunately the theory in Japan is exactly the opposite of this. Here dead bodies only are placed with their heads to the north. Believers in the Parisian doctors recipe would probably say that this fact explains the shortness of life in Japan.

IN the course of a bitter lamentation over the modern system of travelling against time, and converting the sensible pleasure journey into a mad scramble across oceans and continents, the *New York Times* not only hurls denunciation upon the objectionable lightning-tourist, but insists that the forces of outraged Nature have at last been stirred to revolt, and have combined to render the practice of purposeless voyaging dangerous, if not impossible. Thus:—"The recent so-called calamities which have fallen upon Egypt, Java, and China are but the protest of indignant nature against the globe-trotter. The cholera in Egypt was an effort to bar him out from the East. The desolation of Java and the virtual blockade of the Straits of Sunda by volcanic convulsions are designed to warn the globe-trotter that he must not insult Java with his visits; and the war between China and the French, involving as it does the danger of a massacre of all foreigners by the Chinese, is expected to keep him out of China. If these severe but necessary measures do not accomplish the desired purpose, a succession of tidal waves in Japan and a few good volcanic reefs thrown up in the track of the San Francisco and Yokohama steamers will, it is believed, keep the globe-trotter at home."

THE ceremony of the presentation of diplomas to the graduates the Tokiyo Daigaku took place on Saturday last in the presence of a large number of the Professors of the University and foreign as well as natives guests. Sixty-six diplomas were conferred, the larger part of the graduates being students of medicine. Addresses were delivered by Mr. Kato, Sori of the Daigaku, Mr. Kurizaka Kôshi, and Professor Scriba, while Vice-Minister Kuki spoke a few words in behalf of H.E. Fukuoka, who was unavoidably absent. Professor Scriba's remarks, delivered in German, were loudly applauded by the students, although what he said was rather of an admonitory than of a congratulatory nature. He mentioned in particular the inefficiency of the Chinese language, both written and spoken, for the purpose of scientific instruction, and urged the graduates to exert their influence in

abolishing the Chinese tongue from the domain of modern science. Latin was equally useless, he remarked, for the purposes of scientific education in Japan; Japanese should be the sole literary and classical language. The importance of gymnastic exercise was also dwelt upon to some extent. The University Hall was tastefully decorated, as well as the main buildings, where refreshments were served after the ceremony was over.

One of the conditions which chiefly handicap Westerns in any competition with Easterns is the difference between Occidental and Oriental scales of living. The unreasoning truculent Irishman in California had nothing stronger to urge against his Chinese rival, than that the latter was unfairly frugal. Patrick in his own country is easily satisfied. The only thing he cannot do without is dirt. He will share his bed with a pig and wash himself in peat smoke at home, but the moment he plants his foot upon American soil, he gets a proud stomach and a lofty idea of his rights as an immigrant. He has come a ten days' journey to seek employment, and he finds a Chinaman who has travelled four times the distance with the same object. The latter lives on a bowl of rice and a handful of vegetables or salted fish, while the former wants his bacon and eggs, his bread and beef—his whiskey. Therefore the one can afford to work at much cheaper rates than the other. But when it comes to a question of their respective titles to be employed, the right is, of course, on Patrick's side. He is a white man—when he washes himself—and is moreover a quiet, law-abiding citizen, who never drinks too much or molests his neighbour. The Chinaman, on the contrary has a yellow skin, and lacks Patrick's excellent social endowments. Consequently it is proper that the Chinaman should be driven out by the aid of legislation which does honour to the principles of modern civilization. Yet if the Irishman could live on as little and be as well contented with it as the Chinaman, he might have been able to hold his own in fair competition with his Mongolian rival—might have avoided the necessity of appealing to the aid of official tyranny. Wherever the Chinese go, they carry with them this advantage. We see its effects here in Yokohama. Little by little they have established themselves in branches of trade which were formerly monopolized by foreigners, and many of them, from humble insignificant beginnings, have built up substantial and prosperous businesses, persevering, all the while, in their frugal and unostentatious fashions of life. Yet here they have had to compete with the Japanese, who, in his own country, is not less economical and industrious than they, though, strange to say, he certainly does not appear to carry the former quality abroad in its entirety. Among our Japanese and Chinese employés, again, there are many who draw respectable salaries—salaries which, from the mere standpoint of pounds, shillings, and pence, ought to satisfy Westerns, but which command, among Orientals, a higher class of education

and ability than they could possibly command among Occidentals, for the simple reason that the latter spend so much more than the former on the so-called necessities of life. It has been laid down as an axiom by political economists that an improved scale of living is a synonym for increased civilization, and the disciples of this doctrine will be impatient of any argument which seems to prefer Eastern to Western domestic habits. But the question does not involve any such preference. What we desire to emphasize is that, without lowering our scale of living, the time is not far distant when we shall be obliged to model it on sounder economical principles. Not to deprive ourselves of this or that luxury. Luxuries when they are not abused may be a thoroughly productive investment. But to contrive that we shall be able to enjoy our luxuries at a smaller cost. Coöperative associations have indicated the route which must be followed eventually. They have done something, but the principle underlying them fails to obtain larger adherence because, though civilization has formed societies, it has not yet effected any really intimate fusion of their units. Men still love to live apart from one another; to have their separate establishments; to waste their time over special entertainments; to make mischief by abusing each other's hospitality, and to contrive that an unnecessarily large number of their fellow creatures shall be employed in menial capacities. Perhaps it is still utopian to discuss the possibility of any change in this respect, but the subject has been vividly illustrated by an incident which occurred at a recent meeting of Shanghai rate-payers. The question under discussion was the cost of living in Shanghai, with special reference to the pay of foreign constables. It was explained that, if the men consented to mess together, two trustworthy and experienced caterers had offered to supply them with food at \$12 a head per mensem. The viands which the constables would have for this payment were thus stated:—"for breakfast, tea, coffee, bread and butter, bacon and eggs or ham, cold meat, and porridge for those that wanted it. Tiffin, to be somewhat similar with slight additions. Dinner, to consist of soup, fish, two hot dishes, joint, pudding and cheese. In addition, the caterer was to provide two mess-boys to look after the crockery." With good and cleanly cooking, such food as that ought to satisfy anybody. Yet which of us is there who does not consider himself fortunate if his table costs him less than three times as much each month? Certainly the difficulty of making ends meet need not be considered insuperable so long as the expedients suggested by this Shanghai story remain to be employed.

We have heard so much lately about the intolerable idea of police espionage, and the "arbitrary barbarism" of allowing a Japanese Prefect to sign search-warrants—a barbarism which "no civilized people would endure"—that a story illustrating what actually happens to-day among the detectives of Paris, the centre of civilization and refinement, may not

be without interest and instruction. M. Clovis Hugues, Deputy for Marseilles, had just completed his preparations for a visit to his electors when he received a letter signed "Le Normand." It contained the following passages:—"I married, to my misfortune, on February 6th, 1875, a widow, Madame Osmont du Jillet, who lived in Paris at No. 145, rue de la Pompe. After I had exhibited a boundless devotion for her, after I had nursed her through two long illnesses, Madame Osmont du Jillet, to-day my wife, without reason or motive demanded to be separated from me. She drove me away from our conjugal home two years ago, in the hope that by causing me to be incessantly pursued by the whole tribe of Tricoches and Cacolets she would finally succeed in discovering some grounds for a separation. Deceived in her hope, but determined, nevertheless, to accomplish her purpose, she commissioned the director of a detective agency to procure for her false witnesses, by the help of gold. Further, she associated with him in the horrible business a despicable creature, who had been twice driven out of Paris, and by this creature, in conjunction with the director of secret police, an accusation has just been preferred against that purest and most honest of women, Mademoiselle Royannez, now your wife." On receipt of this strange epistle, M. Clovis Hugues telegraphed to his wife, who had already set out for Marseilles, to come back at once, and in the meanwhile, he seems to have devoted himself to prosecuting enquiries among those who had known her in her maiden days. From every one he received the same answer—the highest possible eulogy of Mademoiselle Royannez' virtue and modesty. The injured lady, on her return, horrified as she was by what she read in M. Le Normand's letter, preserved her sangfroid sufficiently to find out all about her accusers. A few days afterwards, September the 1st, she left her house, on pretence of paying a visit to her children at Montreuil. In reality she proceeded, with a loaded revolver in her pocket, to call on Madame Le Normand, firmly resolved to obtain from her a full retraction or to kill her then and there. Her husband, meanwhile, went out to take the steps which seemed most advisable. When he came back he found a letter from his wife, explaining that after various enquiries, more or less satisfactory, she had visited Madame Le Normand, and received her assurances that she had nothing to do with the scandal, but that as she alone could silence the witnesses, she recommended Madame Hugues to keep quiet. "Well," the letter went on, "this scandal which Madame Normand counsels me to avoid, I am going to do everything I can to provoke. I have nothing to conceal either about my maiden or my married life, and I am resolved that this infamous plot shall be exposed. . . . I cannot live in this situation. I am determined to shoot the Agent C. who is in Madame Le Normand's pay. In this way the truth will be known, for the authorities will be forced to hold a public enquiry at which all the events of my life must come out. I thought at first of

attacking the slanderer Morin, but people might have thought that I desired to suppress his evidence. Pardon me, dear friend, the grief I am going to cause you, but it is necessary for our sakes as well as for our children's. I do not choose that you should be dishonored through stories about my maiden life. Whatever happens assure yourself that what I have done is indispensable. I have passed five days which seem like five centuries, and I feel that I should lose my reason if I had to live any longer in presence of the idea that my name is connected with an infamous accusation in the archives of a police office." The brave lady was prevented from executing her design against Madame Le Normand by the latter's illness, and fortunately when she called on the Detective Agent, she was accompanied by two friends, who, suspecting her intentions, persuaded her to give up her weapon before entering. The agent, in presence of these friends, declared that all the evidence was false, but in spite of his apologies and entreaties Madame Clovis Hugues immediately lodged a complaint with the authorities, and it is expected that the forthcoming investigation will reveal some strange facts about the famous Detective Agencies of Paris.

Discussing the advisability of adopting a metric system of weights and measures, the *New York Herald* gives the following interesting facts and figures:—

There is a grander view to take of this topic. It is from the standpoint of all Anglo-Saxondom compared with the rest of the world at large. The world has increased in population in the decade from 1870 to 1880 about 98 per cent. In the meantime Great Britain increased 101, the United States 31, Australia 564, Canada 141, and South Africa (Anglo-Saxon) 734 per cent. No other nation, save Belgium, has increased over 11 per cent., and France but 1.67 per cent. Even Turkey (2.01 per cent.) has increased at a higher rate than the mother of the metric system. At such a rate of increase all other nations must in time be smothered out, and France among the very first, before the Anglo-Saxon race. But further, the tabulated statement of the port entries of all nations for the ten years under consideration shows that of tons burden that of the world was 50,000,000, while of this total that of the United Kingdom, British colonies, and the United States was 28,000,000, or more than half.

One-half of the whole industry of the world is already in Anglo-Saxon hands. In millions sterling the increase for the ten years was, for all the earth, 1,866, while it was for Great Britain, 337; United States, 525; Australia, 57; Canada, 28, and South Africa, 14, making a total of 961 millions of pounds sterling increase. To this increase can also fairly be added that of South American industry, 24 millions, almost all of which is represented by British capital. In 1880 the industry of the earth, expressed in millions of pounds sterling, was 2,024 for Great Britain and 2,004 for the United States. These two nations headed the list, being followed by France at 1,325 and Germany at 1,269, and by other nations at a greater distance.

The increased consumption of cotton, wool, flax, jute, &c., in the decade has been 1,666,000,000 pounds, of which 922,000,000 pounds—much more than half—has been in Anglo-Saxondom. The increase for the world in manufacturing has been £558,000,000, of which £334,000,000 has been among those using pints, and pounds, and inches. That for all Europe (non-Anglo-Saxon) was but £212,000,000.

Out of 118,000,000 increase in production of coal, Anglo-Saxon weights have measured 78,000,000. Out of 7,233 increase in thousand tons of iron they have measured 5,250, and of steel out of 3,068 they have measured 2,255—i.e., in every case far more than half of all the earth. Anglo-Saxondom produces and measures out by the pound and yard more than fifty per cent. of all the wool, and the United States alone seventy-five per cent. of all the cotton raised upon the earth, and other nations are glad to purchase it in pounds and yards. In general terms, the study of the

commerce of the world for the past twenty years (1861 to 1880) shows that out of £40,000,000,000 (giving the value of the export and imports in round numbers) Anglo-Saxon metrology has measured and remeasured far more than half of it.

The shipping of the earth has increased £40,000,000 in the decade, £26,000,000 of which was in Anglo-Saxon bottoms; that of all the metric nations put together was only £13,000,000, the remaining £1,000,000 being scattering. Thus two-thirds of the carrying trade is already Anglo-Saxon and but one-third, "metric." Which, therefore, it may well be asked, is the de facto international system? Does it not rather appear that France, leading the opposition in "the Napoleonic day," when all her interests are known to have clashed with those of England, strove for the mastery in commerce by this politic though vain attempt at banding subjected Europe in a new metrology? And does not the irresistible march of industry prove that her dying system is international only in its self-assumed, high sounding name.

Since 1870 (and to 1880) the mines of the earth have produced £360,000,000, of which £215,800,000 were from Anglo-Saxon mines. And Anglo-Saxon mints have coined in the same decade £224,430,000 out of £526,781,000 coined over all the earth. Furthermore, out of £905,000,000 in coined specie current in the decade ending 1880, £524,000,000 were used in Anglo-Saxon import business, against £367,000,000 on the European Continent, and £514,000,000 in export business, against £339,000,000 upon the Continent.

In accumulated wealth, in 1880, Great Britain and the United States led all the earth, followed next by France and Germany. The accumulated wealth of the whole European Continent was £28,000,000,000, that of the Anglo-Saxon nations £18,000,000,000, while that of the world was only £47,000,000,000. Considered from another standpoint, the world had £113 per inhabitant; Europe, including Great Britain, £111; Great Britain, alone, £269 (more than any other nation except Holland, £283, and more than double that of the world); the United States, £158; Australia, £172, and Canada, £148. Thus the Anglo-Saxons, as individuals, are worth per inhabitant some £184, the world average being £113, and that of the whole Continent of Europe being but £91.

But a consideration of the public debt of nations is even more significant. In the decade 1870 to 1880, that of all Europe increased £52,000,000 and that of the world £44,000,000. But three nations of the earth effected any reduction of their national debts—these were the United States, by £86,000,000; Great Britain, by £24,000,000, and Denmark (a former "resting place" of the Anglo-Saxon), by £3,000,000. The public debt of the world in 1880 was £5,207,000,000, that of the Continent of Europe alone being £4,513,000,000, while that of all Anglo-Saxondom together was but £1,276,000,000. Now, it is also noticeable in this connection that while the debt of Anglo-Saxondom is almost entirely held in native hands, that of the rest of the world is in foreign hands, and that more than one-half of it is actually held by Anglo-Saxons. The race, in fact, has bonds and mortgages on all the world.

In earnings the United States leads all other nations—their earnings for 1880 being £1,406,000,000. They were followed by Great Britain and her colonies at £1,381,000,000, and far behind by France at £927,000,000; by Germany, £851,000,000, and by other nations at continually lower figures. The earnings of the Continent were £3,797,000,000; of the world, £6,773,000,000—those of Anglo-Saxondom being £2,787,000,000, or more than two-thirds that of the Continental nations, and far more than one-third of all the earth.

As to the food supply of all nations, Europe in 1880 had a deficit of 380,000,000 bushels of grain, while the United States alone had a surplus of 370,000,000 bushels. In tons of meat Europe had a deficit of 853,000, while Australia alone had as surplus of 838,000, the United States of 1,076,000, and Canada of 170,000. Of the grain surplus of the world (22,000,000 bushels) in 1880 17,000,000 were held by Anglo-Saxons, and of the 2,144,000 tons of meat—then surplus—1,931,000 were also owned by Americans, Australians and Canadians. The balance was held in South America and Algeria, and almost entirely controlled, as in fact is almost all South American industry, by English capital.

The truly international system of metrology, then, is in fact our own Anglo-Saxon one. In changing Anglo-Saxon weights and measures for the metric system we would not only disastrously, and to no purpose, disturb our own affairs, but inconvenience those of all mankind.

In H.B.M. Court for Japan, on Monday, James Mercer, a boiler-maker of the P. & O. steamer *Zambesi* was charged before T. R. H. Mac-

Clatchie Esq., Acting Assistant Judge, with being drunk and assaulting one Koide Rinzo, a Japanese, who further claimed yen 17 for medical treatment incurred in consequence of the assault and three weeks estimated loss of his time. The prisoner denied the assault. The complainant is a udon seller and says that the prisoner assaulted him, breaking his sign and lamp and knocking him down by a blow from a stick on the side of his head. The assault was committed at half-past ten on Saturday night. Prisoner asserted that he was first struck in the head by a stone hurled by complainant. A jinrikisha-drawer corroborated the statement of Koide. The Japanese policeman who arrested Mercer deposed that he was very drunk at the time and throwing stones at the passers by. Sergeant James testified that the prisoner was brought toward the Police Station, and that he was called to help to arrest him and found him very drunk and abusive, with a slight cut on his head, and that he had to be taken by force. The accused, in his defence, stated that he had been followed and insulted by a jinrikishaman, and struck in the head with stones. He then used his stick pretty freely till it was taken from him. The police who arrested him treated him very roughly, as did the European policeman. Sentenced to be imprisoned for seven days, or until the departure of the *Zambesi* if before the expiry of that period; and to pay sen 30, the value of the damage sustained by the udon seller and yen 5 compensation to the same complainant.

W. Patterson pleaded guilty to being drunk and incapable, and was sent to jail for ten days.

Thomas Jenkins, master of the British barque *Sallara*, was charged with assaulting, early in October, one Georgius Carlos, by striking him on the chest with his fist. Complainant said that the assault was committed off Rock Island, on the occasion of his going aft and making a complaint of being sick. Saying, "For God's sake go away!" the captain pushed him in the chest. He went away. He had since been refused his discharge by the Captain, who called him a nuisance, and declined to let him see the Consul. Captain Jenkins denied the charge, which, on the complainant's own evidence, was so frivolous that it was summarily dismissed.

THE race for the Toland Cup, single sculls, which had to be postponed on Saturday last, on account of the condition of the water, was brought off on the 29th ult. Of the five entries, only three, Till, Pors, and Hamilton, stripped for the fray, Melhuish and Playfair having retired. The three competitors paddled down to the starting post at five o'clock, where they were marshalled and despatched by Mr. Litchfield, but to a very indifferent start, Pors outside, Till in the centre, and Hamilton with the inside berth. Pors showed a good two lengths in front of Till, and the latter one length ahead of Hamilton, immediately on starting, and the outside man continued to increase his lead till he had

made it 8 or 10 lengths. This was about the position of the boats off Dare's, Till and Hamilton being level. Till at this point had settled down to a strong and very steady stroke, and began to leave Hamilton, and gain upon the leading boat. Shortly after, Pors rowed wide, steering too far inshore, and Till continued to gain, getting about level at the Wharf, and from this point had Pors safe, and, pulling home a straight course and a pretty stroke, won by about a length and a half, Hamilton a long way behind.

THE following pertinent remarks appear in a recent issue of the *N. C. Daily News*:—"The Hongkong newspapers are not acting generously towards Sir Pope Hennessy. When the late Governor of Hongkong was appointed to Mauritius, there was at first a chorus of delight, and then a chorus of sympathy with the Mauritians, who were regarded as a colony of innocents about to be given over to the tender mercies of a Herod. Predictions were not wanting that the Mauritians would protest, and that the advent of Sir Pope would be the signal for tumults, for disputes, for quarrels, and for ineffectual struggles against his tyranny. But nothing of all this has been fulfilled. Sir Pope and his new subjects continue to be on the best of terms with each other, and all accounts that reach us from the island tell of harmony and the best of feeling. It is on this subject that the tone of the Hongkong papers is so much to be deprecated. Instead of expressing pleasure at the friendly relations between the Governor and the Mauritians, and a hope that they will continue, the *Daily Press* unpleasantly remarks that 'Sir John Pope Hennessy appears to have secured the *claque* in Mauritius,' and doubts whether at the end of five or six years he will be looked upon as the sincere friend he now appears to be. We have no means of knowing whether he will or not, nor are we partisans of the late Governor of Hongkong in any sense of the word; but the colonial newspapers seem thoroughly vexed and disappointed at the popularity of Sir Pope in Mauritius, and, what is worse, they have not the sense to hide it."

L'Italie, reviewing the causes that may lead to a war between France and China, gives a prominent place to the fact that the Marquis Tseng is charged with the conduct of the negotiations in Paris. "This Chinese," says the Italian journal, "besides being a marquis, which is a droll title for a Celestial, is moreover a perfect imbecile. This was proved by the interviews which he granted a few months ago to the reporters of various journals. Yet, perhaps, he would not do so badly did he not find himself in the hands of English and American intermediaries, who, under pretext of acting as interpreters—for the Marquis does not understand any European language—try to fish in troubled waters by exaggerating his ideas and intentions. It has been demonstrated, indeed, by the French Foreign Office, that these translators coloured the terms of the Ambassador's communications

to such an extent as to render them insulting; and this discovery is assigned as the reason which induced M. Challemeil-Lacour, and before him his predecessor, to discontinue all discussions with the Marquis and treat directly with the T'sung-li Yamen at Peking. Tseng was to have been recalled by his Government when the recent events occurred. Now, it is possible that things are somewhat changed." This is a revelation. Those who have the honor of the Marquis Tseng's personal acquaintance will be startled to learn that he is "an imbecile." They had formed a very different conception of his mental calibre. Moreover, French newspapers have been telling another story about the relations between the Marquis and M. Challemeil-Lacour—a story in which the latter's discourteous treatment of the astute Oriental entailed the discomfiture it deserved.

It would appear that some uneasiness is beginning to manifest itself in Italy as mature reflection throws fuller light on the contingencies of the celebrated Triple Alliance. The interviews at Salzburg brought the subject upon the tapis. The people of the peninsula, who are not without sensitiveness, asked one another why their country was not represented on that occasion, and whether there really existed an intention to treat her with less consideration than her position as a confederate demanded. Thereupon the *Perseveranza* published a statement that, although the five years' alliance, concluded by Italy, Germany, and Austria, does not oblige either of the latter Powers to take part in a war provoked by Italy, it does oblige Italy to participate in any war provoked by, or declared against, either of her associates. This announcement naturally created a commotion. "Is it possible," asked the Italians, "that our Government has bound us by such a one-sided contract?" Another journal, the *Opinione*, now came forward to deny the correctness of the *Perseveranza's* interpretation. The obligations of the alliance, it explained, are mutually binding only in the event of an attack from without upon any of the high contracting parties. In case of an offensive war undertaken by any one of them, the other two are free to act as they please. Thus, if Austria attacked Russia, or Germany, France, it would be for Italy to draw the sword or keep it sheathed; while the same freedom of election would belong to Austria and Germany if Italy engaged in a foreign campaign. But if any outsider provoked or defied one of the allied Powers, then the other two must render every possible aid to their associate. This was certainly a more satisfactory hypothesis than that of the *Perseveranza*, but after all it looked just as ugly when submitted to the test of careful examination. For while Germany might be attacked by Russia or France, and Austria by Russia, Italy, according to Italian ideas, had nothing to apprehend from any quarter except France. Thus there were three eventualities in which Italy might be obliged to draw the sword on behalf of her allies, and only one in which their good offices could be exercised on her behalf. Looking

mathematically correct, this conclusion seriously perturbs a great many Italian patriots. They fail to see that, according to their own data, Austria is just as badly off as Italy, and Germany alone twice as fortunate as either of her associates, if indeed greater vulnerability can be called fortune. Apart from these arithmetical considerations, however, the question naturally arises—what are the relative probabilities of a Russian or French attack upon Germany or Austria, and a French attack upon Italy? As twenty to one is the Italian answer. For before France can assail Italy, a King must reign in Paris; a King, too, whose programme includes the restoration of the Pope's temporal power. But the chances of a monarchical restoration are confined to Prince Napoleon and the Comte de Paris, of whom the former is known to be incapable of such a programme, and the latter, if he ever reigns at all, will reign as a constitutional monarch. Thus, at the end of the chapter, there appear to be absolutely no prospects of an issue which would render the Triple Alliance profitable to Italy. Under the circumstances it is not unnatural that she should be uneasy. To outsiders, however, her position seems simple enough. The same reason that would prevent the Comte de Paris, as King of France, from waging war against Italy with the object of recovering for the Pope his estates and their appanages, will also prevent Italy from fulfilling the terms of a profitless contract. Possibly this reflection, patent as it must be to Prince Bismarck, had something to do with the details of the Salzburg interview.

THE St. Petersburg correspondent of the *Soliel* sends to his journal two stories of judicial proceedings in Russia—stories which, he says, throw a new light on Russian manners and customs. The cases described were tried by the tribunals of St. Petersburg and Simferopol respectively. The first was very simple. A young man named Solowieff was taken in the act of stealing books from a stall. His only defence was that he was passionately fond of reading and that, being too poor to buy or hire books, he could but borrow them. He declared however, that he never meant to steal, but had always intended to return the volumes and borrow others in their place. He was acquitted, the Court deciding that his motives were honorable. Probably in countries where the barbarity of Muscovite codes is a byword, steps would have been taken to convert him into what he certainly was not—a criminal.

The second case was that of a certain Colonel Gratchow, who accused one Madame Arendt, the wife of a doctor, of entertaining revolutionary ideas and of having affixed to the wall of a church a portrait of the regicide Sophie Pérowsky, who was executed at St. Petersburg for participation in the murder of Alexander the Second. It turned out that the picture was that of a sick girl, whose mother thought that her malady might be healed by putting her portrait in the church. Madame Arendt brought an action

against the Colonel, for defamation of character, and he was sentenced to two months' imprisonment.

A WRITER in the *China Mail* informs us that the members of the Hongkong Club are being called upon to decide whether the Club shall continue to be carried on for the profit of one or two individuals, or whether it shall be purchased by, and become the property of, the 217 resident members. The lease terminates at the end of this year, and the Club buildings and furniture can be purchased for \$140,000. He does not think the members will have any hesitation in coming to a decision, and says, "Let the members acquire the ownership of the Club by all means." He explains how this should be done. Two methods are proposed—one to raise \$150,000 by the issue of debentures to the public, and the other to make it an absolute condition of membership that each member shall take one debenture, value \$100, on which 5 per cent. interest only shall be paid, which would raise \$21,700, and that debentures should be issued to the public for the remaining \$128,300 or \$130,000. Each member would have to hold his individual debenture as long as his membership lasted, and when that ceased the trustees would take it up at par, and issue it to a new member. The latter method in a prosperous place like Hongkong should be perfectly practicable.

THE number of species of silk-producing insects is very large, probably more than two hundred, very few of which are of any practical value to mankind; on the contrary, that portion of the caterpillar family which unite their silken tissues to form a family tent, have not only defied the ingenuity of man to unravel their handiwork, but have made his industry contribute to their support by foraging upon fruit-bearing and ornamental trees. The spider family, notwithstanding many attempts to reel their beautiful threads, still monopolize their products for purposes of locomotion and snares for unlucky insects.

OF the Spanish peasantry, an American writer says that they are rude and vulgar in the cars, in the diligence, and in other public places. They hustle the women about in the cars and even occupy their seats if the owner is absent for a moment, and refuse to give them up on their return. He saw one of these fellows steal a woman's seat and compel her to stand up during an entire journey of some two hours' duration. The peasants are as inhospitable as they are rude, and as greedy and dishonest as they are inhospitable. These base qualities are not so noticeable in the upper classes; nevertheless, they exist to some extent. "Invitations and promises are common things in Leon, but hospitality is rare. A man will invite you to his house and promise you all sorts of services; but when you go he will point you out the *posada* and charge you for any service you may require. At Prisananza, on the Duerwa, the wages of farm laborers were 15 to 20 cents a

day, women 7½ to 10 cents and maintenance; the latter costs 10 cents a day. Men who find their own maintenance charge 40 cents a day. They work from sunrise to sunset, except two hours for meals and a *siesta* in the fields. The age at which field work is begun is from 12 to 14 for boys and 13 to 15 for girls. Most of the latter become mothers before they attain the age of 16 or 17. At 20 they look old and worn out; at 25 to 30 they become repulsive. The men are better looking than the women, but this is not saying much."

INTELLIGENCE from Korea announces that a serious quarrel occurred on the 10th ultimo between the crew of a Chinese war vessel and the men of the Japanese corvette *Iwaki Kan*, both then lying at anchor in the port of Inchhōn. Officers were dispatched from the Japanese Consulate to quell the disturbance, but the Chinese were already defeated and many of them had been severely wounded. The cause of the dispute is said to have been an attempt made by a Chinese boat's crew to effect a landing ahead of some Japanese who had reached the pier before them.

ACCORDING to the almanac of the Stock Exchange the summer season ends at noon sharp on the 15th of September. On and after that date there seems to be something in the sight of a straw hat, a cassimere beaver, a pearl Derby or a summer coat which infuriates a Wall-street bull, even as a red rag does his four-footed prototype. His natural enemy, the bear, seems to be affected in the same way, and for once they unite to do battle against any man bold enough to venture upon the floor of the Exchange wearing either one or other of these objectionable articles. Yesterday, says a recent issue of the *New York Herald*, the time-honored custom of smashing the white hats was enjoyed by the festive members of the Stock Exchange, but not with as much spirit or enthusiasm as in former years. It has not been a prosperous time for the brokers for several months past, with the exception of a few very brief intervals of activity. They have not as much money to spend as of old, and as the skylarking incidental to the ceremonies or the 15th of September always leads to the swelling of the coffers of the Stock Exchange by the infliction of fines for breach of the rules in the most remorseless way by a cold-blooded and impartial chairman, the poverty stricken brokers were less ready to indulge in the boisterous sport. It was about half-past twelve yesterday when the signal was given on the floor of the Board-room, and a pre-arranged rush was made by a dozen or more young men toward the absent-minded man who had thoughtlessly ventured into the room with a light colored cassimere hat. Before the owner knew what was coming his hat was sent spinning up into the air for a distance of thirty feet. When it came down it was used for a brief, but exciting, game of football. Just as it had been reduced to a section of rim another victim was discovered wearing a straw hat. This was very

quickly disposed of, and then a man in an office coat of light alpaca was the recipient of the attentions of the crowd. He managed to escape into the Long Room before the objectionable garment had been torn into very small pieces. At intervals all the rest of the day the sport was kept up, but it was not urged with the old-time spirit. It was left to the Mining Exchange to observe the day in a becoming manner. A pronunciamiento had been issued on Friday and hung upon the rostrum, reading as follows:—

PROCLAMATION.

"Have You Heard the Gun?"
All Straw Hats, Derby Hats, Cassimeres or other Hats of a light color must COME OFF on the 15th.
By order of

THE REGULATORS.

A relentless and unceasing war was begun upon these articles and summer coats at twelve o'clock precisely. It was particularly pleasing to the Regulators to find a man with his office coat on. The favorite way of disposing of it was for three or four men to take hold of one tail, as many more on the other side, and then each party would walk away very quickly in opposite directions. The coat would be torn completely in half and the coatless victim, before he knew what was the matter, would be fined \$5 by the punctilious chairman for being on the floor without his coat. Several brokers were caught in this way, but everybody took his dose good-naturedly.

THE King of Spain's visit to Paris seems to have been in every sense an unfortunate event. On his way thither he accepted the honorary colonelcy of the Schleswig-Holstein Uhlans who happened to be quartered at Strasburg. This was bad enough, as a prelude to meeting the people of France, but what made matters much worse was the unlucky coincidence that Alfonso's state entry into Paris was fixed for September 29th, the thirteenth anniversary of the triumphal entry of the German army into Strasburg. On that day it is customary for the Alsations who reside in Paris, together with the pupils of the Polytechnic Schools, to lay crowns and immortelles, tied with tricoloured ribbons veiled in crape, at the foot of the statue of Strasburg in the Place de la Concorde—a ceremony not exactly calculated to prepare people for welcoming a monarch whose friendliness to France's old foe had just been evinced in such an unequivocal manner. Six Parisian journals appear to have made themselves conspicuous by publishing articles more or less violent, and of a nature seriously to prejudice the minds of the people against the Castilian monarch. The *Rappel* went so far as to remind its readers that, in visiting Berlin, Alfonso "wished to congratulate the man who had just shaken his fist at France," and who in toasting the German army, had "drunk a toast to French disaster." It was also asserted that the king is not in unison with the spirit of the Spanish people, and the question was asked whether "by acts of politeness to him, by fêtes and compliments, by disturbing the President of the Republic, by deranging Paris with reviews, the French would not be disquieting and offending Spain, where

everyone not in office is friendly to France." The consequence of all this agitation was that Alfonso was very heartily hooted and hissed as he passed through the streets of Paris, some of the people going so far as to shake their fists at the windows of his carriage, if not in his face. The King seems to have taken the affair very quietly, giving it as his opinion that the conduct of these roughs was not to be regarded as representing French opinion. On the following day he was visited by President Grévy, who in the name of the French people tendered an apology for the behaviour of the mob, and begged the Royal visitor to give France a fresh proof of sympathy by accepting an invitation to a banquet at the Palace of Elysée that evening. The King wisely acceded to this request, and the banquet, which was attended by all the Ministers except General Thibaudin, passed off very pleasantly. Alfonso nevertheless determined to abridge by one half the period originally fixed for his stay in Paris, his object being to diminish the difficulties that had arisen from his visit. It is said, however, that in announcing this intention to President Grévy, he declared that although the latter's apology might make him forget the bitterness of his entry into Paris, "Spain would long remember the hisses of the populace who hissed the nation behind the King." These words were verified by the reception given to the King two days later in Madrid. Great masses of people assembled at the railway station and followed their monarch thence to the palace amid enthusiastic plaudits. That afternoon the palace was thrown open for a reception to which every one was admitted, and it is estimated that thirty thousand persons attended. Meanwhile the leading French journals were roundly condemning the rude conduct of the Parisian mob, and as those of Spain united in advising moderation, the unfortunate business doubtless passed off without any immediately mischievous consequences. But its memory will not be so easily effaced. The German press regards the insults offered to King Alfonso as a moral defeat of France, with whom no Power would now wish for an alliance, and further declares that the insults were really levelled against Germany, who considers them a sign of weakness. Latest advices from Paris show that the affair has accentuated the dissensions in the Cabinet. M. Wilson, the President's son-in-law, is said to be connected with the promoters of the disturbance, and it is expected that the Chamber of Deputies will have to judge between the President and M. Ferry. Altogether a more untoward event could scarcely have occurred.

Looking carefully at the newspaper reports of the recent proceedings in the Farnsworth libel case, we are almost disposed to think that it was not the Jury alone who disagreed, but the judge as well—with himself. Such, at least, is the impression conveyed by the two following extracts from his Honor's charge:—"His Honor asked the Jury to imagine what would be the feeling of 'anger and despair' of any father hearing of such an accusation. Despair, be-

cause such an accusation spreads, permeates the air, and *can never really be retracted.*" And again:—"One result of this trial, whatever might be the finding of the Jury, would be most important. *It entirely cleared the character of Miss Ruth Farnsworth, who had been triumphantly freed not merely from any accusation, but from the faintest breath of slander.*" The italics here are our own. We employ them to emphasize those portions of his Honor's charge which appear incapable of being reconciled. In one place he says the "accusation can never really be retracted;" in another, he declares that the lady is "triumphantly freed from the faintest breath of slander" whatever may be the result of the suit. We should like to know which of the jury would be satisfied with a similar process of purgation were the reputation of his own wife or daughter at stake. A young lady's father sues a man for uttering a foul slander against his daughter, and after a full, careful and conscientious hearing, the Jury disagree. About what?

A COMPLETE description and catalogue of the fauna of Macao has been, we understand, recently compiled by Mr. F. W. Eastlake, in accordance with the request of the ex-Governor of Macao, Senhor J. J. da Graça. This *Fauna Macaensis* comprises lists of the mammals, birds, reptiles, molluscs, etc., which have been collected within a radius of ten miles about Macao during the last fifteen or twenty years. Special attention has been given to the results of the researches of naturalists who have recently visited South China. The work is the first of the kind ever compiled; for, although passing scientific expeditions have devoted occasional chapters to the description of various branches of the Macao fauna, no catalogues or lists have heretofore been published. Mr. Eastlake's work is dedicated to His Majesty Dom Luiz, I., and will certainly be of especial interest to the Government of Portugal and probably to naturalists generally.

REUTER announces another dreadful seismic catastrophe in which a thousand persons have been killed and twenty thousand rendered homeless. This occurred at Anatolia, which is described as in the peninsular-shaped western extremity of Asia, identical with Asia Minor. It comprehends the Turkish pashalics of Anatolia, Ithili, Karamania, Mavash, Sivas or Room, and Trebizond. Anatolia is between the 26th and 42nd North parallels, and between the 26th and 41st East meridians; being bounded, N. by the Black Sea, Sea of Marmora, and the Dardanells; W. by the Grecian Archipelago and the Mediterranean, while its E. boundary is usually defined by the line connecting the Almadagh, near the Bay of Iskeroon, with the Euphrates and thence up to its source. Its greatest length is a little over 700 miles and its greatest breadth about 420 miles; the supposed area is 270,000 square miles. The population in 1877 numbered about 11,000,000, composed chiefly of Turks of pure race, and mixed Greeks and

Turks, Armenians, Jews, gipsies, etc. Anatolia was the seat of the "Seven Churches" which are in Asia—Ephesus, Smyrna, Pergamos, Thyatira, Sardis, Philadelphia, and Laodicea.

THE *Fiji Shimpō* publishes the following correspondence from Korea:—On the 23rd of September last, the King left the Southern Gate and proceeded to Suigemfu. A pontoon bridge was constructed across the Hangang river, the boats being decorated with various standards and spears. The scene was charming and imposing. Japanese residents in Sōul who wished to see the royal procession, were prevented by the Chinese troops. On the 2nd of October, the king again paid a visit to Yanchang when his horse fell, somewhat bruising the royal rider and breaking its own fore-legs. The grooms in charge of the steed were discharged.—A Japanese servant of the Japanese Legation has committed suicide: the cause is unknown.—Major Isobayashi, of the Japanese army, is travelling in the interior. An absurd rumour is current among the natives concerning the departure of Mr. Takezoze, the Japanese representative. It is rumored that he will be succeeded by Mr. Hanabusa, who will wreak vengeance upon Korea for the Sōul outrages of last year.

THE trial of silver-brokers, who were arrested some time since on a charge of illegal speculation in Yokohama, was concluded in the Saibansho of that town on the 31st ultimo. Seven of the accused were discharged for lack of evidence against them: three were absolved inasmuch as they had confessed their culpability prior to their arrest. Mr. Midzutani Takejima was fined yen 350; and some of his colleagues were mulcted in sums varying from yen 200 to yen 80.

THE *Fiji Shimpō* was suspended by order of the Metropolitan Police Board on the 31st ultimo. The cause of the suspension is probably an article headed, "Japan ignored by foreign countries, with the causes, Foreign and Domestic," published on Wednesday last. The writer laments that Japan's foreign commerce is insignificant and that the revival of old customs obstructs her progress. He concluded by expressing a hope that the necessary steps would be taken to avoid impending calamities.

THE Hongkong Race Meeting of 1884 is fixed for Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday, the 20th, 21st, and 22nd February.

WE note the arrival, by the last French mail steamer, of Count Zaluzki, the Austrian Minister.

THE *Athenæum* states that Mr. Egmont Hake has been for some time engaged on a life of Major-General C. G. Gordon. The work is to be called "The Story of Chinese Gordon," and will deal with the incidents of General Gordon's career from the early days when he was a subaltern in the Crimea up to the present date.

TRADE REGULATIONS WITH
KOREA.

THE Tradal Regulations and Tariff recently concluded between this country and Korea were published, some time ago, but we have delayed placing them before our readers until we could procure an officially authenticated version.

The Tariff may be said to have been arranged on an eight per cent. basis, for though the import duties vary from five to thirty per cent. *ad valorem*, the more important staples come under the eight per cent. classification. Tobacco and all foreign alcoholic beverages—Japanese and Chinese *saké* excepted—pay from twenty to thirty per cent., while the consumption of beer is encouraged by admitting it at half the former rate. Kerosene, too, has been exceptionally favoured. It is only subjected to an impost of five per cent.—a provision which deserves to be heartily applauded, for no policy could be more suicidal than one which deliberately deprives a people of the services of the best and cheapest illuminant in the universe. It will be seen that no attempt has been made to discriminate in favour of Japanese manufactures, and, on the whole, the compilers appear to have been guided by sound and fair principles. Whether the rates generally are lower than those to which Japan's own demands in connection with treaty revision have been levelled, we are not in a position to say, but comparisons of this nature are at once useless and unjust. There is no hard and fast rule applicable to questions of tariff. Like everything else Customs' dues must vary with circumstances, and assuredly Western countries could not claim from Eastern an obedience to precedent of which they themselves are conspicuously careless.

An interesting topic for conjecture in connection with this new tariff is China's probable action. Will she adhere to the five per cent. basis which is believed to govern her trade with the peninsula at present, or will she consent to a modification on the lines of the Japanese Convention? She was generally accredited with ulterior motives in furthering the SHUFELDT treaty. Men said that her main object was to place foreign nations in the dilemma of having to refuse to the suzerain the same terms which they had granted to the tributary. Yet it was after the public had learned to credit this plausible conjecture that the Viceroy of CHILI posed as the equal of the Korean King, and dictated to the Government of Sôul a tariff which would have satisfied anything short of a

free trade standard. As things stand at present, China may be said to have the monopoly of Korea's foreign trade, and but for the insignificance of the results, she might be tempted to cling to the privilege. We have very little doubt, however, that her consent to a modification had been conditionally obtained before any arrangements were concluded with Japan.

Turning to the Tradal Regulations we observe two or three points of interest. The first is the provision with reference to the employment of Japanese vessels in the coastwise trade. Article XXII. says:—

Until such time as the mercantile marine of Corea is in a condition to carry on satisfactorily the coastwise trade of Corea, all Japanese vessels may transport goods of any country whatever from one open port to another in Corea; but when a Japanese merchant desires to transport Korean articles, bought at one open port in Corea, to another open port, he shall deposit at the Custom House an amount of money equal to the export duty payable thereon, or lodge in the hands of Customs officers a bond signed by himself and a surety to be approved by Customs authorities conditioned to pay an amount equal to the export duty. On landing the said goods (without the payment of any import duty) at the port of destination within six months from the date of exportation, the importer shall receive a certificate from the Customs of such port, stating the fact that such goods have been landed. This certificate being produced to the Customs of the port from whence the goods were exported, the amount deposited or the bond lodged as aforesaid shall be returned to the said merchant. If, however, the vessel in which the said goods were shipped be wrecked while engaged in transporting such goods from one open port to another, a report of the case signed by the Japanese Consular officer shall, within one year from the date of exportation, be presented to the Customs in place of the certificate above specified. When the Korean Mercantile Marine shall have become sufficient for the coasting trade of Corea no foreign vessels shall be employed in transporting the Korean produce from one port to another.

This is reasonable. Opinions differ very largely with regard to the advisability of admitting foreign competition into the coasting trade of a country. Submitted to theoretical tests, the question appears to be governed by the same principles which underlie free trade. Other considerations apart, it is the interest of every mercantile community to secure the cheapest and most expeditious means of maritime transport for its commodities. But the first postulate of free trade is that a nation must not attempt to do for itself what others can do for it on better and more reasonable terms, and there never yet has been any nation which consented to apply that postulate to its shipping industry. England not excepted, all the leading states of the Western world elected to tax themselves for the purpose of obtaining a mercantile marine, and it is a little too much to expect that an Oriental Kingdom should become the practical exponent of a different policy. Korean ambition, however, seems to be more patient. Until she can procure a mercantile marine of her own, she means to

employ foreign ships. In her case the choice seems to lie between getting her produce carried at all and consenting to commit it to Japanese bottoms—an alternative which does not admit of much hesitation.

But there is more than this. The thirty-second article provides that, subject to the condition of obtaining a license from the Government, Korean subjects may charter Japanese vessels to convey cargo, &c., to the non-opened ports of the peninsula. This is an important point. Regarded as a concession it seems to place Japan in the position of receiving from her neighbour more than she is willing to grant to others herself. But, before accepting such a conclusion it would be necessary to know what special arrangements have been made by the two Governments in this context. We need scarcely remind our readers that the admission of foreign ships to her non-opened ports is one of the changes which Japan is resolved not to sanction until some efficient machinery shall have been provided for the control of foreign sailors so admitted. Her experience of the working of exterritoriality within treaty limits is not of a nature to warrant her in extending that system to places where even the judicial makeshifts of the open ports are wanting. It remains to be seen how this difficulty has been surmounted in Korea's case, and whether the terms of the arrangement are such as the exceedingly jealous conservatism and race prejudice of Western States would permit them to accept for themselves.

It is pleasant to see that, in the matter of tonnage dues, Japan does not attempt to treat Korea with the same injustice of which she has herself been made the victim. Merchant vessels entering at a Korean Custom House are to pay at the rate of 125 mon (about 42 *sen* Japanese) per ton, and in return to receive a certificate exempting them from all further payment on account of tonnage dues for a period of four months. Had a similar rule been in force in this country since 1867, Japan would have collected more than four and a half million dollars from foreign ships—a sum which would have materially helped to recoup her heavy expenditure on account of light-houses.

Care has also been taken to remove another anomaly which exists in Japan's case. Import duties payable *ad-valorem* are to be calculated on the actual cost of the goods at the place of production together with the addition of the cost of transportation, insurance, commission and all other charges from the place of production to the

port of discharge. This is the fashion of reckoning adopted everywhere but in Japan, where the Customs returns show, not the price of the imports as laid down here, but their cost at the other side of the water.

The latter part of the last article is worthy of notice. Its wording suggests the idea that Japan is resolved, as far as possible, to save her neighbour from the ambiguity which has proved so inconvenient in her own case. It is distinctly provided that the Regulations shall terminate after five years from the day on which they come into force. Before the expiration of that term the two Governments are to enter into negotiations with the view of framing new regulations, but Korea is secured against the danger of having her efforts to obtain a revision paralysed by the extraordinary subterfuge which Japan has found so fatally obstructive. On the whole it may be said that, if Korea has been the last to enter the comity of nations, her loss in this respect is to some extent compensated by the comparative liberality of the terms on which she is admitted.

SPORTSMEN.

OUR correspondent, "One of the Unlicensed," is doubtless right when he says that his remonstrances against the cruelties practised by sportsmen will not be respected by many. But we feel convinced that he does not speak less truly when he predicts that a hundred years hence the sporting habits of this nineteenth century will be looked upon with aversion and surprise by our descendants. Within the memory of the present generation there have been expunged from the list of so-called sports many items about which public opinion, fifty years ago, if not wholly acquiescent, was, at any rate, apathetic. It is true that the opponents of cock-fighting, bull-baiting, and similar pastimes, based their arguments, for the most part, less on the cruelty of these amusements than on their brutalizing influence, and on the various immoralities they promote. It was by reasoning of this sort that a majority of votes was secured to the cause of humane principles. Men were readier to think of the injury they might possibly inflict on themselves than of the sufferings they certainly inflicted on dumb animals. But not ten persons in a million will be found to admit that shooting, fishing, and hunting possess any dehumanizing tendencies. A glamour of refinement has been thrown round these amusements, partly by the science and skill which their pursuit demands, partly by the status and

circumstances of their pursuers. Nevertheless, no subtle analysis is needed to show that the fox-hunter, the angler, and their *confrères* have ceased to be consistent with the spirit of the times in which they live and of the laws they pretend to respect. The question may be brought within the range of a simple comparison. Suppose a man were to take two animals by nature enemies to one another, put them into an enclosed space and set the stronger to pursue the weaker until the latter dropped from exhaustion or otherwise fell into the jaws of its foe; and suppose that fifty or sixty persons were to assemble for the purpose of witnessing this chase, and to cheer loudly as the smaller animal was torn limb from limb by the larger—what would the public say? Would not the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals interfere at once, and at its instance, would not any tribunal in a civilized land punish the participators in this barbarity? Yet their crime would have been fox-hunting in miniature. Suppose, again, that one of those refined gentlemen who expend large sums of money upon gouse-moors and pheasant-preserves, were required, in the absence of his cook, to wring a chicken's neck.

Would he not evince the greatest possible repugnance to the job, and after performing it, feel that he had done something which had better be concealed from his acquaintances? Yet the same man will take up a wounded woodcock, and without the least reluctance tap its head against the butt of his gun or the heel of his boot until the bird's life is artistically extinguished. No distortion of logic can satisfactorily explain the difference of sentiment in the two cases. Reason it out how we may, we always come back to the conclusion that shooting, hunting, and such pastimes cannot be defended on any grounds recognised by the principles of humanity, and that civilization will sooner or later appreciate the disgrace of making the slaughter of dumb animals a source of amusement to human beings. Already, indeed, indications are not wanting that public opinion is tending in this direction. The protest of the Princess of WALES against pigeon-shooting, though it failed to influence their conservative lordships of the Upper House, elicited a significant meed of applause from all the best English journals, and has unquestionably produced a lasting effect. In this instance we can sympathize with the reluctance of the Peers to sanction a measure the limits of which it was not easy to distinguish. For surely if the law once consents to class with misdeemeanours the trapping and shooting of

pigeons, it will be logically forced to take a similar view of the preserving and slaughtering of pheasants or grouse. Another sign of the times is the growing verdict of sportsmen against digging out foxes. The most ardent hunters are beginning to feel that when an unfortunate reynard has reached a harbor of refuge in spite of the terrible odds against him, it is better to run the risk of blunting the future keenness of the pack than to dig him out and have him torn to pieces after all his gallant efforts to escape. The sentiment underlying this conviction will inevitably expand until it prompts a step much too radical to be calmly contemplated as yet. For it must be frankly acknowledged that at present we are in the position of men who "know the right and do it not." Our correspondent writes from a lofty stand-point of insensibility to the intoxicating delights of the sports he condemns, and since it is not within the compass of our weak pen to limn even the outlines of these vistas of enjoyment, we will refrain from the irreverent attempt. But if he is a just man; if he really desires to judge the question on its merits and to arrive at some faint perception of the sportsman's enjoyments, let him read BROMLEY DAVENPORT'S essays on fox-hunting and salmon-fishing in the June and September numbers of the *Nineteenth Century*. He will then possess a glimmering, but only a glimmering, idea of the reality, and will understand that civilized minds are still the slaves of emotions too powerful to acknowledge the restraints of cold morality.

FARNSWORTH V. WHITE.

IT is to be hoped that the social annals of Yokohama will never again be disfigured by such a scandalous event as that which formed the subject of a recent trial in Her Majesty's Court for Japan. The main facts of the story can be told in a very few words. A resident of Yokohama, Mr. FORD, was engaged to be married to Miss RUTH FARNSWORTH, who had come to Yokohama a short time before in a ship commanded by her father. The engagement had been more or less promoted by the Consular Constable, WHITE, and his wife, with whom FORD was very intimate, and who had also contracted a tolerably familiar acquaintance in a brief period with Captain and Mrs. FARNSWORTH. One afternoon Mr. and Mrs. WHITE met and talked with a certain GEORGE WAIGHTMAN, formerly steward of Captain FARNSWORTH'S ship. The conversation turned upon Miss RUTH

FARNSWORTH'S approaching marriage, and WIGHTMAN, according to his own subsequent admission, used defamatory expressions which were at best of ambiguous application; while, according to the statement of the WHITES, he uttered a foul and disgusting slander about the young lady, embellishing it with circumstances and confirming it with almost malicious reiteration. The WHITES, without a moment's hesitation, hastened off and repeated this slander to FORD. With regard to their manner of repeating it, the accounts conflict. FORD, and his friend CLARK, who was present, declared that the communication was made by Mrs. WHITE in presence of both, and Captain FARNSWORTH'S evidence showed that this was the version of the affair conveyed to him an hour or two afterwards by the two men. The WHITES, on the contrary, assert that WHITE called FORD aside and spoke to him privately, whereupon FORD, becoming excited, blurted out the whole matter in the presence of CLARK. However this may be, FORD and WHITE immediately went off and questioned WIGHTMAN, as well as his pretended authority for a portion of the slander. But these two men emphatically denied having said anything to Miss RUTH FARNSWORTH'S prejudice. They spoke, indeed, in the highest terms of her character, and said they knew nothing against her. After this, FORD, who from the first had stoutly refused to credit the slander, went off with CLARK to Captain FARNSWORTH'S ship and told him what they had heard. It had been originally arranged that WHITE was to accompany them on this visit, but for a reason not explained, though easily conjectured, they avoided any further association with him. Captain FARNSWORTH was naturally indignant and excited. He seems to have satisfied or persuaded himself that WIGHTMAN did not really originate the slander, and that WHITE alone was to blame. Against the latter, therefore, legal proceedings were commenced, the damages being laid at ten thousand dollars. Beyond the facts we have stated, nothing material was elicited at the trial. The Judge ruled that the occasion of the WHITES' visit to FORD was privileged, and directed the jury to consider, first, whether the alleged statements were made at all, and if so, which of the two versions as to the method of making them was correct; secondly, whether they were made with malice; thirdly, whether the marriage was broken off; fourthly, whether it was broken off on account of the slander; and fifthly, the damages. Upon every one of these points the jury, after three and a half hours'

deliberation, declared themselves unable to agree. Juries are fearful and wonderful things. Modern analysis of their peculiar functions shows that their chief use is to enable criminals to escape the legal consequences of their crimes. But the jury in this case out-justified itself. Three out of the five points submitted for their verdict were not susceptible of a shadow of doubt. There was not a shadow of doubt that the defendants uttered the slander: they admitted it themselves. Whether they believed it to be true, and in repeating it were prompted wholly by an honest solicitude on behalf of their friend FORD, or whether they wilfully and maliciously magnified a fragment of loose talk into a cruel and brutal libel, was another question. There was not a shadow of doubt that the marriage was broken off. Whether temporarily or permanently was another question. It might very well be that FORD himself only awaited the issue of the suit to renew his proposals, but whether Miss FARNSWORTH could then have accepted them; whether any virtuous and delicately nurtured lady could consent to settle in a place where her name had been thus publicly dragged through the dirt, or to take for her husband a man whose love for her had not survived so slight an ordeal—these are points about which the gentlemen of the jury might have been expected to consult their individual standards of ethics. But that the marriage was actually broken off, and that it was broken off on account of the libel confessedly repeated by the WHITES, the evidence permitted no second opinion. Yet even upon these counts the jury could not agree. Conjecture fails to account for their confusion. We are compelled to hope, and expected to believe, that they truly tried and determined the case according to the evidence, without bias, prejudice, or partiality. But thus hoping, and thus essaying to believe, how are we to explain their diffidence? The truth appears to be that they were too much alarmed to express an opinion. They had been told by the Judge—if we may credit the published reports—that “whatever their finding might be, it could not fail to be terrible to one of the two parties,” and to escape this dilemma they had recourse to the expedient of finding nothing at all. Yet the Judge's prediction was none the less fulfilled. For this disagreement of the jury was terrible to some one. It was terrible to the person who of all others deserved most consideration—the unfortunate young lady whose fair name had been foully and falsely slandered. It is

true the Judge, in his charge, took occasion to declare that “the character of Miss RUTH FARNSWORTH had been triumphantly freed, not merely from any accusation, but from the faintest breath of slander.” This was well and wisely said, but how much of it will be remembered five years hence? If the story of this savage libel is talked of then, will not its outlines alone survive, and will not those outlines be the three facts—that the young lady was made the subject of a most evil report; that her accuser was arraigned before a British Court of Justice, and that the Jury could not agree. Who will be careful or competent to look beyond these facts, and how will Miss FARNSWORTH'S reputation appear after such a cursory inspection? Truly the institution of trial by Jury is little worthy of the innermost niche it occupies in English affections.

It is, perhaps, a profitless task to discuss the conduct of the principals in this suit. Every man has a right to his own idea of the obligations imposed by friendship. Mr. F. E. WHITE'S experiences of life may have taught him that the wanton tittle-tattle of a ship's steward deserves to be credited without query or confirmation. They may also have taught him that the kindest and most honorable use to which a brutally defamatory story can be put is to retail it, without loss of time, to the person whose happiness it can most effectually blast. These may be his honest convictions. We have no right, and certainly no wish, to question the integrity of his motives. But we may be permitted to hope that his example is not infectious. We may be permitted to hope that there are few persons in any society who would hasten to mar the peace of two lives without taking the commonest precautions to assure themselves that they are not the unwitting instruments of a malicious, incredible, and barbarous slander. There is happily another view of friendship besides that which seems to have presented itself in this case—a view which needs no definition at our hands.

Everyday life is a matter-of-fact sort of business. It is, perhaps, romantic to wish that this libel—as it was at once proved to be—did not serve to hasten rather than to impede the marriage, and that, after the ceremony, both WIGHTMAN and WHITE were not arraigned on a criminal charge. Even five Yokohama jurors could scarcely have disagreed as to the fact that one or other of these men was guilty of circulating a malicious slander. If WHITE'S motives were honest—and we see no valid reason to doubt it—he would certainly have left the Court with a re-established character, whatever opinion the public might have formed of his discretion. But as things stand now, nothing is thoroughly demonstrated, except, perhaps, that trial by jury is often a travesty of justice.

PENAL CODE AND CODE OF CRIMINAL PROCEDURE IN JAPAN.

By PROFESSOR DR. S. MAYER, VIENNA.

No apology will be needed for the following attempt at presenting a sketch of the above code of laws which came into force on the first of January of this year in the Empire of Japan. Berner, whose assistance was given in the preparation of the Penal Code¹ a fact which in itself should command respect for the Laws—declares² that the draught, upon which his opinion was asked; showed great progress. "The penal system is rationally constructed, the definitions of crimes are given in simple clear outlines, the penalties attached are proportionate and humane, and the experience of the cultured world as well as the progress of European science has been regarded throughout." With this view in his mind Berner gives the Japanese regulations regarding police supervision as well as the instructions of the Japanese Penal Code regarding confiscation, and conditional discharge, in the French translation of the draught. These codes now lie before me in their Japanese—official French translation;³ but I have reproduced them in a (German) translation so as to show their exact connection and give their most essential regulations, because I thought this the only way to give a faithful picture of the important reforms which have been accomplished in the field of penal legislation in this remarkable land which strides with gigantic steps along the path of civilization.⁴ Of course we are now dealing with a presentation, and not with a criticism of these laws. The peculiar circumstances of Japan and her people are too far removed from us to allow us to judge in every particular as to the adaptability of this or that regulation. The fact that Japan has undertaken so notable a reform at all is remarkable enough, and from the standpoint of international intercourse should be hailed with joy. On this account it seems proper to direct the attention of foreign nations to these results of penal legislation. Considered from the higher and more general standpoint of human progress, one would not be justified in undertaking either a criticism or a comparative treatment: we must take these laws as a whole and compare them with other codes as a whole. What Montesquieu well says with regard to the comparison of French and English legislation⁵ is equally applicable here: "Ainsi pour juger lesquelles de ces lois sont les plus conformes à la raison, il ne faut pas comparer chacune de ces lois à chacune, il faut les prendre toutes ensemble, et les comparer toutes ensemble."

Nevertheless it may be well, in a few introductory remarks, to give the characteristics of these two Codes. We draw a distinction between the Penal Code and the Code of Criminal Procedure. The first seems to excel the second in

importance and essential value, for the criminal procedure, much more than the Penal Code, confines itself to the inherited rut of French Legislation. As regards the judiciary and a great part of the regulations for criminal procedure, we find on the one hand a close connection with the *Code d'instruction criminelle*, and on the other, frequently successful attempts to break through the numerous hard and unnatural formalities of French legislation; or at least to lighten them and bring them into harmony with later procedure, and thus to realize, in well-digested regulations, at least some of those great principles which constitute the legal acquisitions of late decades.

The principle of evidence lies at the basis of the code: no sort of judicial presumption to the disadvantage of the accused is allowed to result from preliminary examinations; on the other hand the preliminary examination is allowed to exert a great influence, at least formally, on the actual trial, since documents of considerable range may be presented and read. This is seen especially in those regulations which allow in the trial the reading of the declarations of witnesses in the preliminary examination. Otherwise the procedure abides strictly by the principles of oral and direct evidence. Although not always with perfect success, the law endeavours to maintain the principle of complaint, and to realize it in a far greater degree than the formal concession which the French *Code d'instruction criminelle* makes to the same principle. The *procureur-général* and the examining justice are placed together as mutually perfectly independent persons; the *procureur-général* presents his charges, the examining justice decides regarding them. The commencement and continuation of procedure depend essentially on the determination of the complainant; on the other hand, in order to bring out the truth, a considerable amount of official activity is expected of the Court, which at times is binding on the complainant.—The principle of publicity is strictly maintained. A judge of the realm must decide in all criminal cases.—One very pleasant feature is the favour which the law extends to the defence, the liberty of which is preserved and protected in every possible way, and in court procedure with extraordinary vigor, indeed a number of these regulations might well be recommended for incorporation into the latest legislation (of Europe). The code recognizes also the right of compensation in case of a legal cessation of procedure or of acquittal; it is true this is only as regards the complainant, informer, or prosecutor, but at the same time Art. 16, of the Criminal Procedure is a modest beginning in the application of a principle, which is estimable and justifiable from a theoretical standpoint, but the practicability of which can be shown only by experience. The humane instructions regarding the treatment of the accused in the preliminary examination, so entirely in harmony with the regulations which aim at securing a substantial defence, are worthy of special notice; on the other hand as a correlative may be mentioned the rigor of those regulations which fix the punishment of a magistrate who may exceed his duty (*excès de pouvoir*). The system of legal remedy which rests somewhat on the same principle is rather complicated: there seems to be here almost too much of the good thing for the realization of the largest justice. The legislators of this code were not willing to reject the regulations of the French *Code d'instruction*, which amid many defects has been shown by the experience of more than seven decades, to possess undoubted advantages, but on the other hand they wished to go beyond the narrow limits of the French system, and thus without precedent, particularly in the matter of authoritative overcoming of informalities by means of the court

of cassation, while preserving the apparently cramping forms of French justice, they have admitted a freedom for the criminal procedure of Japan which many a later Code might well envy.

Altogether, we have before us in this Criminal Procedure a work which, without dealing particularly with its various excellencies and defects, places upon Japanese Courts of Justice a task which is as grand as it is responsible. For if the Criminal Procedure is to be in a position to accomplish the object of the same, namely to restore the true order of justice by punishing the really guilty, there is need of a great expenditure of intellectual and material resources of this energetic land to produce cultivated judges and courts which, in their composite character, can claim perfect confidence, so as to accustom the Japanese people to the course of a well ordered administration of penal justice, to facilitate the almost sudden transition out of the undeveloped uncoded conditions of justice which had previously prevailed, and to adjust the law itself to the needs of the land, which for the time being it seems to exceed. But for those nations who have come into more active intercourse with Japan there cannot but arise a pleasure in the consciousness of the fact that the prosecution and decision of punishable offences are regulated according to European models, and that thereby a still stronger and surer foundation has been laid for the cordial relations which already exist between us and that Empire now developing in so remarkable a manner.

As a matter of course the Criminal Procedure can show whether it is successful or not only in connection with the penal Code.

In this connection the whole matter has a more favorable aspect. Although it is true that, in consequence of copying too closely the model of the French *Code d'instruction criminelle*, the Criminal Procedure of Japan does not always deserve unlimited praise, on the other hand we cannot withhold from the Penal Code the unreserved admiration which has already been expressed by an authority so generally acknowledged in the field of penal legislation.⁶ We have here to do with a really remarkable phenomenon, and although from the nature of the case the Code is not an independent one, and no new ideas of penal justice are evolved, it is nevertheless in many respects original legislation. We may appreciate its value by considering first of all the difficulties to be overcome, in a land where penal legislation was still in its childhood, in adjusting a Penal Code which should on the one hand correspond with modern views, and on the other still remain in harmony with the peculiar traditions of the country. All the penal justice of Japan hitherto had been unwritten custom. This Code is well thought out, systematically arranged, and the penal system harmoniously and rationally elaborated. That the results of German legislation could not have been ignored is evident from the influence which no less a man than Berner had on the formation of the Code. The regard shown to the latest Italian penal legislation is seen in the carrying out of the rather problematical system of grades in penalties, in which too much is left to the discretion of the judge. The influence of the latest penal laws of the Netherlands and of Hungary are also in many places very apparent. The Penal Code, certainly in fundamentals, but in a far less degree than in the Criminal Procedure, follows the model of the French *Code Pénal* and the improved edition of the Belgian Revision of 1867; still it is, as may be easily seen, more in a technical than in a material sense, for even where penalties in exact conformity with the *Code Pénal* are

(1) Berner speaks of this in his essay "Japan" in *Gerichtssaal* Vol. XXVIII, p. 393. "with two intelligent and cultivated Japanese, the Secretary of the Japanese Senate Mr. Murata, and the attaché of the Japanese Embassy Mr. Guri." (2) Tanahashi, I have had weekly consultations of several hours duration, for three whole months with respect to a Japanese Penal Code, the draught of which was laid before me in a French translation on the 4th of January, 1881; the results of which will now be in the hands of the Japanese Senate."

(3) *Gerichtssaal*, loc. cit.

(4) *Code pénal*, promulgué par le Décret No. 36, le 7 août de la 13^{ème} année de Meiji (13th year of the present Emperor of Japan) Tokyo Imprimerie Impériale 2 mois, 14 année de Meiji. *Code de procédure criminelle* promulgué par le Décret No. 37, le 7 août de la 13^{ème} année de Meiji, Tokyo, Imprimerie Impériale 3 mois 14 année de Meiji.

(5) See Berner in *Gerichtssaal*, on the report of the Japanese Government presented at the Penitentiary Congress in Stockholm, which the president Dr. Wines declared to be the most elaborate, the most important, and the most perfect. In this report it is seen that Japan has advanced with real discretion in the way of penitentiary reform. With regard to the reform of penal legislation then under way, Dr. Wines expresses himself "that it would place the penal administration in harmony with the spirit and culture of modern days."

(6) *Espet des Lois*, tome IV, p. 241.

(6) Berner, *Gerichtssaal* loc. cit.

denounced, great care has been shown in the fixing of the gravity of the offence, so as to replace the somewhat elastic indefiniteness of the French Code with clear and definite ideas of punishable acts, and to diminish the severity of a penalty where, in spite of a general effort after lenient penal sentences, the severity of the French law cannot be denied, particularly in the matter of accessory penalties and those involving loss of rank which reflect no great honour on the (French) law.

The Death Penalty is pronounced in comparatively rare cases.

Penal offences, which, in the French laws and European laws modelled after the French, are stamped as crimes, are here declared to be delicts, in order to avoid the severity of criminal penalties, and, in case of delicts, in order to lessen as far as possible penalties affecting personal liberty, considerable use is made of fines, such as is seen in scarcely any other code. There are very few delicts where, besides imprisonment (cumulative), there is not also a fine levied; perhaps there is in this case a little too much of a good thing, as often punishable offences entail both imprisonment and a fine, for which, from their nature and motive, the latter would seem to be hardly an appropriate penalty. The comparatively very high *minima* of penalties, are to be explained only by their connection with the system of gradation of penalties, already noticed, the numerous causes for exemption and the so-called *excuses légales* arranged according to the French model. The code borrows from German penal law the system of delicts which must be prosecuted by private complainants and enlarges the same. This is seen particularly in the gravest crimes against morality, as rape, violation, the prosecution of which depends on the complaint of the injured party. The legislator thought this respect for the injured party and his family to be necessary.

The law aims at furthering the culture-development of the Japanese people, and at removing by means of penal regulations many of those barriers which separate the habits and customs of Orientals from Europeans. The Draco-like severe penal regulations with regard to the production and use of opium must be noticed.—(Penal Servitude for a term and confinement: mere smoking of opium entails a penalty of at least 2 years of major imprisonment) which would indeed be inexplicable to us, if we did not seek the reason in the justifiable intention of the legislator to exclude by exemplary severity an enervating vice, alike destructive of mind and body, so that the devastations caused elsewhere by the use of opium, dulling as it does all noble ambition, and laming the energy of the people, may be hindered in time.⁽¹⁾ The penalties against tattooing, although comparatively lenient are founded upon the recognition of the fact that every step towards European civilization should be furthered by removing capricious marks of distinction, so far as national peculiarities and the demands of piety do not hinder the action of the legislator. That the legislator had full regard for the sentiments of the people, is proved by the numerous delicts incorporated in the penal code which entail a penalty directly upon all who insult these sentiments of piety, whether towards the living to whom devotion is due, or towards the dead, and even their tombstones and monuments. The Section: "*Crimes against the bodies of the dead and their tombstones*," gives expression to this, and no less earnest and unmistakable is that other section: "*Crimes and delicts of descendants against their ancestors*," which bears

witness to the beautiful relationship existing in Japan between parents and children. Japanese family life is well known to be quite exemplary, and the mutual relation of the married has greatly improved since Japan emancipated herself from the exclusiveness of Oriental states. Japanese women, though they do not enjoy the liberty of European women, have no longer a life of exclusion; they are rather united to their husbands in true domestic relationship, and the husband makes every effort to show full respect to his wife—whence it comes that the children owe the mother no less respect than the father.—Altogether it is evident, in the section relative to Crimes against morality (which, as we are informed, very rarely occur); in the severe penalties against adultery, which also does not often occur (one-sided as the French Code); in the penalty for bigamy⁽²⁾ &c., &c., that the legislator on the one hand, in many of his penal regulations, starts with the idea of furthering the purity of family life and the morality of the home, and that he aims on the other hand, to educate and incite the people to nobler moral ideas above and beyond the narrow domestic circle.

The beneficial influence of this penal code will not be confined to Japanese territory and the present stage of actual culture-development. Intercourse with other nations will be advanced by the numerous and admirable penal regulations which directly aim at giving security and stability to this intercourse. There are severe penalties against counterfeiting coins and banknotes, even foreign ones, falsification of trade marks, counterfeiting weights, measures, forging commercial paper, bills of exchange, checks to order, and other instruments circulated by endorsement. The principal delicts are given in the outline which follows. A matter of considerable importance to commercial intercourse with Japan is provided for, though in a somewhat imperfect manner, in the penal regulations of articles 388 and 389, regarding bankruptcy. We may also mention the severe penalties against swindling, Art. 390 et. seq., on account of failure to execute contracts &c. As working in the same direction we may mention the admirable tolerance towards alien creeds which is seen in manifold penal regulations; (particularly in penalties against disturbance of sacred service &c., Cap. VI., Art. 258 et seq.) These regulations stand in splendid contrast to the spirit of intolerance in which so many oriental nations are sunk; this facilitates intercourse with the people and residence in the country.

A list of beneficial regulations which would do honour to any European penal code, guard the sanitary interests of the people, aim at removing anything prejudicial to health, and before all things preservation of the purity of that indispensable article, potable water. All disturbances which result in sanitary dangers are treated as crimes. Of course climatic conditions demand special legal protection against the introduction of diseases, &c.

The awakening political life of the people finds expression also in the severe penalties against falsification at elections, &c. (Cap. VI., Art. 288 et seq.). The intention to educate the people gives rise also to the severe penalties against gamblers. The care for defenceless and helpless persons is repeatedly made evident in this penal code. The legislator extends his protection first of all to the aged and the young, and then also to the helpless prisoner, whose ill-treatment the Criminal Procedure strongly prohibits, and the Penal Code punishes with heavy penalties. Nothing here to remind one of the barbaric severity of the Orient: everywhere the

milder spirit of humanity prevails, and promotes conciliation even where the legislator must speak to the people in tones of severity.

Following these introductory remarks we give a sketch first of the Penal Code and then of the Criminal Procedure. We shall rejoice if both Codes in practice answer the admirable intention of the legislator. Japan may take to herself the credit of having, by this codification, advanced an important stage towards European civilization nothing helps to establish bonds of friendship between alien peoples so much as legislative deeds. And Japan, by means of these two Codes has really accomplished a deed—a feat, in the fullest sense of the word—a feat in the field of intellectual, moral, and scientific effort, which ensures for her the undivided admiration of Europe.

BOOK I.—GENERAL PROVISIONS.

CHAPTER I.—ON THE APPLICATION OF THE PENAL LAW IN GENERAL.

Art. 1.—The offences punishable according to the law are:

1. Crimes.
2. Delicts.
3. Contraventions.

Art. 2.—No one can be subjected to a penalty excepting in virtue of an express provision of the law.

Art. 3.—This law is not retroactive upon offences committed before it came into force.

In case of a difference of law at the time of the commission of a crime and the trial of the same, the mildest law is to be applied.

Art. 4.—The Provisions of the Penal Code are not applicable to persons amenable to military or maritime law.

Art. 5.—The particular penalties prescribed by special penal laws and regulations remain in force in so far as they are not otherwise determined by the present law.

CHAPTER II.—ON PENALTIES.

SECTION I.—ON THE DIFFERENT CHARACTER OF PENALTIES.

Art. 6.—Penalties are principal or accessory. Principal Penalties are to be pronounced in open Court.

As to accessory penalties the law prescribes which shall and which shall not be so pronounced.

Art. 7.—The principal penalties for crimes are:—

1. Death.
2. Penal servitude for life.
3. Penal servitude for a term.
4. Transportation for life.
5. Transportation for a term.
6. Major confinement.
7. Minor confinement.
8. Major detention.
9. Minor detention.

Art. 8.—The principal penalties for delicts are:—

1. Major imprisonment.
2. Minor imprisonment.
3. Correctional fine.

Art. 9.—The principal penalties for contraventions are:

1. Attachment.
2. Fine by the police.

Art. 10.—Accessory punishments are:

1. Deprivation of civic rights.
2. Suspension of civic rights.
3. Prohibition of private rights.
4. Special police supervision.
5. Fine.
6. Special confiscation.

Art. 11.—A general order will regulate the mode of punishment, the details of the execution of each penalty, and the disciplinary treatment of the condemned.

(1) Opium Smoking has not yet been introduced into Japan, the fear however is reasonable that the vice may be imported from China. The Japanese on the whole are a temperate people.

(2) According to Japanese custom bigamy was already punishable; the legislator only expresses the voice of the people in his penal regulations.

SECTION II.—ON THE PRINCIPAL PENALTIES.

Art. 12.—The penalty of death is executed by hanging. The execution takes place inside the prison, in presence of persons designated by the general order.

Art. 13.—The penalty of death cannot be executed until after the receipt of a formal order from the Minister of Justice.

Art. 14.—The death penalty must not be executed on a national or legal holiday.

Art. 15.—If a woman condemned to death is *enroute*, the execution shall be delayed, and cannot take place within 100 days after her delivery.

Art. 16.—The corpse of the executed criminal shall be given to his relations or friends, on condition that they bury the same without external pomp.

Art. 17.—Men condemned to penal servitude, whether for life or temporarily, undergo their punishment on an island, where they shall be kept at such employments as shall be determined by the regulations.

Penal servitude for a term shall have a duration of from 12 to 15 years.

Art. 18.—Women and girls, condemned to penal servitude, undergo their punishment in a penitentiary in the interior of the country, and are there to be kept at work according to the regulations.

Art. 19.—All persons condemned to penal servitude, over 60 years of age, are to be kept at only such work as is commensurate with their strength.

Art. 20.—Those who are condemned to transportation whether for life or for a definite time, shall be brought to an island, where they shall be confined in a special prison without compulsory labour. Transportation for a term has a duration of from 16 to 20 years.

Art. 21.—After undergoing their penalty for five years, criminals, condemned to transportation for life, may by a decree of the Government be released from prison and be allowed to settle in an allotted part of the same island; the same favor may be extended to those condemned to temporary servitude after the expiration of three years.

Art. 22.—Confinement takes place in a penitentiary in the interior of the country, and is accompanied by compulsory labour according to the regulations. Art. 19, applies to those who are over 60 years of age. The maximum of the penalty of major confinement is 11 years, the minimum, 9 years; minor confinement, maximum 8 years, minimum 6 years.

Art. 23.—The penalty of detention is undergone, without compulsory labour, in a particular prison in the interior of the country. Maximum duration of major detention is 11 years, minimum 9 years; minor detention, maximum 8 years, minimum 6 years.

Art. 24.—Imprisonment is undergone in a house of correction (*Maison de correction*). Major imprisonment entails compulsory labor, minor imprisonment does not. The law fixes for every offence the minimum and the maximum of both grades of imprisonment, between eleven days and five years.

Art. 25.—In all cases in which the penalty entails compulsory labor a part of the proceeds of this work shall be applied to the expenses, and the rest kept for the condemned according to the proportion laid down by the regulations. He receives this latter sum, however, only in case he has wrought more than 100 days.

Art. 26.—The fine (for delicts) is *2 yen* and upwards. The law lays down the minimum and maximum for every punishable offence.

Art. 27.—The correctional fine must be paid within a month from the day on which sentence is passed. If not fully paid within that time it

shall be converted into simple imprisonment at the rate of one day for a *yen* or portion thereof.

The conversion of such imprisonment cannot, however, exceed 2 years. The condemned can regain his freedom by paying the balance of his fine not yet cancelled by his time in prison. His family or any third party can do this service for him.

Art. 28.—The penalty of attachment consists in a simple deprivation of liberty by confinement in a jail appointed for that purpose. The law determines the minimum and maximum of arrest for every contravention at from 1 to 10 days.

Art. 29.—The fine in cases of contraventions is a minimum of *5 sen* to a maximum of *1 yen 95 sen*. The law fixes the minimum and maximum for every offence.

Art. 30.—The fines imposed in cases of contraventions are to be paid inside of ten days after the sentence is passed, and in case of non-payment shall be converted into attachment at the rate given in Art. 27.

SECTION III.—ON ACCESSORY PENALTIES.

Art. 31.—Deprivation of civil rights entails on the condemned:—

1. The loss of those rights which belong exclusively to Japanese subjects.
2. Removal and exclusion from every position in the service of the Government and from every public office.
3. Loss of every pension, every nobiliary or honorary title and every national decoration.
4. The prohibition to wear foreign decorations.
5. The incapacity to serve in the land or marine forces of Japan.
6. The incapacity to give evidence in Court (excepting to be used as a means of obtaining information.)
7. The incapacity to become guardians or trustees, excepting in cases of descendants where the consent of relatives is given.
8. The incapacity to be assignee or administrator of a bankrupt, of a society, corporation, or of collective of any interests whatever.
9. The incapacity to be the principal of any institute of learning, or to have any position in such as teacher or warden.

Art. 32.—Any sentence on account of crime entails *ipsi facto* the forfeiture of all civil rights for life.

Art. 33.—The sentence to imprisonment for a misdemeanor entails *ipsi facto* the forfeiture of all public functions and offices, with which the condemned was invested, and the prohibition of the exercise of all other civil rights during the period of his imprisonment.

Art. 34.—The condemnation to a penalty on account of a delict, which entails police supervision carries with it *ipsi facto* the prohibition of the exercise of all civil rights during the term of police surveillance.

Art. 35.—Every condemnation on account of crime entails with it, during the term of the penalty, the prohibition of the exercise of all private rights.

Art. 36.—Persons condemned to transportation for life or for a term, who have undergone the period of their detention prescribed in Art. 21 may be admitted by an administrative enactment, to the exercise of all their private rights, or at least to a part of them.

Art. 37.—The condemnation to a criminal penalty entails *ipsi facto* the being placed under police surveillance for a time which shall be

equal to at least one third of the minimum of the penalty prescribed by the law.

Art. 38.—The sentence of police surveillance resulting from a condemnation for a delict, shall be pronounced only in cases prescribed by the law, or by a special judicial decision.

Art. 39.—Those condemned to death or to imprisonment for life, whose punishment has been commuted are *ipsi facto* to be subjected to police surveillance for a term of five years.

Art. 40.—Police surveillance begins on the day on which the principal punishment has ceased: in case the principal penalty should have lapsed, it begins with the day of the arrest of the criminal.

Whenever police surveillance is the only penalty incurred, and no principal penalty is undergone, it begins on the day on which the sentence is pronounced.

Art. 41.—Police surveillance may be suspended in accordance with an administrative decision, according to circumstances and the conduct of the condemned.

Art. 42.—Fine as an accessory penalty must be pronounced in open court. If not paid within one month, it is to be changed (in the same way as in Art. 27) into simple imprisonment, and must be undergone after the principal penalty.

Art. 43.—The Court pronounces the sentence of special confiscation:—

1. Respecting articles prohibited by law.
2. Respecting articles which were made use of in the commission of punishable acts.
3. And such articles obtained or produced by punishable acts.

Everything, apart from special confiscations, that shall be prescribed by special laws or regulations.

Art. 44.—Articles prohibited by law shall be confiscated without respect to their owners; Articles, which have been used for the commission of offences, or which have been obtained or produced by punishable acts, can be confiscated only when they are the property of the condemned, or their owner cannot be found.

SECTION IV.—OF COSTS OF COURT AND CLAIMS FOR DAMAGES.

Art. 45.—In every penal case, the condemned may be charged with the whole or with a part of the costs.

Art. 46.—Penal condemnations and acquittals are to affect in no wise the claims in civil law of the injured party.

Art. 47.—All persons, condemned as co-actors or accomplices in one and the same offence, are held, conjointly, responsible for payment of costs and for the satisfaction of claims in civil law.

Art. 48.—On the demand of the injured party, the penal Courts may determine the costs of Court, the restitutions, and the civil indemnifications; and if the articles illegally taken are in the possession of the condemned, may order the restoration of the same, even without the demand of the injured party.

SECTION V.

Contains the necessary regulations for calculating the duration of penalties conformably to the new law (Art. 49-52). If the condemned makes an appeal and is successful, the time of the penalty is reckoned from the day on which the first sentence was pronounced: if the appeal be rejected, from the day of the decision of rejection. If the public administration files an appeal, the penalty always begins on the day of the first sentence, irrespective of the result of the appeal—Any time during which the accused enjoyed provisional personal freedom as well as such as may have expired during a temporary flight is not reckoned in as a part of the duration of the penalty.

SECTION VI.

Treats of *conditional discharge (Arts. 53-59) Persons who have been sentenced for a crime or for crimes, who have undergone three fourths of their penalty, and who by their good conduct have given proof of amendment, may, by an administrative decision, be conditionally discharged.

Persons condemned to penal servitude for life may claim the same favour after fifteen years servitude; those condemned to penal servitude must, even when conditionally discharged, remain in the island to which they have been sent. Persons thus conditionally discharged, may be allowed the exercise of the whole or a part of their private rights, as determined by administrative decision. During this time however they are subjected to police surveillance. Should the person thus conditionally discharged commit a new crime or delict, the conditional discharge will be at once annulled, and the time thus spent up to the second committal shall not be reckoned as a part of the fixed duration of the penalty. Those who commit a new crime or delict during the course of their penalty have no claim to the privilege of conditional discharge.

SECTION VII.

Treats of the prescription of penalties (Arts. 58-62). The regulations regarding the prescription of criminal charges are contained in the Criminal Procedure (General Regulations Arts. 11-15). The length of time which entails prescription of principal penalties are: 30 years for the death penalty, 25 years for penal servitude for life and transportation for life, 20 years for penal servitude for a time or for transportation for a time, 15 years for major confinement and major detention, 10 years for minor confinement and minor detention, 7 years for imprisonment with or without compulsory labour and for correctional fines in case of delicts, 1 year for attachment and for fines in cases of contraventions. There is no prescription for loss or suspension of civic rights and police surveillance. Fines, as accessory penalties, cease by prescription with the principal penalty; special confiscation is prescribed in five years; confiscation of articles forbidden by law however is not affected by any prescription. The prescription begins on the day on which the condemned withdraws himself from the execution of the penalty. It ceases with his re-arrest. If he escapes again a new term for prescription begins.

SECTION.—VIII.

Treats of Rehabilitation (Arts. 63-65). Rehabilitation may be granted to persons condemned to the loss of civic rights, according to the circumstances of the case, in five years after the principal penalty has been undergone. Amnesty entails *ipso facto*, rehabilitation: pardon, only rehabilitation when rehabilitation is expressly granted. The Emperor only can grant the favour of rehabilitation.

CHAPTER III.

Treats of the raising or lowering of penalties by gradations (Arts. 66-73).

The following is the order of gradation for ordinary criminal penalties: 1 death, 2 penal servitude for life, 3 penal servitude for a term, 4 major confinement, 5 minor confinement. For penalties on account of political crimes 1 death, 2 penal servitude for life, 3 penal servitude for a term, 4 major detention, 5 minor detention.

When the penalty of confinement or imprisonment is to be lowered one or more degrees, the Court shall pronounce (for lowering one degree) for the former, imprisonment with compulsory

labour, for the latter, simple imprisonment, both for from two to five years.

In cases of lowering or raising the penalties of imprisonment and correctional fines by gradation, &c. the calculation is made in the proportion of a quarter of the legal penalty to one degree, to which extent the legal maximum or minimum shall be lowered or raised. In this case the imprisonment penalty may run to 7 years. If all gradations of diminution are exhausted, sentence for attachment and police fines may be passed, and endured, under the legal minimum, down to one day or five *sen*.

CHAPTER IV.

Treats of the *Reasons for exemption or diminution of penalties*. The first section gives the reasons for exemption and the so-called legal excuses. (Arts. 75-84).

No penalty is imposed upon those who act under the influence of irresistible compulsion. The same holds good for cases of peril in which the offender or his relatives are placed.—Any person acting in accordance with the command of a lawful superior and within the jurisdiction of the same, is exempt from penalty. Those are also exempt who commit a breach without criminal intent; with the exception of cases where the law by express regulations punishes negligence. Persons ignorant of the constitutive circumstances of the breach are free from penalty. If the ignorance is limited to the aggravating circumstances of the act, the aggravating circumstances are overlooked.

Persons deprived of their reason at the time of the offence are exempt from punishment (*privé de raison*. Art. 78).

Persons who at the time of the offence had not reached the 12th year of their age are exempt. Nevertheless the court can, according to circumstances, and the gravity of the offence, order that a child over eight years of age shall be placed in a house of correction (*emprisonnement de garde*) until his 16th year.

If the accused at the time of the deed was between 12 and 16 years of age, the court must specially decide whether he acted with or without power of discrimination. In the latter case there is no penalty; still the accused may be placed in a house of correction until the end of his 20th year. If he has acted with discernment he has the benefit of a legal excuse and his punishment is lowered two degrees. If, at the time of the offence the accused is between 16 and 20 years of age he has the benefit of a legal excuse, and his penalty is lowered one degree.

Deaf-mutes are always exempt, but they may, according to circumstances be placed in an asylum for 5 years.

Minors between 16 and 20 years, who commit a contravention, undergo the full penalty of the same, a lowering of one degree is allowed only in case of those between 12 and 16. If they have not yet reached the age of 12 years they are exempt as deaf-mutes.

Other cases of exemption and legal excuse, are laid down in special parts of the law.

In one special section (II. Art. 85-88) the lowering of penalties on account of voluntary denunciation is explained. Voluntary denunciation to the authorities before these have become aware of his guilt benefits the offender by lowering his penalty one degree, excepting in cases of murder or assassination. A lowering of two degrees is effected in cases of delicts against the goods of another, if the offender voluntarily denounces his act, and restores voluntarily and wholly the stolen property, or makes ample restitution. In cases of delicts against property the denunciation to the injured party has the same effect as to the authorities.

SECTION III. recognizes the extenuating cir-

cumstances, the existence of which, in any penal case, the judges may hold as an extenuation for the accused, and which are admissible even when the accused has had the benefit of one or more legal excuses, or when there are aggravating circumstances. The admission of extenuating circumstances has the effect of lowering the penalty at least one degree and at most two degrees (Art. 89 and 90).

The repetition of an offence, according to Chapter V. (Art. 91-98) entails a special augmentation of the penalty; the law makes a difference in cases of crimes, delicts, and contraventions. Whoever, having once been condemned to a criminal penalty, again commits a crime, suffers one degree greater punishment, so also any one who has once been condemned for a crime or delict, and again commits a delict.

Repetition of a contravention entails an increase of one degree in the penalty, whenever the second offence occurs in the same year and within the jurisdiction of the same police court. Every application of a penalty for repetition presupposes the legal continuance of the first penalty at the time of the commission of the new offence. If the repetition occurs while the first penalty is being undergone, the various penalties are to be undergone successively. Augmentation of penalty for repetition does not occur when the first offence is pardoned. These regulations have the same force for a second repetition. If aggravating and extenuating circumstances which are specially given in the general regulations occur simultaneously, the calculation of the penalty shall be made in the following order:—1. Aggravation for repetition. 2. Application of legal excuses. 3. Diminution on account of voluntary denunciation. 4. Extenuating circumstances (Art. 99 of Chap. VI.)

Chapter VIII (Art. 100-103) treats of cases of concurrence, that is the concurrence of several offences committed by the same person. Only one process is presupposed for all. In cases of concurrence of crimes or delicts the principle of absorption of the French *code pénal* is followed, i.e. the severest punishment alone is inflicted, and is reckoned according to length; in cases of equal duration, that is considered the severest to which compulsory labour is attached.

In cases of the concurrence of several contraventions, the principle of cumulation is followed; if contraventions concur with crimes or delicts the absorption principle is again followed. If an offender, against whom a penal sentence has already been pronounced, is found guilty of another offence committed before the aforesaid penal sentence was pronounced, no fresh penalty is added if the newly discovered offence is less than the first; and only in so far as the second offence is greater than the first, is there any penalty inflicted and then only the excess over the penalty already inflicted.

Chapter VIII treats of Participation of several persons in one and the same offence. Section I. deals with the authors, intellectual as well as physical, including the idea of co-actors (Art. 104-108), and Section II. deals with accomplices.

If two or more persons with common consent directly participate in the accomplishment of a punishable offence, each one is considered co-actor of the same, and incurs that usual penalty for such delict.

Persons, who in any way instigate another to the commission of a crime or a delict are considered co-actors. If the law on account of personal character or circumstances, augments the penalty of the perpetrator, these special circumstances are not to be reckoned against co-actors, accomplices, or instigators.

In case the instigation was intended for a definitely fixed offence, and the perpetrator, under the influence of this instigation commits a

* *Eri Shingoku*.

different offence, the instigator is not responsible for the excess over and above his instigation, and, if the actual offence is greater, is to undergo only the penalty of the offence to which he had given the instigation. On the other hand, if the offence which he had instigated is greater than the one actually committed, he incurs only the penalty of the latter.

Persons who impart instructions to a perpetrator, procure tools or any other means which serve to accomplish or to facilitate the perpetration of the offence, and those who have knowingly aided or facilitated the commission of the deed by preparatory acts, are considered accomplices and receive the penalty for the perpetration of the offence, diminished by one degree. (Art. 109).

Personal character or circumstances, which procure exemption or extenuation for the perpetrator, do not affect the accomplices.

Chapter IX, Art. 111-113, defines the matter of punishable infractions not consummated.

The mere intention to commit a breach and acts simply preparatory thereto are punishable only in cases provided by the law.

The attempt to commit an offence, which is discovered by means of the beginning of the undertaking, if the failure to accomplish the offence result from accident or from circumstances independent of the will of the perpetrator, entails the same penalty as that for the actual crime with an abatement of one or two degrees. All the principles relative to attempt are applicable also to attempted delicts. (*Delit manqué*) Attempts, whether finished or not, entail a penalty only in cases of such delicts as are expressly provided for by the law.

The attempt to commit a contravention is never punishable.

The last Chapter of Book I. gives a list of the persons who, in the eyes of the law, are considered relatives and allied, and describes in minutize the degrees of relationship (Art. 114 and 115).

The Second Book deals with crimes and delicts against the Commonwealth. Chapter I refers to crimes and delicts against the Emperor and his family (Art. 116-120).

Every assault, accomplished or attempted, on the person of the Emperor, the Empress, the Empress Mother, or Imperial Prince, or Heir-presumptive to the throne, entails the death penalty; every insult offered his Imperial Majesty or the Imperial Heir, entails imprisonment with compulsory labour for from 3 months to 2 years, and a fine of from 20 to 200 yen. Insults offered to Imperial tombs are punishable with the same penalty. Every assault against the person of members of the Imperial family entails the death penalty: an attempt entails penal servitude for life. Insults against the same entail a penalty of major imprisonment for from 2 months to 4 years and a fine of from 10 to 100 yen. The second chapter treats of "crimes and delicts against public security," the first section of which deals with crimes and delicts against the internal safety of the State (Art. 121-129). The highest degree of guilt in this regard attaches to persons who are proved to have participated in a civil war, an insurrection or armed sedition, having for its object the overturning of the Government, or the removal from imperial control of any part of the Empire of Japan or her colonies, or to diminish the rights and prerogatives of the Emperor in the government of the country. These crimes entail, according to the degree of guilt, penalties ranging from the highest, death, down to imprisonment for a term of years. In these cases the penalty of confinement in State prisons is inflicted as well as transportation. Simple conspiracy to

undertake the afore-mentioned crimes entails a penalty diminished by two degrees.

Section II treats of crimes and delicts against the external security of the State (Art. 129-135). The death penalty is inflicted on all Japanese subjects who bear arms along with the enemy against Japan or her allies in a foreign war. The death penalty is inflicted in cases of treason in time of war by opening to the enemy the territories of Japan, or her cities, fortresses, armaments, munitions of war, ships of war, &c., &c. The betrayal of military secrets in time of war is punishable with transportation for life. Transportation for a term of years is inflicted on a Japanese subject who, conniving with the enemy or on account of a bribe, fails to furnish the army with supplies or works which he had undertaken to provide.—A Japanese who, in time of war between subject foreign states, in regard to which Japan has declared herself neutral, commits a breach of the neutrality, is punishable with a penalty of simple imprisonment for from 6 months to 3 years and with a fine of from 10 to 100 yen.

Chapter III. treats "Of crimes and delicts against the public peace." Section I. treats of rebellion (Art. 136-138), Section II. with "Resistance against public functionaries."

The penalty is the same, whether the insult be offered in the absence of the official, by means of the press, or in public addresses. A penalty of major imprisonment from 4 months to 4 years and a fine of from 5 to 50 yen is inflicted on any one who offers resistance, by force or by severe threats, to any official who is called upon to execute laws, regulations of the authorities, or the sentences and judgments of Courts of Justice, presupposing the official to have acted in the legitimate exercise of his functions. Contempt and insult towards an official in the exercise of his functions or on account of the same, even if committed by gestures only, are punished with major imprisonment for from 1 month to 1 year, and a fine of from 5 to 50 yen.

Section III.: "Of the escape of prisoners and the concealment of offenders" (Art. 142-153). A criminal who shall set himself at liberty incurs a penalty of imprisonment for from 1 month to 6 months: if accomplished by force or with acts of violence, the penalty is imprisonment for from 3 months to 3 years.

The punishment is augmented in case of escape by the conspiracy of several persons. Whoever assists a prisoner to escape, by furnishing him with weapons or other means, incurs, with differences noted above, a penalty of imprisonment for from 3 months to 3 years and a fine of from 2 to 20 yen, and in certain cases an augmentation of one degree. Whoever, by means of force or threats, sets a prisoner at liberty or abets his escape, incurs a penalty of imprisonment for from 1 to 5 years and a fine of from 5 to 50 yen, and minor confinement if the prisoner had been sentenced to a criminal penalty. Negligence resulting in the escape of a prisoner entails a fine of from 2 to 20 yen. Whoever knowingly receives or hides an offender or an escaped prisoner, incurs a penalty of imprisonment for from 11 days to 1 year and a fine of from 2 to 10 yen, which penalty will be augmented one degree if the offender has been sentenced to a criminal penalty. A penalty of imprisonment for from 11 days to 6 months and a fine of from 2 to 20 yen is inflicted upon any one who, with the purpose of shielding an offender from punishment, conceals evidences of his crime. Relatives of and those allied to the offender are not affected by the provisions of the last two articles.

Section IV. (Art. 154-156) details the penalties to be inflicted on persons who withdraw from the execution of accessory penalties.

Whoever, in face of the fact that he has incurred deprivation or suspension of civic rights, fraudulently exercises one or more of the same, incurs major imprisonment for from 1 month to 1 year and a fine of from 2 to 10 yen.

The manufacture and illegal possession of weapons and munitions of war are treated of in Section V. (Art. 157-161). The penalty varies between major imprisonment of 1 month to 1 year with a fine of 10 to 100 yen and imprisonment for 2 months to 2 years with a fine of 20 to 200 yen.

Section VI. treats "of the Destruction and Injury of Means of Communication" (Art. 162-170) in the same way as the impeding or interrupting of the postal service, telegraph communication, endangering of railway trains ships, &c. If these acts result in the death or injury of persons, the penalties fixed for these crimes in so far as they are more or less serious are here applied. Running of trains off the track, or shipwreck entails a penalty of penal servitude for life; and the death penalty is inflicted if the act entails loss of life.

Section VII. treats "of breach of security of habitations" (Art. 171-173). Illegal intrusion into another's house is punished with major imprisonment from 11 days to 6 months, and the penalty is augmented one degree if the intrusion is accomplished by force or by means of weapons, or is accompanied by acts of violence against persons, or if committed by several persons acting in concert. Intrusion by night is punished with imprisonment for from 1 month to 1 year: the penalty is augmented by one degree whenever the intrusion is in Imperial residences or tombs.

The illegal breaking of an official seal incurs also heavy penalties (Imprisonment from 1 month to 2 years. Section VIII. Art. 174-176). So also the refusal to fulfil official or legal duties (Section XI. Art. 177-181). Self-mutilation in order to avoid military service, or the use of other means for the same purpose, is punishable with imprisonment for from 1 month to 1 year, or a fine of from 3 to 30 yen. Any physician, chemist or other person summoned by the authorities on account of their calling, who shall, without legitimate excuse, refuse to undertake *post mortem* examinations, an *expertise* or any other examination whatsoever, incurs a fine of between 4 and 40 yen. The same penalty is inflicted on such as are summoned as witnesses in Court, and refuse to give evidence without legal excuse. Physicians are fined 5 to 50 yen who in case of epidemic refuse their assistance without legitimate cause.

Chapter IV deals with crimes and delicts against public trust, and first of all (Section I, Art. 182-193) monetary crimes and delicts. Penal servitude for life is the penalty for the counterfeiting and uttering in Japan of Japanese coin or paper currency. The simple debasing of genuine money and circulating the same is punished with only minor confinement.

Foreign gold and silver coins, current in Japan, are also placed under protection by the provisions of this Code, and so also are banknotes, considered as money, which are issued by legalized Japanese or foreign banks.—Acts merely preparatory to counterfeiting, such as the providing of plates, forms, &c., are also placed under a penalty.

Exemption from penalty is promised to such counterfeiters as voluntarily give notice to the authorities before the counterfeited coin or paper money has been put into circulation. Whoever accepts counterfeit or falsified money as genuine, and after knowing it to be false again circulates the same, incurs a fine of double its pretended value.

Section II. contains the penalties for falsi-

fication of official seals, stamps, and marks. Counterfeit or fraudulent use of the seal of the Emperor or of the Empire is punished with penal servitude for life; that of a public authority, with major confinement. The law favours international exchange of merchandise, and furthers the interests of commerce in Japan by inflicting the severe penalty of minor confinement (6 to 8 years) upon those who counterfeit official stamps, trade-marks, or other marks of merchandise and industrial products, or who simply make a fraudulent use of the same. This notable protection is also seen in the fact that the severe penalty of imprisonment for from 1 to 3 years is imposed upon any one who counterfeits or fraudulently uses trade marks or stamps on books and other articles.

The counterfeiting of stamped papers, postage, and other stamps of the State or the public administration, as well as the intentional use of the same, entails the penalty of major imprisonment for from 1 to 5 years, and a fine of from 5 to 50 *yen*. The use of stamps, &c., that have already been used entails a fine of from 2 to 20 *yen*.

Section III. treats of the falsification of public documents. The counterfeiting or falsification of an imperial document is punishable with penal servitude for life; falsification (or destruction) of other public documents, with minor confinement. The same penalty is inflicted on any one who falsifies and makes fraudulent use of title-deeds, of treasury bonds, title-deeds of landed property, or other authentic documents. A particular anxiety to protect the interests of commerce is seen in the fact that the penalty is augmented one degree when the bonds issued from the treasury are not payable to order.

Section IV. treats "of the falsification of private seals or documents" (Art. 208-212). A forger who makes fraudulent use of these articles is punishable with major imprisonment for from 6 months to 5 years and a fine of from 5 to 50 *yen*. The use of the real seal of another person is considered an extenuating cause and diminishes the penalty.

The forgery of a bill of exchange, a bill payable to order, or by some other endorsement, or payable to bearer, as well as the fraudulent use of the same, is punishable with minor confinement. Forgery or falsification of any other private document of commercial or civic intercourse, which relate to sale, loan, gift, exchange, or other legal obligations, if knowingly used, is punishable with major imprisonment for from 4 months to 4 years, and a fine of from 4 to 40 *yen*. The attempt is also punishable.

Section V. (Art. 213-217) contains penalties against the use of forged passports, &c., and forged certificates of sickness. A severe penalty (imprisonment for from 1 month to 1 year, and a fine of from 3 to 30 *yen*) is inflicted upon any one who, by the use of a forged certificate of illness, attempts to release himself or another from any legitimate service. The penalty is augmented one degree in the case of a physician, and also for the use of a forged certificate in order to escape military service.

Forgery and falsification are everywhere reckoned to be equal offences.

Section VI treats of *Perjury* (Art. 218-226). Here certain distinctions are observed (a) between criminal and civil cases: (b) in criminal cases the penal regulations are arranged according to the gravity of the offence with regard to which the perjury is committed; and lastly (c) regard is had to the fact whether the perjury is in favour of the accused or to his injury. The law punishes with exceptional lenity perjury in penal cases in favour of the accused, in criminal cases major imprisonment for from 2 months to 2 years and a fine of from 4 to 40 *yen*, in cases of delicts major imprisonment for from 3 months

to 2 years, and a fine of from 2 to 20 *yen*; in cases of contravention simple police penalties (attachment or fine). These penalties are augmented one degree only in case the accused, in virtue of the false testimony, escapes a legitimate penalty. On the other hand if the testimony is given to the disadvantage of the accused, the penalty is disproportionately severer, without however being raised to a criminal penalty; even in these cases it does not exceed major imprisonment (in criminal cases 2 to 5 years and fine of from 10 to 50 *yen*; in delicts, 6 months to 2 years and a fine of from 4 to 40 *yen*; in contraventions from 1 to 3 months and fine of 2 to 10 *yen*). It is here evident how in this Code the fine is used as a cumulative penalty for delicts, as indeed is the case with nearly all delicts in this penal code, to a greater extent than is the case in any other penal legislation. It is also seen that in many cases of delicts the deprivation of personal liberty is remarkably small, the often unnecessary severity of the excessive duration of a penalty being exchanged for a fine of considerable magnitude. If however an accused person, in consequence of perjury, be condemned to a penalty severer than stated above, and if his innocence be established only after having undergone the punishment, the perjurer incurs the same penalty (as the accused) which, in case of partial infliction of the penalty on the condemned, may be diminished in accordance with the proportion of the same. With regard to the death penalty only the law makes an exception. If the penalty of death has been inflicted on the unhappy victim of perjury, the perjurer has the benefit of a diminution in his penalty of one degree; if the sentence had not yet been executed, the perjurer has a diminution of two degrees. If the perjurer, however, is proved to have intentionally brought about the condemnation of the accused, to the penalty of death, he suffers the same penalty.

A person who is guilty of perjury in a civil, commercial or administrative case, is, strange to say, punished with only major imprisonment for from 1 month to 1 year, and a fine of from 5 to 50 *yen*. These penal regulations are applicable to experts and interpreters, and also to persons guilty of causing others to commit perjury:—If the perjury be recalled before sentence be pronounced the perjurer is exempt from penalty. —Proportionately severer penalties are inflicted on persons who counterfeit weights and measures, or falsify the same, and bring them into use (Section VII Art. 227-230), imprisonment for from 2 to 5 years and fine from 10 to 50 *yen*.

Section VIII (Art. 231-232) contains the penalties against the use of fictitious names, the unlicensed wearing of orders, &c., and Section IX (Art. 233-236) against falsification at a public election (imprisonment for from 1 month to 1 year, and a fine of from 2 to 20 *yen*). Whosoever in a public election buys or sells a vote, is punished with imprisonment for from 2 months to 2 years and a fine. Heavier penalties are inflicted on persons entrusted with the gathering of ballots or votes, and the announcing of the results, if they are guilty of falsification of the returns. (Imprisonment for from 1 to 5 years and a fine of from 5 to 50 *yen*).

Chapter V. deals with crimes and delicts against the public health. Section I, with the trade in opium and the use of the same. (Art. 237-247). The production, importation, or commercial use of opium intended for smoking, within the limits of the Empire of Japan is punishable with penal servitude for a term; persons guilty of making or introducing into Japan or selling apparatus for the smoking of opium, are punishable with minor confinement.

The afore-mentioned penalties will be augmented one degree in cases of agents or Custom

House officers who in the exercise of their functions connive at the introduction of opium or opium-smoking apparatus. Minor confinement awaits anyone who provides a place for opium-smoking and receives profit therefrom, or who incites another to the use of opium.

The opium smoker himself incurs a penalty of major imprisonment for from 2 to 3 years; and even the mere possession of smoking opium or the appropriate apparatus for the same entails imprisonment for from 1 month to 1 year.

Section II contains severe penalties against the adulteration of potable waters, (Art. 243-245) pollution or the addition of injurious substances. Section III (Art. 246-249) lays down the penalties for offences against sanitary regulations, in particular the breaking of quarantine regulations in time of an epidemic. Section IV (Art. 250-252) treats of "breaches of the regulations for dangerous or unhealthy industries," Section V (Art. 253-255) of the sale of food or drinks injurious to health, and Section VI (Art. 256-257) of the illegal practice of medicine.

Chapter VI deals with delicts against good morals (Art. 258-263).

Public commission of acts contrary to decency is punished with a fine of from 3 to 30 *yen*. The sale of obscene books and pictures, a fine of from 4 to 40 *yen*. The keeping of a gambling hell entails imprisonment for from 3 months to 1 year and a fine of from 10 to 100 *yen*; persons caught in the act of gambling incur a penalty of imprisonment for from 1 to 6 months and a fine of from 5 to 50 *yen*. Exception is made in favour of games of chance in which the stakes are articles for immediate use.

The organization of a lottery for gain is also placed under the ban of a penalty.

Finally—and the lenity of this regulation is in striking contrast with those of the continent. A simple fine of from 2 to 20 *yen* is inflicted on any person who shall have been guilty of publicly insulting the exercise of religious services in a temple, a grave-yard, or any other sacred place, and the penalty shall be augmented to from 4 to 40 *yen* if the service has been disturbed thereby.

Chapter VII lays down the penalties for delicts against the bodies of the dead and against tombs. (Art. 264-266), mutilation of a corpse, or the abandonment of the same before burial, destruction or injury of tomb-stones, entail suitable punishments of imprisonment and fines.

Chapter VIII contains the penalties incurred by offences against commercial liberty, and the freedom of industrial and agricultural labour (Art. 267-272). Whoever by stratagem or force hinders the sale of rice or other necessary articles of food incurs a penalty of major imprisonment for from 1 to 6 months and a fine of from 3 to 30 *yen*.

Labourers who, in order to raise their wages or improve the conditions of their contracts, by stratagem or force compel other labourers to strike, and employers who, with the same object, by stratagem or force hinder their labourers or other employers in their work, incur relatively severe penalties.

Fictitious causing of fluctuations in the price of indispensable articles of food is punished with a fine.

Chapter IX treats of crimes and delicts of officials in public service. And, first of all, in so far as these crimes affect the public welfare (Art. 273-275) the refusal to execute the service required by law or regulation, the intentional disregard of the call of the armed power for the suppression of an insurrection, a mutiny in the army, or a rising against the Government, incur various penalties of minor imprisonment for from 2 or 3 months to 6 months or 3 years and fines.

The regulation in Art. 275 is peculiar, which

threatens with a fine of between 20 and 500 yen the official who shall, contrary to his instructions, engage in commercial transactions.

These delicts of officials include also those against the person (Art. 276-288). And first, misuse of his official power in illegally compelling another to do, suffer or cease from an act. The penalty is strikingly lenient; minor imprisonment for from 11 days to (only!) 2 months and fines of 2 to 20 yen. An official (magistrate, state prosecutor, police officer) who by virtue of his office is bound to assist in the execution of the penal code, is punished with imprisonment for from 15 days to 3 months, and a fine of from 2 to 20 yen, if he neglects to prosecute for a punishable offence, with the intention of allowing any one to escape illegally from a legal penalty. A police officer, who, without observing the legal formalities, or without just cause, undertakes an arrest, incurs a penalty of imprisonment for from 15 days to 3 months and a fine of from 2 to 20 yen, which penalty is augmented one degree for every ten days during which the illegal detention continued. The same penalty holds good for illegal detention by a director of a House of Correction. Ill-treatment of prisoners, the denial to them of food or clothing entails a penalty of imprisonment for from 9 months to 3 years and a fine of from 4 to 40 yen.

This admirable care for the welfare of helpless and defenceless prisoners is seen also in Art. 281, according to which officials, who neglect to release their prisoners in case of flood, conflagration, or earthquake, and thereby occasion their death or injury, incur the penalties for intentional wounding augmented one degree. Judges, procurers, and police officials, who are guilty of acts of violence or abuse against an accused person with the intention to extort from him confessions or declarations incur a severe penalty of imprisonment for from 4 months to 4 years and a fine of from 5 to 50 yen.

Further the refusal to admit a declaration or a complaint, without legal cause, or neglecting to make a decision thereon in Civil and Penal cases is also punishable. Art. 284 gives the comparatively lenient penalty for passive bribery, of imprisonment for from 1 month to 1 year and a fine, and augments the penalty by one degree only when the official is influenced by the gift to commit an act contrary to regulation or law. The penalty is suitably augmented where judges in civil cases accept bribes or where judges, officials, procurer, or police accept a bribe in penal cases. And yet the penalty is only imprisonment for from 3 months to 3 years with fine of from 10 to 100 yen, if the decision effected by the bribe is illegal and to the advantage of the accused.

If it is to the disadvantage of the accused, the penalty of imprisonment is considerably augmented (2 to 5 years and fine of 20 to 200 yen). If the penalty to which the accused was condemned is greater than that above mentioned, the guilty officials incur the penalties described in Art. 221 and 222 (in cases of condemnations caused by perjury). The same penalties are inflicted where justice is perverted from other causes besides bribery.

In all cases of bribery the accepted gifts or the value of the same must be declared in the sentence to be confiscated for the State.

Section II. punishes official crimes and delicts against property, (Art. 289-291). Official embezzlement entails the severe penalty of minor confinement, which in case of concurrence of falsification of documents is augmented by one degree. Intentional and illegal collecting of imposts, taxes &c., which are not due, entails the penalty of imprisonment from 2 months to 4 years and a fine.

THE REGULATIONS UNDER WHICH JAPANESE TRADE IS TO BE CONDUCTED IN COREA.

I.

On the arrival of any Japanese merchant vessel at an open port of Corea, officers of the Customs may be sent on board and may lock or seal the vessel's hold, and all other places where cargo is stowed. The Customs officers shall be treated with civility and be furnished with a suitable room; but in case there be no such room, said officers may either remain in a Custom's boat, or on land, as may best suit their convenience; all their expenses shall be paid by the Custom House. They shall not be allowed to secretly receive any sum of money from the master or commander.

Regulations relative to the securing or sealing of merchandise transported in sailing vessels of Japanese form of construction, shall be hereafter made by the Japanese Consul and the Superintendent of Customs.

II.

The master or commander of a Japanese vessel arriving at an open port of Corea will lodge the ship's papers i.e. the register and ship's bills of lading, in the hands of the Japanese Consul who will deliver to him a receipt therefor. The master or commander will, within forty-eight hours after anchoring (Sunday and other holidays excepted), present to the Custom House such receipt, the entry report and import manifest of the vessel's cargo, and also a list of the ship's stores and all other articles not being merchandise. If the master or commander fail to enter his vessel at the Custom House within the time prescribed above, he shall pay a fine of 30,000 mon copper cash; and should such neglect be continued, he shall pay a fine of the same sum for each period of twenty-four hours during which he shall fail to make entry; but in any case, the total amount of such fines shall not exceed 100,000 mon.

The entry report shall set forth the name of the ship, tonnage, the name of the master, the names and number of the crew, the names and number of passengers, the name of the port from which the vessel sailed, the dates of departure and arrival, and shall be signed by the master or commander. The import manifest shall set forth the marks and number of packages, descriptions of the goods therein contained and the names of the owners, and shall contain in addition a declaration signed by the master or commander setting forth that such statement is true. The list of the ship's stores and other articles not being merchandise shall also be signed by the master or commander.

All reports and other documents shall be written in Japanese and need not be accompanied by translations.

III.

If any omission or error be found in the manifest, it may be supplied or corrected within twenty-four hours (Sunday and other holidays excepted) after entry inwards, but, for any alteration or correction of the manifest after that time, a fee of 7,000 mon shall be paid. If the goods in the manifest of which there was any omission or error, be landed, double the duty shall be imposed upon them.

IV.

When a vessel has been duly entered inwards, the Superintendent of Customs shall issue a permit to open hatches. The master or commander shall exhibit this permit to the Customs' officer on board, and shall request him to unfasten the hatches and other places containing cargo. Should the hatches, &c., be improperly opened or unfastened, the master, without regard to the person committing the offence, shall pay a fine of 30,000 mon, copper cash.

V.

Any person desiring to land or ship cargo shall make entry of the same at the Custom House, presenting at the same time invoices thereof (the invoice shall set forth date on which, and the place where the goods were purchased, the actual cost, the packing expenses, commission, insurance, and other miscellaneous charges; and shall be signed by the purchaser, owner, shipper, or agent), and the Custom House officers shall thereupon issue a permit to land or ship the cargo. Such permit

shall be presented to the Customs officer on board, before unloading or shipping the cargo. Any person desiring to tranship cargo shall likewise obtain a permit from the Custom House for that purpose, before so doing.

The entry shall be in writing, and shall set forth the name of the ship, the marks and numbers of the packages, and descriptions, quantity and value of the goods contained therein as described in the invoices, and declaring that nothing has been concealed whereby the Customs of Corea would be defrauded, and the applicant or his agent shall sign his name to such entry.

VI.

No cargo shall be unladen, shipped or transhipped between sunset and sunrise, except by special permission of the Customs' authorities, and the entrances to the hold and other places where cargo is stowed, may be secured by the Customs' officer between sunset and sunrise, by fixing seals or locks. If any person shall open or break any such lock or other fastenings, without permission of the Customs' authorities, the master of the vessel shall pay a fine of 30,000 mon.

VII.

If any person shall unload, ship, or tranship any goods, without permission from the Customs' authorities, or shall land or ship any goods at any other places than those fixed by agreement between the two contracting parties, such goods shall be confiscated.

VIII.

Any Japanese subject may hire Korean boats, vehicles and coolies to convey goods or passengers in the open ports of Corea, without any intervention of the Korean Government officers. No restrictions shall be placed upon the number or class of boats, vehicles or coolies for such conveyance. In case, however, Japanese subjects have any difficulty in the hiring of boats &c., the Customs' authorities shall, on request, render them proper assistance.

IX.

Goods intended for importation or exportation shall, on passing through the Custom House, pay duties according to the Tariff annexed to these Regulations. Goods intended for ships' use shall pay proper duties if landed and sold. Import duties payable ad valorem shall be calculated on the actual cost of the goods at the place of production or fabrication, with the addition of the cost of transportation, insurance, commission and all other charges from the place of production or fabrication to the port of discharge. The sum thus obtained shall be regarded as the original value of the goods, upon which the rate of duty provided in the Tariff shall be levied.

X.

In case of any deficiency or surplus in payments of duties, the Customs may enforce the payment of such deficiency, or the party making payment may claim the refund of such surplus, as the case may be, at any time within thirty days from the date of payment, but no refund of surplus shall be allowed in respect of any deficiency in quantity or damage discovered in goods, after they have once been passed through the Custom House.

XI.

Customs' officers may examine the whole or any part of any goods intended for exportation or importation, and for this purpose may take them to the Customs shed; but the expense of transporting thither shall be paid by the owner of goods. If the examination takes place at any other place, then the expense of transferring thither shall be paid by the Customs. Customs' officers shall be careful to cause no injury to such goods, and, after examination, they shall return the goods as much as possible to their original condition in the packages, and such examination shall be made without unreasonable delay. Any damage to the goods caused by the carelessness in such examination shall be made good by the Customs.

XII.

If the Customs officers are dissatisfied with the value placed by an importer or exporter on any of his goods, they shall call upon the importer or exporter to pay duty on the value determined by an appraisement to be made by the Customs appraiser; but should the importer or exporter be dissatisfied with this appraisement, he shall, within twenty-four hours (Sunday and other holidays ex-

cepted, report his reasons for such dissatisfaction to the Superintendent of Customs, and shall appoint an appraiser of his own to make a reappraisal, and declare the value of the goods as determined by such reappraisal. The Superintendent of Customs will then, at his option, either assess the duty on the value determined by such reappraisal, or elect to purchase the goods from the importer or exporter at the price thus determined, with the addition of five per cent. In the latter case, the purchase-money shall be paid to the importer or exporter within five days from the date, on which he may declare the value determined by his own appraiser.

XIII.

If any goods are damaged on the voyage of importation, the importer of such goods may report the facts of the case to the Custom House, and he may have the damaged goods appraised by two or more competent and disinterested persons, who, after due examination, shall deliver a certificate, setting forth the amount per cent. of damage on each package, describing the packages by marks and numbers. The certificate shall be signed by the appraisers. The importer may present the certificate to the Custom House with his entry, and request a corresponding reduction in the duty. But such certificate will not prevent the Customs authorities from appraising the goods in the manner provided in Regulation XII.

XIV.

If any dutiable articles not set forth in the entry shall be found concealed in any package of goods, with intent to evade the payment of duty, such articles shall be forfeited.

Any person who shall present at the Custom House any document containing a false description or quantity of goods, or shall insert any dutiable articles in the list of goods which are not subject to duties, with the intent of evading the payment of duty or any portion thereof, shall, in addition to paying the regular duty, be liable to pay five times the amount of the duty sought to be evaded.

XV.

No application for a permit is required for landing or shipping passengers' baggage. But the Customs officers may examine such baggage, and if any dutiable goods are found amongst such baggage deemed by the Customs officers unnecessary for the journey, the proper duty shall be levied on the same, according to the Tariff, and should any prohibited articles be found concealed among such baggage, the same shall be confiscated, and in case of opium the penalty shall be the same as provided in Article XXXVI.

XVI.

No duty shall be levied on any Articles or goods imported for the use of the Japanese Legation, and the same shall be allowed to pass the Custom-house without examination.

XVII.

Goods of an explosive or otherwise dangerous nature shall not be allowed to be landed or shipped, except at places designated for that purpose.

XVIII.

All goods imported into one of the open ports of Corea, on which the duties have been paid, may be transported into any part of Corea, without the payment of any tax or transit duty whatever. And all Articles of Corean production may be conveyed, for exportation, from any part of Corea to any of the open ports, without being liable to any tax or transit duty.

XIX.

When any person who may have imported merchandise into any of the open ports, and paid the duty thereon, desires to re-export the same to another open port, the Customs authorities shall deliver to him a certificate stating the fact that the duty has been already paid on such merchandise, provided it shall be found on examination, that the packages have not been opened, or any goods substituted for, or concealed in, the original articles. The Customs authorities of the port of destination of such goods shall not levy any additional duty thereon, if they find that the goods correspond with the certificate. In case, however, any goods have been substituted for the original goods, or been concealed therein, in addition to the proper duty payable for the goods so substituted or concealed, a fine equal to five times the amount of such duty may be imposed.

XX.

Should it be desired to re-export any imported goods, which have already been delivered to the consignee, the Customs authorities shall allow them to pass duty free, provided such goods shall be proved to be imported goods.

XXI.

Corean productions re-imported by Japanese merchant vessels into any of the open ports in Corea shall be allowed to pass duty free, provided the quality and condition of such goods remain the same as at the time of exportation from Corea, and provided such re-importation shall be made within three years from the date of exportation, and provided further that the importer shall produce the shipping permit received at the time of exportation, and shall prove that such goods are of Corean production.

XXII.

Until such time as the mercantile marine of Corea is in a condition to carry on satisfactorily the coastwise trade of Corea, all Japanese vessels may transport goods of any country whatever from one open port to another in Corea: but when a Japanese merchant desires to transport Corean articles, bought at one open port in Corea, to another open port, he shall deposit at the Custom House an amount of money equal to the export duty payable thereon, or lodge in the hands of Customs officers a bond signed by himself and a surety to be approved by Customs authorities conditioned to pay an amount equal to the export duty. On landing the said goods (without the payment of any import duty) at the port of destination within six months from the date of exportation, the importer shall receive a certificate from the Customs of such port, stating the fact that such goods have been landed. This certificate being produced to the Customs of the port from whence the goods were exported, the amount deposited or the bond lodged as aforesaid shall be returned to the said merchant. If, however, the vessel in which the said goods were shipped be wrecked while engaged in transporting such goods from one open port to another, a report of the case signed by the Japanese Consular officer shall, within one year from the date of exportation, be presented to the Customs in place of the certificate above specified. When the Corean Mercantile Marine shall have become sufficient for the coasting trade of Corea no foreign vessels shall be employed in transporting the Corean produce from one port to another.

XXIII.

The Corean Government engages to erect in all the open ports sheds, under which goods intended for exportation or importation may be placed, and warehouses, in which they may be stored. The rate of storage charges, as well as the regulations necessary for the management of the said warehouses will hereafter be established by mutual agreement.

XXIV.

Should it be desired to store imported goods in the Customs warehouses without paying the import duty a special permit must be obtained from the Superintendent of Customs, in accordance with the warehouse regulations, and such goods may be freely re-exported to Japan. The duties paid on goods remaining stored in the Customs warehouses shall be refunded to the exporter on the re-exportation of such goods direct from the warehouse, but all goods that have once been taken delivery of by the importer, shall be treated in accordance with Regulations XX. Until such time as warehouses are established by the Corean Government, all goods that have once been taken delivery of by the importer, may be freely re-exported, upon such re-exportation the duties paid shall be refunded, provided the goods are in the same condition as when imported, unless such re-exportation shall take place after one year from the date of importation, in which case, they shall be treated in accordance with Article XX.

XXV.

Vessels needing repairs may land their cargo for that purpose, without the payment of duty. All goods so landed shall remain in the Customs shed or warehouse (all charges for storage and other expenses being defrayed by the ship's master). But if any portion of such cargo be sold, the prescribed duties shall be paid on the portion so disposed of. Old timber and other materials

belonging to any vessel wrecked off the Corean coast shall be exempted from the payment of import duty.

XXVI.

The master or commander of any Japanese vessel wishing to clear shall make outward entry, and shall produce the export manifest at the Custom-House, before leaving the anchorage: the Customs authorities will, then, return to the master or commander the Consul's receipt for ship's papers deposited at the Custom-House, and the vessel shall leave the port after obtaining her clearance permit.

XXVII.

Should it be desired to ship or unload cargo after a ship has been entered outwards according to the preceding regulation, the vessel must be again duly entered inwards, and when ready to clear, must again be entered outwards. When a ship which has been entered outwards is unable to leave the anchorage at such time as shall have been reported to the Customs, the master or Commander shall report the circumstance at the Custom House, and obtain the consent of the Superintendent to remain in port.

XXVIII.

Should a master apply for a clearance permit, while a case involving a charge of violation of the Customs Regulations is pending the Customs authorities may refuse to grant such permit, but if the Superintendent shall be informed officially by the Consular officer that sufficient security, either personal or by deposit, has been given to the said officer, the Superintendent shall grant a clearance permit.

XXIX.

Mail steamers may both enter and clear at the Custom House on the same day or at the same time. In the import manifest of such mail steamers it will be sufficient to mention only such articles as are to be landed or transhipped. When the master is unable to present the export manifest to the Custom House, the agent of the mail company may do so within three days.

XXX.

A Japanese merchant vessel or fishing boat compelled to put into one of the open ports in Corea, in order to obtain necessary supplies, or to take refuge, need not be entered or cleared at the Custom House. But, if such vessel shall remain in port over twenty-four hours, the master shall make a report thereof, setting forth the cause and circumstance of such necessity to the Custom House. Nevertheless, should such vessel or boat subsequently engage in trade, the rules set forth in Regulation II. shall be observed.

XXXI.

The Corean Government engage for the future to keep all the open ports in proper condition, and to construct lighthouses, beacons and buoys. In order to meet the necessary expenses of maintenance of such works, all Japanese merchant vessels entering at a Corean Custom House in accordance with the Regulations shall pay tonnage dues at the rate of one hundred and twenty-five mon per ton (in vessels of koku designation, Japanese 6 koku 5 tō and 5 sho are equal to 1 ton). On the payment of tonnage dues by a vessel, the Customs authorities shall issue a special certificate, on exhibition of which the vessel, in respect of which the certificate shall have been issued, shall be exempt from all further payment of tonnage dues in any open port of Corea for a period of four months. If a merchant vessel arriving at a port departs therefrom within two days after arrival without breaking bulk, such vessel shall not be required to pay tonnage dues. If, on account of stormy or foggy weather, etc., such vessel cannot depart within the specified time, the master or commander shall report the fact to the Custom House. Fishing boats are exempted from the payment of tonnage dues. The tonnage dues herein stipulated shall be revised by a general convention, when the tonnage of the foreign shipping other than Japanese in Corea shall have increased to such an extent as to equal the tonnage of Japanese vessels.

XXXII.

Men-of-war and other vessels belonging to, or in the use of, the Japanese Government, having no merchandise on board, shall not be required to enter or clear at the Custom House, nor to pay

tonnage dues in any open port of Corea; no Custom officer shall be deputed to guard such vessels; nevertheless, should condemned articles belonging to such vessels be landed and sold, the purchaser of such articles shall report the fact to the Custom House and pay the proper duty.

XXXIII.

If a Japanese vessel shall smuggle or attempt to smuggle any goods at any of the non-opened harbours of Corea, all such goods together with all other commodities on board such vessel shall be forfeited to the Corean Government, and the master of such ship shall pay a fine of 50,000 mon. But this article shall not be held to apply to vessels entering any non-opened harbours on account of stress of weather, purchasing food, water, and fire-wood.

XXXIV.

Any Japanese merchant vessel may be chartered by the Corean Government, or by any Corean subjects to convey goods, persons, etc. to any of the non-opened harbours in Corea; but in the latter case, the charterer shall first obtain a license from the Government.

XXXV.

Any case involving a penalty, confiscation or other punishments set forth in these regulations shall be decided by the Japanese Consular officers on the complaint of the Custom's authorities. Every penalty enforced or goods confiscated under these regulations by such consular officers shall be handed over to the Corean Government.

Goods which are seized by the Corean authorities shall be put under seals in the presence of both the Japanese consular officer and said authorities, and shall be kept in the Custom House, until the decision of the same shall have been given.

If such decision shall be in favour of the owner of the goods, they shall be immediately delivered to the owner through the consular officer; but should the Corean authorities be dissatisfied with the decision, they may appeal to the proper Japanese courts. In which case, the owner shall be bound to deposit the value of the goods at the Japanese Consulate, which deposit shall remain until the final decision is pronounced. Should the seized goods be of a perishable, changeable, or dangerous nature, they shall be handed over to the owner on his lodging the amount of their value at the Japanese Consulate.

XXXVI.

The importation of opium is strictly prohibited. All opium smuggled or attempted to be smuggled shall be forfeited, and in addition to this forfeiture, a fine of 70,000 mon shall be paid for every catty so smuggled or attempted to be smuggled. Opium imported under the guarantee of the Japanese Consul for the use of the Corean Government, or for the medical purposes of Japanese residents in Corea, is not included in this regulation.

XXXVII.

When the Corean Government shall have reason to apprehend a scarcity of food within the limits of the kingdom, in any case of emergency, such as an inundation, drought, war, &c., they may, by decree, temporarily prohibit the exportation of all bread-stuffs, but the Corean local authorities shall give one month's previous notice of such prohibition to the Japanese subjects in Corea through the Japanese Consular officers. Although bread-stuffs, upon importation and exportation, are usually subject to five per cent. duty, nevertheless in case of scarcity occasioned by any national calamity either in Corea or in Japan, the importation into or exportation from Corea of those articles may be made free of duty, provided notice of the existence of any cause which may render the measure necessary is officially given.

XXXVIII.

The purchase of cannon, fire-arms, bullets and shells, gunpowder, percussion caps, and all other munitions of war by Corean subjects is prohibited, and the Corean Government reserving to itself the sole right to make such purchases, and to authorize individuals to make such purchases on account of the Government, any such articles smuggled into Corea shall be liable to confiscation.

XXXIX.

Any violation of any of the provisions of these regulations, to which no penalty is specially attached herein, may be punished by a fine not exceeding 15,000 mon.

XLI.

Until such time as gold or silver coins shall be minted and issued by the Corean Government, all payments of duties and fines set forth in these regulations, shall be made in Corean copper cash, or in Japanese silver coins at the market rates, or in Mexican dollars which are equivalent in value to Japanese silver coins. The amounts of fees and fines mentioned in regulations II., III., IV., VI., and XXXIII. shall be reduced by one half for vessels under five hundred tons, and by three-fourths for vessels under fifty tons.

XLI.

Fishing vessels belonging to both countries shall be permitted to frequent the coast of Zenra-do, Keisho-do, Kogen-do, and Kankio-do in Corea, and the coasts of Hizen, Chikuzen, Nagato, (opposite coast of Corea) Iwami, Idzumo, and Tsushima in Japan, to catch fish; but such vessels shall not carry on any commercial dealings. In case of a violation of this prohibition, all articles purchased or sold shall be confiscated; but such vessels may sell the fish and shells taken by them. The dues to be paid by the fishing vessels of the two contracting parties shall be determined by mutual agreement, after the expiration of two years from the date the present regulations go into operation.

XLII.

These Regulations shall be approved by the Government of Japan and Corea, within 100 days from the date hereof, and shall take effect immediately after the expiration of such 100 days, to the exclusion of the existing Trade Regulations and all other agreements, so far as they may be contrary thereto.

Any right, privilege, or favour which the Corean Government has actually granted, or may hereafter grant to the Government or subjects of any other State shall be extended to the Government or subjects of Japan without delay.

These Regulations shall terminate after 5 years from the day on which they come into force; nevertheless before the expiration of such term, the Governments of Japan and Corea shall enter into negotiations, with the view to make new regulations which shall take the place of the present Regulations.

If, however, the term should expire while new regulations be under negotiation, the present regulations shall remain in force until the conclusion of such negotiation.

The officers of both countries are entitled, from time to time, to enter into negotiations which are not herein contained, if such shall be deemed necessary.

In witness whereof, we, the undersigned Plenipotentiaries, have concluded and signed, in virtue of our respective full Powers, the present Trade Regulations and have sealed them with our seals.

Done at Seoul, Corea, this 25th day of 7th month (July), 16th year of Meiji (1883), corresponding by the Corea calendar to the 22nd day of the 6th month in the year 492 since the foundation of Corea.

(Signed) TAKEZOYE SINICHIRO,
Japanese Commissioner
(Minister Resident).

(Signed) MIN YOG MOG,
Corean Commissioner
(Minister for Foreign Affairs).

IMPORT AND EXPORT TARIFF OF COREA.

IMPORT TARIFF.

I.—DRUGS, MEDICINES AND CHEMICALS.

FIVE PER CENT. (AD-VALOREM).

All drugs, not otherwise provided for.
All medicines.

TEN PER CENT. (AD-VALOREM).

Camphor, refined. Cloves. Musk.

TWENTY PER CENT. (AD-VALOREM).

Gum Benjamin. Nara and spikenard.
Olibanum. Senko.

Wood, garrow or aloe. All other aromatics.
Wood, sandal.

2.—DYES, COLOURS, AND PAINTS.

EIGHT PER CENT. (AD-VALOREM).

Indigo, dry and liquid. Varnish.
Japan varnish. Blue, Prussian.
Logwood and extract of. Gamboge.
Gall-nuts. Ultramarine.
Safflower. Verdigris.
Aniline dyes. Vermillion.
All other dyes, not otherwise provided for. All other colours and paints, not otherwise provided for.
Paint in oil.
Lead and zinc, all colours.

3.—METALS AND MANUFACTURES OF METAL.

FIVE PER CENT. (AD-VALOREM).

Copper, Japan.

EIGHT PER CENT. (AD-VALOREM).

Iron, steel, lead, tin, alloys, quicksilver, and all other metals, not otherwise provided for in ingot, slab, bar, rod, plate, sheet, or any other form.
Iron and copper wire.
Iron and copper nails.
Quicksilver.

TEN PER CENT. (AD-VALOREM).

Foils of gold, silver, copper, and tin.

TWENTY PER CENT. (AD-VALOREM).

Gold and silver ware and electro-plated ware.

4.—OILS, WAX, &c.

FIVE PER CENT. (AD-VALOREM).

Oil, kerosine.

EIGHT PER CENT. (AD-VALOREM).

Oils, all kinds, not otherwise provided for.
Wax, bees and vegetable.
Pitch and tar.
Tallow.
All other oils, etc., not otherwise provided for.

5.—TEXTILE FABRICS.

EIGHT PER CENT. (AD-VALOREM).

Kibira. Flannel, wholly or in part of wool.
Kaiki. Imitation of seal skins, wholly or in part of wool.
Tsumugi. Italian cloth.
Rindzu, silk. Mousseline de Laine, wholly or in part of wool.
Gunnai. Woollen cloths, wholly of wool.
Ro, silk. Woollen cloths, in part of wool.
Cotton damasks, cotton satins, plain or figured, and menrinzu. Woollen damasks, long-ells, serges, and Spanish stripes, wholly or in part of wool.
Shirtings, gray. Linen, linen and cotton, or linen and woollen mixtures, gray or white.
Shirtings, white. Blankets.
Taffachelass. Canvas and cotton ducks.
Cotton drills, kokura and monpa. All other cotton, silk, woollen, and linen fabrics, not otherwise provided for.
T-cloth.
Victoria Lawns.
Turkey reds, shirtings dyed, figured and twilled.
Chintzes and furniture.
Ro, cotton.
Cotton velvets or velveteens.
Mosquito nettings and bed tickings.
Camlets wholly of wool.
Lastings.
Lastings, crape.

TEN PER CENT. (AD-VALOREM).

Sha. Habutai.
Crape. Damasks and satins, silk.
Kohaku.

TWENTY PER CENT. (AD-VALOREM).

Velvets, silk. Carpets, all kinds.

6.—STATIONERY AND PAPER.

FIVE PER CENT. (AD-VALOREM).

Papers, all kinds, used by Japanese eight per cent. (ad valorem). Papers, Japanese.
Papers, printing. Inkstones, envelopes, pencils, pens, pen brushes, slates, etc.
Papers, packing. Inks, all kinds.

TEN PER CENT. (AD-VALOREM).

Paper, coloured. All other kinds of papers
Paper, figured. and stationary, not
Materials for seals. otherwise provided for.

7.—BEVERAGES, PROVISIONS, AND TOBACCO.**FIVE PER CENT. (AD-VALOREM).**

Cereals and bread-stuffs. Provisions for Japanese.
Fruits, fresh, all kinds. Miso, soy, and vinegar.

EIGHT PER CENT. (AD-VALOREM).

Salt. monade, ginger beer,
Tea. soda water, etc.
Meat and fish, salted. All other provisions, not
and provisions pre- otherwise provided for.
served in tin cans. Sugar, white or brown.
Vermicelli. Molasses and syrups.
Kudzu flour. Saké (Japanese liquor).
Isingglass. Saké (Chinese liquor).
Pea-nuts. Cider.
Beverages, such as le-

TEN PER CENT. (AD-VALOREM).

Beer, all kinds. Wine, red or white.

FIFTEEN PER CENT. (AD-VALOREM).

Sugar, rock, candy, and Kwashi (Japanese
refined. cakes).

TWENTY PER CENT. (AD-VALOREM).

Tobacco, fine cut, cigars, cigarrets, and all other
tobacco leaves.

TWENTY-FIVE PER CENT. (AD-VALOREM).

Vermouth. Port wine. Sherry.

THIRTY PER CENT. (AD-VALOREM).

Brandy. Rum.
Whisky. Shochiu and Awomori.
Champagne. All other spirituous be-
Cherry cordial. verages not otherwise
Gin. provided for.
Liqueurs.

8.—MISCELLANEOUS.**FIVE PER CENT. (AD-VALOREM).**

Coal and coke. Boots, shoes, clogs, san-
Personal effects com- dals, and paper um-
monly used by Japa- brellae.
nese. Lanterns, paper.
Shingles. Dinner trays, jubako,
Screen doors and door mirror stands, chests
sashes. of drawers, trays, and
Matting (tatami). all other such articles
Cement. made of wood.
Grind stones. Timber and bamboo for
Sand papers. building purposes of
Matches. Japanese.
Soap, all kinds.

EIGHT PER CENT. (AD VALOREM).

Timber, bamboo, and Iron safes and cash boxes.
stones. Machines.
Bricks and tiles. Porcelain and earthen-
Skins, hoofs, bone, ivory, ware for table use.
horns, leathers, and All other miscellaneous
hair unmanufactured. articles, not otherwise
Charcoal. provided for.
Rattan. Bedsteads, chairs and
Cotton raw. other furnitures.
Cotton, yarn. Clothing, hats, socks,
Silk, raw, noshi, and and all other clothing
waste. and wearing apparel.
Fishing gut. Spectacles.
Wools and animal hair. Ivory, elephant tusks,
Hemp and flax. and sea unicorn or
Carts and small boats. narwhal.
Emery sand. Fans and round fans.
Seeds, cotton, nut, flax. Tooth powder.
or linseed, and sesame. Window glass and panes.
or sesamum. Lamps and parts there-
Lamp wicks. of.

TEN PER CENT. (AD-VALOREM).

Leather. Trunks, portmanteaux
Harness and carriages. and courier bags.
Glassware, all kinds not. Photographic instru-
otherwise provided for. ments.
Glass, looking, framed. Musical instruments.
or unframed. Buttons, buckles, hooks
Wood, hard, such as shi- and eyes.
tan, ebony, teak, box, Explosive substances, for
tagayasan, and other mining.
similar woods.
Umbrellas, of silk and
iron frame.

FIFTEEN PER CENT. (AD-VALOREM).

Tobacco pipes and Fur, such as foxes,
pouches. beavers, seals, rabbits,
Pouches, &c. &c.

TWENTY PER CENT. (AD-VALOREM).

Gold lacquered ware. Clocks, watches, and
Toys. parts thereof.
Hair ornaments.

TWENTY PER CENT. (AD-VALOREM).

Photographs. Paintings, framed or
Flower vases and other not.
curios. Carvings.
Tortoise shell manufactured.

THIRTY PER CENT. (AD-VALOREM).

Fireworks. All articles of games,
Glass beads. used in playing bi-
Fowling pieces and their liards chess and cards.
appliances. All other articles of
Corals. games, not otherwise
Pearls & precious stones. provided for.

9.—VESSELS.

Steamers, 240 mon cop- Sailing vessels, 125 mon
per cash, per ton. copper cash, per ton.

10.—DUTY-FREE ARTICLES.

Coins, all kinds. hydrometers, magne-
Bullion, gold and silver. tic compasses and all
Traveller's baggage. other scientific instru-
Samples (reasonable ments and their appli-
quantity). ances.
Newspapers. Types (new and old).
Show-cards. Fire engines.
Books, maps, and charts. Ships' stores (condem-
Sign boards. ed articles, when land-
Models of inventions, &c. ed and sold, are
Agricultural implements subjected to the proper
Surgical implements. duty).
Scales, balances, ther- Bags, matting, & ropes,
mometers, barometers, for packing purposes.

11.—ARTICLES THE IMPORTATION OF WHICH IS PROHIBITED.

Opium (not for medical tion thereof shall be
purposes). allowed after procur-
Adulterated drugs and ing, through the Japa-
medicines. nese Consul, a special
False coins of any kind. permission from the
Indecent or obscene pic- Korean authorities).
tures or engravings. But no such articles
Arms and other muni- so imported shall be
tions of war (Importa- sold or offered for sale.

EXPORT TARIFF.**FREE OF DUTY.**

Coins. Bullion, gold, silver, and gold-dust.
Travellers' baggage.

FIVE PER CENT. (AD-VALOREM).

All articles of export, not otherwise provided for.

FIFTEEN PER CENT. (AD-VALOREM).

Red ginseng. If Korean subjects export red
ginseng into Japan, fifteen per cent. ad-valorem
duty shall be imposed. If Japanese subjects export
it secretly or without obtaining special permission
from the Korean Government, the red ginseng so
exported shall be confiscated.

In witness whereof, we the undersigned Plenipo-
tentiaries have concluded and signed, in virtue of
our respective full Powers, the present Tariffs and
have sealed them with our seals.

Done at Seoul, Corea, this 25th day of 7th month
(July) 16th year of Meiji (1883) corresponding by
the Korean calendar to the 22nd day of the 6th
month, in the year 492 since the foundation of Corea.

(Signed) TAKEZOYE SINICHIRO,
Japanese Commissioner
(Minister Resident).

(Signed) MIN YOG MOG,
Korean Commissioner
(Minister for Foreign Affairs).

CORRESPONDENCE.**WERE THEY SPORTSMEN?****TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."**

SIR,—Yesterday afternoon, a member of my
family, while walking beside one of the moats in
Tsukiji, observed a group of small boys, foreign
and native, amusing themselves with a cat. They
had stoned the wretched creature from a neighbor-
ing roof, and were now tossing her into the water,
over and again, sometimes beating her back with
sticks, as she crawled with desperate effort up the
stone walls of the canal. Her escape was care-
fully prevented by two dogs, which guarded a
considerable stretch of the water side. The tor-
mented beast was at once rescued, not without
some remonstrance at this invasion of juvenile pri-

vileges, and was helped back to life with decent
care. Gratitude is a sentiment not commonly at-
tributed to cats, and whether they possess it in a
lasting degree, or not, I am unprepared to say;
but the evidence of trustfulness and hope which
this poor animal showed by crouching near its pre-
server, following her in every direction, refusing
food from any other, lifting its bleeding paws for
inspection to her alone, and hiding its wounds from
all besides, was a sight that might have touched
the feelings even of its recent torturers if they could
have witnessed it.

You will not be altogether surprised to learn
that I firmly believed a meritorious action had
been performed in saving this "harmless, ne-
cessary" quadruped. Such, at any rate, was
my conviction; nor was it shaken until I acci-
dentally remarked, in this day's newspaper, that
the "sporting season" had set in. Being a per-
son of quiet habits, I am not fully aware of
all that may be meant by that phrase. I do
at least know, however, that it signifies a period
during which men and women and children may
go about armed with weapons destructive to ani-
mal life, and cheer themselves and one another
by an exhilarating rivalry in the infliction of in-
jury and death upon Nature's helpless creatures.
I know that this must be "sport," because it is
called so by those who practice it. Although not
skilled in the technicalities of such proceedings, I
am not so simple as to believe that any part of the
"sport" is found in the eating of the animals after
they are slain, for other people who buy them in
the market and use them as food are not considered
sportsmen; nor in the fatiguing process of tramp-
ing about in swamps or on difficult ground,
weighed down with implements of carnage, be-
cause healthful exercise can be obtained under
much more sensible conditions. The "sport" is,
in truth, synonymous with success in maiming or
slaughtering little birds. The individual who kills
the largest number in a given time is the best
"sportsman"—an object of envy and adulation
among his fellows.

Reflecting upon these indisputable facts, I have
begun to ask myself whether yesterday's inter-
ference with the moat-side performance was not
unwarranted and perhaps illegal. For ought I
know, the small boys concerned may have had
licenses in their pockets, procured for them by
parents who, as ardent followers of "sport,"
desire to instil into their offspring, at an early age,
the principles which they themselves profess.
Possibly the licenses would have been produced,
but for the arbitrary dispersal of the crowd by the
advent of an intrusive adult. I do not know what
animals are included in the official authorizations
to kill and wound. I do not suppose that cats are
expressly excluded. And I have not the slightest
doubt that these urchins took nearly if not quite as
much delight in their attempts to destroy their
special victim as the seniors take in mutilating;
lacerating, or even slaying outright, the feathered
objects of their pursuit. It is true that the former
had only stones and sticks in their hands, but I
dare say they would be glad enough to use the
finest results of Western mechanical ingenuity, if
they could get them. The accuracy of aim which
hits a cat with a pebble, at twenty yards, would
rejoice to further distinguish itself with a shot-gun
at twenty rods.

On broad and general principles, I do not clearly
discover any justification for breaking up the hunt
in the Tsukiji thoroughfare, which might not
equally apply to an interruption of the field sports
guaranteed by annual license. I may be ridiculed
for obtuseness, or hooted at for squeamish and
affected sensibility, or—still more crushing contin-
gency—may not be noticed at all, in any way.
But if a fair-minded and honest advocate of bird-
shooting were to deem it worth his while, he would
probably remind me that my attempt to demon-
strate a resemblance, in the two cases, is entirely
upset by a reference to the motive, on either side.
The boys he would say, are actuated by sheer
cruelty—solely by the passion for inflicting suffer-
ing; while the sportsmen go forth with no such
savage impulse in their hearts, notwithstanding
that their pastime necessitates death and pangs
worse than death. The birds are indeed killed, or
laid with broken legs and wings, he would argue,
but not from any barbarous desire to give pain;
whereas the cat is harried out of pure viciousness

and brutality. I might, at this stage, suggest that there is another point of view from which the question may be regarded,—that of the animals themselves. It does not much matter to them, I presume, whether they are sacrificed to the requirements of sport without cruelty or sport with cruelty. But apart from that, I utterly reject the convenient theory above referred to, which I have heard a hundred times, without finding in it anything substantial or valid. Boys may be more reckless than men as to the consequences of their acts, but it does not follow that their motives are totally dissimilar. When half-a-dozen young scamps are throwing stones at a cat on a roof, and one happens to hit her, do you suppose that the shout of exultation which follows is because the cat is more or less hurt? Nothing of the sort. It is the reward of the clever marksman's dexterity. The injury inflicted does not enter into the calculation. When they combine to toss her overboard, it is because her awkward struggles amuse them, and her grotesque gaspings and futile scramblings excite their sense of the ridiculous, or awaken curiosity as to her power of prolonged resistance. They know, of course, that she suffers, and they doubtless suppose that she will die; but in nine cases out of ten it is not the suffering or the death which they aim at. Show me a boy who will take a cat, alone, and without companions, into a garret, and there crush its head with a hammer, and I will admit, then, an exceptional instance of unmixed satisfaction in the infliction of torture and death. But in the vast majority of cases, children seek merely to divert themselves; and if they plunge their victims into misery, or plague the life out of them, those are results which are inevitable, perhaps lamentable, but the consideration of which is not permitted to disturb their enjoyment. And I maintain their position is precisely the same as that of the children of larger growth who go abroad with weapons of exquisite workmanship, attended by beaters, searchers, and dogs (I acknowledge to an ignorant confusion as regards the nomenclature) knowing that their "sport" can be accomplished only by the killing of small birds, and regarding that solely as an incidental circumstance of their entertainment. Therefore I say that quite as good and sound a moral argument could be framed against the dispersal of the cat-killers, yesterday, in Tsukiji, as against the endeavour of any "enthusiast" or "fanatic" to check the revels of the licensed sportsman.

I have not the slightest expectation, Mr. Editor, that this communication will affect the judgment, or even more the sympathy, of a single reader; and I fear it will be with reluctance that you give it a place in your columns, if you do so at all. Not that you will suppose it particularly harmful, but you may grudge the space it will occupy, which might be devoted to matters of current importance. But I hope that your evident willingness to allow a hearing for all voices, when they speak in earnest, may obtain me the desired favour. I am well enough aware that nothing but derision is now the portion of any writer who ventures thus to criticize what may be called one of the cherished "institutions" of English Society; but I am as thoroughly persuaded as I am of my existence, that, among other advancements of humanity, the world of a hundred years hence will look back, not with anger, perhaps, but with a scornful incredulity upon the pretence of civilization which, in the nineteenth century, reckoned among its choicest recreations, to be extolled in poetry and glorified in song, the habitual, organized, and legally encouraged practice of waging war for pleasure, by intelligent, educated men—and women, too,—against the pretty, harmless, helpless beings of a weaker grade of animal life. The protests of a few who believe that the world was made to be peopled with gentle men and women may be sneered at for years to come, but not forever; and there is prophetic force in the words of my Quaker countryman, even if applied to the humblest and most imperfect efforts to hasten the wished for consummation:—

Never yet
Share of Truth was vainly set
In the world's wide fallow;
After hands shall sow the seed,
After hands, from bill and mead,
Reap the harvest yellow.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,
ONE OF THE UNLICENSED.
Tokyo, October 29th, 1883.

LATEST SHIPPING.

FREIGHTS.

The steamship *Selambria* was dispatched on the 25th instant, for New York, via Amoy, taking 1,400 tons wheat for the latter port; that berth is now occupied by the steamships *Venice* and *Cairnsmuir*, both with quick despatch. For New York direct, the Norwegian bark *Gilead* is now loading at Kobe, and there is a possibility of another vessel loading at this port during November for same destination. For Havre and London, the bark *Sagitta* is still loading having been much retarded by the recent inclement weather; for same destination, via Japan, and China ports, the steamship *Flintshire*, which arrived on the 4th instant, is now loading. Coastwise, the bark *Bride* was chartered for Amoy with wheat, and sailed on the 24th instant; in other directions, nothing is doing, and rates of freight do not improve.

ARRIVALS.

Horai Maru, Japanese steamer, 407, Tokuda, 27th October,—Kobe, General.—Mitsui Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Kairio Maru, Japanese steamer, 370, Amano, 27th October.—Handa, General.—Seirius.

Kengi Maru, Japanese steamer, 236, Masuda, 27th October,—Yokkaichi, General.—Seirius.

Seisho Maru, Japanese steamer, 210, Isoda, 27th October,—Osaka, General.—Seirius.

Najednik, Russian frigate, Captain Kologeras, 28th October,—Kobe.

Nemo, Russian schooner, Ridderbjelke, 28th October,—North, Skins and Oil.—Ginsburg.

Penelope, British schooner, Davis, 30th October,—North, Furs.—Gray.

Wakanoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,133, A. F. Christensen, 29th October,—Kobe 27th October, Mails and General.—Mitsui Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Shima Maru, Japanese steamer, 800, 29th October,—Yokkaichi, General.—Kiyodo Unyu Kwaisha.

Ada, British schooner, 73, Hardy, 31st October,—Kurile Islands, Furs.—Captain.

Coptic, British steamer, 2,787, Kidley, 31st October,—San Francisco 11th October, Mails and General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.

Seirio Maru, Japanese steamer, 459, Nirei, 31st October,—Yokkaichi, General.—Mitsui Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Hiroshima Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,862, J. Wynn, 1st November,—Shanghai and ports, Mails and General.—Mitsui Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Hiogo Maru, Japanese steamer, 806, R. N. Walker, 1st November,—Kobe, General.—Mitsui Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Richmond (14), U.S. flag-ship, Captain J. S. Skerrett, 1st November,—Kobe.

Sumanoura Maru, Japanese bark, 980, Spiegelthal, 1st November,—Nagasaki, Coals.—Mitsui Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Tunais, French steamer, 1,750, Vaquier, 1st November,—Hongkong 23rd October, Mails and General.—Messageries Maritimes Co.

Peter, German bark, 311, H. Möller, 2nd November,—Takao, 14th October, Sugar.—J. E. Collyer & Co.

Yoshino Maru, Japanese steamer, 201, Hoshi, 1st November.—Yokkaichi, General.—Mitsui Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Horai Maru, Japanese steamer, 407, Sakai, 1st November,—Korea via Kobe, General.—Mitsui Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Arabic, British steamer, 2,787, W. G. Pearce, 2nd November,—Hongkong 27th October, Mails and General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.

Taganoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 448, Matsumoto, 2nd November,—Yokkaichi, General.—Mitsui Bishi M. S.S. Co.

DEPARTURES.

Onoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 104, Sugimoto, 27th October,—Yokkaichi, General.—Seirius.

Toyoshima Maru, Japanese steamer, 598, Thomas, 27th October,—Hakodate, General.—Mitsui Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Hiogo Maru, Japanese steamer, 806, R. N. Walker, 28th October,—Kobe, General.—Mitsui Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Naniwa Maru, Japanese steamer, 185, Shisawara, 27th October,—Yokkaichi, General.—Mitsui Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Seirio Maru, Japanese steamer, 459, Tamura, 23rd October,—Yokkaichi, General.—Mitsui Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Kairio Maru, Japanese steamer, 370, Amano, 29th October,—Handa, General.—Seirius.

Kumamoto Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,240, Drummond, 29th October,—Hongkong via Kobe, Mails and General.—Mitsui Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Nagoya Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,900, Wilson Walker, 31st October,—Shanghai via ports, Mails and General.—Mitsui Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Niigata Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,096, Hubbard, 1st November,—Hakodate, General.—Mitsui Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Vigilant (2), Lieut.-Commander Maxwell, 1st November,—Kobe.

Seirio Maru, Japanese steamer, 459, Tamura, 1st November,—Yokkaichi, General.—Mitsui Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Coptic, British steamer, 2,787, Kidley, 2nd November,—Hongkong, Mails and General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.

Okama Maru, Japanese steamer, 148, Ichishima, 2nd November,—Handa, General.—Handa-sha.

Shidzuoka Maru, Japanese steamer, 334, Nakai, 2nd November,—Shimizu, General.—Seirius.

Taganoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 448, Matsumoto, 2nd November,—Yokkaichi, General.—Mitsui Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Yoshino Maru, Japanese steamer, 401, Hoshi, 2nd November,—Yokkaichi, General.—Mitsui Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Taganoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 448, Matsumoto, 29th October,—Yokkaichi, General.—Mitsui Bishi M. S.S. Co.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per British steamer *Coptic*, from San Francisco:—Sir Sydney and Lady Waterlow and 3 servants, Rev. and Mrs. C. M. Fisher, Mr. and Mrs. Hannen, daughter, and servant, Mr. and Mrs. Henry W. Lucy, Mrs. B. A. Valentine and 2 children, Miss Hattie Crocker, Miss Annie B. Wets, Miss J. Mitsui Flanders, Messrs. L. Zabiskie, T. W. Strong, G. S. Wheaton, R. W. Irvine, George Arbuthnot Burns, H. Von Siebold, N. Okabe, and J. Hayashi in cabin. For Nagasaki: Rev. and Mrs. W. H. Demorest in cabin. For Shanghai: Dr. and Mrs. J. B. Neale, and Mrs. A. Winsor and 2 children in cabin. For Hongkong: Hon. John F. Swift, and Mr. Harry M. Rose in cabin: 1 European and 1,050 Chinese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Hiroshima Maru*, from Shanghai and ports:—Governor Sakai, Governor Watanabe, Governor Kishira, Mr. and Mrs. Jas. C. Buck and 2 children, Mr. and Mrs. Nagashima and child, Mr. and Mrs. Maruyama, Mr. and Mrs. Motono, Mrs. Chas. O'Neil, Master O'Neil, Madame Boudon, Messrs. J. D. Carroll, M. H. Robertson, R. H. Powers, McKeige, Deakin, O. Reimers, Munch, Winckler, H. Kern, Hojo, and Nakagawa in cabin; and 10 Europeans, 2 Chinese and 235 Japanese in steerage. For San Francisco: Dr. H. R. Platt in cabin.

Per French steamer *Tunais*, from Hongkong:—The Count Zaluski, Austrian Minister, Mr. and Mrs. Carratus and infant in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Yoshino Maru*, from Yokkaichi:—14 Japanese in steerage.

Per British steamer *Arabic*, from Hongkong:—For Calicut: Mr. W. J. Forsyth in cabin; and 5 Europeans and 127 Chinese in steerage.

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

Since last report we have but little business to chronicle for all staples, sales of Yarns and Shirtings being of a retail character. In Fancy Goods, there has been a slight improvement, Turkey Reds having been somewhat in demand. Metals are quiet, a small demand being made for railroad iron.

COTTON YARNS.

| | PER PICUL. |
|----------------------------------|------------------|
| Nos. 16 to 24, Common to Medium- | \$25.00 to 28.50 |
| Nos. 16 to 24, Good to Best - | 29.25 to 30.00 |
| Bombay, No. 20, Good to Best - | 25.25 to 28.50 |
| Nos. 28 to 32, Common to Medium- | 30.50 to 31.50 |
| Nos. 28 to 32, Good to Best - | 32.00 to 35.00 |
| Nos. 35 to 42 | 35.00 to 37.50 |

COTTON PIECE GOODS.

| | PER PIECE. |
|------------------------------------------------|----------------|
| Grey Shirtings—8½, 38½ to 39 inches - | \$1.70 to 2.15 |
| Grey Shirtings—9½, 38½ to 45 inches - | 1.92½ to 2.40 |
| T. Cloth—7½, 24 yards, 32 inches - | 1.42½ to 1.50 |
| Indigo Shirting—12 yards, 44 inches - | 1.35 to 1.70 |
| Prints—Assorted, 24 yards, 30 inches - | 1.10 to 2.40 |
| Cotton—Italians and Sateens Black, 32 inches - | 0.07 to 0.09 |
| Turkey Reds—2 to 2½, 24 yards, 30 inches - | 1.15 to 1.35 |
| Turkey Reds—2½ to 2½, 24 yards, 30 inches - | 1.35 to 1.55 |
| Turkey Reds—3½, 24 yards, 30 inches - | 1.70 to 1.82½ |
| Velvets—Black, 35 yards, 22 inches - | 5.00 to 6.75 |
| Victoria Lawns, 12 yards, 42½ inches - | 0.65 to 0.75 |
| Taffetas, 12 yards, 43 inches - | 1.75 to 2.05 |

WOOLLENS.

| | PER PICUL. |
|----------------------------------------------------|----------------|
| Plain Orleans, 40-42 yards, 32 inches - | \$3.80 to 5.25 |
| Figured Orleans, 30-31 yards, 31 inches - | 3.15 to 4.00 |
| Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches - | 0.18 to 0.23 |
| Mousseline de Laine—Crape, 24 yards, 31 inches - | 0.15½ to 0.16½ |
| Mousseline de Laine—Itajime, 24 yards, 31 inches - | 0.18½ to 0.26 |
| Mousseline de Laine—Yuzen, 24 yards, 31 inches - | 0.30 to 0.37½ |
| Cloths—Pilots, 54 @ 56 inches - | 0.30 to 0.40 |
| Cloths—Presidents, 54 @ 56 inches - | 0.40 to 0.50 |
| Cloths—Union, 54 @ 56 inches - | 0.30 to 0.55 |
| Blankets—Scarlet and Green, 6 to 5½, per lb - | 0.35 to 0.40 |

IRON.

| | PER PICUL. |
|---------------------------------|----------------|
| Flat Bars, ½ inch - | \$2.50 to 2.90 |
| Flat Bars, ¾ inch - | 2.80 to 3.00 |
| Round and square up to ½ inch - | 2.80 to 3.00 |
| Nailrod, assorted - | 2.35 to 2.60 |
| Nailrod, small size - | 2.85 to 3.15 |

KEROSENE.

The Market is unchanged, dealers endeavouring to establish lower prices, and holders are doubtful in their firmness. Sales have amounted to 12,000 cases only, and deliveries to 18,500 cases. We quote:—

| | PER CASE. |
|----------|----------------|
| Devos - | \$1.68 to 1.70 |
| Comet - | 1.65 to 1.66 |
| Stella - | 1.53 to 1.55 |

SUGAR.

The small Stock on hand is held firmly for the prices tabulated below, but, as buyers want easier terms, they are holding off, and transactions consequently have only been on a small scale for immediate requirements.

| | PER PICUL. |
|-----------------|----------------|
| White, No. 1 - | \$3.40 to 8.50 |
| White, No. 2 - | 7.00 to 7.50 |
| White, No. 3 - | 6.75 to 7.00 |
| White, No. 4 - | 6.00 to 6.50 |
| White, No. 5 - | 5.00 to 5.20 |
| Brown Formosa - | 4.60 to 4.65 |

EXPORTS.

SILK.

During the week business has continued on much the same scale as last advised. Settlements reaching 800 piculs for the period under review. Quotations for some kinds are again reduced, although the sharp rise in Sterling exchange (which at one time partially stopped buying) makes the lay down cost more than equal to that by last mail. Export to date is now 13,217 bales, against 11,024 bales at 4th November, last year, and the outgoing English and American mails will take a good quantity.

Hanks.—Some largest parcels of Shiushu have found buyers at from \$495 to \$465 according to quality. We note Shimonita (best) \$510, Tomiyoka \$500, Chichibu \$465, and Hachioji \$425.

Filatures.—Considerable business in these on basis of quotations, Medium kinds being most in demand, Shin-shu fetching \$600 for sorts like Tokosha tailing off to \$550 for No. 3.

Re-reels.—These are in much the same position as Filatures. Good Medium have been done at \$570, and some Yechigo from \$540 to \$515 according to grade.

Kakedas.—Not so much done in these. Best and Extra are not available at the moment, but some business has transpired in Medium to Good at a trifle under late rates.

Oshu and Taysaam Kinds freely taken, at closing a parcel of Nagahama marked at \$350.

QUOTATIONS.

| | |
|-----------------------------------|--------------|
| Hanks—No. 1½ - | \$500 to 510 |
| Hanks—No. 2 (Shinshu) - | 485 to 490 |
| Hanks—No. 2 (Maibash) - | 480 to 485 |
| Hanks—No. 2½ (Shinshu) - | 470 to 475 |
| Hanks—No. 2½ (Maibash) - | 460 to 465 |
| Hanks—No. 3 - | 435 to 445 |
| Hanks—No. 3½ - | 420 to 430 |
| Filatures—Extra - | 620 to 630 |
| Filatures—No. 1, 10/13 deniers - | 600 to 610 |
| Filatures—No. 1, 14/16 deniers - | 600 to 605 |
| Filatures—No. 1½, 14/17 deniers - | 570 to 590 |
| Filatures—No. 2, 10/15 deniers - | 580 to 590 |
| Filatures—No. 2, 14/18 deniers - | 565 to 575 |
| Filatures—No. 3, 14/20 deniers - | 550 to 560 |
| Re-reels—No. 1, 14/16 deniers - | 550 to 560 |
| Re-reels—No. 1½, 14/17 deniers - | 570 to 580 |
| Re-reels—No. 2, 14/18 deniers - | 560 to 570 |
| Re-reels—No. 3, 14/20 deniers - | 530 to 540 |
| Kakedas—Extra - | 610 nom'l |
| Kakedas—No. 1 - | 575 to 585 |
| Kakedas—No. 2 - | 535 to 545 |
| Oshu Sendai—No. 2½ - | 500 to 510 |
| Hamatsuki—No. 1, 2 - | 490 to 500 |
| Hamatsuki—No. 3, 4 - | 440 to 460 |
| Sodai—No. 2½ - | 440 to 450 |

TEA.

During the six days of the interval, there was no material change to note in the position of our Market; a quiet tone prevailed and a tendency to easier rates; but on the 1st inst. a large business amounting to 990 piculs was transacted (principally by one firm). The Market at the close has a strong upward tendency for Tea grading above Medium. The aggregate Settlements since last Report are 1,675 piculs. Supplies from the country continue meagre. Tea in Stock in Yokohama is estimated about 4,000 piculs. The British steamer *Selembrina*, which sailed on the 25th ultimo, took 404,244 lbs. Tea from this port, viz:—388,919 lbs. for New York, and 15,325 lbs. for Canada. The British steamers *Cairnsmuir* and *Venice* (both to arrive) are advertised for New York, via ports, but the rates of freight is at present unknown.

QUOTATIONS.

| | |
|---------------|--------------|
| Common - | \$10 & under |
| Good Common - | 11 to 12 |
| Medium - | 14 to 16 |
| Good Medium - | 17 to 19 |
| Fine - | 22 to 26 |
| Finest - | 23 & up'ds |

EXCHANGE.

There has been only a limited business transacted during the week owing to the continued scarceness of Money, and also to the fact that holders of Private Bills are not disposed to settle their Exchange at the present high rates now ruling. There appears to be little or no demand for Bank Paper, and quotations at the close are firm.

| | |
|-------------------------------------------|-------------|
| Sterling—Bank Bills on demand - | 3/0 |
| Sterling—Bank 4 months' sight - | 3/9½ |
| Sterling—Private 4 months' sight - | 3/9½ |
| Sterling—Private 6 months' sight - | 3/10 |
| On Paris—Bank sight - | 4/7½ |
| On Paris—Private 6 months' sight - | 4/8 |
| On Hongkong—Bank sight - | 2/0 0 dis. |
| On Hongkong—Private 10 days' sight - | 14/0 0 dis. |
| On Shanghai—Bank sight - | 7½ |
| On Shanghai—Private 10 days' sight - | 7½ |
| On New York—Bank Bills on demand - | 90½ |
| On New York—Private 30 days' sight - | 91½ |
| On San Francisco—Bank Bills on demand - | 91½ |
| On San Francisco—Private 30 days' sight - | 91½ |

KINSATSU QUOTATIONS.

Friday, November 2nd 109

IMPORTANT NOTICE.

SMALL CAPITALISTS, wishing to establish a business, should see if there is an opening for a Mineral Water Manufactory in their District. All information and recipes for the purpose of making Lemonade, Soda Water, &c., is given, previous knowledge is not necessary. The demand for these drinks is so much on the increase in all parts of the world, that the outlay for the machinery in all cases leads to a profitable and safe business. Catalogue forwarded free, on application to

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in his work entitled "The Nile Tributaries in Abyssinia," says—"I ordered the dragoman Mahomet to inform the Fakar that I was a Doctor, and I had the best medicines at the service of the sick, with advice gratis. In a short time I had many applicants, to whom I served out a quantity of Holloway's Pills. These are most useful to an explorer, as possessing unmistakable purgative properties they create an undeniable effect upon the patient, which satisfies them of their value."

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No. 28, Vol. I.]

YOKOHAMA, NOVEMBER 10TH, 1883.

[\$24 PER ANNUM.]

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The Japan Weekly Mail.

"PAIS CE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL," must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith. It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 10TH, 1883.

BIRTH.

At 103, Bluff, on the 9th November, the wife of P. S. SMYER, of a daughter (stillborn).

DEATH.

On the 7th instant, on board the P. & O. S.S. *Khiva*, in the Inland Sea, LILLIAN MARJORIE, daughter of Charles H. Dallas, aged one year and nine months.

WEEKLY NOTES.

JAPANESE journalists have recently bestowed a great deal of thought on the development of certain social conditions which some of them are disposed to regard as indications of an anti-progressive tendency. The *Jiji Shimpō*, if we remember rightly, was the first to discuss this subject, and the theme having been thus suggested, was taken up readily on all sides. Unfortunately the pen which opened the debate, that of Mr. Fukuzawa, the celebrated scholar and author, was momentarily arrested, but its latest contribution was sufficiently unequivocal to attract a great deal of attention. Mr. Fukuzawa thinks that Japan has dropped out of the sympathetic notice of the Western World, partly because the direct benefits to be derived by patronizing her are either exhausted or within measurable distance of exhaustion, and

partly because the Japanese, by turning their attention to old fashions and observances, are showing themselves unworthy of the interest they formerly excited. The evidences he adduces of this retrogressive tendency are numerous. Utensils appertaining to the *Cha-no-yu* ceremonials, paintings of the old masters, ancient musical instruments, and such like, are eagerly sought after: fencing, as it was practised in the days of Araki and Minamoto, is again all the rage, and swords by the great makers command fabulous prices: Confucianism is once more asserting its ascendancy, and books until recently obsolete are restored to their old places on the reading desk: finally, a certain class of the people are so much startled by the violent radicalism of reckless students that in their efforts to check their impetuosity they run into the other extreme. It must be confessed that this list of causes does not betray great perspicuity on the part of its compiler. Mr. Fukuzawa's estimate of the attention bestowed on his country by Occidentals is a little exaggerated. Probably not one of the important facts he cites has yet been noticed even in Yokohama, still less beyond the limits of Japan. It would be well, indeed, for this people if their affairs were so keenly watched that every change in the furniture of their alcoves or the complexion of their recreations provoked discussion in Europe and America. Such accurate observation could not long co-exist with the shortsighted policy which is rapidly converting Western justice and liberality into terms of derision. But the reality is far different. Among all the foreigners residing in Japan there are probably not half-a-dozen who know that a taste for the art productions of former times is reviving throughout the country, or that the philosophy of Confucius is beginning to reclaim some of its disciples. And if the foreigners under whose very ken these things are taking place fail to observe them, what shall be said of foreigners in Europe and America, the majority of whom have not yet learned to distinguish accurately between China and Japan? Mr. Fukuzawa and his fellow-thinkers may rest assured that trifles such as he has enumerated exercise, in general, no perceptible influence on the reputation of a nation, while in Japan's particular case, the world has not begun to think about them at all. From another point of view, too, the apprehensions of these progressionists are shown to be baseless. What thoughtful men found most deserving of criticism in Japan's recent history was the apparent recklessness of her taste for

innovations. She threw away the good as lightly as the bad; plucked up the wheat and the tares together, and in her imitative mania, turned her back upon those very phases of her own civilization which had elicited enthusiastic admiration in the Occident. This precipitancy argued a lack of discretion, which, in its turn, inspired not unreasonable doubts of the nation's steadfastness of purpose—suggested a misgiving that the new civilization might one day be laid aside as readily as the old. So far, then, from endorsing the progressionists' complaint, what foreigners see in Japan's present mood is a revival of instincts whose activity every true Japanese ought to desire. A people without any monuments worthy of preservation scarcely deserves to be itself preserved. Fortunately that is not Japan's case. Her past has bequeathed to her heir-looms admirable enough to afford a new inspiration to the world of art. She need not be at all ashamed though affection for these treasures becomes an active factor of her national character.

The discussion of these social changes has called into the field a somewhat bizarre logician. His essay will be found among our translations from the vernacular journals. Its apparent purpose is to show that confusion and shiftiness are the invariable characteristics of all systems, whether devised by man or by nature; and being itself constructed so as to furnish a notable illustration of these qualities, his thesis must be pronounced a literary work of art. Whether the writer is a very subtle satirist or a very matter-of-fact person, we are unable to determine. His method of dealing with the pro-Chinese party warrants either interpretation. He takes the system of Chinese divination—that curious arrangement of dots and lines which nobody pretends to understand—and shows that the only thing it predicts with certainty is change. Nothing is permanent on this side of heaven. Therefore the Chinese party are desired to remember that even if they do succeed, their triumph will be short-lived. We could accept this argument with greater comfort if its application were shown to be limited. But in the hands of the Japanese essayist it acts like a boomerang. For he applies it to everything, from the shapes which the clouds assume under the impulse of the winds to the transformations recorded in the social and political histories of nations. Everything that the sun surveys is mutable and ephemeral. Under these circumstances it is difficult to perceive how the systems

of Western civilization which this writer defends are exempted from the application of the universal law he enunciates. Perhaps the pro-Chinese party will be too polite to employ the evident *tu-quoque* retort.

THE action taken by the Municipal Council in Shanghai sometimes conveys a startling impression to outsiders. On the 22nd of last month H.E. T'so T'sung-tang, Grand Secretary of State, Senior Guardian of the Heir Apparent, Marquis of the Second Degree, Governor General of the Liang!Kiang, and Imperial Commissioner of Trade for the Southern Ports, passed through the foreign Settlement escorted by a body of soldiers. These braves appear to have conducted themselves somewhat arrogantly. They "obstructed the police in the execution of their duty; almost completely stopped the traffic in the streets through which they passed; roughly pushed people out of their way, and forced carriages on to the side walks." The next day, the Chairman of the Municipal Council addressed the Senior Consul on the subject, requesting him "to represent to the proper native authorities the grave inconveniences which may arise from bringing into the foreign Settlement such an unnecessarily large number of armed men, and ask them to take steps in order to prevent this again being done." This despatch probably gave its author very little trouble to write, but it might have perplexed him had he reflected seriously on the import of his request. What he asks is simply this—that a Chinese official of any rank, no matter how high, shall dispense with the forms and ceremonies prescribed for that rank whenever he desires to pass through a portion of Chinese territory where foreigners have the privilege of residing. Chinese soldiers, and indeed Japanese also, have peculiar notions about the rule of the road. When they pass through the streets, their formation seems specially designed to impede traffic. But then China is China. To ask a Mandarin to move without an escort simply because his road happens to take him into a part of his country where there is a foreign Settlement, has the sound of a slightly cool request. To the query "why do you pass the places where we live with a number of armed soldiers?" the Mandarin might not inaptly reply, "why do you live in places where I pass with a number of armed soldiers?"

THE Autumn Races have been the event of the week in more senses than one. They are always a pleasant event on account of the excuse they furnish to holiday seekers, but on the whole the interest they excite is not in the ascendant. In a small community like Yokohama, where competition on the turf is necessarily limited, it is possible to elevate horse-racing to the rank of a sober business offering quite as few risks as any other commercial pursuit with, at least, a corresponding number of favorable chances. Of course there is no valid reason why anybody who fancies such an occupation should not pursue it with whatever capital and energy he can com-

mand. Still, if he succeeds, as he is tolerably certain to succeed, the result is apt to have a damping effect upon the spirits of his competitors. Something of this kind has to be recorded of our Settlement in recent years, and it must be confessed that the sportsmen who found themselves outside the ring bore their extrusion with considerable equanimity. Racing, they probably argued, like everything else in Yokohama, can easily be over-done. As inelastic as the commerce from which we all toil to nibble off a pittance, it refuses to expand with the pressure put upon it. There is comfortable standing room for one magnate, or, perhaps, two, but beyond that number everybody must be prepared to pay a high price for his footing. This autumn, however, a new element has been introduced. Of the nine races run on the first day, four were for Japanese, four for Chinese, and one for half-bred, ponies. The Chinese events were contested entirely by horses belonging to foreigners, while of the ponies that competed for the five Japanese events all were Japanese-owned with one exception—"Buckeye," who ran second for the War Department Cup. The record of the second day's racing was exactly the same, the total result being that not one of the ten races for Japanese ponies was won by a foreign stable. The explanation of this is easy enough. Since the central cavalry depot was established in Tokiyo, all the best horses in the country find their way to the Remount Bureau. Foreign buyers are out of the running altogether. Something must be said, too, for the keenness of Japanese racing men. They seem to appreciate the sport thoroughly, and such of them as take part in it are for the most part independent of circumstances which cannot but weaken foreign competition. One can easily foresee what will be the end of this. If foreign owners are to be virtually excluded from all the races for Japanese ponies—i.e. from more than half the whole number of events—their active share in the sport will soon cease altogether, and the next step will be the transformation of the course at Nigishi into a sheep pasture.

Kinsatsu have reclaimed to the position they occupied before the rebellion of 1877. During the days of their degradation they were made the basis of a host of theories most of which could never have lived in the higher latitudes of intelligence. A mathematician, whose contributions to the science of education have no parallel in England, devoted seemingly disproportionate spaces in some of his manuals to the discussion of standards and units. Experience had taught him that these problems and their corollaries, not the equality of the angles at the base of an isosceles triangle, are the true *pons asinorum* of the youthful scientist; and in the days when, as a public examiner, it was his business to devise tests of intelligence, candidates used to whisper to one another that foremost among the "crucials" on his paper there would surely be a question involving the re-statement of sundry formulæ or equations in

terms of some unheard-of unit. If the spirit of this great man could have visited our Settlement in the times when the currency was in such sorry plight that everybody with a Bonnamy Price and a thesaurus was emboldened to throw theses at it, he would assuredly have lifted his hands to heaven in despairing horror of the ignorance he had toiled so hard and so fruitlessly to enlighten. "Young men," he would have exclaimed to some of the essayists, deriving the adjective from the greenness of their knowledge rather than the greyiness of their hair, "Young men, consult my manuals, and when you have acquired a rudimentary familiarity with the properties of a standard, you will be in a position partially to appreciate the revolting bewilderment betrayed in your propositions about rice and other commodities of variable value." Let us congratulate ourselves, however, that we are no longer subjected to these moral shocks. *Kinsatsu* have baffled even the most daring sciolist. They have soared to regions out of range of the longest bow in this community—though there are some pretty long ones—and any shots now taken at them have a hopeless, furtive sort of sound. Never was there such a miracle of market-rigging. Mr. Okuma spent nearly all the hard money in the Treasury trying to give these paper tokens a fillip, but if he succeeded in raising them two or three per cent. one day, they made haste to descend four or five the next, until the final result resembled the fate of the bedevilled individual in the parable. The present Minister of Finance has done, say the bewildered essayists, exactly what Mr. Okuma did, with one exception: he, too, has rigged the market but without using any hard money in the operation. It is a feat of necromancy. The specie value of the paper money circulating in Japan has been raised from 100, to 150, millions in about a year and a half, solely by means of occult operations which the bewildered essayists themselves have never attempted to describe except in terms of mysteriously general abuse. How have Mr. Matsukata and his colleagues accomplished it? If half what their revilers say of them be true, they are nothing short of financial alchemists. Miracles, however, lose their miraculous character in some eyes. There are people in this Settlement who attribute the appreciation of *Kinsatsu* to simpler causes, and who, seeing those causes at work a year ago, predicted that the natural consequences would ensue. They were greatly laughed at, these sanguine persons, and still keener ridicule was lavished on the notion that the Government were really taking steps to reduce the bulk of the currency or the Finance Minister honestly abstaining from transactions in the money market. Nevertheless these and other measures have certainly been in progress, and if the appreciation of the paper money is a mere coincidence, one is curious to know why it has appreciated. It will be easier to find a satisfactory explanation of these things when we agree to admit that Japan is subject to the common economical principles which obtain all over the world.

NOTES.

Nobody will have been much surprised by the telegram which we published on the 2nd inst. to the effect that the tone of the French journals exhibits great and increasing bitterness against China. As a general rule the opinions ventilated by any particular French newspaper do not exercise extensive influence. The conditions of journalistic existence in Paris render the daily sheets exponents, not of public, but of party, sentiment, and, moreover, of party sentiment comprised within very narrow limits. For this very reason, however, any consensus of journalistic opinion in France assumes special significance, and we are persuaded that Chinese diplomats will not underrate the importance of the feeling their demands are now said to have evoked. It is not difficult to follow, at least in outline, the course of recent events at the scene of negotiations. One of the most perplexing elements has been the unexpected firmness of China's attitude throughout. Repeated experiences have taught men to believe that the Government of Peking chooses any alternative save that of war, and with France as a prospective enemy these pacific tendencies might have been expected to attain their maximum development. But it is an established metaphysical fact that the man who does not mean to fight becomes aggressive and even truculent in proportion as he is persuaded that his own reluctance is exceeded by that of his *vis-à-vis*, and into this mood China appears to have drifted gradually. Not that she could ever have suspected France of any uneasiness about the issue of a struggle with her ill-disciplined and half-armed forces, but that she accredited the Ferry Cabinet with designs which were not shared, and could never be endorsed, by the French people. There were reasons, apparently valid, for this idea. Half the Western, and all the Eastern, world believes that France's position in Europe forbids her to assume any serious responsibilities abroad. She may send two or three thousand men to fight against a nerveless State like Annam; she may vote a credit of a million dollars to secure the occupation of a fertile territory like the delta of the Red River, and she may even allow her Cochinchinese undertaking to develop unanticipated dimensions; but to engage deliberately in a struggle with the Middle Kingdom, and to face all the embarrassments and complications such a struggle would involve, is an issue she may be expected to avoid by every possible expedient. This is the faith which has inspired China's unusual firmness, and we may conjecture that it was considerably strengthened by the apparent reluctance of M. Ferry to convoke a special session of the Chamber, though perpetually urged to take that step, rather than leave a handful of troops in Tonquin without efficient support. The Marquis Tseng believed, in short, that by prolonging the negotiations until the Chamber met on the 24th of October, he could count on a vote which would place the negotiations on a basis favourable to his country's claims. To a certain extent he was

probably right in his conjecture, but it seems that he has over-estimated the situation. When the Chambers were opened the Yellow Book told them that China required France to abandon or largely modify her treaties with Annam, and to withdraw her troops from the whole of Tonquin north of the Red River. An exceedingly careless report forwarded by Reuter ascribes a still more arrogant character to China's demands, but even the above interpretation embodies pretensions which must have been exceedingly unpalatable to France. Whatever China's rights may be, her spasmodic method of asserting them is not calculated to conciliate public opinion. She might have counted on the good sense and forbearance of the French nation so long as her demands left room for the exercise of these qualities, but it cannot be supposed that France is in a particularly happy humour just at present, and the Peking Government has over-taxed her patience. The friends of peace will find it difficult to control a situation complicated by Chinese unreasonableness as well as by Parisian jingoism.

Meanwhile the recently reported retreat of the Black Flags from Sontai seems to have been a *canard*. They appear to be stronger than ever, especially at Sontai and Bac-ninh, which latter place was recently reconnoitred and found strongly fortified, with a numerous garrison and Krupp guns in position. If the Chinese allies of the Black Flags were formerly in the pay of Annam, whence do they draw their stipends at present?

We note the arrival, by the last American mail, of His Excellency Count Charles Zaluski, His Imperial Austrian Majesty's Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary to Japan. The Count is accompanied Mr. H. Von Siebold, whose appointment to the post of Secretary of Legation was Gazetted some months ago.

SATURDAY the 3rd instant, being the anniversary of His Majesty the Mikado's birthday, was celebrated in the Capital with all the usual pomp. In the morning the troops in garrison, to the number of about seven thousand, paraded at Hibiya for Imperial inspection. The march-past, which was performed in excellent style, was witnessed by the Emperor and a numerous Staff, as well as by the Foreign Representatives and other visitors. Those who have had an opportunity of observing the Japanese troops at reviews of this nature during the past seven or eight years, were unanimously of opinion that the manoeuvres on Saturday bore renewed testimony to the constantly increasing proficiency of the men. The appearance of the cavalry was specially noteworthy. They handled their horses in a way that left nothing to be desired, and exhibited the bearing of smart, well disciplined soldiers. After the review the Foreign Representatives proceeded to the Palace, where a *déjeuner* was served entirely in Japanese fashion. In the evening His Excellency the Minister for Foreign Affairs held a reception, which was attended by more

than a thousand guests, Japanese and Foreign. His Excellency's official residence was beautifully decorated for the occasion, and the illuminations and fireworks showed, if possible, more richness and originality than on previous celebrations.

THE correspondent of the *Egyptian Gazette* gives an account as follows of a visit paid by him to the Bedlam in Cairo. He says that, after visiting the Cholera Hospital, he went, in the short time at his disposal, to the Lunatic Asylum, situated in the desert to the right of the Abbassiah road towards the last slopes of the heights of Mokattam. The Doctor in charge was absent, celebrating the feast of Bairam in town; but his representative was there—a big fellow fifty years of age, white-bearded, yellow-robed, girt with a red sash, and wearing enormous white pantaloons and a tarboosh. This person led the visitor and his companions along a gloomy vestibule into the courtyard of the Asylum, where some madmen were walking "without any apparent object." By order of the gentleman in the yellow robe all these promenaders were driven to their quarters. The first incident was provided by a youngster, fourteen years of age, who asked for "backshish," as most Egyptians do. There was some method in this lad's madness. At last the correspondent arrived at a corridor which was only lighted by little windows level with the ceiling, and all barred with iron. Along this corridor, at the bottom of the wall at the left, were the madmen sitting on their haunches, and forming a row which appeared interminable. They seemed to be a lot of miserable, quiet, and inoffensive creatures. They were literally clothed with sackcloth. All that was wanting to complete their resemblance to Job at his worst was the ashes and the sores. Their only garment consisted of a sack, in place of a shirt, which came to their knees, with a hole for the head, and sleeves reaching to the elbows. They wore not the least bit of linen.

To the right were the dormitories: immense dark chambers into which the only entrance was through low doors, and ventilated only by means of little windows close to the ceiling and looking upon the arcade surrounding the courtyard. The rooms were floored with stone: were full of holes and rifts, and the plaster of the walls was falling in big pieces. It was evident that no repairs had been effected for years, that even the mean expense of whitewash had been dispensed with. The beds were similar to those employed in the native hospitals and barracks—iron frames and wooden bottoms. Bedding and bed-clothes were inconceivably dirty and covered with vermin. Each room was crowded with beds only a foot apart. The stench in rooms and corridors was unbearable; and the most elementary notions of propriety were disregarded. It is impossible to translate the narrator's description of the filthiness that he saw, and that witnesses with him can vouch for. Among them was a gallant cavalry officer, hero of several campaigns; and even he was unable

to restrain the revulsion of his stomach. Some of the lunatics were reposing on their filthy beds or standing beside them and indulging in the attitudes generally affected by madmen. Here and there was a lunatic chained hand and foot groping along the corridor: further on was an old man of quiet and respectable appearance, who saluted the visitors with his hands crossed over his breast. At many points were observed doors strongly barred and bolted which the servants refused to open on the pretext either that no-one was inside the cell or that the key was missing. On one occasion the visitors were allowed to look through a little opening about four inches square into what was really nothing but a black hole, where for some time they could distinguish nothing, although they heard the wail, often lapsing into sobs, of the unhappy inmate, who when at last seen in the darkness, was observed to be more like an empty sack than a human being.

One room is described, "as the Chamber of Horrors." It is that where intractable patients are "mastered and treated." It is a big spacious and well-lighted room. The walls, however, are perforated with holes about two feet high with bars of iron at each end to which violent madmen are bound by the extremities.

A certain implement of torture or restraint, and the condition of a patient who was put in it, are vividly portrayed. The operation is not so horrible as that of keel-hauling as described in a London paper during the Egyptian war, but its torture must be more enduring. Even the kitchen appears to be so arranged as to afford no comfort to the unhappy objects, who thence derive the food that keeps their miserable souls and bodies together. It was both dirty and dark. Half-a-dozen idiots, growling between their teeth, were helping a muscular Arab cook. The madmen's dinner was getting ready; and as this was the first day of the Bairam, they had, presumably, better food than usual. On the ground were four big dishes, each about a foot and a half in diameter: two contained rice: the other two, mutton broth. Near them, squatting on the ground, was an idiot slicing vegetables into a bowl. At the end of the room, upon a stone, was a heap of scraps, not very inviting, of the mutton which had served to make the broth. The visitors did not explore the rooms on the upper story, which they were told were not occupied in the daytime on account of the heat. Some of the patients, however, slept there by night.

The women's quarter was even dirtier than the men's. The poor madwomen were crowded together, and the filth beggars description. This division has no upper story and comprises only five rooms on the ground floor, opening upon a very small yard. The stink which rose from the bedding, and from the unwashed, and even unswept, floor was insupportable. Many of the women were hysteric and two were in a complete state of nudity. In the last room but one, a

dark hole to which light and air were admitted only through the door,—a dungeon, for that is the sole word whereby to describe it—without a single piece of furniture, two unhappy women were stretched upon the ground on planks. The hands of one were perfectly cold; and presented every symptom of those of a person seized by a violent access of cholera. And at this moment the doctor was celebrating the Bairam in town! The other woman lay at the head of the room, but as the writer's military companion could not bear the effluvia of the den, the visitors did not examine her. The people who accompanied them did all they could to prevent them from entering that room.

The gentleman who was kind enough to induce them to visit this infamous establishment informed them that the Abbassieh Asylum contains about three hundred lunatics, including eighty women and one or two children; and that there is no classification whatsoever except that between men and women. Raging madmen and those who are only slightly affected live together higgledy-piggledy. The only remedy that is deemed efficacious in the case of violent madness is the cold douche.

The visitors asked their guide several times if any cases of cholera had occurred, and were invariably answered in the negative; but while crossing the court-yard they perceived the well-known funeral box borne by two men—truly a suspicious circumstance.

On Monday, the 6th of August, the day after the chronicler's visit to the mad-house, the Board of Health deemed it well to publish in its daily bulletin that, between the 30th of July and the 3rd of August, thirty-two deaths from cholera had occurred in the establishment.

AFTER a truce of several weeks with the official world, the *Maru Maru Shimbun* has in a recent issue returned to the assault upon what it deems abuses. We are shown a horse-fair, and stables over which is inscribed *Roba-in*, or "Hospital for Agged Horses," an allusion evidently to the *Genro-in* or Senate. Far in the distance are the towers of Fukushima and Saitama. Close to the stable a groom with pliant features wreathed in smiles holds a tranquil steed, while at a short distance a fractious horse is with difficulty held in by his attendants. The following dialogue takes place among the crowd:—"This is the animal that could not be induced to work on the roads in Fukushima!" "That is so, and now he is assigned to the Old-horse Hospital." The jest is directed against Mr. Mishima, Prefect of Fukushima, who was a prominent figure in the recent prosecution of the Fukushima rioters, and is now recommended for promotion to the ranks of the *Genro-in* refuge where that superannuated and other officers can be kept out of trouble and danger.

THE Italian *Gazette Ufficiale* of September the 15th contains the following:—"His Majesty

the Emperor of Japan has telegraphed to His Majesty the King to express the emotion he felt at the news of the catastrophe of Ischia and to convey his sympathy for the survivors and the people of Italy in general. The King replied immediately, also by telegraph, thanking the Emperor for having taken part, at so great a distance, in the mourning of Italy, and for having manifested his august benevolence. His Majesty's telegram adds that in Italy, the King, the Government, and the whole country are animated by an equal feeling of sympathy for the Japanese people."

WE read in American newspapers that General Roger A. Pryor, once of the entire Southern half of the United States, and now of New York, has sailed for England to take part in the defence of O'Donnell, charged with the murder of James Carey, the informer. Although regularly retained as counsel, it is not absolutely certain that he will appear in the proceedings, the Crown having the obvious right to object, on the ground that he is not an English barrister. It is thought probable, however, that no protest will be made, and that his services will be added to those of Messrs. Guy and Sullivan, the solicitor and barrister engaged on O'Donnell's behalf. In that event, the trial will be enlivened by the presence of a figure of considerable personal, and some slight historical, interest. General Pryor, "in the days before the war," was the incarnation of Southern sound and fury, and the embodiment of all the hatreds cherished by the defenders of slavery against the people of the North. He came before the public at an early period of life, in the character of proprietor and editor of a Richmond newspaper, which had its beginning and its end before he was twenty years old. It was a remarkable publication, unlike most of its Southern contemporaries in the fact that it was truly brilliant in its incessant blaze of anti-Northern ferocity,—like the endless chain-lightning of the Caribbean Sea. Humour it had none, but an electric vivacity of invective which made it invariably entertaining, if not logically convincing. As soon as Pryor's age would permit—some said sooner—he was sent to the House of Representatives at Washington, and there distinguished himself by various freaks of juvenile indiscretion. One of his first assaults was upon the *New York Herald*, in the course of which he fell into the error of alluding too freely to certain incidents in the career of Mrs. James Gordon Bennett, mother of the present possessor of *Heraldic* honors; and the manner of the elder Bennett's retaliation will never be forgotten. For several successive days, the Congressional columns of the great New York journal contained, in addition to the reports of what actually occurred, some twenty or thirty interspersed paragraphs, of the following character:—

"Roger A. Pryor, the shameless liar and libeller, from Virginia, was silent."
"Roger A. Pryor, the filthy slanderer of woman, from Virginia, said not a word."

For obvious reasons, we submit specimens of only the milder of these eruptions; but the

effect of upwards of a score of such, and worse, scattered over the pages of a newspaper, day after day, may be imagined. An "arrangement" was effected, by which the *Herald* presently ceased to torment the soul of Pryor, while the over zealous orator abstained from further allusion to the *Herald* or its family. The stream of venom thus choked, found a new outlet, however, in onslaughts upon fellow-congressmen, a speedy result of which was the memorable "affair" with Potter, of Wisconsin, which budded as prettily as any quarrel on record, but never reached the blossoming stage. This was one of a succession of similar incidents, the unvarying termination of which produced upon the Northern mind a totally erroneous impression that the Southern heart had very little fire in it, after all, and that bluster and bravado, rather than genuine grit and pluck, were the characteristics of the slave-holding community. The expected duels between Burlingame and Brooks, Grow and Keitt, Potter and Pryor, and others, all came to an ignominious end, and in most instances by the withdrawal of the Southern adversary, at a critical moment. In the last-named dispute, Potter was the challenged party, and, having never handled sword or pistol, elected to fight with bowie-knives, these being weapons equally unfamiliar to both sides. Pryor's friends refused to allow him to proceed, on the pretext that the arms proposed were "ungentlemanly." This was an unfortunate decision for their principal, who, if left to himself, would probably have fought with anything, but who never cleared himself from the suspicion of cowardice until the opportunity was afterward given him on the battle-field. His course through the war was creditable enough, though not distinguished in any way, and he surprised everybody who knew him by breaking off all his old associations as soon as peace was declared, going to the North, and settling in New York as a hard working, studious lawyer. A more complete metamorphosis was never witnessed. All the wild flamboyance of his early years was dropped like a suit of worn-out clothing, and in a remarkably short time he was worthily admitted to the bar of which he is now a prominent and highly respected member. It is somewhat curious that notwithstanding the various disciplinary changes he has gone through, his appearance continues the same as it was when he entered Congress, twenty-five years ago. With his long black hair, swarthy complexion, flashing eye, and mobile features, he is one of the few remaining types of what used to be called the "youthful chivalry" of the South. But he will not court notoriety in that character. To him, the civil war of America is as completely an event of the past as that of England; which latter, by the bye, he might well recall in *tableaux vivants*, by personating Charles the Second, of the youthful portrait of whom he is a living image.

The proposal to open the grave of Shakespeare, reference to which has been made in these columns, will not be carried into effect. It

appears that the suggestion originated with Dr. Ingleby, a life trustee of the birthplace of Shakespeare, and was approved by Mr. Arbuthnot, the vicar of Stratford. But, upon inquiry as to the proper authority by which the exhumation could be ordered, it was found that the consent of the Mayor and officers of the corporation must be obtained. The Mayor, however, has refused to sanction the proceeding, and the poet's remains will continue to rest undisturbed.

THE *China Mail* says that it may be news to some persons, but it is probably true, that few days pass without a lost Chinese child being taken to the Police Station in Hongkong by the constables. Almost as frequently the mother, or some other relation, goes to the Station, dissolved in tears, to report the loss. "The child is produced, enthusiastically recognised, and taken home, to receive a good sound spanking for the trouble it has given." The Hongkong paper adds:—"It would save mothers, children, and police a great deal of trouble if the Chinese would take a lesson from Japan. There each toddling little urchin has a small wooden ticket fastened to its clothing, with the child's name, sex, and age, and the father's name and address upon it. The Japanese name for this label is *maigo fuda* or *lost child ticket*, which sufficiently explains its purpose. Such a system might even prove useful in some European cities."

THE scheme for importing twenty thousand Chinese laborers into Brazil is spoken of by several American newspapers as a new and strange development of enterprise on the part of the South American empire. This, however, is not the case. It is probable, on the contrary, that Brazil was in advance of all other Western countries, in endeavoring to introduce settlers from the overflowing population of the great Asiatic nation. A moment's consideration would suggest the naturalness of such attempt at colonization, in view of the historical associations of China and Portugal,—which latter kingdom once included Brazil among its dominions. When the Court of Portugal was driven to Rio Janeiro by the French, in 1807, the improvement of the royal revenues became a matter of the first necessity, and the advisers of the Regent, afterward Joam VI., proposed to devote a large amount of unoccupied territory to the cultivation of tea, the value of which product was well-known through importations from Macao, that island being a centre of Portuguese operations in the Far East. In 1810, several hundred Chinese were carried to Brazil and set to work upon the new industry. Portuguese writers aver that these emigrants were selected from the tea-growing regions, as being thoroughly qualified for the projected enterprise, and it is recorded that the soil and climate of Southern Brazil were found in every way suitable to the plant; but the undertaking nevertheless languished. Negro slaves were largely employed, and the Chinese gradually turned to more profitable occupations, leaving the tea plantations in unthrifty and incompetent hands. By the middle of

the century, the Mongols had almost entirely disappeared, although tea continued to be produced in quantities sufficient to meet the needs of the locality. In 1850 the Emperor Pedro II. abolished the slave trade, and from that time immigration for agricultural purposes was found requisite. Numerous ship-loads of Chinamen were imported, among others, but great difficulty was experienced in persuading them to work in the interior, particularly after the infamous cruelties practised upon them by their so called employers became generally known. At the present time they are hardly to be seen in Brazil, excepting at the coast ports. The introduction of so large a number as twenty thousand seems rather an extravagant proceeding, supposing that it can be successfully carried out; but there is no doubt that abundant fields of labor would await all of them, if they could be induced to serve where required. The tea industry will probably not be stimulated to any great extent, but other products, especially coffee, can be developed to much advantage. The difficult questions are, first, how to get these heavy agricultural reinforcements into Brazil, and next, how to keep them employed at the only kind of work that can be beneficial to the country.

MR. ERNEST SATOW has given us another proof of his indefatigable industry in the form of a map of Korea, which, having regard to the still rudimentary nature of our acquaintance with the peninsula, appears to be a work of wonderful accuracy. It is not, of course, the outcome of original survey, but is compiled, chiefly, from a chart prepared in 1875 by the Intelligence Bureau (*Sambo-Kiyoku*) of the War Department, Tokyo. On comparing the two maps, however, we observe that Mr. Satow's contains considerably the larger number of places, especially along the coast line—from which fact we conclude that he has availed himself of the information procured by recent naval surveys. The Korean names are spelled after the phonetic system devised by Messrs. Satow, Aston, and Chamberlain. A short explanation of the system is given on the face of the map, accompanied by a reference, for further particulars, to a work by the same authors which is now in the press and will shortly be published under the title "*A Manual of Korean Geographical and other Proper Names Romanized*." The map is on a scale of 26½ miles to an inch and measures 11 inches by 20 inches. It thus combines handiness with typographical distinctness, and is in every respect a most valuable and timely production.

IN a final note to his last six monthly report addressed to the Chinese Imperial Maritime Customs on the Health of Shanghai, Dr. Jamieson draws attention to the opinion of the celebrated German expert Dr. Von Pettenkofer in the *Neueste Nachrichten und Münchener Anzeiger*, 14th-17th July, 1883, on the subject of quarantine, which he is emphatic in denouncing as extravagant and useless, adducing the remarkable instance of Malta in 1865, where, in

spite of the most stringent precautions under the most favourable circumstances, an outbreak of cholera was not prevented. This outbreak and others under more or less similar conditions he attributes to the fructification of germs long before imported, and lying latent perhaps for months. The moral of this is, according to the German scientist, that quarantine regulations are always and inevitably enforced too late. In this article attention is drawn to the facts of individual predisposition and immunity, which are striking phenomena in every epidemic, and which can be only partially explained, if at all, by visible external conditions. Finally, the vast importance of general hygienic measures, and the absolutely essential need of prompt attention to the first warning given by diarrhoea, are most urgently inculcated.

"ONE of the Unlicensed," who in a recent letter to this journal pleaded the cause of the unfortunate birds and beasts which so many civilized beings love to shatter and slaughter, confessed that, in a majority of cases, he did not expect to excite any feeling but ridicule by his remonstrances. His expectation is probably the more likely to be fulfilled in that he acknowledged himself to be without any practical experience of the pleasures he censured. But he is not without allies. Among them is included the celebrated Russian author Tourgueneff, whose last literary effort, published quite recently by the *Revue Politique et Littéraire*, has reference to this very subject. Tourgueneff, when a boy of ten, used to accompany his father on almost daily excursions against partridge and quail. He derived the keenest delight from the sport, knew no chagrin save that caused by the escape of a too wary plover, nor felt the smallest sensation of pity when a wounded bird fell struggling on the grass or into the jaws of his father's dog "Treasure." One summer, on the eve of St. Peter's Day, the father and son set out to enjoy an afternoon's amusement. "Treasure" came to a dead set among some grass at the end of an oak copse, and presently a quail rose from under the dog's very nose. But the bird flew strangely, with a fluttering, uncertain motion, and finally fell as though it were wounded. The dog, contrary to his wont, followed at full speed, and by an extraordinary exercise of nimbleness managed to seize the quail, which it carried to Tourgueneff's father. "What is it?" cried the child, running up breathlessly. "Is the bird wounded?" "No," was the reply, "but doubtless she has her nest near at hand, and flew in that strange way to make the dog follow her so as to entice him away from the neighbourhood of her young ones." But she played the comedy too well, as "Treasure" has demonstrated. "Then she is not wounded?" "No, but she will not live. 'Treasure's' teeth have been too much for her." And in fact the little bird died a few minutes afterwards. This incident had a wonderful effect upon the child. Searching about with the aid of the dog, he found the nest of young quails, and then, by his father's permission, buried their mother beside them. But he never again could

derive any sincere pleasure from shooting. He did not, indeed, immediately give up the sport, but pursued it with little interest for some years until another incident finally rendered it quite intolerable. Shooting one day with a friend, the latter wounded a grouse as she was flying off followed by her brood. She did not fall, however, but struggled on, and Tourgueneff's companion, making signs that they should lie down in the grass, began to imitate the cry of the grouse so skilfully that the voices of the young ones were presently heard replying. In a few minutes the whole brood would have been persuaded to return, when suddenly the sportsmen's attention was attracted by the cry of the hen grouse close at hand. Looking round, they saw the wounded bird, with her breast all bloody, struggling towards them though the grass. "It was evident," says Tourgueneff, "that the mother's heart could no longer resist. She came to sacrifice her own life in the hope of diverting pursuit from her young ones. I felt like a monster of cruelty. Springing to my feet, I clapped my hands loudly, and the cries of the young grouse ceasing immediately, the mother flew away." That was the end of Tourgueneff's shooting experiences.

WE hear from Korea that the mono-metallic plan will shortly become a tale of the past. Korea, the unassuming and apparently impecunious vassal of the Celestial Kingdom, is about to indulge in a paroxysm of silver coinage. This is the more interesting, as there is no Mint either in China or Korea, and so all the coins must be struck off by the tedious process of hand-press. A short time ago—only a few months—over twenty thousand taels' worth of silver coins were minted, but only a small amount of these was put into circulation, as the movement had not received the condign approval of the Korean autocrat, Mr. P. G. von Möllendorff. These coins were made of pure silver—said to have come from the Government mines, but we have our doubts. There were four different sizes, ranging from one to four mace of silver; or from 15 to 60 cents. They were not milled and were very rough, the reverse bearing the inscription *Dai Chosen Koku*, while the obverse was plain, with the exception of a small circle of blue enamel in the centre. This enamel gives the coin a rather pretty appearance, despite its roughness. The process of enamelling cannot have been at all easy on account of the primitive machinery used, especially as we understand that the small circle of enamel was attached *by hand* to the coin while the silver was still unpleasantly warm.

But Mr. P. G. von Möllendorff is not satisfied with the coins, and has recommended the Government to redeem those already in circulation, remelt them, and issue a new coinage containing a ten *per cent.* alloy of copper. Not very much will be circulated after all, as the original issue of \$20,000 will in all probability be adhered to, not unwisely. The redemption

of the silver in circulation may very possibly have given occasion to the sudden great depreciation of copper, as the *Choya Shinbun* notes a fall of 25 per cent. in exchange. A few specimens of the late issue have found their way into the hands of Europeans, and will be a regular treasure-trove to ardent numismatists. Some have already been sent to Europe and America by keen-eyed speculators, who had themselves to pay twice the face-value in order to obtain specimens. We congratulate Korea on this decided step towards civilization, but we should really like to know where those nice silver mines are.

WE regret to hear of the death of the wife of H.E. J. R. Young, U.S. Minister to China. Mrs. Young, who is not unknown in Yokohama, died at the early age of twenty-four, barely eighteen months after her marriage.

OF the Meeting of the British Association, which was held a few weeks ago, *The Times* says, ironically, that it "is the great scientific festival of the year. For the initiated and the elect there are, of course, the inner mysteries of St. Andrew's Day and other less public occasions; but when the British Association meets, the worship of science is conducted *coram populo* according to such rites and ceremonies as are more or less intelligible to the uninitiated world. The President, who is the hierophant of the occasion, is generally a man who possesses the faculty of presenting scientific ideas in a fashion not too abstruse to be popular. Sometimes, perhaps, he is too strictly scientific to be generally popular, and sometimes he is almost too popular to be really scientific; but, on an average, a fair balance is preserved," and so on, ridiculing, as most of the exponents of public opinion at home have done, the fact that an association whose avowed object and *raison d'être* is the advancement of general science should have devoted all the time of its recent reunion to the President's pet theme of pure mathematics. Sardonicly, and in very few words, the *Pall Mall Gazette* condenses the proceedings thus:—"There is a story told of the late Professor Henry Smith that, when explaining some new discovery in the theory of numbers to his Oxford pupils he added the remark, 'and the great beauty of the thing is that it cannot possibly ever be of the slightest practical use to anybody.' Something of the same uncompromising enthusiasm for mathematics for mathematics' sake ran through Professor Cayley's presidential address to the members of the British Association, and lends additional poignancy to the regret for Professor Smith's untimely death, with which both the Secretary and the President prefaced their remarks. It seems clear from the announcements which Professor Bonney made for next year that the visit of the British Association to Canada will be rather like a gigantic picnic; and it was perhaps all the more desirable, therefore, that the proceedings this year should have been dedicated, so far as the President's address at least was concerned, to the interests of pure

science. But although Professor Cayley deliberately forbore to speak of the utility of mathematics in common life or physical science, he gave, on the other hand, a very interesting historical survey to show how practical or physical questions have always connected themselves with the development of mathematical theory."

HUMAN lives, like everything else under the sun, the atmosphere excepted, are capable of appraisal. There might be a difficulty in expressing the exact value of any given life in any given unit, but when a comparative statement alone is required, the problem becomes much simpler. The *Saturday Review* appeals to the commonest orders of intelligence when it says, "we must bear in mind the difference in value between the life of a burglar and that of an efficient constable. If a housebreaker is shot, it is a good riddance; but if a capable policeman loses his life, society also loses something of no small value." The question which elicited these fragments of common-sense, was the propriety of arming the London police, or some of them at any rate, with a more efficient weapon than a club. London burglars have recently developed a new means of eluding pursuit. They shoot their pursuers. The latter have clubs, to be sure, but experience goes to show that a difference exists in the effective ranges of clubs and revolvers. An expert housebreaker, provided with a revolver, can generally make himself felt by a club-bearing official before the latter brings his weapon fairly into action. Clubs, too, are not successful as means of warding off pistol bullets, and, altogether, the combination of disadvantages they present, appears to be receiving unusual demonstration at the hands of English housebreakers. Under these circumstances the advisability of enabling a policeman to arrest a ruffian without absolutely placing his life at the latter's mercy was discussed at a meeting of the twenty divisional superintendents of the London Metropolitan Police on September the 12th. But only six of the Superintendents were distinctly in favour of arming the constables with revolvers. The rest desired to avoid the experiment "if possible." They thought it better to wait and see whether these murderous propensities of burglars were likely to be further developed. "It might be dangerous to put revolvers in the hands of men who might rashly use them." Whether the burglars will furnish the developments without which these fourteen gentlemen decline to be convinced, is an open question. If they do—if a few more constables are maimed or murdered—then, no doubt, the survivors will be supplied with revolvers, and expected to exercise the utmost moderation in using them, since it will have been unequivocally demonstrated that by their use only can the blood-thirsty propensities of malefactors be checked. The shooting of constables by burglars being sometimes an unavoidable necessity from the latter's point of view, it is of course much better to run the risk of that occurrence than to expose burglars to the

danger of being unnecessarily shot by constables. English policemen cannot always be depended on to refrain from using their revolvers until the inevitable alternative is death, but English housebreakers can always be depended on not to shoot policemen until the probable alternative is capture. These are not exactly the views entertained by Americans and Frenchmen. They give their constables revolvers and, strange to say, the result is that neither burglars nor constables get shot. Japan has adopted a similar course, substituting swords for revolvers, but in her case the proceeding is quite wrong, since it is not English.

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Constable Banman of New York is an officer who might be advantageously engaged to give his English *confrères* lessons in the use of the club. He employs it to promote sociability. On the 27th of August Mr. O'Neil, a citizen of that metropolis, had just collected two bills from his customers when Banman came along and required him to "stand something." O'Neil preferred to postpone the hospitality, whereupon Banman recommended him to get away for a "sucker" and without delay clubbed him in the neck. O'Neil became curious to know the reason of this assault, and, preferring an enquiry, received a blow on the forehead and another under the ear, so that when he presented himself at the station three weeks later to lodge a complaint, his head was embellished by some "ugly red scars." Another constable, called Jennings, had been practising a few days previously on the person of a youth of eighteen. Chrystie—that was the latter's name—was standing near an Italian fruit-stand eating a slice of water melon, when Jennings, happening to come within sight of this vulgar proceeding, clubbed its perpetrator into the gutter. The lad's arm was broken in two places, but Jennings picked him up and wiped the mud from his clothes, thereby showing that the strongest sense of duty is not inconsistent with the exercise of gentler sentiments. If eating water melons in the streets and refusing to stand cock-tails to constables are clubbable offences, it is surely a little thin-skinned to hesitate about shooting burglars and pick-pockets.

SOME of the London journals are beginning to reflect on the quaint problems offered by the present conditions of foreign residence in the East. The *Spectator* says:—

The continued vitality of international jealousies is in nothing better illustrated than in the difficulty of appointing Stipendiaries in Eastern cities whom all Europeans will trust. The white settlers will not submit, often with good reason, to native Judges, but they will not support the supersession of the conflicting Consular jurisdiction by trustworthy Magistrates, who could make justice regular and uniform. Either they declare for mixed Tribunals, which are exceedingly cumbersome, or for the Consuls, each of whom has a different idea of justice. Even at Shanghai, where the Europeans are coerced into unity by a common danger, and do elect a cosmopolitan municipality, the police are obliged to take the villains they catch—and there are no villains like bad foreigners in China—before a dozen different and conflicting authorities. With the slightest willingness to agree, the Powers could appoint Stipendiaries who could be trusted to do indifferent justice, and reduce the legal chaos into the simplest

order. Either the Indian Code or the Code Napoléon would do for law, and the Stipendiary might always be a Dutchman or a Dane. The nationalities, however, as yet will not trust one another.

The *Spectator* might find in Japan even a better illustration of the "continued vitality of international jealousies." Here there is a Code which is not the Indian Code or the Code Napoléon, but is better than either; while to administer it, the Government proposes to appoint European and American Judges—not stipendiary Magistrates, but skilled Judges. But the Treaty Powers, or rather their Representatives, prefer an agglomeration of sixteen conflicting tribunals, many of them presided over by Consuls who are no more competent by training to administer law than to conduct a military campaign. And what is the reason of this bizarre preference? Simply that Englishmen will not trust French Judges, and Frenchmen will not trust English Judges, while Germans will trust neither, and so on throughout the whole list. One of the pleasant results of civilization is that it inspires every national with a wholesome doubt of every other national's integrity. Japan ought to benefit largely by being made the common battle-field of these doubts.

WE understand that His Excellency Inouye, Minister for Foreign Affairs, has graciously placed a train at the disposal of Tokijo residents who visit Yokohama to witness the performance of "The Ladies' Battle" at the Gaiety Theatre on Monday evening next, given in aid of the sufferers by the earthquake at Ischia.

WE learn that Mr. Plunkett proposes to leave England for Japan in January. He will come *via* America, and as it is his intention to spend some time in the United States, his arrival in Japan cannot be looked for before the end of March.

THE semi-official papers in Austria are silent on the meaning of Mr. Gladstone's journey, but the independent organs are less reserved. The *Neue Freie Presse*, for instance, talks of the trip as a demonstration of unquestionable political significance—an interesting addition to the political pilgrimages of recent years, the more interesting, in fact, as it is not a reigning Sovereign, but a simple Statesman, who has gone to interview the Czar. A Swedish politician of high position asserted to the writer that King Oscar, who has just met the Czar and the other Kings and Princes now guests of the Court of Denmark, entered into no political discussion with them at all, knowing the great dislike of his subjects to be mixed up in any questions of European politics. At the same time Sweden is completing her new army organisation and system of defence, in order to be able to remain perfectly neutral in the European quarrels of the future. On the other hand, an ominous threat has appeared in the official *Petersburger Zeitung* to the effect that the Congress of Princes and Statesmen assembled round King Christian, and representing hundreds of millions of people, may sooner

or later revenge Denmark on Germany. Finally it may be added that, according to the *Presse*, the Russian Procurator-General, M. Pobedonosteff, recently made a stay of several days in Vienna, but as to the object of his journey we are left in ignorance.

THE *Paris* states that the French Government is determined to enforce the stipulations of the Hué Treaty in relation to the Red River delta. The same journal, in other notes, which have an inspired appearance, says that the troops which are to be sent out to Tonquin are mere reinforcements, and that "no European or Asiatic Government could possibly represent them as an army corps intended for operations of a menacing nature." Furthermore, it confirms the statement made by the *Temps*, to the effect that there has never been any idea of convoking Parliament before the date originally decided upon. "If," continues the *Paris*, "the negotiations with China fall through, and if a rupture result from their interruption, or even if there be any reason to fear that we may be driven into a war with the Celestial Empire, the Ministry is quite determined to consult Parliament before taking any definite step. But such eventualities are so little to be feared, that any assertion to the contrary can only be attributed to pure malevolence. The Ministry, satisfied with the conclusion of the Hué Treaty, which it regards as a thoroughly valid arrangement, is engaged in assuring its execution, in conformity with the mandate that it has received from the Chambers."

AN English paper, commenting upon the paper-making industry of Egypt, says that, before the thirteenth century, "there was imported from Syria paper fabricated from *silken* as well as cotton material, which is known to have been in use as early as the beginning of the twelfth century. Arab historians, however, state that similar paper was made in Mecca early in the eighth century. This certainly adds something to the common knowledge of paper materials; and when American millionaires hunger after some new thing on which to lavish money, they might make silk paper." It also adds: "knowledge would have been a long time spreading, and civilization would have made slow progress if we had to depend only on silken paper."

WE take these notes on Indian financial matters from the latest issues of the *Englishman*.—The amount of remittances to the Home Treasury by means of Council Bills from the 1st of April to the 22nd of September has been £7,656,800, which leaves £8,643,200 to be remitted during the remainder of the financial year. The actual receipts from six sales of Bengal opium have amounted to Rs. 3,48,21,305, which is Rs. 15,81,305 better than the estimate, whilst those from five months pass duty on opium exported from Bombay have been Rs. 76,88,000, which is Rs. 3,12,000 below the estimate. The net Indian sea and land customs revenue, exclusive of the salt revenue for the first five months of the

current financial year, has amounted to Rs. 46,50,000 as compared with Rs. 50,68,000 during the corresponding period of last year.

IN the *Rising Sun and Nagasaki Express* we read that a troupe of Korean acrobats have recently arrived in the port and that arrangements are being made for them to perform at the Yenokidzu-machi Theatre.—The celebration of the festival in honour of the soldiers slain in recent wars, has recently been concluded at Kumamoto on a magnificent scale. The ground chosen was Hanoka Hill, where the Satsuma rebels took their stand and connoated the Castle. While the festivities lasted a general holiday was observed.—The U.S. S. *Monocacy* has arrived from Chefoo and been docked for a general overhauling. The frigate *Pensacola* arrived from Kobe, and shortly afterwards saluted the port, it being her first appearance in the harbour. The *Essex* and the *Palos* are also still in harbour.

THE French cruiser *Hamelin*, Commandant Roustan, which arrived in Hongkong on the 15th, from Halong Bay, and left on the 18th, of October brought, says the *China Mail*, late intelligence from Haiphong. Upon receipt of a telegram from Europe, Admiral Courbet, who had previously declined to take the command of the forces in Tonquin until the receipt of more definite instructions, assumed the supreme control, and at once issued orders for a contingent of marines and sailors from the large vessels of the squadron under his command to be despatched to Haiphong. These men will probably be sent up to Hanoi to reinforce the troops there. The Black Flags, and their allies, are still in great force at Sontai, although most of the fortified positions between that place and Hanoi have been abandoned by them.

A REPRESENTATIVE of the *North China Daily News* recently paid a visit to Si Yung, the imprisoned detective who is confined in one of the cells in the upper story of one of the prisons at the District Magistrate's in Shanghai. Fourteen other prisoners were there. From a Chinese point of view the inmates appeared to be comfortable. Many of them were lying down, others were smoking, while two or three were walking about. "Si Yung has not met with any actual ill treatment, though one of the runners had said he must put a chain round his neck about ten days ago. As none of the other prisoners in that particular cell are chained, the threat could only be looked upon as a pretext for a squeeze, and Si Yung had to pay the runner \$2 to prevent the threat being carried into execution. Other foreigners had been to see Si Yung, and had put a number of questions to him as to how he was getting on." The *N. C. D. News* believes that fresh efforts are being made to procure the detective's release.

A MELBOURNE man advertises that he has made, during the past ten years, from £4,000 to £5,000 a year by systematic betting on horse-

racing, but as he is in want of £1,500 he will sell his secret for that price. This reads like a genuine affair, and if next door's cat hadn't broken our milk-jug we don't know that we wouldn't speculate. As it is, we give (with a sigh) the world a chance.—*Sydney Bulletin*.

THE Singapore subscription lists for the Java Relief Fund have been published, and so far show a total of \$10,545.64, of which \$7,500 has been already remitted, and the balance will be forwarded when the lists close on the 20th inst., by which time no doubt the amount will be swelled still more. This sum was made up by subscriptions of \$6,355.64 by the European community, \$3,950 from the Chinese, and \$240 from the Governor and Civil Service.—*Strait Times*.

THE *Hongkong Daily Press* says that Colonel Curtis Jankea, the representative of King Kalakaua at the coronation of Alexander III. and His Hawaiian Majesty's Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary to the Courts of Europe, will shortly pass through Hongkong en route to Japan. This young Ambassador is said to be a well educated and intelligent gentleman. He converses in the English language fluently, and is a man of fine physique and prepossessing appearance. He is accompanied by Mr. Henry Poor, who acts as his Secretary. The last-named gentleman is of Hawaiian extraction with a considerable amount of "white" blood in his veins.

IN H.B.M. Court for Japan, yesterday, before T. R. H. McClatchie, Esq., Acting Assistant Judge, Mr. Sinclair, an officer of the *Haddon Hall*, was charged with assaulting one Welsh, an apprentice. The defence was that the boy was only "corrected," by having his ears boxed and sundry kicks administered by his superior, whom he had grossly insulted. As no evidence was produced for the defence, His Honor found the assault proved and fined Mr. Sinclair \$2, and costs of Court.

SOME interest has been excited in India in consequence of the sun presenting a peculiar greenish appearance at certain periods of the day. It is believed that the phenomenon is due to the passage across India of a tremendous volume of sulphurous vapour, arising from the recent volcanic disturbance in the Sunda Straits.

THE Pacific Mail steamship *City of Tokio*, for this port, left San Francisco on the 7th November.

WE read in a Shanghai paper that Sir Harry Parkes arrived at Chefoo in the *Sing Nansing*, on the 23rd of October in very rough weather.

WE note the departure by the *Arabic* of Admiral Crosby, late in command of the American fleet on this station.

WE understand that M. Tricou is on his way to this port from Europe, and that he is on board the French man-of-war *Volla* which arrived in Kobe yesterday.

MR. FUKUZAWA ON FOREIGN RELATIONS.

A WEEK ago nothing seemed less likely than that a Japanese newspaper should be suspended for publishing an article calculated to promote anti-foreign feeling, and the surprise which the news causes is still further augmented when one learns that it is the *Fiji Shimpō* which has thus offended. It is true that the distinguished editor of that journal allowed himself to be betrayed, some years ago, into expressions which argued a remnant of hostility to the rapid radicalism of Young Japan, and to the intercourse which had been the cause of its growth. But the most ardent friends of progress could sympathise with a spirit which plainly derived its inspiration from patriotic sources; and, for the rest, the pre-eminent part Mr. FUKUZAWA had taken in bringing Western civilization within his countrymen's reach placed him completely above the suspicions his temporary attitude might otherwise have suggested. Nothing, indeed, could be more extravagant than to charge this remarkable scholar with anti-progressive or anti-foreign tendencies. His really vast achievements are before us. No Japanese, not even excluding those, statesmen and soldiers alike, who sacrificed their lives in the defence of the principles they once opposed, has established a more solid title to the gratitude of Young Japan, or done more to smooth away the obstacles his country had to encounter in emerging from her ancient isolation. Justice compels us, therefore, to regard his recent essay as the opinion of a writer whose conservatism is comprised within the limits of honest patriotism, and who, while criticising some of the aspects of foreign intercourse, has nevertheless devoted life-long labours to its promotion.

The essay itself consists of two parts. It sets out by a retrospect. Five and twenty years ago, when Japan first began to emerge reluctantly from her isolation, the attitude of her foreign friends was courteous and considerate, while her own was deferential and at times almost timid. Each side treated the other after the fashion of new acquaintances whose policy is still mutually tentative. As years went by, however, and as it became apparent that Japan was thoroughly resolved to emerge from her seclusion, Western peoples began to regard her with greater interest, and Western Governments to treat her with greater cordiality. She became an object of flattering attention, and it might well have been supposed that she had won the sympathy of the civilized world. But was

that sympathy inspired wholly by genuine friendship? Mr. FUKUZAWA thinks not. He analyses the sentiment, separating it ultimately into three elements:—first, the prospect of future benefit to be derived directly from Japan; secondly, the prospect of indirect benefit, and thirdly, disinterested esteem for a nation so unexpectedly earnest in its pursuit of a higher civilization. Of these three elements, the first had its origin in old-time fables of Japanese wealth and resources, and the third needs only a grateful comment. But of the second the writer offers a curious and novel explanation. The indirect benefit which foreigners hoped to derive from Japanese intercourse was the influence of that intercourse upon China. To the subtle pedlar, says Mr. FUKUZAWA, when he has to do with a niggardly householder who resists all the attractions of his wares and the persuasions of his puffs, there yet remains another and a very efficacious method. He doubles his attentions next door: sells this to neighbour A; shows that to neighbour A; goes in and out of neighbour A's perpetually; and seems altogether to be giving neighbour A so much satisfaction that at length neighbour Niggard begins to reflect, to fancy he may be losing something by keeping the peddler away, and at last to feel jealous of the monopoly neighbour A is enjoying. Then the pedlar's end is gained. So it was with Japan and China. The former was neighbour A, the latter neighbour Niggard, and the other details of the simile may be left unscrutinized. The *Fiji Shimpō* continues as follows:—

Thus regarded, the efforts made by foreigners to help Japan's feet along the path of civilization seem to have been prompted by a desire to rouse China from her lethargy and to push her into trade rivalry with her neighbour. And those efforts, having in a great measure succeeded, their instrumentality has ceased to be efficacious. Japan's function is fulfilled. She has lost her usefulness, and is no longer worthy of the consideration she formerly received. Not unnaturally, therefore, Westerners are beginning to ignore her, and to display greater friendliness towards China. Japan's foreign trade, if it has not already attained its full development, is no longer an indefinite quantity. Its future dimensions can be gauged with tolerable accuracy, and its insignificance, when compared with Chinese commerce, is apparent. The intimacy of international relations is in direct proportion to the profits accruing from them. By and by Dai-Nippon will drop entirely out of the Western world's notice. A moment's consideration of her foreign affairs shows that she commands much less attention now than was formerly the case. Thus with regard to treaty revision, her just demands are evaded or virtually disregarded, though the time fixed for revision has long gone by. Again, the sequel of the recent opium affair at Nagasaki illustrates the spirit displayed towards this country. The foreign journals published in Yokohama commented upon the affair in a tone distinctly hostile to Japan and favorable to China, while the foreign Consuls in Nagasaki proposed measures of similar import. This is a paltry matter, to be sure, but "a straw shows how the wind blows." Were foreigners disposed to treat Japan with anything like the

same courtesy they formerly displayed, her diplomats would not now be powerless to achieve treaty revision, nor would China's cause have been espoused, in the Nagasaki opium affair, against Japan, before the latter's case was even heard. With these things before our eyes can there be any doubt as to the direction Western sympathy would take in the event of trouble between Japan and China? Truly public opinion is as shifting as a wave of the sea. A few years ago, this nation was treated with esteem and regard; to-day, its sometime friends are ready to flout it, nay even to throw stones at it.

Beyond doubt this species of writing is calculated to resuscitate Japan's old dislike of foreigners, and for that reason the action of the authorities in suspending the *Fiji Shimpō* was, in a manner, unavoidable. But there occurs here a question which cannot well be left unanswered:—Has Mr. FUKUZAWA been punished for speaking the truth. Most of us will be disposed unhesitatingly to reply in the negative. It is true, we should say, that the novelties of Japanese intercourse, as well as the interest of Japan's early struggles to place herself abreast of Occidental States, have somewhat faded, and that in this sense she attracts less attention and, perhaps, receives less sympathy than in the opening days of her admission to the comity of nations. But this natural access of indifference is not to be mistaken for dislike or disdain. The friendly admiration her courageous liberality has won from the civilized world is not less sincere than ever because it seems less demonstrative. The sentiment remains undisturbed, though opportunities for its display grow yearly more unfrequent. As for the notion that Japanese friendship was cultivated for the purpose of exciting Chinese rivalry, while not wholly erroneous, the interpretation it receives at Mr. FUKUZAWA'S hands is, to say the least, misleading. It was perfectly natural that Japan, having distanced all her Eastern neighbours in the race of civilization, should be used as an example to stimulate their stubborn inertia. Assuredly there is nothing she has any reason to resent in such treatment. But though others, following her example, should be regarded in their turn with equal interest and consideration, and though public attention should seem to grow listless towards her, the solid fact remains, and will always stand to her credit, that in the history of the world no nation has given proof of a truer instinct or shown a more unprejudiced desire for progress. For these things she deserves, and will always receive, respect.

We cannot hope, however, that these general statements will effectually outweigh the evidences of dislike and disdain which are daily visible to every educated Japanese in the demeanour and utterances of foreigners in Japan. The na-

tion is not to be blamed if it accepts our own version of the sentiments we entertain towards it. This is what the editor of the *Fiji Shimpō* has done. It is a part of his duty to be familiar with what is written and spoken about his country, and he has been constrained to attach some importance to the fact that, of the six foreign journals published in Japan, five are unequivocally hostile to the Japanese. The severest criticism may still be friendly, but the criticism of these journals is openly inimical. Of their motives we have no right, even if we had any inclination, to speak, but it were idle to close our eyes to the fact that no person capable of construing a sentence of English or French could fall into the error of accrediting them with any particle of good-will or sympathy for this country. Day by day and week by week it is the same unvaried routine of cruel aspersion and harsh denunciation, never relieved by a kindly word or softened by an encouraging utterance. However unwilling a Japanese may be to believe that these journals represent foreign opinion, he cannot evade the unpleasant conviction that they are recipients of foreign support and that they do but echo the creed of their supporters. Foreigners themselves, who are able to look a little beyond this local horizon, discern the vast interval that separates the generous magnanimity of representative Europeans from the unmanly illiberality which appears to characterize Europeans in Japan. But this wider prospect is not visible to Japanese eyes. To them our portrait appears as it is painted by ourselves, and who can pretend to think that it presents any attractive features? We have before us to-day a spectacle whose significance cannot be ignored. We have the laws of the land interfering to impose silence on one of Japan's greatest scholars,—to deprive of the right of free speech a man who more than any other has helped to bring the blessings of Western civilization within his countrymen's reach—on the grounds that his language is calculated to create an unfriendly feeling towards foreigners; and we have, at the same time, five foreign journals, published in Japan, telling the Japanese day after day and week after week, in words bitterer and harsher than those of the *Fiji Shimpō*, that disdain, dislike, and distrust are the principal ingredients of foreign sentiment towards Japan. May not the editor of the *Fiji Shimpō* justly draw this comparison, and may it not occur to the Government that they are engaged in a work which can never bear any sound fruit when they attempt to restrain their own people from

noting an impression which foreigners themselves unceasingly labour to convey?

Where is it all to end? In the times of Japan's earliest foreign intercourse, three centuries ago, the cordiality of the welcome she extended to her visitors from the West was not inconsistent with the best precedent offered by the age. As years went by, however, fanatical propagandism and political intrigue, in the garb of religion, evoked a hostile spirit, which ultimately permeated the traditions of the nation and induced it to prefer isolation to the danger of effacement. History repeats itself. Scarcely fifteen years have elapsed since that spirit was successfully conciliated, and already the foreign press in Japan is labouring to revive it. The consequences are before us. We may be quite sure that the editor of the *Fiji Shimpō* is not the only educated Japanese who finds it difficult to keep silence in the presence of the contemptuous taunts and sneering defamations of which his country and its administration are the daily objects. Others are at least equally indignant, and the responsibility of checking this growing umbrage, fomented by ourselves, devolves upon a Government whose hands we do our utmost to weaken by constantly preferring against it public charges of incompetence and corruption. Thoroughly appreciated as these things must be by every thinking man, they find no expression, because to utter them is to expose oneself to shameless abuse. The arena is occupied by men that mistake malediction for argument, mouth-pieces of the so-called "British party," who, in the words of Mr. GLADSTONE, "represent themselves as having a monopoly of loyalty; who from point to point have everywhere resisted everything that was proposed for the benefit of the people of the country they live in; who have never favoured or supported any of the great reforms which have been brought about by the courage and the wisdom and the foresight of the British Legislature; who are doomed almost to narrow modes of examining local questions; who each of them look at themselves in relation to persons whom they feel to be, in energy and certain practical effects, inferior to themselves, and whose tendency is to indulge in a spirit of ascendancy which it is the business of the British Legislature and of patriotic British officials with wisdom and with care, but with decision, to modify and to check." To the representatives of this party, we say, the arena is abandoned in Japan, while unfortunately the attention of European statesmen is directed to other

matters; and European public opinion has not yet recognised the necessity of expressing itself on the subject. Possibly, when the mischief is almost beyond the reach of remedy, the world will awake to the fact of its existence. Until that time we can only hope that the Japanese Government will be strong enough to restrain the anti-foreign feeling which Europeans in Japan are wittingly or unwittingly engaged in exciting.

SPURIOUS JAPANESE WARES.

IT is perhaps too much to hope that anything written at this end of the world will find its way to the notice of people in America, but our duty is none the less imperative to denounce an attempt which, if not fraudulent, is certainly calculated to promote fraud. In a recent issue of the *Boston Herald* we find the following notice of the Japanese Section of the Foreign Exhibition in that city:—

As the foreign exhibition is developed, and the purposes underlying several of its principal exhibits begin to be understood from the exhibits themselves, the interest of visitors is deepened, and the whole enterprise takes on a broader aspect than that of a mere bazaar. It is seen to have a twofold effect—one educational and the other cosmopolitan. The one shows that there are arts and civilization beyond the pale of American advancement, and the other has an enlightening effect upon the mind, expanding its views beyond the horizon of mere local surroundings. Now one of the purposes underlying the exhibition was to make some of the displays shown there as much historical in character as possible. This purpose has been carried out in a remarkable degree by Commissioner Graves, who started at the outset to secure, if possible, a complete historical exhibit of all the products of Japan. At the Centennial Exhibition, and at all the world's fairs held abroad, the exhibits from Japan have been simply commercial in character, the articles in all cases having been selected and sent forward solely with an eye to their sale. In the present collection shown it was attempted, for the first time, to secure through direct appeal to the Japanese government such an exhibit as should be historical, and cover examples of all the various products of Japan, both ancient and modern. This has been, for the first time, accomplished, and in this respect, at least, the Boston foreign exhibition may be said to be "unique." To the hearty coöperation of the Japanese government, then, is due the rare collection of historical works to be seen at the exhibition, for without such coöperation and the friendly interest which prompted the same, it would have been utterly impossible to have secured such a collection. Great praise is due that government, and it will be readily accorded when it is known that, while it has refused to do the same favor for other nations holding similar exhibitions, it has, out of its especial interest in our country—which the whole Japanese people regard with the most friendly feelings accorded to our request. The visitors, therefore, to our foreign exhibition will, for the first time in the world's history, have the pleasure of examining such a collection from this exceedingly interesting country as no one has ever enjoyed before.

It is truly singular that any newspaper should have the courage to publish such palpable and easily exposed misstatements as those contained in this paragraph. The public is here informed that, while "the Japanese Government

refused to do the same favour for other nations holding similar exhibitions, it has, out of its especial interest in the United States—which the whole Japanese people regard with the most friendly feelings—acceded to America's request," so that "by its hearty coöperation a rare collection of historical works is to be seen at the Exhibition." There is just one grain of fact among these assertions, namely—that the Japanese people regard the United States with the most friendly feelings. The rest is pure fiction. The Government of this country has taken no part whatsoever, either directly or indirectly, in the collection of specimens for the Boston Exhibition. Nay more, no avowed attempt has been made by any Japanese, whether official, amateur, or tradesman, to send thither articles representing any period of Japanese art prior to the year 1883. Everything contributed by this country was either expressly manufactured for sale at the Exhibition, or selected from the recent outcome of the art workshops in the two capitals. No idea of sending "a collection of historical works" was at any time officially entertained in Tokiyo. It is true that the Government of Japan—so far from "refusing this favour to other nations"—did, at the instance of Sir RUTHERFORD ALCOCK, send a rare collection, illustrating all the best periods of Japanese art, to the second International Exhibition of 1862 held at London. It is true that they took a similar step, supplementing it by a historical notice more or less exhaustive, in the case of the International Exhibition, of 1862, in Paris; and it is true that they took a similar step in the case of the International Exhibition of 1873 in Vienna. But for the Boston Exhibition they did nothing of the sort. Not that there was any reluctance to do by Boston as others had been done by, but simply that the time is past when official initiative is necessary in these matters. The exceptional course pursued in the cases of London, Paris, and Vienna was dictated by exceptional circumstances. Private enterprise was not then sufficiently educated to be capable of any systematic effort abroad. Now, however, these conditions are quite changed, and the measure of official coöperation on behalf of Boston was the appointment of Commissioners and the granting of certain facilities to exporters. It is not, perhaps, any direct concern of ours what devices are employed to cajole the American public, but this shameless attempt to associate the Japanese Government with a disgraceful deception cannot be too severely denounced.

The same notice tells us that there are

eleven exhibits, in all, from Japan, and that they "include the rare and costly collection offered by the Commissioner-in-Chief, that of the Commissioners sent by the Japanese Government, and those of the nine leading manufacturing companies of Japan." Of the first two we are of course unable to speak. The Commissioner-in-Chief and the foreign Commissioner sent by the Japanese Government may have contributed many rare specimens, for aught we know to the contrary. But however this may be, the Japanese Government had, we repeat, no hand, act, or part in the provision or classification of those specimens. Good or bad, genuine or spurious, the Chief Commissioner and his colleague are alone responsible for their collections. Of the articles exhibited by "the nine manufacturing companies," on the other hand, we are in a position to assert they are all new, and that they do not profess to be anything but fine examples of modern Japanese art workmanship. We conclude, therefore, that to one of the former gentlemen belongs a collection of Satsuma faience described as follows:—

There are now open and arranged in the main court in Washington Hall an historical collection of the famous imperial Satsuma, which is regarded not only by the Japanese themselves, but by those most familiar with such objects of art, as the most beautiful faience in the world. Here may be seen the earliest pieces, bearing the archaic attempts at decoration; and from these one passes up to those pieces which are decorated with the most artistic and elaborate designs in fine gold and enamels tinted with the oxides of gold alloys. This collection contains pieces of every period and every style of decoration, including many of the masterpieces of Japanese artists. The work on these is so fine that, to appreciate them fully, a close and careful study is required. To show its verity, it may be said that beyond this—outside the imperial collection at Tokiyo—there is no similar collection in the world. Some of the bowls and vases shown represent the highest grade of artistic skill, and the labor of years has been given to their production and completion. No duplicates of these pieces are in existence.

Premising that the "famous imperial Satsuma" is a ware entirely unknown in Japan, we admit at once that this collection baffles us. For, in the first place, its only acknowledged peer, "the imperial collection at Tokiyo," has no existence; and in the next, archaic decoration is to be found only on pieces of Satsuma expressly manufactured to deceive foreign collectors. The oldest specimens of decorated Satsuma faience are chiefly remarkable for the exceedingly delicate and careful workmanship they display. Some rare and really representative pieces were, indeed, sent by a private collector to the Boston Exhibition, but they were not yet on view when the above notice was written, and we learn, on the authority of a competent expert, that the "historical collection" described in the

Boston Herald does not cover a period of more than five years. The American public has been so systematically and successfully duped in the matter of Satsuma pottery that we would fain put collectors on their guard against a fresh repetition of the same wholesale deceit, more especially when an unwarrantable attempt is made to associate the Japanese Government with the fraud.

We pass over grotesquely false descriptions of two "imperial iron boxes of the 14th century, beautifully inlaid with gold and silver;" of a "hand-wrought crystal ball—a perfect sphere, some four inches in diameter—representing, it is said, years of patient toil;" of *inros*, or medicine boxes made of the finest pure gold lacquer, etc., some of which are believed to be older than our era;" of "a famous dress-sword of the Tycoons, formerly the property of one of the Government lords;" of "the only Imperial sword that has been permitted to leave Japan"—we pass over all this impertinent clap-trap in order to conduct our readers without delay to the following marvels:—

In the next case are some wonderful ivory carvings. There is a set of three tusks—the centre one being that of a mammoth, and regarded as the finest ivory carving in the world. It is elaborately ornamented with historic designs. The tradition is that it took the old master workman who made it what it is 30 years to carve and inlay it with gold, silver, and stones. The other two tusks are those of elephants, and the whole group are elaborately mounted on gold and silver standards. This set is historical. It was presented centuries ago by one of the Emperors to the governor of the castle of Osaka, the "key" to the inland sea, to Kioto, the capital, and hence to Japan. After the overthrow of the Daimios it was offered for sale, and bought by the agent of the present owner and exhibitor.

Needless to observe that the whole of this story about the Governor of the Castle of Osaka, and the present of carved tusks he received from an Emperor centuries ago, is a baseless fabrication. Such impositions, unfortunately are not uncommon. What is more curious is the idea that vague romances of this nature should be counted capable of enhancing the value of an article which, if it be worth anything at all, derives that worth solely from the skill and care its workmanship displays. The public lays itself open to be duped when it develops this morbid taste for age without reference to excellence. It is this ridiculous fancy which renders rustiness, dirt, and rudeness of manufacture, objects of desire to collectors, and constitutes the *raison d'être* of a dishonest trade that depends chiefly upon subtle processes of discolouring, disfiguring, and begriming. But it is not our present purpose to discuss such diseased conceptions of art and its products. We merely seek to warn visitors to the Boston Exhibition that neither the Government nor the people of Japan have any concern in these attempts to impose upon American collectors.

THE FISHERIES EXHIBITION AT SOUTH KENSINGTON.

THE International Fisheries Exhibition, open throughout the summer at South Kensington, has been one of the most interesting and successful of such enterprises. It is the last and not the least important offspring of the prolific parent of 1851, that first and always "greatest" of "Great Exhibitions," which has been followed not only by successors of like universal nature, but by others, partial and special, beginning with the collection of Irish Arts and Manufactures at Cork so early as 1852. The utility of such undertakings in furthering arts, manufactures and industries having been recognized and demonstrated by a long succession of Exhibitions, general and special, national and international, since that time, it was only natural that an industry so universal as that of Fishing, and so important as being one of the sources of food-supply, should at length become the subject of a special Exhibition. Of Fisheries Exhibitions, Boulogne was the first place to set the example, shortly to be followed by the Hague in 1867, and Naples in 1871, and later, on by far the largest scale, by the International Fisheries Exhibition at Berlin in 1880. First in England came the Exhibition at Norwich, and out of that arose the "Great International Fisheries Exhibition" of the present year in London. It would be difficult to realize, without having seen with one's own eyes, the infinite variety and number of interesting objects capable of being collected in connection with Fish and Fishing. In the present Exhibition it takes days of patient inspection to obtain even a superficial idea of its most prominent features: and, apart from the interest and information afforded to the ordinary sight-seer, it cannot admit of question that so complete a collection of the comparative products and processes of all nations must be prolific of the most beneficial results to all those in a position to take advantage of the opportunity.

It is very much to be regretted that Japan, which has hitherto not been backward in such matters, should either have failed to understand the scale of the present undertaking, or to recognize the importance of the subject-matter of the exhibition. The former explanation of her shortcomings we would fain adopt: for, that any Department of Government in a country where fisheries play so large a part as in Japan in producing the food-supply of her people should set small store by the "agriculture of the sea" is an hypothesis to which,

where Japan is in question, we should not readily subscribe—and the display at Berlin in 1880 proves that this is not the case. But, be the cause what it may, the fact remains that at the Fisheries Exhibition this year in London, Japan is most miserably represented. The Department of Agriculture and Commerce seems to have been content with appointing the Japanese Consul in London Commissioner to the Exhibition, and sending him a few Fish-hooks and a good many tins of Preserved Salmon, together with a small sum of money wherewith to make the best display attainable with these rather limited materials. Needless to say, the result is not striking, in a favourable sense at any rate: and astonishment and regret are very generally expressed that an Island Empire with a large fishing industry and an eminently fish-eating population should have taken so little trouble and made such a little show. The smallness of the space occupied by the Japanese Section in the Eastern Gallery of the Building, and by the printed matter relating to it in the Official Catalogue, would be enough to betray the poorness of the display made by Japan in comparison with her neighbours—and her neighbours in the Exhibition are more or less also her neighbours geographically; for China, India, and the Straits Settlements are on one side of her, Ceylon, Hawaii, and Chili on the other. Some idea of the proportion of the exhibits may be gathered from the fact that China occupies four or five times the room of Japan in the annexe, while India fills nineteen pages of the Catalogue to Japan's one. But it is not only in the quantity, but also in the quality and nature of the exhibits that the comparison makes so badly against Japan. In the Chinese, Indian, and Straits Sections alone one can spend hours among the host of interesting and curious specimens and models. China, in particular, is especially rich in her display; and yet there is scarcely an object there that might not have found its counterpart in the Japanese Court. In the Catalogue, again, the list of Exhibits is prefaced in the case of almost every country by an official Introduction on the subject of the national Fisheries as illustrated by the objects shown. Nothing of the sort has been written for Japan. A gentleman attached to the Consulate in London has recently compiled in English a pamphlet dealing with some aspects of the subject: but, coming at the close instead of at the opening of the Exhibition, this cannot supply the omission referred to. Nothing more could of course have been done by those associated with the

Japanese Commission in London: but it is matter for regret that the Department concerned did not enter more heartily into the work, and, besides sending a more complete and interesting collection, as might so easily have been done, issue at the proper time a monograph of the kind required. It might also with advantage have sent some of its younger officials, not only to assist in the exhibition of Japanese objects, but themselves to profit by the opportunities the exhibition as a whole affords for improving the methods and processes of the national industries connected with fishing at home. As it is the opportunity has been lost in every way.

Passing through the Central Aisle of the eastern annexe, on coming to the Japanese Section one sees, on the one side the fish-hooks and tins of salmon above-mentioned—and really very little else meets the eye: on the other side—*Curios!* So limited was the number of articles sent for exhibition that one half of the almost *minimum* allowance of space allotted to Japan had to be filled with curios from Messrs. LIBERTY & Co., of Regent Street, under the class appointed for Loan collections "within the scope" of other classes. These "artistic examples in bronze, porcelain, embroidery, lacquer-work, and paintings," have to be dragged in as "illustrating various subjects in relation to Fishing and Marine Studies"—as, for instance, in the ornamentation of bronze vases with mythical sea-dragons, and the like. However, it is only fair to say that no inconsiderable stretch and liveliness of imagination is required in other Courts besides the Japanese to discern the association of some of the objects exhibited with the scope of the Exhibition. Probably no other products of Japan, or none any more closely allied to fisheries, were to be obtained in England to fill up the gap: but it is none the less a pity that the gap should have existed. The official classification gives six classes (exclusive of Loan Collections) making in all sixty-one divisions. Of these sixty-one divisions Japan shows objects in only eight. In class I, "Fishing," sub-divided into "Sea Fishing" and "Fresh-water Fishing," and comprising the first twenty divisions, she is represented only in one—that for "Gear" of every description used in fishing. Here are eight exhibits:—fishing-lines, hooks, rods, and a few specimens that seem to belong rather to a different category. Apart from the meagreness of the articles exhibited in this single division, what a field of interest is neglected in others of the Sea-fishing sections! Take,

for instance, that for "Fishing craft of all nations; models and representations of the same." Never a model of a fishing-junk, never a sampan! In the Chinese Court there is a perfect museum of models, one of the most interesting features, to the sight-seer, of the whole Exhibition. China too takes practical advantage of another division in this class, relating to appliances for the safety of mariners, to show to the world, hung conspicuously on the wall, an enormous chart of the coast with all the Lighthouses erected there since 1863. Here was an opportunity lost by Japan of letting people in Europe see the reality and practical usefulness of her material advance in the same period. In "Fresh-water Fishing" and in Class II., "Economic condition of fishermen," Japan is not represented at all; though in the divisions for "Apparel and personal equipment" and "Models and plans of dwellings" many objects of interest might easily have been collected. The apparel and personal equipment would perhaps be rather of a negative description in a Japanese counterpart of the life-sized models of fishermen equipped for their calling, numerous throughout the Exhibition—notable among them being some rakish-looking but life-like Chinamen in boats, both in the building and afloat on one of the garden-ponds. In Class III., "Commercial and Economic," the Department at Tokio seems to have felt that its true sphere of action lay. Here they do show an eye for business, in displaying dried and preserved fish of various kinds, sardines and tunny in oil, salmon, salmon-spawn, and oysters tinned, cod liver and other fish oils, fish wax, isinglass, glue, and dried sardines for manure. They do not show, as they might, any models of fish-curing establishments or of appliances for preparing oils and manures from fish—such, for instance, as those one has to pass through on the beach-path between Negishi and Tomioka: and perhaps it is as well for some of us that they do not, as the sight would inevitably recall the most nauseating of all nauseous smells! Nor again is advantage taken by any Japanese Exhibitor of divisions for the display of the artistic applications of mother-of-pearl and tortoise-shell. In the class for "Fish Culture" it is not surprising that Japan has nothing to show. But even in Class V., "Natural History," the exhibits are not so numerous as to preclude individual mention. They are (according to the catalogue) coral; shell of sea-ear: oysters, tinned: crab, stuffed: Fibre of Whale-bone: not an imposing list. Another practical chance has been lost in

not showing, under the appropriate division of this class, specimens of seal and sea-otter skins from the Northern Islands. While in Class VI., "History and Literature of Fishing," the Foreign Office might, under the division for "Copies of Treaties, Conventions, &c., dealing with International Fishing Relations," have forwarded for exhibition some interesting and suggestive pieces of blank paper in connection with these same Northern fishing and hunting grounds.

Exhibitions of like nature in other branches of industry are to be continued annually for some time, in the same buildings on the old exhibition ground at South Kensington. It is very much to be hoped that in succeeding years Japan may come forward and do something to retrieve her character for enterprise; though few occasions can again present themselves for such a characteristic display of so truly native and national an industry as might have been made this year. In contributing to Art Exhibitions we all know Japan is not backward; but she ought to show something besides artistic work. Nor is it desirable that a Department of the Government should be the sole nominal exhibitor. The Department concerned, generally the same one, can very properly and usefully undertake the management and control of the whole matter: but the purposes and advantages of each exhibition, be it of what it may, should be made known throughout the country, and manufacturing or industrial Companies and Firms encouraged to take part in their own names. And there is another aspect of the case that should not be left out of sight. Mutual instruction, the improvement of our own products and methods by seeing those of others, is one of the primary objects of such exhibitions: they are not merely concrete advertisements of producer's wares: and therefore, while we wish to see Japan show everything she has to show, whether for the sake of finding new markets or of less direct forms of material profit, we should like at the same time to see as many as the great distance allows of those specially concerned with the subject matter of each exhibition travelling to Europe to see and learn with their own eyes. The opportunities thus afforded are unique and ought not to be neglected. More practical industrial knowledge could probably be thus acquired in a few months, and at far less expense, than by the most exhaustive of tours undertaken for the same purpose without the facilities an exhibition affords by bringing together the work of all nationalities into a single focus.

CASAMICCIOLA.

THE recent terrible calamity at Casamicciola, and the presumable probability of its recurrence, afford good grounds for innovation in matters of architecture, even to the abandonment of many strong and reasonable prejudices. The luxury and comfort of transient visitors to a hot spring, and even the scenery of such a charming retreat as Ischia, may well be partially sacrificed to the necessity of diminishing or averting the sufferings of residents exposed to the attacks of sudden and not-to-be-anticipated convulsions. It is not surprising, therefore, that the style of building to be adopted in the reconstruction of Casamicciola should have given occasion to considerable discussion, and elicited such a thesis as that of M. JOHNSTON-LAVIS, a translation of which will be found elsewhere in our columns. The subject is full of importance in a country like Japan, and our readers will doubtless peruse M. JOHNSTON-LAVIS'S essay with interest.

It by no means follows that the solid buildings which a nation requires for the monumental durability and adornment of its chief cities, and the secure protection, comfort, and commercial facilities of their inhabitants, need of necessity be imitated in a summer resort, situated, in point of fact, upon the hissing safety valve of internal commotion. Any town so situated had best he moved, "bag and baggage," to a less disturbed region. Certain tradal and political advantages might have to be sacrificed, but these losses would be more than equalled by the destruction continually devouring such cities and preying upon the comfort, security, and wealth of their residents, whether their domiciles be constructed of masonry heavy enough to crush out the life of those upon whom it falls, or of wood equally dangerous from other causes.

Tokiyo has, within the memory of the living, been visited by an earthquake of serious severity, sufficient to throw over wooden buildings and crush and maim many victims. It is probable that, had these buildings been of loose masonry, the loss of life from falling weights would have been much greater; but all accounts go to show that far intenser calamity and suffering were caused by the vast fires which sprang up from every side, encircling and entrapping thousands of miserable fugitives, than by the direct consequences of the catastrophe. That a similar violent upheaval may not occur again, no one can say; and though it is well to be prepared for the worst, the adoption of precautions (at best

inefficient) against the visit of one possible and rare foe, in a manner which invites the attacks of another constant and inveterate enemy, can scarcely be said to offer a satisfactory solution of the problem.

The solid buildings in foreign style in the capital, though not of the first class of construction, have pretty well proved their capability to resist the most powerful of the ordinary shocks which occur from time to time. Slight cracks have been remarked in the most flimsily built, but in those in which a greater adhesion has been given to the masonry by cement joints and iron ties, no signs whatever of yielding have been discovered. There is also a reasonable probability that seismological science will succeed in determining the directions of strains and thrusts so as to indicate many important modifications in the method of distributing weights, forming arches, and otherwise adapting masonry to withstand earthquakes. Mr. JOHN MILNE, of the Tokyo Seismological Society, has already done valuable work in this direction, and we look with confidence for still larger results.

With regard to the notion that the expansion of iron ties within masonry would cause injury, it has been established by experiments made within walls of moderate thickness during extremes of external temperature, that the variation of internal temperature is so slight as to make the expansion of iron inside almost nil, or so minute as to be easily allowed for in the joints. The difficulties pointed out by Mr. JOHNSTON-LAVIS in arranging diagonal ties and cross ties of iron, are far more easily surmounted than the difficulty of prescribing a fixed pattern in width, length, and height for all structures alike, which alternative is suggested by that writer as a possible necessity in earthquake districts. Iron is undoubtedly the coming material for building purposes, and even in countries where earthquakes need not be considered, more extended application of iron construction is becoming a frequent subject of discussion. M. JOHNSTON-LAVIS points out some of the difficulties and inconveniences attending its application to permanent and comfortable habitations, such as conductivity of heat and cold, corrosion, *et cetera*. Moreover, all time-honoured ideas of architectural mass and solidity would have to be abandoned; the eye and mind would have to become accustomed to the different properties of the material, to slenderer proportions, fresh arrangements and a totally new style of ornamental treatment.

But the employment of iron in seismic districts is certainly a practical suggestion,

and one the difficulties of which are not beyond the pale of ingenuity to overcome. The same cannot be said for the idea of coating wood with a paint which would render it proof against fire or decay; nor for the often advanced and often exploded theory of building upon castors or balls. Theoretically, this latter system is one only applicable to resistance against horizontal shocks; while practically the architect has to contend, not with his prejudices alone, but with continual unsteadiness, in light buildings, and, in the case of heavy structures, with certain insuperable principles such as the law which Sir ISAAC NEWTON is said to have discovered. M. JOHNSTON-LAVIS himself does not seem to believe in the practicability of this device, for he concludes that the "attachment of buildings to the ground must be solid." It is not perhaps generally known that the upper portions of some of the Japanese lighthouses were erected upon an arrangement of iron balls, which have since had to be wedged and closed up. In them it was a case of continual earthquake.

FORECASTS OF FUTURE CATASTROPHES IN ISCHIA.

Under the above caption there has been published an essay which has special interest for dwellers in Japan. The translation is as follows:—It has been proposed to reconstruct Casamicciola in wood and iron; and different sites have been suggested for the establishment of the new town. It is then only proper to inform oneself of the value of these propositions before anything is definitely determined.

In all earthquakes there is a central fire, varying in depth from the surface: this "hearth" (*foyer*) generally assumes the shape of a fissure which may vary in position, dimensions, and direction. In the present case all the evidence concurs to show a radical fissure travelling some degrees west-by-north and east-by-south and passing directly west of Casamenella and having its origin in the ancient chimney of the Epomeo. A violent rending and the immediate irruption of volcanic matter, which possesses enormous force, from some cavity, are the cause, of the vibrations of earthquake. These vibrations start from the "hearth," or the fissure, in waves having the form of concentric blades, and in consequence reach the surface at varying angles, and produce effects dependant entirely upon the situation that the edifice occupies in relation to the centre of ignition. It becomes, then, necessary to construct the new houses in such fashion that they can resist the species of movement to which they may be submitted.

A given point on the earth's surface describes at each vibration an ellipse whose plane is at right angles to that surface and parallel to the radial line springing from the central fire to the edifice. That may appear difficult of comprehension without the aid of diagrams; but perhaps I shall make myself clearer by saying that every point of the surface of the earth begins to move upward, then forward, then downward, backward, and upward.

This series of movements is repeated every time that a wave comes and as long as the shock lasts.

When it is near the centre of perturbation the major axis of the ellipse is from below upward, so that the vertical movement is great and the lateral small. This is what we call a "sussultory" shock. When the ellipse is farther away the longer axis is horizontal: we have then the maximum of movement in a lateral sense; and this is what is called an "undulatory" shock.

The destruction of buildings comes from their incapacity to follow these movements. Their heavy weight gives them an enormous inertia: in other words it takes a long time for the earth to communicate its motion to them. Consequently when the foundations are dragged forward by the earth, the upper portion of the structure remains behind: when the earth returns this upper portion has begun to move forward, but the foundations return already to their normal position. Hence the walls are fissured, broken by the tension that is produced between their free and their fixed portions, and they fall to pieces because their cohesion as a mass is almost null as compared with their enormous weight.

We may see then from what precedes that, if we wish for houses having massive walls, we must increase their cohesion. That is sometimes obtained by means of strengthening iron bars; but whoever has examined the houses destroyed at Casamicciola, must see how useless are these bars, especially in places where they are horizontally arranged.

If recourse is had to iron bars they should be so disposed as to form a complete frame over walls and floors, which, because of their quadrangular form, would require, in order to be cut into triangles the addition of transverse bars starting from each corner.

There are two grave objections to this employment of a mixture of iron and masonry.—1. The diagonal bars, going from the lower corners of the wall to the upper corners of the opposite wall would necessitate a special arrangement of doors and windows so as to avoid any interposition between them—a difficulty the extent of which will be seen at once by any architect. 2. The constant tension produced by the changes of temperature, the contraction and expansion of the iron bars running in different directions, would be, surely though slowly, a gradual agent of disintegration of the masonry.

Another method by which we can, theoretically, surmount the difficulty is to detach the houses from the soil. That might be put in practice by placing the houses upon castors like those used for arm-chairs. Nevertheless, apart from the expense and the difficulty of this kind of construction, if we take into consideration the roll of a house during a shock and, consequently, the space necessary to give to each one, we shall understand the impossibility of adopting any such method.

So far we have only considered the case of a house submitted to an almost horizontal undulation; that is to say, situated at a considerable distance from the point immediately above the "hearth." When, on the other hand, the movement is principally from below upward, it is chiefly the floors and roofs that suffer. In the ascending motion the walls are pushed upward with a brisk jerk; but the roofs and heavy floors remain behind and tumble on to the heads of the inmates. When the walls descend, the roofs and floorings go up; and that is repeated a certain number of times. It would be difficult to find any style of construction excelling that prevailing in Ischia for the

enormous weight of the walls and ceilings, and their accompanying lack of cohesion and elasticity.

I think I have said enough to prove that masonry would be much too expensive if constructed with a view to resist earthquakes, and at the same time would remain dangerous in spite of all precautions.

Let us now consider iron as the material of construction. It responds certainly to all we can expect in the matter of lightness and elasticity; but it also presents sundry inconveniences. 1.—It is costly. 2.—It requires careful and constant attention: otherwise it rusts rapidly near the foundations especially in volcanic regions. 3.—It is intolerably hot in summer and cold in winter. If this iron is properly and regularly coated with pitch or some oil paint, so as to render it durable, one might perhaps surmount the two first difficulties; and the third might be suppressed by making double walls and filling the space with sawdust.

Next comes wood, which offers many advantages in the way of lightness, strength, elasticity, and economy both of material and construction. But it has two great defects: its liability to take fire and its perishability. The first may be corrected to a certain point by convenient supplies of water, and treating the woodwork with tungstate of soda—a process suggested by Mr. Emery—or with the new incombustible asbestos paint.

Decay may be arrested, and the invasion of insects and cryptogamous plants avoided by injecting chloride of zinc into the wood, as is done in the case of railway sleepers, and by providing free ventilation from below the lower story.

Apart from the material, we have also to examine the position and the form of construction, because a house whose longest axis is parallel to a radius starting from a point vertically above the seat of the fire offers much greater resistance than if that axis is situated at a tangent. The height of the house ought never to exceed three-fourths of its length, and its depth ought always to be more than twice its length. Its attachment to the soil should be solid. Further, from the roof, starting from the upper angle of each wall, a bar of iron, connected with the framework of the house, should be brought down in the same plane as the wall and at an angle of 45 degrees at most, and attached to a block of masonry in the soil, or to a strong wooden pile, in such manner that a quadrangular house would have eight of these stays.

The purpose of these latter is to communicate the movement of the earth to the top of the house simultaneously with the shaking of the foundations, so that the condition of the house would resemble closely that of a suspension bridge's towers. The inner walls, partitions, and floors ought to be strengthened by diagonal bars.

Probably it will be found convenient to construct houses into whose structure both iron and wood will enter, the former for the outside the latter for inner lining. The floors might be covered with French tiles, as might also the walls of some of the rooms. If such houses are built in a suitable manner, they may be rendered much more healthy and convenient, prettier and more comfortable, than those constructed in masonry. As to the site to choose for the new Casamicciola, I will deal with that subject in a few days.

H. J. JOHNSTON-LAVIS.

The easy accessibility of the island of Ischia, the present advanced stage of geological know-

ledge, and the restricted extent of the superficies of earthquake, make of this island a situation thoroughly appropriate and convenient for the study of these terrestrial movements. To that end it would be necessary to establish a certain number of seismographs, spread over the island: they should be able to register the azimuth, the angle of emergence, or the molecular velocity, and the exact period of each motion, so that the speed of transmission might be determined. These seismographs should be distributed in two circles around the seismic vertical: there should be at least sixteen, to wit eight in each circle. One or several of these apparatus should be disposed along the seismic vertical in order to register vertical waves.

Exact thermometric measures of the principal fumaroles and the mineral springs should be registered hourly, and if possible it would be well to devise some means to take account of the discharge of the mineral waters and the pressure of the vapour in the fumaroles.

To this it might be useful to add microseismic observations. Changes in the sea level might also be of some interest compared with those at Naples.

The principal expense would consist in furnishing the instruments, which could be placed in chambers hewn in the solid tufa grottoes that are to be found by hundreds in the isle, and that might be acquired very cheaply, perhaps, even for nothing.

Thanks to all these measures we could study the real nature of the shocks, the progress of the centre toward the surface, and establish whether it is possible to trust to precursory symptoms of earthquake.

I would suggest to all charitable persons that the money spent in such an enterprise would produce much more good than if it were distributed among people to rebuild their dangerous houses of masonry, and thus prepare for new catastrophes.

Less than six days after the terrible occurrence, I saw masons at work repairing walls which threatened to fall; and many of the inhabitants had already returned to houses fissured and crumbling.

Further, if another shock should be felt more violent than the last a greater number of localities must suffer, as, for instance, Forio and Ischia, as well as the villages situated upon the south side of the island. It is necessary then to do all in one's power to preserve them against fresh disaster.

H. J. J. L.

Naples, August 22, 1883.

REVIEW.

Okoma. Roman Japonais illustré, par Félix Régamey, d'après le texte de Takizawa Bakin et les desseins de Chikanoi. Paris, E. Plon et Cie, Imprimeurs-éditeurs., Rue Garancière, 10. 1883.

BAKIN is the first of Japanese novelists. In one respect the Japanese novel better deserves perusal than the majority of its Western fellows. It is a more faithful record of every-day life. Sometimes, indeed, the writer makes excursions into the regions of the supernatural. Magic and mysticism exercise an important influence on the doings and destinies of his heroes and heroines. But even here his picture is not wholly untrue, since it only gives form and substance to the shadowy superstitions which live in the domestic traditions, and are more or less reproduced in the story, of every Japanese. We speak, of course, of things as they were when Bakin wrote, fifty years ago. That section of the nation which has come into

contact with Western civilization no longer furnishes types in this respect consistent with his ideals. But for the rest, students of Japanese character will find themselves well repaid by a perusal of his works. The more so that he was not an author whose conceptions, like those of many a much greater European writer, were portraits of himself from different aspects. Bakin had not time to fall in love with his heroes and heroines, and to dress them in all the elaborate drapery of his own idiosyncracies. He wrote to keep body and soul together, prefacing some of his works by a frank confession that the existence of a needy author is at best a semi-vitality. So little, indeed, did he associate himself with the men and women who peopled his pages, that he had need of mechanical expedients to keep the threads of their lives disentangled, putting the effigies of deceased heroes into a mimic coffin, and tying those of married folks together. Thus he was content to deal with ordinary people, and the more his portraits had in common with those to whom they were presented, the better was he satisfied with his work.

The romance of *Okoma*, though by no means one of his best efforts, possesses features peculiarly attractive to the translator. It is a novel founded on a Buddhistic theory which divides the great whirlpool of humanity into a multitude of little eddies, whose units owe their mutual attraction to the irresistible law of destiny. These circles of fate are not necessarily completed in the lifetime of one generation not yet of two. The particle which forms the nucleus of each may have had its origin in a remote time, and may have gone on, decade after decade, drawing fresh units within the sphere of its influence, until the catastrophe is consummated, and the iron band of affinities yields to the solvents of atonement and repentance. Nor does it necessarily follow that the constituents of such a circle have individually merited the place they occupy. The destiny of the Buddhists is an implacable power. Like the god of the Old Testament, he delights in revenge, and visits the sins of the fathers upon the children to the third and fourth generation. Thus the seemingly innocent share the fate of the guilty, and pity is referred for explanation to some crime committed in a previous state of existence, of which no consciousness survives though its responsibilities have been unsparingly transmitted.

The circle into which the life of *Okoma* is swept had its origin in a crime committed five hundred years before her birth. A priest, by name Gokubo, had violated his vows of celibacy and murdered the son of his paramour, whereupon the woman cut her throat, and her lover threw himself into a river, having first tied round his neck a purse of gold and a celebrated ink-stone, an heirloom of the monastery to which he belonged. The monastery was afterwards razed to the ground, and the bodies of the three, Gokubo, the widow and her son, buried under the ruins. Thenceforth the valley was inhabited by the spirits of martyred innocence and malevolent guilt. It became a place of worship, and the incongruous influences of its presiding deities, though easily exercised on behalf of those that solicited their aid, never failed to be revenged on those that forgot to be grateful. Among the latter was an official to whom a son had been born in answer to prayers uttered before the Fatal Tomb. The child had almost attained man's estate before its father thought of propitiating the spirits that had presided at its birth, and then his thought came too late. His request for permission to rebuild the ruined shrine was refused by the lord

of the manor, at the instance of a councillor who denounced the idea of erecting temples to demons. The result was that the child, becoming an agent of evil, finally lost his life in attempting to take that of a virtuous brother official, and the latter, knowing that his assailant had been inspired by their common master, resigned his office and retired into private life. The name of this virtuous official was Saikaku. He was married to the daughter of the councillor whose protests had prevented the erection of the proposed shrine. Thus though the spirits of the tomb had used Saikaku as their instrument, his household had still to dread their vengeance. Here it is that the many circles traced by the wheel of fate find a point of contact. Saikaku's intended assassin had two retainers, Shôhei and Chôtsuke, who were dismissed, after their master's death, with a present of twelve *riyo* each. Travelling together to their native village, they found, on the way, two hunters disputing the ownership of a hare. Chôtsuke, a peace-loving benevolent man, bought the hare and divided the money between the disputants, who went away delighted, leaving behind them in the grass a loaded gun. With this gun Shôhei shot Chôtsuke, and stealing his twelve *riyo*, escaped unobserved. Shortly afterwards the corpse was found, and the matchlock being identified as the property of the hunter Mata-ichi, the latter was arrested and thrown into prison, where he died shortly afterwards, leaving a widow without means of subsistence and an infant son, Kiso. Thus already a complicated series of debts of vengeance were contracted—the vengeance of the deities of the tomb, consummated in the case of the ungrateful suppliant by the killing of his son, but still to be achieved against the household of the latter's slayer, Saikaku: the direct vengeance of the vassal Chôtsuke and the hunter Mata-ichi against the man Shôhei, who had done them both to death; and the indirect vengeance of Chôtsuke against Saikaku, by whose act his dismissal and consequent crimes had been inadvertently brought about. These threads of his labyrinthian plot Bakin now proceeds to weave together. The fortunes of the murderer Chôtsuke are first followed. His ill-gotten gold brings nothing but failure. Poverty and sickness visit his house. A daughter is born to him on the fifth day of the fifth month, and to propitiate the anger of the deities, plainly foreshadowed by this coincidence, the only course is to expose the child. Chôtsuke carries his baby out and leaves it, at day-break, near the house of Saikaku, whose wife finds the child and brings it up with her own son. This baby is Okoma, the heroine of the book. She grows to be a girl of exquisite beauty, but her left hand is crippled. The fingers remain perpetually closed, defying all the medical skill of the time. At last Saikaku extracts from an ancient book a recipe that takes a strange hold upon his faith. To compound it, however, he must procure some mould from the Fatal Tomb. His wife in vain essays to turn him from his purpose. He visits the grave, but no sooner does he begin to dig than nature is convulsed; the earth opens and Saikaku falls into a chasm. His cries summon a wood-cutter who is no other than Shôhei, now a widower reduced to the last extremity of indigence and barely able to procure food for himself and his son. Shôhei jumps into the abyss, and the two men ultimately escape after a terrible struggle with, as they imagine, a huge serpent and a giant spider, which, however, turn out to be an inkstone and a string of gold pieces. Saikaku gives the gold to Shôhei and carries the inkstone away him-

self. He then rubs the mould on Okoma's hand, and the fingers, opening at last, release two beautiful insects, one of which hides in the girl's sleeve and the other lights upon the robe of Saisaburo, the son of Saikaku. From that day the two young people are seized with a violent attachment for one another, and their union, being sanctioned by Saikaku, is about to be consummated when Chôhei claims his daughter. Saikaku remonstrates, but to no purpose. Chôhei is now a wealthy man, but former misfortunes have made him a fatalist, and he has persuaded himself that he will again incur the anger of heaven unless he takes his daughter back. His only child is dead—killed in a trap set for foxes by Chomatsu, the son of the murdered Chôtsuke, and in this event the murderer sees a new cause to propitiate the Gods. Okoma, overwhelmed with grief, returns to her father's house where she finds a step-mother, Tatsuki, and a confidential clerk, Jôhachi. These two are paramours. The former is the widow of Chôtsuke; the latter, the younger brother of the hunter Mata-ichi. Their connection with Shôhei is the result of a plot to possess themselves of his fortune, and finding Okoma in their way, they conspire to effect her ruin. Meanwhile Okoma's lover, Saisaburo, in obedience to his father's commands, marries a cousin. At the ceremony of betrothal the insect escapes from the folds of his robe, and flying off, settles upon a servant who lives in Shôhei's house. This servant is Kiso, son of the hunter Mata-ichi. From that moment he, in his turn, is seized with a burning love for Okoma, who inadvertently ministers to his passion by her endeavours to win his good-will in order that she may employ him as an agent for communicating with Saisaburo. The step-mother Tatsuki avails herself of this chance. She persuades the unfortunate girl to write a declaration of unchanging affection, promising to deliver it to Saisaburo, together with the robe Okoma should have worn at her marriage with him. But she delivers them to Kiso, who, beside himself with joy, is waiting for further proofs of affection, when suddenly his mother appears upon the scene, and taking him home, obliges him to marry his cousin Okimi. The marriage is so unhappy that Okimi loses her reason. One day, during her husband's absence, she finds Okoma's robe, and putting it on, throws herself into the river. Kiso, on his return, goes out to search for her. Wandering by the river's bank in the dusk of the evening, he sees a woman run towards a bridge and precipitate herself into the water. Kiso jumps in, rescues her, and carrying her home, finds that he has saved, not his mad wife Okimi, but his love, Okoma, who hearing of Saisaburo's marriage, had conceived the idea of putting an end to her intolerable existence. Okoma, not suspecting Kiso's passion, does not rebel against remaining in his house. Any refuge is welcome that saves her from the marriage to which her father desired to force her. Some days afterwards, the body of Okimi is found. The features are too much decomposed to be recognisable, but the dress is identified as that of Okoma. Meanwhile the latter is kept close prisoner by Kiso. No questions are asked by the neighbours, who suppose that the husband is only doing his duty in confining his mad wife. Once more Okoma tries to kill herself, and once more Kiso prevents her. During this interval strange things are happening both in the house of Saikaku and in that of Shôhei. The ink-stone by its miraculous disappearance at a critical moment, and subsequent restoration to the Fatal Tomb, becomes the cause of Saikaku's

death, and of his son's elevation to a post of great dignity. Hearing of these things, and warned by the supposed death of his daughter that the gods are not yet appeased, Shôhei, in his turn, determines to restore to the tomb the string of gold pieces. Tatsuki and Jôhachi seize the opportunity to try and throw him over a precipice, but falling over themselves, are killed before their intended victim discovers their design. Shôhei goes home disconsolate, finds out that he has been living with the wife of the man he murdered, loses all command over his affairs and becomes at last a beggar and a leper. Meanwhile Saisaburo's wife, Ikoma, is attacked by a strange malady which defies all medical skill, and is openly attributed by the neighbours to the influence of Okoma's ghost. The patient's life is despaired of, when one evening there arrives at the house a travelling priest whose reputation as a diviner is widely known. By his advice Saisaburo keeps watch, spear in hand, every night at the time of his wife's paroxysms. Fate chances just at this time to lead Okoma to the home of her infancy. She has seriously wounded Kiso by mistake, and wandering about, half unconscious, falls by the spear of her first and only love. At this moment Shôhei, appears upon the scene, a leprous mendicant, and recognises in the priest his former gardener Chôtsuke, the cause of his son's death. Chôtsuke explains that all these misfortunes have been brought about by the influence of the Fatal Tomb: that the spirit of the sacrilegious priest Gokubo had entered into Okoma; that of his paramour into Tatsuki, and that of her murdered son into Saisaburo. Ultimately Shôhei, Kiso, and the latter's mother, shaving their heads, retire to a cloister to spend the rest of their days in prayer, and the evil influence of the Fatal Tomb disappears from the history of Saisaburo's life.

Such are the marvellous incidents of Bakin's novel, the gist of which M. Felix Régamey has now made familiar to the French public in a volume of extraordinary beauty and elaborateness. The translator's object has evidently been to render the outward features of his work so attractive to the eye that its contents will be almost sure of commanding a favorable verdict. And in this he has admirably succeeded. A straw-coloured silk binding, relieved by delicate designs in Indian ink, encloses eighty-three pages of rich thick paper, every one of which is adorned by some charming specimen of Japanese pictorial art, here in colours, here in sepia, and anon in black and white. On the left of each page, separated from the text by a thick line of sepia, is a broad margin containing detailed descriptions of the pictures; descriptions which, despite occasional inaccuracies and misconceptions, constitute valuable interpretations of Japanese manners and customs. It is to be regretted, however, that M. Régamey, instead of performing his duty faithfully as a translator, should have contented himself with giving a mere sketch of Bakin's work. In his prefatory notice of the Japanese author he describes him as a writer "whose phraseology is powerful; whose brevity goes straight to the mark; who, like the artists of his country skilled to make rapid, simple, and graceful strokes express everything, deals in accurate words harmoniously grouped, and in expressions so faithful that they seem to intensify the truth of what he writes." Having thus excited his readers' interest, M. Régamey would have done well to give them a specimen of the excellencies he lauds. But nowhere does he make the attempt. He confines himself throughout to telling us Bakin's story of Okoma in the words of M. Felix Régamey. To

illustrate the difference between the recitals of the Japanese and the French authors, we cannot do better than translate, and place side by side, the same passage from each:—

BERTY.
Then a stirring thought presented itself to Shōhei:—"Were all the money mine, it would constitute a provision for my whole life." And then, again, envy, that passion which knows no limit when once it possesses the soul, visited him:—"What had Chōshū done that he should receive half the gold which might have come to me undivided?" And then at last the evil fancy entered his head:—"Why not take it from him?" He glanced keenly back. Chōshū was still but a little distance off. No other wayfarer was visible. And there, half concealed by the long grass, lay a matchlock, forgotten probably by one of the hunters. Shōhei seized it with the meekness of a man to whom fortune is suddenly kind. It was loaded and the fuse was yet alight. In a moment he had thrown himself late position, levelled the weapon and fired. His aim was true. The unfortunate Chōshū, pierced from back to breast, had scarcely time to utter a groan before he was lying on his face, dead. Shōhei hurried away the matchlock; sprang to the side of the corpse; thrust his hand into Chōshū's bosom; pulled out the money; transferred it, with a glad face, to his own pocket, and then, fearful of observation, turned quickly off the main road into a by-path that led through a thicket of reeds in the direction of his native village. No man had knowledge of the crime.

M. FELIX RÉGAMÉY.
Shōhei remained behind, absorbed in reveries which, to judge from his sombre face, had nothing joyful about them. In truth he had just propounded to himself this axiom:—"Twenty-four rya are worth more than twelve. My fortune would be doubled if I could appropriate those which the other has received as well as me." And now he propounds to himself the problem:—"Yea! But by what means?" At this moment Chōshū—the hunters having left him—resumed his journey with the hare in his hand, at the same time hailing his companion. At the sound of his voice Shōhei, as though startled out of a dream, began to move on mechanically. He goes along always thoughtful, his look fixed upon Chōshū, who hastens his steps. Arrived at the place of the dispute, Shōhei staggers. His foot has struck against something. He looks. It is a loaded gun which one of the hunters has left there. An idea, swift as lightning, enters his head. And already the weapon is at his shoulder. He fires. Chōshū falls with-out a cry. The assassin has thrown the gun far away from him. Then he looks about him; not a living soul. He throws himself on his victim, spoils him and flies.

The contrast between these passages, taken, be it observed, at random, shows that M. Régaméy has made little if any attempt to preserve the spirit of his original. His book is nothing more than a French *procès* of the Japanese author's work. For the student of Japanese literature it has, therefore, scanty interest. But for those who care to become acquainted with the structure and plot of a celebrated Japanese novel, as well as with some of the superstitions which still survive in the domestic life of Buddha's worshippers, this beautiful volume will prove a pleasant acquisition.

ASIATIC SOCIETY OF JAPAN.

A General Meeting was held on Monday, 15th October, 1883 in the Grand Hotel, Yokohama. The Chair was taken by the President, Dr. Hepburn, supported by Mr. Hannen, the Vice-President, several members of Council and of the Society, and numerous ladies and visitors.

The minutes of the annual meeting held in Tôkiô on 20th June were read and approved. The Secretary announced, as a communication from the Council, that a request had been made to H.E. Sir Harry Parkes to allow his name to be added to the list of Honorary Members; also that, as Mr. Hattori, who had been elected a member of Council the last meeting, had declined to serve, Mr. Naibu Kanda had been elected in his stead; also that Mr. Henry Gribble had been elected a member of Council in the place of the late Dr. Geerts.

The PRESIDENT spoke with feeling on the loss that the Society had sustained by the early death of their esteemed member, and referred in terms of high eulogy to the services rendered by Dr. Geerts to the cause of science, and remarked that it was a source of pride to the Society that most of the valuable results of Dr. Geerts' energetic and patient study should have been given to the world through the pages of the Asiatic Transactions.

Mr. GRIBBLE then read his paper on "The Preparation of Japan Tea" in which, after describing the origin of Tea in Japan, so far as legend

and history afford us information on the subject, he referred briefly to its botany and chemistry, and then described in detail the process of country-preparation, from the planting of the seed to the packing of the cases for transporting the fired leaf to the treaty ports. Details were also given of the country cost of producing tea. The further process of refining in foreign godowns was then referred to, as also the operation of artificial colouring, and the use of machinery for tea-firing. A description was also given of the preparation of Japan Congou (furnished by Mr. James Green of Kōbe) and samples of Brick-tea were exhibited which had been supplied by Mr. Ringer of Nagasaki. The paper further contained Tables showing the total export of Tea from Japan during the past twenty years, and the prices obtained for different grades of Tea in Yokohama during the past seven seasons. The Government Department of Agriculture and Commerce had also furnished an addition to the paper by a tabular statement and diagrams showing the extent of land under tea cultivation in Japan. The Appendix also contained supplementary papers by Dr. Divers upon "The chemical properties of Tea" and upon "Artificial colouring." The paper was supported by numerous illustrations of the different processes of tea manufacture, which had been lithographed, and are to form part of the volume when printed.

After the PRESIDENT had opened the discussion by a few remarks on the universal use of tea, the influence it has on commerce, on society, and on the wealth of nations, Mr. F. WARRINGTON EASTLAKE remarked that Mr. Gribble spoke of both *Thea Viridis* and *Thea Bohea*, but according to some recent papers of the German Botanical Society at Berlin he understood that *Thea Viridis* is no longer made a separate species but is spoken of simply as a variety of *Thea Bohea*. Could it not be possible that the *ou-cha* and *me-cha* spoken of by Mr. Gribble represent the two forms of *Thea Bohea*? About a year ago the German Government sent to Hongkong for specimens and seeds of the tea-plant, but he believed that the request was for *Thea Bohea* and any other varieties known to the Chinese.

Mr. GRIBBLE understood that the *ou-cha* and *me-cha* are both offspring of one and the same plant, and that the tea-planters never knew beforehand which variety would be produced by the young plant.

Dr. DIVERS said that botanists appeared to recognise only two species, or at least very distinct varieties, of *Thea*,—*T. Sinensis* and *T. Assamiensis*. Indian tea was now gathered almost exclusively from a hybrid of the Chinese and Assam species. He had brought with him, as likely to prove of interest to the meeting, a specimen of *caffeine* or *theine* which he had had prepared from Japan tea by one of the students of the Imperial College of Engineering. He might mention that the injurious effects of too much tea-drinking were not of such an imaginary character as might be supposed from Mr. Gribble's introductory remarks. These effects were often apparent in many of the women attending as out-patients at the London hospitals; and with those patients it was often of as much advantage to stop their tea for a time as it was to check the use of alcoholic drinks with others.

During the evening a venerable Japanese professor of the ceremonies of the *Cha no Yu*, with two fair assistants, had been preparing some cups of *Hikicha* (powdered tea) which were partaken of by the visitors after the meeting had dissolved, and assumed the more social aspect of an evening tea party.

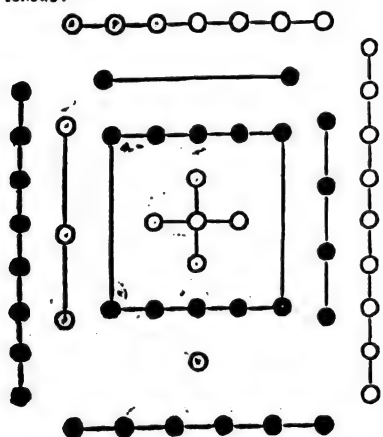
TRANSLATIONS FROM NATIVE JOURNALS.

THE EBB AND FLOW OF SOCIETY MATTERS.

(Translated from the *Choya Shimbun*.)

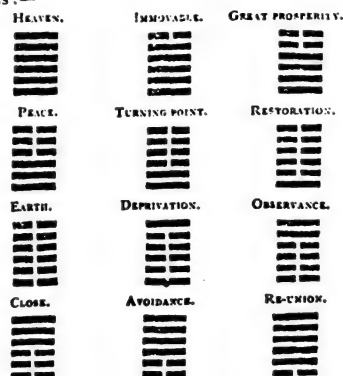
Let us, for instance, from the summit of a high mountain look down upon the vast ocean. The firmament appears as though engulfed in boisterous waves, which in their turn seem like a crumbling mass of huge rocks or an immense herd of horses galloping frantically. The white sails of passing craft and flying sea birds are seen now and then peeping through the clouds. Our eyes are dazzled and our minds filled with intense amazement. Even on calm days, when there is not enough wind to shake a ship's canvas, the water seems to be in a state of constant commotion. This is caused by the revolution of the world and the attraction of the sun and moon. It requires but a little wind to throw the water into a state of great fury. Worldly affairs are analogous to this motion of the waves. When they are quiet, we cannot observe the operation of the law. But if they once move they will not go ever forward. They have to rise and fall. Everything in this universe, be it small or great, organic or inorganic, is governed by this rule. The principle is observable not only in the tides but in the water of a pond, which can be stirred by throwing a stone into it; or in a stream which never flows in a straight direction. Let us, for instance, place a board in an oblique position and pour a quantity of water on it. The liquid will not run straight down, but in a devious way. Again, witness the direction of the wind which howls and shakes the houses. At one moment, it blows from the East at another from the West. [Here the writer give a number of similar illustrative cases.] According to Christianity, God reposed from the creation of this world on the seventh day. Thus, the Omnipotent himself rested. Even in His power, there seems to be expansion and contraction. How much more then must such be the case with His creatures? This law applies not only to one individual or his family, but to the economy of the world. Should a manufacturer succeed in making a novel article and consequently gather large wealth, others will speedily follow him and invest much capital in the manufacture of the same article. The result will be a superabundance of the goods and a fall in their price. Under such circumstances, manufacturers will be obliged to invest their capital in other enterprises; and the consequence will be a conspicuous change in the market. If imports exceed exports, the rate of exchange will fall and the tendency toward exportation will be increased. On the other hand, if the latter exceed the former, the rate of exchange will rise and the tendency toward importation will be increased. International trade, by the way, is nothing more or less than the rise and fall of tides. Rice and Stock Exchanges are another example of the law. There are also signs of change in matters of less importance, as for example, in fashion, and of greater importance, as the decline or prosperity of a nation. Our community must either advance or retrograde. A perusal of history shows us this mystery disclosed in the prosperity and decline of nations. In connection with this subject, it is interesting to examine the Chinese method of divination by drawing dots—geomancy. This science professes to illustrate

the natural order of things, that is, the active and passive principles of the universe. The "Twelve Trigrams" correspond, in this respect, with these principles in so far as the representation of the earth, heaven, and restoration (from evil to good) are concerned. This seems mysterious enough, but it is founded on the law of active and passive principles. Although the *Yeki* (divination) is often at variance with reason and based upon absurd postulates, yet there are some germs of truth in it, since it was invented by ancient Chinese philosophers who had great experience in the art of divination. We will now proceed to apply the *Yeki* to our national vicissitudes and see whether the present revival of old customs is momentary or permanent. It must, however, be borne in mind that we prescribe the Chinese method of divination, not because we favor the resuscitation of Chinese learning, but because the very learning that the pro-Chinese classical party attempt to restore, is predicted by the *Yeki* to be of short duration. Our calculation is as follows:—



In the *Yeki*, the odd numbers represent the male, and even numbers the female, principle. The white dots indicate the former and the black dots the latter. The male principle represents heaven, virtue, tranquillity, wise men, and mental activity. This we may call the positive principle. The female principle signifies earth, vice, disorder, unwise people, and inaction—the negative principle. Five white dots and ten black dots occupy the central position in the above diagram. Three white dots are on the left side with one just below the five black dots, surrounded by eight and six black dots at the left and at the bottom respectively. On the right and top, there are seven and nine white dots enclosing two and four black ones. The central white and black admit no change of position, thereby signifying the so-called heaven and earth in the divination. The course of the remaining dots runs from left to right, white and black chasing one another—an indication of the constant transformation of the universe. But the central dots, representing the principle of nature, do not undergo any change whatever. This is exactly the case with our affairs. History gives remarkable illustrations of this fact. [Here the writer quotes from Chinese history a long narrative of the rise of such a dynasty and the fall of another.] The overthrow of the late Tokugawa Government affords another indisputable example. While the usurper was in possession of supreme power and was crowned with glory, the loyal party sprung up and contrived to annihilate the feudal *régime*. Nothing could resist the progress of reform. Again returning to the book of the "Twelve Dia-

grams" at random, we encounter the following signs:—



Under restoration, we find one positive (—) then (reading from left to right) *turning point*, then *peace*, *great prosperity*, *immovable*, and *heaven*. The last mentioned word, however, changes to *re-union* if two negatives (— —) appear in the last line. Then, the phrase will read *re-union*, *avoidance*, *close observance*, *deprivation*, and *earth*. Thus, we see that the Twelve Diagrams and geomancy are identical. They always lead from extreme prosperity to extreme decline and *vice versa*. All human affairs are subject to this rule.

Observers may remark that Geomancy and the Twelve Diagrams deal simply with the progressive and retrogressive attitude of our community as represented by the positive and negative principles, and mean nothing more than that tranquillity merges into disorder and *vice versa*; that if this doctrine is correct, there is no room for progress in society, which is always within a limited space; and that finally our remark is opposed to the theory of evolution. This is absurd. We have only referred to geomancy and the Twelve Diagrams to show that human affairs are alternately progressive and retrogressive. It is, however, in the order of nature that the superior should dominate over the inferior. Examine the conditions of the rise and fall of a political party. Where there is one powerful party—this is a trait of human nature—another will use its utmost exertions to compete with it, thus augmenting its own power, knowledge, and ability. But when it attains supremacy, it relaxes both caution and foresight. Hence the alternate decline of power.

[Here the writer reviews the various changes that have taken place in English politics and Japanese fashions. For instance, even after the Magna Charter had been granted by King John, the rights of the people suffered more or less in various ages.]

From the Restoration up to the present date a period of sixteen years—we have witnessed several changes occurring with the rapidity of succeeding waves. Our political system was imperfect and a fresh one was established on the model of England. Law was copied from France. Japanese costume has an appearance of barbarism. The Chinese classics impede the progress of civilization. Men and women have equal rights. That the husband should exercise exclusive power over his wife, is against universal justice. They must walk arm in arm after the European fashion. Thus, both good and bad alike were overturned.

At that moment, those who advocated the encouragement of morality and urged the necessity of preserving our customs and manners were condemned as obstinate and ostracized by society. The upper classes did everything in their power to introduce Western institutions. The effect was remarkable: even those ignorant of the alphabet talked of civilization. This state of affairs continued till but a few years ago. Then statesmen

began to assert that Japan was Japan, and having customs, manners, laws, and a constitution of her own, it was absurd to introduce all kinds of European institutions. This proposition was immediately followed by a revival of those archaisms which had fallen into desuetude long ago; and what is more astonishing, ardent efforts are being made to replace the movement for the extension of freedom and popular rights by the elder code of ethics. This is in accordance with the law of ebb and flow of tides. But vicissitude has one fixed point over which it oscillates. All temporary influences soon dwindle away. It is, therefore, most important now to consider what effects have arisen from without and within and to judge whether or no our "progress" is not "retrogressive."

For three centuries, we maintained a rigid seclusion; and, consequently, when the country was opened to foreign intercourse we were startled by the wonderful and novel features of Occidental civilization. At the very outset, we evinced an intense hatred for foreign things; but as we grew accustomed to them, we commenced to appreciate them keenly. And this sentiment increased in force as the immense advantages arising from their adoption presented themselves. In short, anti-foreign feeling changed to a pro-foreign one, and the consequent intellectual development was remarkable. The Government also, recognizing the drift of popular opinion, exerted itself to accustomize European institutions in Japan. It constructed telegraphs and railways; organized the Navy and Army; abolished the old calendar and those teachings of the Chinese sages which had embedded themselves in the brains of the Japanese; and established schools and colleges after European models. Looking at the past, we are surprised at the rapid progress made in the manner of living, education, fashion, etc. It appears as though a tidal wave from abroad had swept old Japan away and created a new world in her place. The reverse, however, is the case now. The tea-ceremony and sundry other usages that were abandoned long ago have come into new use. Hence the question arises:—"Is Japan retrograding?" To solve this query, we must search the record of her adoption of steam and electric inventions. None will fail to recognize the vast advantage of steamers over junks: the value of telegraphs, telephones, dynamite, and the postal service. We cannot dispense with them. Hence there is no necessity for apprehending their in stability among us. It is plain that the present revival of old things is momentary and will be superseded by another and a stronger desire for new things. But what renders us most apprehensive is the change in the educational and political systems of the country. It threatens our welfare for ever. The progress of this change we recognize now and then. The Chinese language [was employed for a considerable time as the medium of thought, and it has become almost impossible to dispense with it entirely. Nevertheless, the study of Western languages has attracted the attention of the populace, which has eagerly adopted it. In consequence of this, the Chinese schools have been completely ruined, while English teaching seminaries have sprung up in all parts of the empire. The provincial officials have considered it their first duty to establish such schools in the districts under their jurisdiction. Those who possess the slightest knowledge of the English language have been appointed officers with high emoluments; whilst Chinese scholars are unable to obtain even the lowest position. And so has arisen a class of people, who, while possessed of a good knowledge of foreign languages and advanced ideas, cannot express themselves in writing and are incapable of taking part in journalistic controversy. This shortcoming they have at last discovered, and, though they despise the Chinese tongue, have been obliged to study it in order to acquire sufficient knowledge to express their ideas in the Japanese written language. This reaction has given a great impetus to the neophobists who regard the revival of Chinese literature as a sign of the restoration of the old state of things. The whole is the outcome of sheer ignorance. The introduction of Occidental science originated the doctrines of liberalism and popular right. Conservative persons, however, came to apprehend that at no remote date the Imperial authority would be abolished and the foundations of the dynasty would be shaken. To avoid such calamity, they contrived to encourage

the revival of the study of Chinese classics. This may continue for some time, but so soon as the tide ebbs, Chinese learning will be a thing of the past. This interference from without cannot be ultimately successful: yet it must be opposed as sternly as possible. We firmly believe that the revival of old customs is only momentary, and cannot be much impediment to our progress.

TRADE REGULATIONS BETWEEN JAPAN AND KOREA.

(Translated from the *Fiji Shimpō*.)

Our readers will be aware of the Trade Regulations recently enacted between the two countries, which we published a few days ago. They were concluded in Seoul on the 25th of July last between the high plenipotentiaries of the respective powers, H.E. Takezoye and H.E. Min Yoo Mog, and have been ratified by the Governments of the two nations. They were to come into force within one hundred days after the ratification, so that they must have been in operation since the 2nd instant. These provisions are of the utmost importance to our merchants, who ought to pay serious attention to them.

The treaty of friendship and commerce with Korea was concluded in February of the 9th year of Meiji, since when seven years have elapsed. At that time, a small number of Japanese merchants went to Korea and confined themselves to the one port of Pusan. It is but three or four years since Korean commerce with us assumed any importance. Inchōn was opened this year and a large number of Japanese flocked thither, hoping for a prosperous trade. Till now Japanese commerce with Korea was foreign in name, yet in fact it was domestic. Japanese craft could enter any port of that country. They were not required to enter and clear at the treaty ports. We could sail thither in junks and fishing boats. No tonnage dues were imposed upon Japanese ships and no duty is levied on goods. It was owing to this liberal policy that trade developed, a fact which requires no confirmation from us. Now, the tariff having been fixed, our merchants will experience great inconvenience; and the trade regulations appear to be a great disaster, yet, when considered calmly, they are found to be in accordance with reason and justice. There is no country on the earth where, even though free trade be nominally adhered to, all imports and exports are duty free. It is, therefore, against reason to deny to Korea the right of imposing a duty on goods. As we Japanese hate unreason and injustice, we have no desire to be included in the category of evil names, even though we may be unable to conform to the strict dictates of justice. We firmly believe that no complaint will be raised among merchants, although they may have different opinions as to the proportion of the duties to be levied. On looking into the tariff, we find that, with the exception of coin, bullion, and passenger's personal effects, all exports are subjected to a duty of 5 per cent., that on ginseng only amounting to 15 per cent. On the other hand, all imports are subjected to a duty varying from 5 per cent. to 30 per cent. This is by no means a light scale. Had the draft of the tariff been submitted to the consideration of Japanese merchants prior to ratification, following the example of European Governments, they would have suggested having some of the 5 per cent. goods put in the duty free list, eight per cent. goods charged 5 per cent. and so forth. But it is too late now. To speak of it almost amounts to counting the age of one's dead children. As things are in this sad condition, we have nothing left but to advise our mercantile community to wait till improvement comes of itself. In our opinion it is imminent in the near future.

The countries at present in treaty with Korea, are America, China, and Japan. The second named country has put on record its empty pretension that Korea is its dependency. Having no proper convention, its relations with the peninsular kingdom are ambiguous. At the end of last year, however, commercial regulations between the two nations were agreed upon at Tientsin, Korea being represented by Cho Yōng-ha, Kim Kōng-jip, and O Yun-jung, and China by Li Hung-chang

and Ma Ken Tsung. The Convention consists of eight provisions which are binding upon Chinese merchants trading in Korea—a fact which goes to show that China is nothing more than a treaty power *vis-à-vis* Korea after all. It is necessary first of all to know whether or no the trade regulations between America and Korea or those between China and Korea were taken as the basis of our tariff. Looking over the China-Korean trade regulations, we find that Chinese and Korean merchants are alike required to pay duty on imports and exports. But we do not find any scale, though we see that ginseng is subject to a duty of fifteen per cent. Article 5 of the said regulations reads as follows:—"Likin offices will be established on the frontier of the two countries where Koreans and Chinese are in the habit of trading. Five per cent. will be charged on all goods with the exception of red ginseng." According to this passage, it appears that the traders of the two nations are at liberty to conduct commerce on the frontier of the two countries, paying five per cent. on all commodities. The difficulty is to know whether the regulations apply to the commerce on the frontier only, or extend to Pusan, Inchōn, and other Korean ports. If they are operative in the treaty ports, Japanese trade will be completely ruined. Under such circumstances, it will become necessary to revise the trade regulations between Japan and Korea. As, however, it is impossible that the functionaries entrusted with making the Convention should have failed to foresee its consequences, it is safe to conclude that the China-Korean trade regulations are operative only on the frontier. Then arises this question:—Is it not unfair that on the frontier five per cent. dues should be imposed, whilst 15 to 30 per cent. is charged on the same article in the treaty ports? Under such conditions there is no chance of the development of trade. Indeed, the whole trade will be monopolized by Chinese; and Japanese will be obliged to close their stores and return home. The town of Wi-ju lies at a distance of one hundred *ri* from Seoul; and access thence to the capital is easy. To the North Wi-ju is what Pusan is to the South. Suppose we export *saké* to Inchōn, we pay a duty of *yen* 30, while we are required to pay only *yen* 5 in Pusan. No Korean living in Inchōn will purchase the spirit at a high price, however near by he can buy it, so long as he can get it cheaper from Pusan. How much more, then, is this applicable to the residents of Chhung-chōng-do, Chōl-la-do, Kyōng-sang-do. So long as the present China-Korean trade regulations are in force, Japanese regulations are of no avail. Did the functionaries who drew them up fail to recognize such an evident result?

Although America concluded a treaty of commerce and friendship with Korea last year, yet nothing has yet been decided as to the regulations under which American trade is to be conducted in Korea. The question is whether the functionaries who made the Japanese regulations consulted with the American Government prior to ratifying it. While English, French, and German goods are subject to an 8 or 10 per cent. duty, American petroleum is taxed 5 per cent. only. But we believe that there was no regular previous consultation between the U.S. Government and the other parties. Nevertheless, Americans trading in Korea are exempt from duty so long as they have no trade regulations; while, on the other hand, Japanese merchants are subject to heavy duties.

So far for the American and Chinese merchants in Korea. In our opinion, there is a means to save Japanese merchants from ruin. Article 42 says:—"Any right, privilege, or favour which the Korean Government has actually granted or may hereafter grant to the Government or subjects of any other states shall be extended to the Government or subjects of Japan without delay." Thus, if Chinese merchants can trade on the frontier paying duties on a five per cent. basis, Japanese can claim the same privilege. If Americans pay no duty, Japanese need not pay any either. We have the right to claim whatever privilege is granted to other nations. Japanese, therefore, need entertain no apprehension whatever. America being a protectionist country surpasses all other nations in the exorbitance of her tariff. To prevent others from doing to her what she does to them, is inconsistent with the principles of justice and reason. On this ground, America appears to be condemned to silence. But her com-

merce in the Far East is not so large as that of England. Consequently she is far less affected. The liberality that America displays toward Korea is the result of the insignificance of her interest in that country, and is not true charity. With us, however, the reverse is the case. Our interest in Korea has been growing great and greater ever since the Seoul outrage. Prior to that event, our trade in Pusan and Wōnsan amounted only to *yen* 4,000,000 per annum. But since July last year, Inchōn and Yang-hwa-chin were opened for our trade, and as Koreans have begun to show a keen appetite for foreign intercourse, there is just now a promising prospect for commerce. Nevertheless, we agreed to the tariff on a five to thirty per cent. basis. Our liberality and courage in this have no equal! Twenty or thirty years ago European nations taking advantage of the ignorance of Japanese statesmen, forced upon us a five per cent. tariff. (Actually, it is as low as three or four per cent. with the exception of a few articles.) Whether it is the recognized tactics of civilized nations to treat the uncivilized in this fashion we cannot say. But even though Japan should force a five per cent. tariff upon Korea, Europeans have no right to open their mouths on the subject. In other words, it may be asserted that Japan had a right to enforce a five per cent. tariff upon Korea; but she accepted a schedule varying from five per cent. to thirty per cent. The utmost liberty and respect for international morality are the fittest words of encomium for Japan's conduct towards Korea. Taking a merely superficial survey of affairs, we are inclined to applaud these abstract virtues. When, however, we sound matters to the bottom, we find that the liberality and morality cannot endure. China and America are already placed on a better footing than Japan. England will shortly be placed on an equal footing with them. Her representatives, Sir Harry Parkes and Mr. Aston, have gone to Korea, and will claim whatever privileges they deem necessary for the furtherance of trade. England is to Korea what an eagle is to a sparrow. If the former wants to have its own way with the latter it will have it. England concluding a treaty with Korea, will be the signal for the concession of the privileges to Japan which are provided for in the forty-second Article of the Trade Regulations. Some might argue that the present tariff is contrived to deprive the treaty Powers of any further pretexts to refuse revision of their Japanese conventions. This is sheer ignorance. In the eyes of Englishmen, the tariff between Japan and Korea is nothing. All that they want or care for, is the promotion of their own interest. It is clear that the tariff was not made with any reference to treaty revision.

KOREAN TRADE.

(Translated from the *Mainichi Shimbun*.)

Our readers will remember that we have lately published a copy of the commercial stipulations between Japan and Korea, which were evidently devised to regulate the mutual trade, authorizing the peninsula to collect customs duties. These stipulations have an important bearing upon Korean and Japanese commerce. We will first call the attention of our merchants in the peninsula to the present condition of trade with Japan, and afterwards comment upon the stipulations referred to. It must be remembered that about seven years have elapsed since we entered into trade with Korea. At the commencement of our transactions, some asserted that they hardly expected to see Korean trade prosper in future, while others expressed the contrary opinion. Complicated discussions ensued, and the public appear to have recognized the perils that were likely to attend the uncertain nature of Korean commerce. Nevertheless, the trade between the two countries seems to have lately progressed in some measure. Latest information announces the value of exports and imports in Korea to have amounted to four million *yen*. This amount does not suffice to show the prosperity of business, yet so far as the present condition of our foreign trade is concerned, we may be justified in saying that our commercial relations with Korea are not so insignificant as have been

supposed by some people. Holland, Russia, Italy, and Germany, entered into commercial stipulations with our Empire prior to the opening of intercourse with the peninsula. Unlike Korea, these four countries do not regard foreign commerce as a thing to be despised, while they surpass her in their national power and civilization. Yet, considered with regard to commercial relations, Germany, Russia, Italy, and Holland are far inferior to Korea. According to the annual statistical report, the value of exports to Russia in 1879 and 1880 amounted only to yen 60,000, and in 1881 to a little more than yen 100,000. The exports to Holland in 1879 realized yen 60,000, and in 1880 only yen 20,000; while the value of imports from and exports to Italy in 1879 and 1880 did not exceed yen 600,000 and 1,000,000 respectively, although she is regarded as the chief customer of our silk and silkworm egg cards. The trade report of last year shows the amount of exports to, and imports from, Holland and Italy to have hardly reached the value of yen 10,000 and yen 400,000 respectively. There are many other States in Europe, which have concluded commercial stipulations with us, but none of them has ever surpassed Italy in the amount of exports and imports. While Korea is despised by our people as a small, barbarous country, her trade with us has been so successful as to realize four million yen a year. In so far as the actual condition of our foreign commerce is concerned, it is quite reasonable to assert that our Korean trade ought not by comparison to be condemned as insignificant. Our readers may remember that, since the 29th ultimo, we published in instalment an admonitory document despatched to Korea by the Chinese Government with a view to conclude special commercial treaties. The demands of the Chinese authorities, however, was firmly rejected, on the ground that should special treaties be concluded with China in accordance with her proposal, Japan would not hesitate to follow their example, and that compliance with the Japanese demand would render it necessary to conclude similar stipulations with America, England, France, and Germany. If this be the case, the people of these powers will reside in the interior of Korea indiscriminately with the natives, and carry on fishing on the coast with perfect liberty. Thus countless misfortunes may befall the peninsula. Nevertheless, China did not take into consideration these circumstances, but pressed her neighbour to agree to her arbitrary request. Whether the Middle Kingdom will be enabled to attain her ends or whether she will fail on account of the existence of Japan and other treaty powers, we are unable to conjecture. Yet it is unquestionably certain that she will shortly succeed in entering into new commercial relations with Korea, and commence trade operations in the various open ports in the latter country just as is the case with our countrymen. From these circumstances we may be allowed to infer that our Korean trade will ere long present a totally different aspect, and that seventy or eighty per cent. of our commerce will fall into the hands of the Chinese. In corroboration of this argument we may state that the Japanese merchants possess neither the ability nor experience in trade of the Chinese, while the territory of the latter offers greater facilities, through its position, for trade than that of Japan. Moreover, our exports to Korea do not consist of articles of our own manufacture, but are almost entirely those of foreign production. Before commenting upon these particulars, we will endeavour to show how our merchants were enabled to reap large profits in the peninsula, which might have been secured by the Chinese. There is a province called Gishiu on the boundary between China and Korea. As the Chinese authorities have hitherto prohibited maritime trade with her neighbour, the sale of merchandise on both sides could only be effected by opening stores in Gishiu, so that business might be conducted on land. It was simply on account of this oversight on the part of the Chinese Government that our merchants were enabled to reap large profits in the peninsula. The profits resulting from transactions in Gishiu have thus hitherto been monopolised by Japanese, but it now happens that our merchants in Korea have to be deprived of their advantageous position and must expect to incur considerable losses. In corroboration of this view, we are informed that prior to the opening of the two ports,

Pu-san and Won-san, the trade in Gishiu, namely the China-Korean transactions, realized three million *ryos* a year, but that since these ports were opened to commerce, Chinese business appears to have steadily declined, the imports and exports in Pu-san in 1881 amounting in value to yen 2,300,000 and those in Won-san in 1882 reaching yen 1,400,000. From these facts it may be inferred that the transactions in Gishiu should have diminished by half the amount as compared with the previous years. In the course of events, the depression of our peninsular business is now to be replaced by the growing prosperity of commerce between China and Korea. This can be plainly perceived from the fact that steps are being taken by the Middle Kingdom to commence transactions in Pu-san and Won-san by establishing steam communication with these ports instead of carrying on an overland trade exclusively as heretofore. The principal imports to Korea consists of shirtings and lawns manufactured in Western countries, while transport can be effected by the Chinese at lower rates than by the Japanese. The China Merchants' Steam Navigation Company have, we are informed, already established a regular service between Chefoo and In-chhôn, their vessels plying three times a month, whereas we have not yet arranged to dispatch a mail even once a month. Therefore, China may reasonably be recognised as getting ahead of us in this respect. In our opinion, it is quite unnecessary for the authorities to subsidize heavily a line of steamers for this trade. Supposing the Government renders ample pecuniary aid to the Mitsu Bishi Company or the Union Shipping Association, with a view to establish steam communication with In-chhôn three times a month, it is still impossible to compete commercially with the Chinese in that port; inasmuch as the most prominent imports to the peninsula, namely shirtings, are brought from Shanghai, thus opening direct intercourse with In-chhôn and affording Chinese the facilities unattainable by Japanese. Below is a comparative table of distances between In-chhôn and the various ports in Japan and China:—

| Miles. | Miles. |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------|
| Nagasaki to In-chhôn 458 | Nagasaki to In-chhôn via Pu-san 593 |
| Shimonoseki to In-chhôn 590 | Shanghai to In-chhôn via Chefoo to In-chhôn 572 |
| Shanghai to In-chhôn 493 | Nagasaki and Pu-san 1,053 |

From the above it will be seen that the distance from Nagasaki to In-chhôn is 458 miles (nautical), and from Shanghai 493 miles. Should Chinese desire to transport merchandise to In-chhôn, they have to travel about thirty miles more than Japanese in Nagasaki. Yet a closer investigation shows that the reverse is the case. This may be clearly comprehended from the fact that the chief imports to Korea, such as shirtings and lawns, which form seventy or eighty per cent. of the whole trade, are first brought from Shanghai to Nagasaki and then transported to In-chhôn via Pu-san. Therefore, the export of these commodities to In-chhôn requires a voyage of more than a thousand miles. On the other hand, Chinese may effect their purchases direct from Shanghai by sailing 493 miles only. Even admitting that there is no difference in the rate of freight in China and Japan, half the amount will suffice for the former as compared with charges necessary for the transport of goods to Korea from the latter country. Shirtings and lawns exported by Chinese are thus saleable in Korea at lower prices than those transported by Japanese. How can it be possible for our merchants to compete commercially with their neighbors the Chinese? These circumstances can scarcely fail to create disadvantages for our merchants. Those who are engaged in foreign commerce are familiar with the fact that the freights charged by the China Merchants' Steam Navigation Company are lower than those charged to our merchants by Japanese steamers. We have not investigated the cause of the difference in freights in the Middle Kingdom and in Japan. According to the statements of some of our merchants, it seems probable that the Chinese Steam Navigation Company referred to has been organised under the special auspices of Li Hung-chang with a view to receive its assistance for carrying out his policy, and that he furnishes an enormous subsidy to enable the Company to carry on in such a manner as will hardly admit of competition. Under these circumstances we may be permitted to assert that competition with the

China Merchants' Steam Navigation Company in the matter of freights is quite out of the question so far as our shipping facilities are concerned. The return of imports in 1881 and 1882 for Pu-san and Won-san is as follows:—Pu-san—shirtings, value yen 490,000; lawns, yen 330,000; copper, yen 60,000; *kaiki* (silk fabric) yen 30,000; making a total of yen 910,000 in value. Won-san—shirtings, value yen 440,000; lawns, yen 150,000; copper, yen 6,300; making a total of yen 596,300. From this it will be seen that the total value of imports in Pu-san in 1881 was yen 910,000, shirtings and lawns together reaching yen 820,000, while imports in Won-san in 1882 amounted in value to yen 596,000, shirtings and lawns realizing yen 500,000. There may be some difference between the demand at Pu-san and Won-san and at In-chhôn, yet, so far as the actual condition of trade in two ports is concerned, we may assume that the people in Kyōng-kwi-do must be regarded as the chief customers of In-chhôn, and that their wants will be similar to those which satisfy the inhabitants of Pu-san and Won-san. From the past condition of trade we may prognosticate its future, and thus we are finally led to the conclusion that future prospective trade in In-chhôn will scarcely fail to bring ruin upon Japanese merchants.

Now, a question arises, "Can we expect to succeed in our business in the other two ports, namely Pu-san and Won-san?" To our great regret, the answer must be that as regards the transactions in these ports, we anticipate dire disappointment. This view is supported by the fact that the shirtings in demand in Korea are entirely different in quality to those wanted in Japan. Manchester manufacturers can only satisfy the desire of our neighbours. Some prominent merchants in the Middle Kingdom have already entered into contracts with manufacturers in Manchester to mark their orders with their own trade marks, such as "Gigen" or "Taian." The Koreans appear to place strong confidence in these goods; so much so, that they have almost refrained from purchasing any other than those bearing the above marks. Japanese used to buy these specified commodities from Chinese traders and import them to Pu-san and Won-san. Should commerce, therefore, become practicable between China and Korea, the former will not hesitate to export her goods to Pu-san and Won-san and any other ports, where she may be enabled to make a profit. Thus it is plain that she can carry on a business with her own goods, while Japan can only engage in Korean trade through Chinese dealers. At all events, we can never hope to obtain such advantages as those enjoyed by the Chinese. Under these circumstances, we may be justified in saying that our Korean trade is destined to end in failure, for it does not manifest the least prospect of continuation. The foregoing statements are specially furnished to attract the attention of our merchants who are engaged in Korean commerce. Should any of our readers be able to devise a scheme whereby a hold may be maintained upon Korean commerce, we earnestly request them to inform us of the same.

CORRESPONDENCE.

[Our readers must distinctly understand that we are in no sense responsible for the sentiments or opinions of our Correspondents, for the accuracy of their assertions, or for the deductions they may choose to draw therefrom.]

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—You have perhaps heard of the gentleman who read his Japanese servant a long moral lecture without employing language more diffuse or elaborate than the simple words "Naze omaye!" I have met incredulous persons who profess to doubt this story. Should there be any such among your readers, permit me to refer them to "Observer," (a correspondent of one of your local contemporaries) who possesses the ability of holding long conversations on difficult subjects with natives of this country, though his knowledge of the vernacular does not help him to compose better Japanese than, "*Nippon nifu tain warui, a-ah warui de gosaimasu!*"

Your obedient Servant, INDEED.
Tokyo, November 2nd, 1883.

LATEST TELEGRAMS.

[REUTER "SPECIAL" TO "JAPAN MAIL."]

London, October 31st.

FRANCE AND CHINA.

The French newspapers publish articles on the Tonquin affair exhibiting great and increasing bitterness against China.

London, November 1st.

In the Chamber of Deputies M. Ferry stated that there was no intention on the part of the French Government to declare war with China, as the latter did not declare war when Sontai and Bac-nimh were captured.

London, November 3rd.

A day next week is to be appointed when the French Government will ask the Chambers for a Supplementary Credit of 10,000,000 francs for the prosecution of the expedition in Tonquin.

London, November 5th.

DISTURBANCES IN SERBIA.

Disturbances have broken out in Serbia, and popular liberties have been suspended. Troops have started for the scene of action, where the rebels occupy a strategical position.

[REUTER'S TELEGRAMS.]

London, 23rd October.

NIHILISTS IN THE RUSSIAN ARMY.

Numerous arrests have been made of Nihilists in the Russian Army of the Caucasus, and a special committee has been sent there to open an inquiry.

London, 25th October.

ENGLAND, AUSTRALIA, AND NEW GUINEA.

The British Secretary of State for the Colonies has written a letter to the promoters of the Company for colonizing New Guinea prohibiting the scheme, and declaring that if persisted in the Pacific Squadron will be instructed to protect the natives.

London, 26th October.

FRANCE AND CHINA.

In the Chamber of Deputies the Radicals have given notice of a motion censuring the policy of the Government in Tonquin.

London, 27th October.

INDEMNITY TO MR. SHAW.

The British Government have accepted the offer of the French Government to pay Mr. Shaw one thousand pounds sterling and apologise suitably.

London, 28th October.

THREATENING ASPECT OF AFFAIRS IN BULGARIA.
The Emperor of Russia has recalled the Russian aides-de-camp to the Prince of Bulgaria; and the latter has dismissed the Russian War Minister.

London, 29th October.

Cholera has again broken out in Alexandria; twelve deaths occurred yesterday.

London, 30th October.

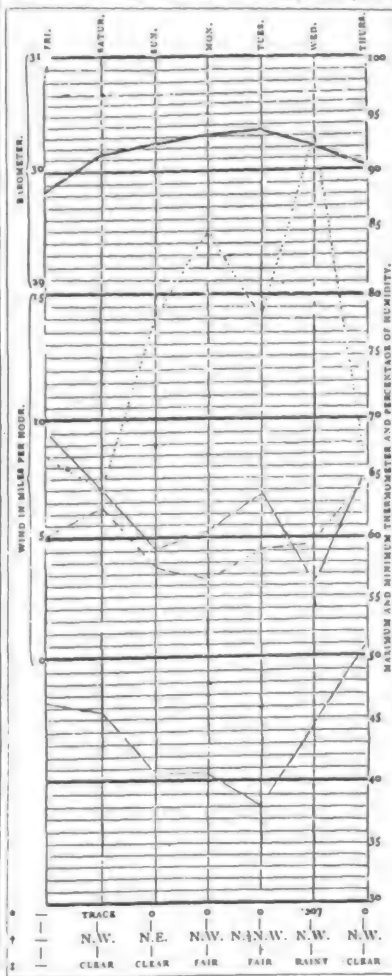
AUSTRIA AND RUSSIA.

Count Kalnoky, the Austrian Minister for Foreign Affairs, disclaims any hostility towards Russia.

METEOROLOGICAL REPORT.

FOR WEEK BEGINNING FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 2ND, 1883.

Observatory of Daigaku, Moto-Fujicho, Hongh, Tokiyo, Japan.



REMARKS.

Heavy line represents barometer.

Light continuous line—maximum and minimum thermometers.

Dotted line—percentage of humidity.

The barometer is reduced to the freezing point and to the level of the sea.

• Rain in inches. † Direction of Wind. ‡ Weather.

Maximum velocity of wind 14.6 miles per hour on Thursday at 3 p.m.

The highest reading of the barometer for the week was 30.307 inches on Tuesday at 10 a.m., and the lowest was 29.777 inches on Friday at 6 a.m.

The highest temperature for the week was 69.0 on Friday, and the lowest was 38.0 on Tuesday. The maximum and minimum for the corresponding week of last year were 68.1 and 41.3 respectively.

The total amount of rain for the week was 0.308 inches against 0.724 inches for the corresponding week of last year.

YOKOHAMA-TOKIO RAILWAY.

The Trains LEAVE YOKOHAMA Station at 7.30, 8.45, 9.30, 10.15, and 11.30 a.m., and 1.00, 2.30, 4.00, 5.00, 6.15, 8.00, 9.15, and 10.30 p.m.

The Trains LEAVE TOKIO (Shinbashi) at 7.30, 8.45, 10.00, 10.45, and 11.30 a.m., and 1.00, 2.30, 4.00, 5.00, 6.15, 8.00, 9.15, and 10.30 p.m.

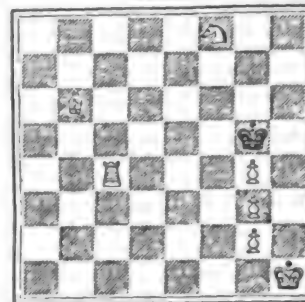
Those marked with (*) run through without stopping at Tsurumi, Kawasaki, and Omori Stations. Those with (†) are the same as above with the exception of stopping at Kawasaki Station.

CHESS.

By G. B. STOCKER.

From the Westminster Papers.

BLACK.



WHITE.

White to play and mate in 3 moves.

Solution to Chess Problem of 27th October,
by G. B. STOCKER.

| | |
|---------------------------|-------------------------|
| White. | Black. |
| 1.—B. to Q. 4. | 1.—K. takes P. |
| 2.—B. to K. B. 6, dis.ch. | 2.—K. takes P. |
| 3.—B. to K. R. 4, mate. | if 2.—K. to B. or R. 4. |
| 3.—R., mate. | if 1.—K. to R. 3. |
| 2.—R. to Q. B. 6, ch. | 2.—K. to Kt. 4. |
| 3.—R. to K. Kt. 6, mate. | |

Correct solution received from "TESA."

MAIL STEAMERS.

THE NEXT MAIL IS DUE

| | |
|-----------------------------------------------|-----------------------|
| From America ... per P. M. Co. | Tuesday, Nov. 13th.* |
| From Europe, via Hongkong. per M. M. Co. | Tuesday, Nov. 13th.† |
| From Shanghai, Nagasaki, & } per M. B. Co. | Thursday, Nov. 15th.‡ |
| Kobe ... | |
| From America ... per P. M. Co. | Tuesday, Nov. 27th.§ |

* City of Rio de Janeiro left San Francisco on October 24th.
† Menahela (with French mail) left Hongkong on November 7th.
‡ Left Shanghai on November 7th. § City of Tokio left San Francisco on November 7th.

THE NEXT MAIL LEAVES

| | |
|-------------------------------------------------|-----------------------|
| For Shanghai, Kobe, and } per M. B. Co. | Wednesday, Nov. 14th. |
| Nagasaki ... | |
| For Europe, via Hongkong ... per P. & O. Co. | Saturday, Nov. 17th. |
| For America ... per O. & O. Co. | Tuesday, Nov. 27th. |

The arrival and departure of mails by the Occidental and Oriental, the Pacific Mail, and the Peninsular and Oriental Companies, are approximate only.

TIME TABLES.

UYENO-KUMAGAI RAILWAY.

The Trains leave UYENO at 7 and 11.30 a.m. and 4 p.m., and HONJO at 6.30 and 11 a.m. and 3.30 p.m.

The Fares are:—Special-class (Separate Compartment), yen 2.35; First-class, yen 1.40; Third-class, sen 70.

YOKOSUKA STEAMERS.

The Yokosuka steamers leave the English Hatoba daily at 8.15 and 10.45 a.m., and 12.30, 3.00, and 4.15 p.m.; and leave Yokosuka at 7.00 and 9.45 a.m., 12.15 m., and 2.00 and 4.00 p.m.

LATEST SHIPPING.

FREIGHTS.

In sympathy with the China ports, freights are at a very low ebb, with scarcely any business. From this to Nagasaki, with lumber, the British barkentine *Evangeline* has been chartered, \$500 in full, 28 lay days. The *Sagitta*, for Havre and London, has not yet left here, while the *Gilead* has filled at Kobe and sailed for New York on the 6th instant. The *Flintshire* was to have left Kobe on the 9th for London, via ports, and the berth here for that destination is occupied by the *Breconshire* with quick despatch. For New York, the *Venice* is to sail on the 20th instant, with the *Canton* to follow for same destination with quick despatch.

ARRIVALS.

Arabic, British steamer, 2,787, W. G. Pearne, 2nd November.—Hongkong 27th October, Mails and General.—O. & O. S. S. Co.
Taganoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 448, Matsumoto, 2nd November.—Yokkaichi, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S. S. Co.
Kenjin Maru, Japanese steamer, 230, Masuda, 4th November.—Handa, General.—Seiriussha.
Takasago Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,229, C. Young, 5th November.—Hakodate via Oginohama, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S. S. Co.
Tetchiu Maru, Japanese steamer, 678, Burgoyne, 5th November.—Kobe, 3rd November, General.—Kiyodo Unyu Kwaisha.
Felix, German schooner, 58, Stromberg, 6th November.—Kurile Islands, 25 Sea Otter and 350 Seal skins.—F. Retz & Co.
Lisa, American schooner, 70, Weston, 6th November.—Kurile Islands, General.—J. D. Carroll & Co.
Sophie, Russian schooner, 230, Sundrig, 6th November.—Barracouta, General.—F. Retz.
Yoshino Maru, Japanese steamer, 120, Tamura, 6th November.—Yokkaichi, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S. S. Co.
Kiyokawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 62, Imada, 7th November.—Shimidzu, General.—Seiriussha.
Shinagawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 481, J. E. Kilgour, 7th November.—Sakada, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S. S. Co.
Takachiho Maru, Japanese steamer, 1360, C. Nye, 7th November.—Kobe 5th November, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S. S. Co.
Taganoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 448, Matsumoto, 8th November.—Yokkaichi, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S. S. Co.
Genkai Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,914, G. W. Conner, 8th November.—Shanghai and ports, Mails and General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S. S. Co.
Niigata Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,095, Hubbard, 1st November.—Hakodate via Oginohama, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S. S. Co.
Cairnsmuir, British steamer, 1,123, G. L. Castle, 9th November.—London via Hongkong, General.—Smith, Baker & Co.
Kairio Maru, Japanese steamer, 370, Amano, 9th November.—Handa, General.—Seiriussha.
Kengi Maru, Japanese steamer, 236, Masuda, 9th November.—Yokkaichi, General.—Seiriussha.
Saiko Maru, Japanese steamer, 180, Ichi, 9th November.—Toba, General.—Seiriussha.
Helena, British schooner, 60, Busk, 9th November, Kurile Islands, Furs.—Captain.
Hiogo Maru, Japanese steamer, 896, R. N. Walker, 9th November.—Kobe, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S. S. Co.
Horai Maru, Japanese steamer, 407, Tokuda, 9th November.—Kobe, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S. S. Co.
Okame Maru, Japanese steamer, 148, Ichishima, 9th November.—Handa, General.—Handa-sha.
Shidenoka Maru, Japanese steamer, 334, Nakai, 9th November.—Shimidzu, General.—Seiriussha.

Khiva, British steamer, 2,609, P. Harris, 10th November.—Hongkong 1st November via Nagasaki and Kobe, Mails and General.—P. & O. S. N. Co.

Seirio Maru, Japanese steamer, 459, Nirei, 10th November.—Yokkaichi, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S. S. Co.

DEPARTURES.

Taganoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 448, Matsumoto, 2nd November.—Yokkaichi, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S. S. Co.

Koweki Maru, Japanese steamer, 63, Omura, 3rd November.—Yokkaichi, General.—Koweki-sha.

Zambesi, British steamer, 1,510, L. H. Moule, 3rd November.—Hongkong via Kobe and Nagasaki, Mails and General.—P. & O. S. N. Co.

Flintshire, British steamer, 1,017, A. Haine, 4th November.—Kobe, General.—Adamson, Bell & Co.

Ise Maru, Japanese steamer, 748, J. Efford, 4th November.—Hakodate, Mails and General.—Kiyodo Unyu Kwaisha.

Ada, British schooner, 73, Hardy, 5th November.—Miako.—Captain.

Kenjin Maru, Japanese steamer, 236, Masuda, 5th November.—Yokkaichi, General.—Seiriussha.

Takasago Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,229, C. Young, 5th November.—Hakodate, Mails and General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S. S. Co.

Meiji Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,030, Captain Allen, 5th November.—Inspection of Lighthouses.—Lighthouse Department.

Onoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 104, Fukuda, 5th November.—Sugimoto, General.—Seiriussha.

Sooloo, British bark, 359, Baikie, 4th November.—Nagasaki, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S. S. Co.

Totomi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,197, W. J. James, 5th November.—Kobe, General.—Kiyodo Unyu Kwaisha.

Arabic, British steamer 2,787, W. G. Pearne, 6th November.—San Francisco, Mails and General.—O. & O. S. S. Co.

Shidenoka Maru, Japanese steamer, 334, Nakai, 6th November.—Shimidzu, General.—Seiriussha.

Seirio Maru, Japanese steamer, 459, Nirei, 6th November.—Yokkaichi, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S. S. Co.

Hiroshima Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,862, J. Wynn, 7th November.—Shanghai and ports, Mails and General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S. S. Co.

Kiyokawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 62, Imada, 8th November.—Shimidzu, General.—Seiriussha.

Shima Maru, Japanese steamer, 800, Okuma, 8th November.—Yokkaichi, General.—Kiyodo Unyu Kwaisha.

Onoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 104, Sugimoto, 8th November.—Fukuda, General.—Seiriussha.

Yoshino Maru, Japanese steamer, 401, Hoshi, 8th November.—Yokkaichi, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S. S. Co.

Shinagawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 481, J. E. Kilgour, 9th November.—Kobe, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S. S. Co.

Kairio Maru, Japanese steamer, 370, Amano, 9th November.—Handa, General.—Seiriussha.

Seika Maru, Japanese steamer, 102, Narita, 9th November.—Toba, General.—Seiriussha.

Niigata Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,095, John C. Hubbard, 10th November.—Kobe, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S. S. Co.

Takachiho Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,360, C. Nye, 10th November.—Kobe and Nagasaki, Mails and General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S. S. Co.

Tanis, French steamer, 1,750, Vaquier, 10th November.—Hongkong, Mails and General.—Messageries Maritimes Co.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per British steamer *Arabic*, from Hongkong:—For California: Mr. W. J. Forsyth in cabin; and 5 Europeans and 127 Chinese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Takasago Maru*, from Hakodate via Oginohama:—Captain and Mrs. Frahm and 15 Japanese in cabin; and 150 Japanese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Takachiho Maru*, from Kobe:—Mr. Stout in cabin; and 96 Japanese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Genkai Maru*, from Shanghai and ports:—Governor Kamada, Governor Takasaki, Mr. and Mrs. Nanawo, Mr. and Mrs. Shimidzu, Mrs. Dithlefsen and 2 children, Mrs. Sugiyama, Mrs. Ohisui, Rev. T. T. Alexander, Dr. Gulick, Messrs. J. Stoddart, W. Barril, R. Lyall, Hashiguchi, Nagano, Watanabe, Yokoyama, Itsutsuji, and Oki in cabin; and 3 Europeans and 206 Japanese in steerage.

Per British steamer *Khiva*, from Hongkong, via Nagasaki and Kobe:—Mrs. Dallas, 2 children, infant and servant, Miss E. Meade, Miss White, Miss Benneson, Mr. and Mrs. Broadbent, Mr. and Mrs. Reid, Mr. and Mrs. Walter, Messrs. Snow and servant, Steele, Inouye, Yushima, Kum Heng, and Mrs. Yok Lum in cabin.

DEPARTED.

Per British steamer *Zambesi*, for Hongkong via Kobe and Nagasaki:—Mr. and Mrs. Batcheler and child, Mr. and Mrs. Brent and 3 children, and servant, Mr. and Mrs. W. B. Walter, Mr. and Mrs. Joynson, Mr. and Mrs. Broadbent, Mr. and Mrs. J. P. Reid, Miss Ardenne, Miss Lye, Miss Bell Irving, Dr. Gordon, R.N., Mrs. Lye Tong, child and servant, Messrs. J. Leckie, J. A. M. Smith, S. Heale, Ardenne, Lew Sum Kum, and Poon Tsin in cabin; and 35 Japanese and 14 Chinese in steerage.

Per British steamer *Arabic*, for San Francisco: Mr. W. J. Forsyth in cabin; and 14 Europeans and 117 Chinese in steerage. For New York: Admiral Crosby, U.S.N., and Mrs. Crosby, Mr. and Mrs. Zuck and 2 children, Dr. A. R. Platt, Rt. Rev. Bishop Osgood, Rev. A. Petter, Messrs. W. S. Underdown, H. J. Weston, and R. B. Smith in cabin. For London: Mr. A. E. Philpotts in cabin. For Hamburg: Baron and Baroness Lohdoff in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Hiroshima Maru*, for Shanghai and ports:—Governor Chiaki, Mr. and Mrs. Seuke, Miss Nishida, Dr. and Mrs. J. B. Neil, Mr. and Mrs. Iyemasa, Professor Nishimura, The Loftus Troupe, Dr. Biddle, U.S.N., Messrs. W. Davis, R. H. Powers, Oakland, Barber, Blakeney, Williams, Chiburg, E. C. Kirby, Hanney, F. W. Strong, G. S. Wheaton, F. McKeige, W. H. Marshelle, Watarogo, Machida, Yabuike, Nagaki, Takeuchi, Hamaguchi, Sagamura, Kabayashi, Yamaki, Fukagawa, and Tanabe in cabin.

Per French steamer *Tanis*, for Hongkong:—Mr. and Mrs. Juery and infant, Mr. C. Hunt and servant, Messrs. S. Hisamatsu, T. Kato, and Ting Song in cabin.

CARGOES.

Per British steamer *Zambesi*, for Hongkong via Kobe and Nagasaki:—Silk, for France, 785 bales; for London, 20 bales; Total, 820 bales.

Per British steamer *Arabic*, for San Francisco:—

| | TEA. | | | |
|----------------|-------------------|--------------|------------------|--------|
| | RAW FRANCISCO. | NEW YORK. | OTHER CITIES. | TOTAL. |
| Hongkong | 44 | — | 947 | 991 |
| Shanghai | 290 | 534 | 710 | 1,604 |
| Nagasaki | — | — | 597 | 597 |
| Hiro | — | 100 | 1,146 | 1,246 |
| Yokohama | 3,303 | 544 | 724 | 3,571 |
| Total | 2,637 | 1,228 | 4,144 | 8,009 |

| | SILK. | | | |
|----------------|-------------------|--------------|------------------|--------|
| | RAW FRANCISCO. | NEW YORK. | OTHER CITIES. | TOTAL. |
| Shanghai | — | 232 | — | 232 |
| Hongkong | — | 301 | — | 301 |
| Total | — | 533 | — | 533 |

Per Japanese steamer *Genkai Maru*, from Shanghai and ports:—Treasure, \$114,000.00.

Per British steamer *Khiva*, from Hongkong, via Nagasaki and Kobe:—Cotton, 128 bales; Twist, 1,035 bales; Sugar, 8,167 bags; Sundries, 2,295 packages.

Per French steamer *Tanis*, for Hongkong:—Silk, for France, 774 bales; for England, 351 bales; for Italy, 10 bales; Total, 1,135 bales.

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

Since last report the business done has been so trivial that it is impossible to alter quotations which must, however, be taken as quite nominal in view of the present stagnation, as dealers are not operating at all in Staple Goods; almost the only article which has been moved at all being Mouselines. Metals continue quiet, though one or two sales of bar and nailrod Iron of favorable sizes have found buyers "to arrive."

COTTON YARNS.

| | PER PICUL. |
|-----------------------------------|------------------|
| Nos. 16 to 24, Common to Medium - | \$25.00 to 28.50 |
| Nos. 16 to 24, Good to Best - | 29.25 to 30.00 |
| Bombay, No. 20, Good to Best - | 25.25 to 28.50 |
| Nos. 28 to 32, Common to Medium - | 30.50 to 31.50 |
| Nos. 28 to 32, Good to Best - | 32.00 to 35.00 |
| Nos. 38 to 42 - | 35.00 to 37.50 |

COTTON PIECE GOODS.

| | PER PIECE. |
|------------------------------------------------|----------------|
| Grey Shirtings—8½, 38½ to 39 inches - | \$1.70 to 2.15 |
| Grey Shirtings—9½, 38½ to 45 inches - | 1.92½ to 2.40 |
| T. Cloth—7½, 24 yards, 32 inches - | 1.42½ to 1.50 |
| Indigo Shirting—12 yards, 44 inches - | 1.55 to 1.70 |
| Prints—Assorted, 24 yards, 30 inches - | 1.10 to 2.40 |
| Cotton—Italians and Sateens Black, 32 inches - | 0.07 to 0.09 |
| Turkey Reds—2 to 2½, 24 yards, 30 inches - | 1.15 to 1.35 |
| Turkey Reds—2½ to 2½, 24 yards, 30 inches - | 1.35 to 1.55 |
| Turkey Reds—3½, 24 yards, 30 inches - | 1.70 to 1.82½ |
| Velvets—Black, 33 yards, 22 inches - | 5.90 to 6.75 |
| Victoria Lawns, 12 yards, 42-3 inches - | 0.65 to 0.75 |
| Taffetas, 12 yards, 43 inches - | 1.75 to 2.05 |

WOOLLENS.

| | |
|---------------------------------------------------|----------------|
| Plain Orleans, 40-42 yards, 32 inches - | \$3.80 to 5.25 |
| Figured Orleans, 29-31 yards, 31 inches - | 3.25 to 4.00 |
| Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches - | 0.18 to 0.28 |
| Mouseline de Laine—Crape, 24 yards, 31 inches - | 0.15½ to 0.16½ |
| Mouseline de Laine—Itajime, 24 yards, 31 inches - | 0.18½ to 0.26 |
| Mouseline de Laine—Yuzen, 24 yards, 31 inches - | 0.30 to 0.37½ |
| Cloths—Pilots, 54 @ 56 inches - | 0.30 to 0.40 |
| Cloths—Presidents, 54 @ 56 inches - | 0.40 to 0.50 |
| Cloths—Union, 54 @ 56 inches - | 0.30 to 0.55 |
| Blankets—Scarlet and Green, 6 to 5½, per lb - | 0.35 to 0.40 |

IRON.

| | PER PICUL. |
|---------------------------------|----------------|
| Flat Bars, ½ inch - | \$2.50 to 2.90 |
| Flat Bars, 1 inch - | 2.80 to 3.00 |
| Round and square up to 1 inch - | 2.80 to 3.00 |
| Nailrod, assorted - | 2.35 to 2.60 |
| Nailrod, small size - | 2.85 to 3.15 |

KEROSENE.

No business whatever has transpired in Oil during the past week, and the following quotations are therefore nominal. Deliveries have amounted to 15,000 cases, leaving a Stock of about 650,000 cases in first hands of sold and unsold Oil.

| | PER CASE. |
|----------|-----------|
| Devoe - | \$1.68 |
| Comet - | 1.65 |
| Stella - | 1.52 |

SUGAR.

Prices remain unchanged, but business is small on account of holders refusing to make any concession.

| | PER PICUL. |
|-----------------|----------------|
| White, No. 1 - | \$8.40 to 8.50 |
| White, No. 2 - | 7.00 to 7.50 |
| White, No. 3 - | 6.75 to 7.00 |
| White, No. 4 - | 6.00 to 6.50 |
| White, No. 5 - | 5.00 to 5.20 |
| Brown Formosa - | 4.60 to 4.65 |

EXPORTS.

SILK.

Business in this staple has fallen off during the last few days. Race-holidays and other causes have kept the Market quiet. Settlements from the 2nd to 9th instant inclusive were 600 piculs, but nearly all this amount was fixed in the first two days of the period under review. Export to date (including the *Tanis* which left this morning)

reaches the large total of 16,197 bales, the direct shipments on Japanese account having been very heavy by all the recent steamers. Quotations for all kinds may be called weak: sellers continue to ask about former prices, but in the absence of much demand it is difficult to say what would really be taken for actual business. At closing some negotiations for purchase of considerable parcels of Hanks and Hamatsuki are reported to be in progress. Stocks of all kinds are estimated at about 5,500 piculs fully half of this being Hank sorts.

Hanks.—Some fair lots were settled at the beginning of the week on a basis of \$500 for best Shinshu—same price for Shimonita; possibly now a trifle better could be done. Medium Shinshu have again been taken at \$465. Annaka \$445. Maibash \$430. Hachioji \$410.

Filatures.—Buying for the *Arabic* was completed on a basis of Tokosha \$600; Tenriusha \$610; and Good Shinshu kinds \$590. A transaction in fine size No. 1 is reported also at \$600. There is not much pressure to sell (especially good silks) but with orders in hand it would be possible to obtain slight concessions.

Re-reels.—These were done for last steamer on a basis of \$585 for Five-girl chop. There have been no transactions of moment since the departure of the *Arabic*. With a further fall in *kinsatsu* better might be done.

Kakedas.—Nothing much doing in these for the moment, last price made for Sano-musume was \$600 Best, \$540 seconds, \$520 thirds. Chochio are held at \$585 for an offer.

Hamatsuki.—Business done in these at a reduction on last weeks figures. *Nambu* noted at \$370 to \$390 according to quality.

QUOTATIONS.

| | |
|-----------------------------------|--------------|
| Hanks—No. 1½ - | \$495 to 500 |
| Hanks—No. 2 (Shinshu) - | 450 to 490 |
| Hanks—No. 2 (Maibashu) - | 475 to 485 |
| Hanks—No. 2½ (Shinshu) - | 465 to 470 |
| Hanks—No. 2½ (Maibashu) - | 455 to 460 |
| Hanks—No. 3 - | 430 to 440 |
| Hanks—No. 3½ - | 410 to 420 |
| Filatures—Extra. - | 620 to 630 |
| Filatures—No. 1, 10/13 deniers - | 600 to 610 |
| Filatures—No. 1, 14/16 deniers - | 600 to 605 |
| Filatures—No. 1½, 14/17 deniers - | 580 to 590 |
| Filatures—No. 2, 10/15 deniers - | 550 to 560 |
| Filatures—No. 2, 14/18 deniers - | 565 to 575 |
| Filatures—No. 3, 14/20 deniers - | 550 to 560 |
| Re-reels—No. 1, 14/16 deniers - | 580 to 590 |
| Re-reels—No. 1½, 14/17 deniers - | 570 to 580 |
| Re-reels—No. 2, 14/18 deniers - | 560 to 570 |
| Re-reels—No. 3, 14/20 deniers - | 550 to 560 |
| Kakedas—Extra. - | 610 nom'l |
| Kakedas—No. 1. - | 575 to 585 |
| Kakedas—No. 2. - | 535 to 545 |
| Kakedas—No. 3. - | 500 to 510 |
| Oshiu Sendai—No. 2½ - | 475 to 485 |
| Hamatsuki—No. 1, 2 - | 405 to 475 |
| Hamatsuki—No. 3, 4 - | 420 to 440 |
| Sodai—No. 2½ - | 420 to 430 |

TEA.

Following the departure of the last American mail a current business for a few days enabled Tea producers to fully maintain previous quotations: later however with continued depressing telegrams from the United States, the Market again relapsed into extreme quietness, and the buying done has been confined to a few houses. The aggregate Settlements only amount to 900 piculs, and comprise the following grades:—Good Common 10, Medium 235, Good Medium 270, Fine 290, and Finest 95 piculs. At the close values have an upward tendency which may be partially accounted for by the increased value of native currency. The total Export to the United States and Canada are as follows:—For New York 9,351,829 lbs., for Boston, Chicago, Canada, &c., 5,019,548 lbs., and for California 2,883,391 lbs., making a total of 17,254,768 lbs. of fired Tea from Yokohama, against 17,812,374 lbs. at the corresponding date in 1882. The British steamers *Venice* and *Canton* are advertised for New York, via ports: the former will probably leave here on the 18th inst. The rate of freight is fixed at 45 shillings per ton of 40 cubic feet for Tea; the latter to arrive will also take Tea at the same rates; but the date of her departure is not yet arranged. The cargo from this port of the O. and O. steamer *Arabic* despatched on the 6th inst., comprising 178,488 lbs. Tea: for New York 28,305 lbs., for Chicago 13,106 lbs., for St. Paul 2,588 lbs., for California 99,432 lbs.,

and for Canada 35,057 lbs. These figures are not included in the total Export as given above.

QUOTATIONS.

| | | | | |
|---------------|---|---|---|--------------|
| Common - | - | - | - | \$10 & under |
| Good Common - | - | - | - | 11 to 13 |
| Medium - | - | - | - | 14 to 16 |
| Good Medium - | - | - | - | 17 to 19 |
| Fine - | - | - | - | 22 to 26 |
| Finest - | - | - | - | 28 & up'ds |

EXCHANGE.

Business has been principally done in private Paper. There is no demand whatever for Bank Paper.

| | |
|-------------------------------------------|--------------|
| Sterling—Bank Bills on demand - | 3/8½ |
| Sterling—Bank 4 months' sight - | 3/9½ |
| Sterling—Private 4 months' sight - | 3/9½ |
| Sterling—Private 6 months' sight - | 3/9½ |
| On Paris—Bank sight - | 4/7½ |
| On Paris—Private 6 months' sight - | 4/8½ |
| On Hongkong—Bank sight - | 100 dis. |
| On Hongkong—Private 10 days' sight - | 110 0/9 dis. |
| On Shanghai—Bank sight - | 73 |
| On Shanghai—Private 10 days' sight - | 73½ |
| On New York—Bank Bills on demand - | 60½ |
| On New York—Private 30 days' sight - | 60½ |
| On San Francisco—Bank Bills on demand - | 80½ |
| On San Francisco—Private 30 days' sight - | 80½ |

KINSATSU QUOTATIONS.

Saturday, November 10th 108

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No. 29, VOL. I.]

YOKOHAMA, NOVEMBER 17TH, 1883.

[\$24 PER ANNUM.]

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The Japan Weekly Mail.

"FAIS CE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL," must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith. It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 17TH, 1883.

BIRTH.

At 5, Tsukiji, Tokiyo, on the 13th November, the wife of Rev. C. S. Eay of a daughter.

MARRIAGE.

On Thursday, the 18th October, at Trinity Church, San Francisco, by the Rev. Dr. Beers, D.D., RUSSELL ROBERTSON, H.B.M.'s Consul, Yokohama, to ANNIE, daughter of John Ross, 79, Great King Street, Edinburgh.

WEEKLY NOTES.

JUDGING from notes which constantly appear in the vernacular press, the Japanese are daily turning their attention more and more in the direction of railway construction. Probably the unexpected facility with which the Tokiyo-Takasaki line was completed, and its financial success, have some influence in the matter. It is said that the net profits on that line are upwards of thirteen per cent. of the total expenditure, and that they are likely to be more than twice as large when the road is carried to Mayebashi. However this may be, the project of a railway to connect Tokiyo with Kiyoto, via the Nakasendo, is again on the *tapis*. The length of this road, or rather of the principal section of it, is stated to be about 200 miles, and the *Choya*

Shimbun goes so far as to say that the scheme has received official sanction and will be carried out under the auspices of the Public Works Department. We cannot but think that these projects savour of rashness. Without stopping to consider whether or no such a line would pay, it may be confidently asserted that the conversion of a large quantity of floating, into fixed, capital would severely tax the commercial vitality of the country. Just at present land investments are only yielding a return of some five or six per cent., against nearly twice those figures three years ago. Capitalists may therefore be willing enough to invest money in speculations which offer prospects comparatively so favorable as those already realized in part by the Tokiyo-Takasaki line. But to divert capital permanently in this direction is to deprive trade of the means of reviving. Japan is not rich enough to build her railways with her own money. Few countries are rich enough, or, to speak more accurately, few countries have sufficient accumulations of capital seeking investment to justify them in becoming their own bankers. Japan can procure hard money abroad to build her railways at rates very much more favorable than she can obtain at home. We admire—everybody must admire—the spirit which prompts her to abstain from contracting foreign debts. But that spirit is admirable under some aspects only. So soon as its indulgence involves needless expenditure, it ceases to have any claim upon our sympathies. Writers on political economy are unanimous in agreeing that, according to the present distribution of the world's wealth, some countries are manifestly fitted to be the bankers of others. The same reasons which send buyers to India for rice, to China for tea, and to Japan for silk, sent Italy to England and France for gold to redeem her paper, and India to England for money to build her railways or carry out her schemes of irrigation. While there are in Europe stocks of surplus money seeking investment and procurable on easy terms, it is just as unwise for Japan to diminish her already-too-scanty capital by sinking it in railways, as it would be for a merchant to abstain from a manifestly profitable operation because of a romantic antipathy to banking facilities. Japan is following the lines of old-fashioned traders who confined themselves strictly to the limits of their own capital. Some of her financiers do not yet appear to have observed that when the normal profits of trade are nine per cent. and the rate of interest is six, a capital of ten thousand dollars may be made to

yield a return of twelve per cent. by borrowing ten thousand to supplement it.

THE *Jiji Shimpō's* suspension only lasted five days. On the 7th instant it made its reappearance. It will be remembered that among the new Press Regulations, published last spring, there is a provision that a newspaper, reappearing after suspension, shall publish in a conspicuous part of its columns a statement of its offence and of the sentence pronounced against it. The *Jiji Shimpō* does not comply with this provision, for the simple and sufficient reason that the nature of its offence was not explained to it. "We are not informed," says our Tokiyo contemporary in a leading article which appears in his first re-issue, "whether the cause of the suspension is to be found in the leader, domestic news, or foreign news" of the number which evoked official censure. The editor, indeed, cannot have much doubt on the subject. We ourselves, guided solely by the contents of the offending number, did not hesitate to designate his leading article as the source of trouble. But just laws do not leave a culprit to guess the items of his charge. It is a misfortune for the Japanese Government and for the Japanese people alike that there should still exist in this country any necessity to impose restrictions upon freedom of speech. On the other hand, to deny the existence of that necessity were mere impertinence on the part of a foreigner. But both Japanese and foreigners may well question the necessity of enforcing press regulations after the methods which appear to have been employed in the case of the *Jiji Shimpō*. Some time ago we did not hesitate to denounce as unjust and incorrect a charge of similar arbitrariness preferred against the authorities by a local contemporary. Recent events compel us to confess frankly that our judgment on that occasion was over-confident. It appears that a Japanese newspaper can be suspended without any definite explanation of its offence. We should have thought that the press laws were already sufficiently obnoxious without the addition of such arbitrary administration. The *Jiji Shimpō's* language in commenting upon its misfortune is moderate but firm and dignified. A translation of its article will be found elsewhere in our columns. Those who read between the lines will see that the editor, while acknowledging the Government's right to judge what is right and what is wrong in the eyes of the law, stoutly repels any imputation of disloyal motives and refuses to be credited with any sentiments other

than an honest desire to promote the welfare of his countrymen. We do not think that Mr. Fukuzawa's reputation will suffer by this incident, though we do regret that it should have exposed him to some exceedingly vulgar and insolent scurrility at foreign hands.

On the 1st of July, 1881, there was promulgated a new system of regulations with respect to the collection of the land-tax in this country. The total amount of the tax on wet fields was then about 36 million *yen*, and it was collected in three instalments, thus:—

First instalment (collected between December 1st and January 31st), one half of the whole tax, or 18 million *yen*.

Second instalment (collected between February 1st and March 31st) three-tenths of the whole tax, or 10,800,000 *yen*.

Third instalment (collected between April 1st and April 30th) one-fifth of the whole tax, or 7,200,000 *yen*.

These instalments were subdivided in the process of collection, so that in reality the agricultural classes had to make six payments, one in each consecutive month from December to March, and two in April. Under the new system this method was changed to the following:—

First instalment—two payments, collected between November 1st and December 15th—one half of the whole tax.

Second instalment—two payments, collected between January 1st and February 28th—one half of the whole tax.

This change was keenly criticized at the time, and there can be no doubt that its effects were highly embarrassing to the farmers throughout Japan. The rice market is limited, and cannot fail to be sensibly depressed by the enforced sale of such large quantities of the staple in so short a period. Moreover, it was plain that this accelerated method of collection must exercise its maximum effect, since it would be practised at the very time when the disposable funds of the manufacturing and agricultural classes are otherwise subject to their greatest drains, namely at the New Year. In the spring of 1882, when trade began to suffer from the depression which has continued ever since, the vernacular press attributed the trouble to the disturbing influence of this fiscal alteration, and it seemed difficult wholly to deny the truth of the inference. Thirty-six million *yen* were withdrawn from circulation between November and February, while, on the other hand, the Treasury makes no disbursements of any importance until May, when the holders of pension bonds and other scrip receive a total of nearly six millions. Some very long-headed calculators went so far as to discover in the new method of collection a device of the Finance Minister (Mr. Okuma) to bring about an artificial appreciation of *Kinsatsu*, but this suspicion, like many other marvellous mare's-nests of a kindred nature, could not endure the test of sober analysis. The simple fact was that the Government wanted to get the taxes paid with greater punctuality, and that the best chance of accomplishing this object seemed to lie in demanding payment within a short interval of the harvest. Certainly if any sacrifice was to be made to meet the convenience of the public funds, it seemed most just that the farmers should be called on to make that sacrifice, since

their prosperity in the years immediately preceding had been as remarkable as it was uninterrupted. But the farmers were destined, like everybody else, to feel the effects of currency contraction. The price of rice fell faster than the general depreciation of other values (expressed in *kinsatsu*), and despite an exceptionally fine harvest, it became apparent that some modification of the system of collection inaugurated at the end of 1881 was desirable. The Government has accordingly issued a Notification to the effect that the period for paying the fourth instalment of the land-tax will be extended, this season, to March 31st. The effect of this change is that the farmers, instead of having to pay ten million *yen*, approximately, during the month of February, will have the whole of February and March to find that sum. A month's grace is at all times a large concession, but its value will be further appreciated in the present case, since not only will the agricultural classes have so much more leisure to put together the required amount, but also the market will be considerably relieved from the depressing effects of forced sales. We may hope, too, that the Central Bank has by this time contrived some machinery for affording tax payers greater facilities than they formerly enjoyed, though measures of this nature must necessarily be of slow accomplishment.

A MARINE Court of Inquiry, constituted under the Regulations of the Marine Office of the Agricultural and Commercial Department, sat in Tokyo on the 12th instant and following days, to investigate the circumstances of the loss of the Mitsu Bishi Mail Company's steamer *Akitsushima Maru*, which ran ashore, October the 10th, on the coast of Nambu, about 14 miles south of Shiriya-saki, while en route from Yokohama to Hakodate. The finding of the Court is not yet published, but the evidence adduced went to show that the proximate cause of the catastrophe was an error made by the master who mistook for the Shiriya-saki light a beacon which appears to have been erected for the guidance of fishermen. The master seems to have taken one bearing of this light and then left the deck, where he had been on constant duty for forty-eight hours, giving the ship in charge to the first officer. Shortly afterwards the light disappeared, but the chief officer, expecting its reappearance every moment, neither called the master nor altered the course, so that after a lapse of about 15 or 20 minutes the ship ran ashore. The catastrophe was reported to the directors of the Mitsu Bishi Company in a letter written in the first person, but signed by the master, the first officer, and the chief engineer. The concluding clause of this document ran as follows:—

The chief officer says he lost sight of the supposed Shiriya Saki Light shortly after I left the bridge, but did not call me because he thought we were clear of everything. Had he called me, according to my orders given to him, I feel confident this sad accident would not now have to be reported by yours,

Gentlemen, obedient servants,

(Signed) JOHN FRAHM.

(Signed) JOHN C. WERNER, Chief Officer.

(Signed) R. HAMILTON, Chief Engineer.

The responsibility was thus laid on the

shoulders of the chief officer, and apparently with the latter's assent. But the evidence did not bear out this statement. It was not shown that the master gave any such orders as those here alluded to. According to his own statement in Court, he merely desired the chief officer "to keep the ship steady and to keep a good lookout," and further added:—"I did not tell him what time to call me, as I had no intention to go to sleep, but only to change my clothes and lie down in the chart-room for a little rest." There were elicited in the course of the investigation many points reflecting injuriously on the system of discipline and responsibility that prevailed on board the *Akitsushima Maru*, but pending the publication of the Court's finding we necessarily refrain from comment.

THE return of His Excellency Terashima from Washington has been made the basis of a number of rumours, the most plausible of which is that the returning Minister is to take the portfolio of Foreign Affairs, relieving Mr. Inouye, who will proceed to Europe on what the vernacular press terms "a tour of inspection." Further changes in the Cabinet are promised by the same newsmongers, but as the foundation upon which they all rest is of the most aerial description, it scarcely seems necessary to repeat them. The simple fact, so far as Mr. Terashima is concerned, is that his health has broken down, and instead of coming back with the intention of performing the onerous duties of an important office, he found himself quite unable to occupy the comparatively easy post of Japanese Representative in Washington. We fear, indeed, that a considerable time must elapse before his valuable services will be again available in any public position.

A VERNACULAR journal publishes a statement to the effect that the number of foundlings in Japan during the twelve months ended June 30th, 1882, was 4,958, of whom 4,243 were brought up at the public expense, and the remainder by private benevolence. The value of the rice consumed by the former is stated to have been 25,283 *yen*, or about 6 *yen* each. The most curious part of these statistics, however, is the proportion of the foundlings in different localities. Nagasaki heads the list with 643, after which come Oita, 618; Okayama 546; Yehime, 530; Fukuoka, 363; Shidzuoka, 314; Tokiyo, 298, and Osaka, 242. Nagasaki has always enjoyed the reputation of being the most immoral place in Japan, a fact which some persons are disposed to attribute to its long association with foreigners. However this may be, its position in the above list does signal credit to its notoriety.

NOTES.

A QUESTION has been raised in the New York Courts, as to the validity of legal proceedings against any Chinaman whose true name may be open to doubt. It appears to be generally understood that all natives of the Celestial

Empire, on settling in foreign lands, lay aside the family appellation, and take upon themselves titles which are significant merely of abstract moral or physical qualities. Thus an individual who may have borne, at home, a name as simple as Smith, Brown, or Jones, in Anglo-Saxon nomenclature, may become Concentrated Cleanliness, Aromatic Odours, or Unimpeachable Chastity, as soon as he touches American soil. The particle "Ah," which almost every Mongolian prefixes to his assumed designation, is alleged to have only an honorary meaning, and to convey no more evidence of identity than "Mr." or "Esq." These facts were strongly set forth by one Mr. Rosebalt, who contended that the sureties on the bond of a certain plaintiff were myths. They called themselves Ah Tuck Hop and Ah Wong; and, according to the best Chinese dictionaries the counsel had been able to consult, these words were ornamental generalities, and did not specifically describe the persons to whom they were applied, or any person whatever. Therefore he urged that the order of arrest against his client be vacated. On the other side, Ah Wong, who was personally produced, denied with extreme emphasis and energetic gesticulation that he was a myth. He did not appear to know what a myth was, but he objected as strenuously to being thus styled as the fish-wife in the story protested against being classified as an isosceles triangle. He stormily proclaimed himself a living actuality, with a local habitation, if not an indisputable name, and the possessor of property worth more than one thousand dollars. After some debate, the Judge decided that every man "has a right to call himself what he pleases, being bound by whatever act he does under any name he may assume." The trial was then adjourned, and the two challenged sureties went on their way, rejoicing in the consciousness of having relieved themselves from the awful imputation of being myths.

The case in which the above incident occurred was a libel suit, brought against that remarkable intellectual product of the Middle Kingdom, Wong Chin Foo, whose romantic achievements as a lecturer, and whose wondrous inventive power as a contributor to *Harper's Magazine*, have hitherto been described for the edification of readers of this newspaper. Evidently Wong Chin Foo is not a man to be lost sight of. In one way or another, he is determined to keep himself well to the front. To carry out this ambitious purpose, he assumed the editorship of the *Chinese American*, a paper published, in his own language, in the city of New York. To create a sensation by anything printed in such obscure characters as those of Wong Chin Foo's native tongue, might seem a difficult task; but the ingenious writer was equal to the emergency. By carefully studying the ins and outs of American journalism, he discovered that if a person is hit hard enough in print, he will seek redress, in one form or another, with the inevitable consequence of a scandal of some sort. Selecting one Chan Pond Tipp for his victim,

the editor commenced a series of articles, arraigning that member of the Chinese community as a thief and an assassin, who had been bribed to travel from San Francisco to New York, under contract to murder him, Wong Chin Foo, for having taken high philosophical ground, on several occasions, against gambling and opium smoking. As had been anticipated, Chan Pond Tipp immediately instituted proceedings for libel, demanding that his assailant be held to bail in the sum of \$2,500. Wong Chin was enchanted with everything but the magnitude of the required deposit, which however, was reduced to \$500, so that the case goes on, leaving the defendant at liberty to pursue his vocation unimpeded, and to devise new methods of making himself conspicuous.

A mind so fertile in resource was not long at a loss. One of the characteristic addresses of that eminent orator of the sand lots, Mr. Denis Kearney, afforded the required opening. In one of his outbursts of fiery eloquence, delivered at the Cooper Institute,—an edifice from which the office of the *Chinese American* is only about two miles distant, and consequently quite within reach of Mr. Kearney's magnificent vocal organ,—the famous foe to Mongolian occupation of the United States territory reiterated his familiar invectives against the "lepers of Asia," and regretted that he had not succeeded in "barring out" the odd hundred thousand still remaining, as he had excluded the hundreds of millions who would now be pouring into the ports and scaling the coast cliffs of the Pacific Slope, but for his, Kearney's, heroic exertions. No Chinese gentleman likes to hear himself called a leper, any more than a myth, and Mr. Wong instantly girded up his curiously encased loins, and called upon the distinguished rhetorician to have it out with him. Being denied an interview, he sent a letter by one of his reporters, Ah Koon, hurling back the scornful implications of his country's calumniator, and proposing a public discussion, in which the question of Kearney versus the Chinese Empire should be exhaustively argued,—the cause of Kearney to be represented by himself in his shirt sleeves, and that of the Middle Kingdom by the editor, in the attire befitting a Confucian sage. To this suggestion the Man of the People verbally replied, that when Mr. Wong should write to him like a gentleman he would respond like a gentleman;—though how he intended to accomplish that hitherto unattempted and, for him, presumably impossible feat, he did not vouchsafe to explain. At this point, the Oriental editor's feelings are supposed to have overcome him entirely. He is reported to have entered his "sanctum" with several packages of fire-crackers and bunches of Catherine wheels, under the explosive inspiration of which he produced the following effusion:—

The law which punishes a challenge to a duel protects you from being called to account for your insults to my people; but if it were possible for you to waive that protection, I should not shrink from encountering you with the weapon which is your instrument of war, a "stink-pot." Contemptuously. WONG CHIN FOO.

Celtic blood, and Mr. Wong found it necessary, at last, to desist from his endeavours to provoke a conflict. But he acquired new celebrity by the controversy, and in this he may possibly have found consolation for his disappointment as a challenger to argumentative or other combat.

It is not to be supposed that, while aiming at these higher flights of notoriety, the versatile editor is unmindful of smaller chances. "Seneca cannot be too heavy, nor Plautus too light" for him; and "for the law of writ and of liberty," while he may not be the "only" man, he is certainly, as Artemus Ward might have said, "one of the onliest." While defying the terrors of the judiciary, in the Chan Pond libel suit, and measuring epithets with the crack-brained demagogue from San Francisco, he yet gathers time to conduct a campaign against those organized and disciplined bands of detractors whose favorite occupation it is to accuse his countrymen of eating rats. These ignoble slanderers, led on by a couple of Frenchmen, have recently alleged that both rats and cats form part of the regular menu in a Chinese eating-house at No. 5, Mott Street. One of the declarants, himself the keeper of a restaurant on superior Parisian principles, testified that the Asiatic cook has been observed to "skin the animals, cut off their heads, chop their bodies into small pieces, and put them into a pot." Nobody, however, claimed to have seen any person partake of the dish thus compounded. Here was a fresh target for Wong Chin Foo's broadsides. His first demonstration was to "offer a reward of five hundred dollars to any one who could prove that a Chinaman ate rats or cats,"—a rash proceeding, it would seem, for so logical a mind, since nothing would be easier than for an enterprising speculator to hire a Chinaman to devour a number of the said animals, and then claim the award,—not to speak of the numerous thrifty Mongols who might be tempted to indulge, on their own account, in this harmless, if not particularly attractive, diet. Experience has proved that the flesh of cats and rats is innocuous, and the veracious Mr. Labouchere, who is synonymous with *Truth*, long ago described its rare gustatory qualities, in the language of an enlightened gourmet, during the siege of Paris. But Mr. Wong's patriotic ardour was not to be impeded by mere matter-of-fact trammels. He averred, moreover, that he had travelled all over his native land, and had never seen a rat eaten there. Nor yet a cat. Dogs, certainly;—he would concede those estimable and nutritious quadrupeds, but not one step lower in the animal scale would he go. In this state of stern resolve, he made arrangements to sue the Frenchmen for slander, as well as all others who should repeat their wicked fabrication. Evidently, Mr. Wong Chin Foo is a person who must be kept in view. He is too amusing to be forgotten. At the same time, while we laugh at his eccentricities, and find it necessary to protest against some of his abnormal demands upon the credulity of his readers, we confess to a certain respect for the pluckiness

with which he upholds the reputation of his race and country, against all assailants, high and low. A little discretion mingled with his valor would enable him to serve more effectively the cause he has at heart, and to escape some of the ridicule which now inevitably descends upon him.

THE Mexican Government is actively exerting itself to extend the culture of the mulberry tree within its domain, for the encouragement of sericulture, and is introducing large quantities of plants from Europe and elsewhere, and distributing them among the most intelligent native planters, and the Italian, French, Swiss, and German colonists, now located in different sections of the Republic.

A CURIOUS circumstance in connection with the untoward incidents in Paris, during King Alfonso's visit, is the declaration, some time after the mischief is over, that the Spanish monarch had no expectation of his appointment to an Uhlan colonelcy, and that he received his commission and his uniform simultaneously—the one pinned to the other, we may be permitted to imagine from the quaint style of the announcement. That naïve and innocent old campaigner, Emperor William, "intended the appointment as an agreeable surprise." It is a habit of his, it seems, to surprise all sorts of distinguished persons, to whom he takes a fancy, in the same agreeable manner. Sometimes it may be an English prince, sometimes a continental sovereign. Apparently he keeps a wardrobe filled with colonel's uniforms, of different sizes, ready to bestow upon visitors "for whom he takes an exceptional liking." A similar convenient system is followed by a certain gracious lady, who, on nuptial occasions in which she feels an interest, always endows the bride with a shawl of invariable pattern. Rulers, like other people, have a perfect right to decide as to what presents they shall confer upon their favorites, and it would be exceedingly unbecoming to look a gift colonelcy in the mouth, so to speak; but in view of all the circumstances, this particular offering was, to say the least, a little ill-timed. While privately putting the uniform on, for his own and the venerable donor's delectation, the royal recipient ought somehow to have contrived to put the appointment off,—or at least the public notification of it. He might have taken his agreeable surprise in a satchel to the imperial apartments, arrayed himself in it behind a screen, shown how nicely it fitted, and then sent it straightway by express to Madrid, whispering to his aged friend the Teutonic equivalent of "mum's the word!" It is one of the defective arrangements of society, that before a present is awarded, the taste and inclination of the receiver cannot be consulted. When Captain Cook made his first voyage among the Cannibal Islands, one of the powerful kings, possibly detecting a suggestive significance in the great explorer's name, sent off to his vessel a haunch of roasted native nobleman, as the most complimentary token at his command. The gallant navigator

was embarrassed, chiefly, it is presumed, at the difficulty of making a suitable response, hints having been held out that nothing less was expected than a savory dish of stewed midshipman, while even a joint of first lieutenant might not have been too choice a tribute. It was, no doubt, the unforgotten failure to meet anticipation, on this occasion, to which we must attribute the subsequent fate of the original "Cook and Captain bold," whose pathetic epitaph Mr. W. S. Gilbert has written—though with a slight confusion of the true historic data. Again, when Winwood Reade visited the unknown regions of Africa, he encountered a mighty chieftain whose practice it was to honor every visitor of distinction by sending him one of his, the chieftain's, wives. Painfully conscious of the poverty of his resources, this traveller, breaking through all restraints of etiquette, straightforwardly asked which of his possessions would be accepted as a partial acknowledgment of his tropical Majesty's munificence; and was rejoiced to learn that a fine tooth comb (erroneously transmuted by the aboriginal imagination into an amulet, or a rare work of art) would be esteemed the equivalent of any ten queens then extant in those dominions. All these and many similar things being considered, it is obvious that the gifts of the great are liable to give rise to awkward complications, however graciously intended. Nobody will be prepared to dispute the assertions, officially telegraphed from Berlin all over the world, that the Emperor's "agreeable surprise" was totally unexpected by Alfonso; that it came upon him like the contents of a jack-in-the-box; that the German sovereign would not dream of "exciting prejudice" against the son of Isabella in the eyes of the French or any other nation; and that "Bismarck had nothing to do with the appointment." These various declarations will be accepted in the spirit of candid and ingenuous simplicity with which they are proffered. But everybody is equally privileged to understand that, if the imperial ruler of North Germany had meditated a deep and cunning device, instead of projecting an "agreeable surprise;" if he had distinctly contemplated "exciting prejudice" against the Spanish King, during the latter's visit to France; if Bismarck had been acquainted with the plot all through, instead of "having nothing to do with it;" if the aged Kaiser and his astute Chancellor had been laying their politic heads together for weeks and months, devoting the shining hours of the day and the shady watches of the night to the concoction of a scheme calculated above all others to create a misunderstanding between France and one of her few remaining natural allies;—nothing more ingeniously certain to ensure the desired result could have been arranged than the nomination of the royal tourist to the command, not of an ordinary German regiment, but of one of the regiments especially obnoxious to the entire French race, and of the very particular regiment now quartered in the city whose loss France most loudly and unceasingly mourns. Of course we all know, being duly reminded, that there was nothing to complain of

but want of tact and delicacy; but it is singular to note the absolute identity, in this instance, between such trifling lapses of discretion, and what might, without explanation, have been mistaken for the conception and development of a carefully laid plan for provoking an ugly international quarrel, all for the advantage of Germany's prospects, by an ostensible act of commonplace courtesy.

THE Notification of the Council of State extending the period for the payment of the fourth instalment of the land-tax from February 28th to March 31st, will doubtless be welcomed as a great boon by the agricultural classes. A twelve month ago we commented at some length on the apparent unwisdom of the system inaugurated by the late Minister of Finance; a system by which twenty million yen, approximately, were withdrawn from circulation between November and February. The difficulty of finding so large a sum within so short an interval, and the want of financial facilities were productive of considerable inconvenience. Indeed, it was thought by many persons that the gradual depression from which the country has suffered since 1882 had its origin in an unwise abbreviation of the period over which the several payments of the land-tax were formerly distributed. Without endorsing this somewhat extreme view, we cannot doubt that Mr. Okuma's measure exercised a more or less injurious influence, and the action of the Treasury in extending the time is both sensible and humane. The people will now have thirty-one days longer to collect the tax, and while the convenience to them will be considerable, the Treasury also will probably benefit by a diminution in the number of defaulters.

A GERMAN writer affirms that the causes of earthquakes are much slighter than has hitherto been believed. They may, in fact, he says, be sought at a depth of not more than ten or fifteen miles, and often of less, and rather feeble forces even may produce earthquakes which will be felt at great distances. As illustrating this theory, the fact is cited that the hammer in Krupp's factory, which is of immense weight, and falls from a height of ten feet, produces sensible concussions over a surface five miles in diameter; also, the fact that a recent explosion in a dynamite factory was felt at between twenty-five and thirty-five miles away.

THE Korean correspondent of the *Yiji Shinpo* speaks of an examination of candidates for military rank held at the palace of the King in the presence of Korean and Chinese dignitaries, as though the latter's participation in the internal administration of the peninsula was a natural and proper thing. Curiously enough the same correspondent, almost in the same breath, mentions the arrival of Mr. Aston at Inchhōn, though he obviously attaches no importance to the juxtaposition of the two facts. For our own part, however, we are inclined to think that Sir Harry Parkes and Mr. Aston are not unlikely to solve

the riddle of China's relations with Korea in such a manner that the presence of Chinese troops at the Korean capital and of Chinese officials at Korean administrative ceremonies will no longer depend on the caprice of a Chinese statesman. It is said that Sir Harry Parkes has submitted some very pertinent propositions to the Grand Secretary Li with reference to this point, informing the great Viceroy, in most unequivocal terms, that England means to regard Korea as an independent Power, so far as the right to make commercial treaties is concerned, and that, under these circumstances, some modification of the forms of speech employed in the trade regulations dictated a year ago by the Middle Kingdom to its so-called tributary, becomes a desideratum, if not a necessity. How this very plain suggestion was received by the Viceroy we are not in a position to say, but we have confidence that Sir Harry Parkes will reduce to some intelligible and practical shape the arbitrary conditions now existing. It will be well worth his while to devote a good deal of his proverbial perseverance and sagacity to the task, for it is plain to the most superficial observer that in the undefined relations between China and her petty neighbours lies a constantly active germ of possible disturbance to the peace of the Orient.

PROFESSOR ANGELO DE GUBERNATIS has addressed a very pretty letter to Rochefort. It runs as follows:—"Sir, under a first impulse of generosity you found the cause of Casmiciola a humane cause, and you were the first of all the writers of your country to answer my appeal by sending me, for the International Album of autographs, some lines signed by you. Now that you not only appear to regret the noble co-operation of France in my humanitarian work, but also make a pretext of it to insult my country and our beloved Sovereign, you will not be surprised if I return your autograph. Not only has it ceased to have any value for me, but it would disfigure the Album of International Charity. At Venice, in the saloon of the Grand Council, where all the portraits of the Doges were disposed, one saw, in the place where the portrait of the Doge Marino Faliero ought to have appeared, a throne draped in black with the inscription:—*This is the place of Marino Faliero decapitated for his crimes.* Marino Faliero had betrayed his country. In the International Album also a vacant place will be found—yours, Sir, and this time it will be for the crime of treason to humanity." Truly it seems like breaking a fly upon a wheel, this punishment that Italy inflicts upon a libeller who only deserves contempt. M. Henri Rochefort is nothing more than a very rude vulgarian. The bitterest treatment he could receive would be to be ignored altogether. There are men who prefer notoriety to insignificance. It is a pity that they should be assisted to take their choice.

A VERY old contributor to the columns of this journal addresses us, from America, on a subject

which will be found interesting in connection with the scheme of *Kana* reform and the protests that scheme has evoked from some well known scholars. Our correspondent takes as his text a recommendation, made by a writer in the *Chrysanthemum*, that in translating books for the use of the Japanese, Chinese should be employed as much as possible. He condemns the suggestion roundly, urging, in the first place, that Chinese is not a tongue at all, since it is incapable of conveying thoughts from mind to mind without enlisting the services of the eye; and in the second, that the Japanese language has advantages which forbid its rejection for the sake of so defective a substitute. It would be too serious a tax upon our readers' patience, as well as upon our own space, to discuss the relative merits of the two languages, but the obvious misconceptions underlying our correspondent's statement cannot be suffered to pass quite unchallenged. "Retrospective Rambler" seems to think that there exists in Japan a language quite distinct from the Chinese, and he describes the former as "syllabic, inflectional, melodious, and expressive," whereas the latter is "insoluble, rigid, inharmonious and insusceptible of expression." Now the fact is that if the language written and spoken to-day in Japan were stripped of its Chinese elements, there would remain the mere skeleton of a tongue. The commonest forms of expression would have to be recast, and with a very few exceptions, all the books in the country would become unintelligible. In considering this question, the majority of foreign writers are guided by the ear alone. Not having studied the two languages, they conclude that because Japanese conversation is soft and euphonious while Chinese is harsh and nasal, the two must be quite distinct. A similar argument might be applied with equally erroneous results to the Latin of Cicero and the Italian of Tasso. The Japanese never use Chinese intonations and seldom Chinese sounds; they employ a different order of construction, and they add certain particles and inflections which are supposed to facilitate expression. But beyond these differences the two languages have so much in common that to separate them as our correspondent proposes would be simply impossible. As well, nay far better, might we proceed to eliminate from the English tongue every word of Latin or Greek origin. "Let the knowledge of facts and truths and principles and of the thoughts of all the ages," says "Retrospective Rambler," "be borrowed from any and every source, Chinese, Korean, Dutch, Russian, Portuguese, French, English, American—anywhere, everywhere; but let the expression of all these be in the tongue wherein the people were born." This is precisely what is happening at present. Japan is appropriating science and knowledge from all parts of the universe, and translating her acquisitions into her own tongue, that is, into the mixture of Chinese and Japanese which is employed by the people of these islands just as a mixture of Saxon, Latin, Greek, and other languages is used by the inhabitants of

the British Isles. We confess that these romantic, and we fear we must add, sciolous, claims advanced on behalf of the long dead and buried *Yamato-kotoba*, are growing somewhat tiresome. Japan cannot dispense with the Chinese language. It never served her in such good stead as during the past two decades. Without it she must have hopelessly failed to translate intelligibly the multitude of new ideas, to gain easy access to the stores of hitherto unexplored truth, which her intercourse with the West suddenly brought within reach. But that she should borrow Chinese ideographs simultaneously with Chinese words is a necessity we cannot admit. In English there are words of Sanscrit origin, of Hebrew origin, of Greek origin, yet not one of them is written in Sanscrit, Hebrew, or Greek characters. So, too, in Japanese there may be words of Chinese origin without employing Chinese hieroglyphs. To deny this is tantamount to asserting that there is no spoken language in Japan. For if there is a spoken language, it must be intelligible by sounds alone, and therefore capable of phonetic expression in writing. To this argument the opponents of *Kana* reform have only one reply. The spoken language of Japan, they say, that is, the spoken language enriched as it has been of late by a host of new thoughts set forth in Chinese derivatives, is incapable of intelligent expression by word of mouth alone: the speakers have sometimes to resort to the expedient of tracing ideographs on the palms of their hands or in the air. The mere statement of such a contention is sufficient to expose its fallacy. For if the intercourse between man and man is impossible without the aid of this aerial scripture—a hypothesis which we entirely deny—the only fair inference is that the nation has not yet had time to grow familiar with the scientific and philosophical novelties recently showered upon it in such quantities. Even in our own language the progress of scientific research necessitates the constant fabrication of terms whose sounds are often quite incomprehensible without reference to their roots, but which soon become familiar to every educated man. This is what has happened of late years, and is still happening, in Japan to a much greater extent than has ever been the case among ourselves. But the resulting embarrassment is temporary. Technological and other explanatory dictionaries will doubtless be more necessary here than elsewhere for some time hence, but at the last the nation will surely emancipate itself from an educational impediment which is fatal to the development of intelligence and knowledge. Had our correspondent attacked the Chinese language from this direction, we should support him heartily, but his criticisms, as they stand, seem more superficial than sagacious.

THIS is a wonderful period for comets. The latest visitor, discovered by Professor Brooks about the middle of August, proves, on close investigation, to be the same that was originally observed by Pons, at Marseilles, in July, 1812.

Its return was expected in May of this year, but it will not be actually in perihelion until the end of next January. In more ways than one it has refused to verify the calculations of the astronomers, and its latest eccentricity is the sudden development of an unlooked-for brilliancy, which may bring it within view of the naked eye at any moment,—although that degree of distinctness was at first set down for the beginning of next year. The detection of this celestial wanderer by Professor Brooks adds another to the numerous recent successes of American astronomers, which may probably be ascribed to the system of divided inspection they have adopted. A section of the heavens is assigned to each important observatory, which confines its operations exclusively to the region within its scope. In Europe, up to the present time, the examination is general, the range of each notable telescope being unrestricted. Under these well organized conditions, American priority of discovery is easily explained.

THE Yokohama Skating Club held their annual meeting on the 13th inst., at the Y. U. Club (by kind permission of the Committee), when Mr. Rickett was voted to the chair. Mr. Van Buren, the Secretary, read a statement of the accounts, which showed a balance in hand. There are 55 members on the books. The new committee and secretary were elected, Messrs. Van Buren and J. L. Merriman in the former capacity, and Mr. Jas. Stewart in the latter. A vote of thanks to the retiring officers, and to the Chairman presiding at the meeting, closed the proceedings.

It is a sight at once edifying and diverting to watch the manoeuvres of two immoral crows when they endeavour to rob a poor dog of his bone. One of the jaunty pilferers makes the dog's tail his object of attack, and his assaults are so persistent and daring that at last the tormented cur, abandoning his bone, chivies the thief to the nearest tree. Meanwhile the corvine accomplice hops up and conveys the tid-bit to a place where its qualities can be discussed at leisure. Chinese thieves take the conduct of crows as a model. A Hongkong journal tells us that as a ship's officer and his wife were walking, the other day, in the Western part of the town, a Chinaman made a violent attempt to get hold of the lady's ear-rings. He was of course detected and pursued by the gentleman, whereupon an accomplice, deliberately stepping in, snatched away the lady's watch and chain. This was clever, though not deserving of any higher rank than the exploit of the crows, and certainly far inferior to the achievement of the Chinaman many years ago, who seeing a Ceylon Rifleman asleep on sentry, climbed the wall, against which the man was leaning and fished his rifle out of his hands with a crook and line before the Cingalese awoke from his nap. A still shrewder device, however, is attributed to a certain class of Japanese thieves who devote their attention chiefly to appropriating foot gear. A young lady with handsomely lacquered pattens

is their special quarry. They know exactly at what places pleasure-seeking damsels are wont to stop and gaze at the prospect, and there they station themselves with two or three pairs of very old pattens in their sleeves. So soon as the young lady is sufficiently absorbed by the view, she feels something tickling her foot, whereupon she withdraws the other foot from its patten and applies its toes to the irritating spot. By and by that foot also demands similar treatment, and ultimately the damsel walks away, reshod. Each time she used one foot to scratch the other, an old worn-out patten was substituted for the dainty article from which the foot had been withdrawn.

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The Hongkong journals complain, we observe, that "crime of every description seems to be on the increase in the Colony." About eight months ago the same journals recorded the agreeable fact that crime had considerably diminished, and attributed the decrease in the number of convictions to a supposed improvement in the police administration, its efficiency being no longer impaired by the pragmatical interference of Governor Hennessy. To many persons the inference seemed a little strained, but its authors were very resolute in maintaining it. They refused to admit the hypothesis that the state of the Colony's criminal statistics, immediately after Sir John Hennessy's departure, was more reasonably attributable to the measures adopted under his direction, than to the supposed exodus of a swarm of ruffians who foresaw the impossibility of living in Hongkong under a less lenient Governor. Admitting the soundness of these critics' views, however, we are curious to learn how they explain the present state of things. Can the recent increase in crime of every description be connected, in some fashion, with Sir John Pope Hennessy, or must it be laid to the charge of the changes made by his successor? Just for the sake of logical consistency we should like to have this matter made clear. Has somebody been interfering again with the police in the execution of their duty, or have Governor Hennessy's rowdy *protégés* been attracted back to their old haunts by the discovery of humanitarian traits in the methods of his successor?

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It is universally agreed that the police of Yokohama are not in the first rank of inefficiency. So bad are they that many respectable land-owners have not hesitated to prefer a charge of corruption against the whole force. But, for all that, we do not hear of ladies who, while walking in broad daylight in the streets of Yokohama, have their earrings torn from their ears, their watches plucked from their girdles and rolls of bank-notes snatched out of their hands. We might be worse off, evidently. We might be living among Chinese under the protection of Hongkong constables. There was a time in this same Yokohama when things were considerably less pleasant than they are at present; when seventeen times during the course of twelve months, thieves managed to steal money, jewelry, and uniform from the quarters of officers in the English Camp, where sentries were

posted on every gate and watchmen patrolled every square. No doubt the sentries and watchmen were in the pay of the burglars, but that only makes the comparison more perfect.

AN interesting fact, which, though at first sight inconsistent with the common complaint of scarce money and bad times, is in reality a feature of the present prevailing depression, may be observed by reference to the last records of the Post Office Savings Bank. Established in 1873, that institution did not, at first command a large share of public favour. The rate of interest allowed on deposits was only six per cent., a figure that did not contrast advantageously with the price obtainable for money in other investments. Thus in the interval of nine years from 1873 to 1882, the total sum deposited with the Savings Bank scarcely reach one million *yen*. Last year the rate of interest was changed to seven, and now stands at 7.2 per cent. Other modifications of the rules have also been made, the most notable being an increase of the aggregate which each person is allowed to deposit per diem from 30 to 50 *yen*. During the first ten months of the current year the amount deposited was nine hundred thousand *yen*; that is to say, a sum but little short of the whole deposits for the preceding nine years. A post office savings bank is not intended to satisfy the requirements of general investors. Its natural sphere of usefulness is confined to persons whose savings are too small to be used as capital or too valuable to be risked in speculation. Nevertheless, though the apparent multiplication of such savings is in itself a sign of prosperity, the fact that they find their way in such largely increased quantities to the vaults of the Bank indicates anything but a brisk state of business.

THE representatives of the Church Missionary Society in China have decided to withhold the benefits of Christian education from all small-footed girls unless their parents consent to unbind their feet. The decision sounds somewhat rash. One is disposed to predict that its results will be a considerable diminution in the number of Chinese children who receive Christian education, and a very insignificant diminution in the number of those whose feet are subjected to this most barbarous and torturing process. But on the other hand, inconsiderate haste is the very last error into which Missionaries are likely to fall when a problem that affects the whole scope of their labours has to be solved. They thoroughly recognise that in the educational advantages they are able to offer lies the best, if not the only, chance of winning converts among Oriental peoples. It is not probable that they would sacrifice the prospect of saving souls to the hope of saving feet. The question has doubtless been under careful consideration for many years, and we feel confident that the Missionaries have seen their way clearly before committing themselves to such a step. It must have been easy for them to ascertain what amount of support they could look for among the Chinese, and how far this prohibition

will influence the present attendance at their schools. Assuming,—and the assumption is surely reasonable—that they had given these matters due thought before passing the resolution which now stands in the minutes of the Ningpo Convention, the language of some of their critics seems a little hasty. The *North China Herald* characterizes the resolution as “both irrelevant and unjust,” and goes on to say:—“Here we have girls forbidden by Missionaries to attend the mission schools because, some ten, eleven, or twelve years ago, as the case may be, their feet were mutilated by their parents in deference to a pernicious custom, and the parents refuse to undo the mischief now. We fail to see either the logic or the justice of this resolution. It is as though one were to refuse to save a man from starving because somebody had tattooed him when a child.” Now it cannot be denied that if this new rule of the Missionaries is intended to be of unlimited application, it fully deserves the epithets bestowed upon it by our Shanghai contemporary. For when a Chinese girl's feet have been subjected to the cramping process, during ten, eleven or twelve years, the mischief is irrevocable, and to duplicate her misfortune by making it disqualify her for the benefits of education, would be at once cruel and unjust. But here, too, we give the Missionaries credit for better judgment. It is incredible that their rule is meant to be enforced in cases where to unbind the feet would simply mean to expose a deformity without securing any corresponding benefit. Fuller particulars are required before any final opinion can be expressed with regard to a measure which, so far as its motive is concerned, must command universal sympathy. It is impossible to conceive anything more revoltingly unnatural than the heartless barbarity inflicted upon female children in China. It has been compared to the tight-lacing practised by ladies in the West, but after all, the latter is discretionary, whereas in China a poor little baby is maimed and crippled for life before it has learned to address an intelligible remonstrance to its cruel parent. It is something to know that the present rulers of the Middle Kingdom are opposed to the custom. “The Maichu Emperesses and Princesses,” we learn, “are all natural-footed women, and so stern is the law against binding, in the Palace, that no woman with compressed feet is even permitted to enter.” Wisely or unwisely, then, the Missionaries are only acting in unison with laws enacted by those temporal rulers whose authority it is their duty to support.

THE American Consulate in Hakodate has been abolished,” says the *Fiji Shimpō* in its occasional notes, much as though it were disseminating the news of some common everyday event. But if the intelligence be correct—and we believe it is—the future judicial control of American citizens in Hakodate becomes an interesting speculation. Are Japanese complainants, should there be any such, to carry their charges and witnesses to Niigata or Yokohama, or are they

to do without redress altogether? A United States Consul at Hakodate has probably little or nothing in the way of official business to transact. Indeed the Hakodate Consul of another great Power lives comfortably from year's end to year's end in Tokiyo, and lets litigation at the northern port take care of itself. This variety of Consul is worse than no Consul at all, since to uselessness be adds gross neglect of duty. But it will occur to reflecting individuals that, having deprived the Japanese of judicial authority, the Treaty Powers are bound to make provision against all risks of a failure of justice, and we fail to see how this obligation is fulfilled by abolishing the Consulate at a port where American citizens may at any moment be found residing or American sailors taking a holiday on shore.

TRAX to the Republican tradition that civil officials take precedence of military and naval authorities in time of war, the French in Tonquin have supplemented the difficulties of a task already sufficiently difficult by twisting the chain of responsibility into all sorts of complicated knots. First came the troubles between M. Harmand and General Bouet, ending in the latter's disappearance from the scene at a moment when his services seemed essential. The consequences of that “split in the camp” were not immediately visible. The Admiral replaced the General, and things seemed to go on pretty much as before, though to those behind the scenes, it was apparent that the conduct of the campaign had been sensibly impeded by these complications. Then followed the disbanding of the Yellow Flags, a more striking example of the evils of many heads and divided authority. Under Captain George these Chinese mercenaries had distinguished themselves not a little. In fact, judging from the accounts of their achievements that occasionally reached us, they were not only efficient but faithful troops. At the end of September, however, the *Saigon Independent* announced that they had been disbanded, because M. Harmand had resolved not to employ Chinese as soldiers any longer. This was an intelligible prejudice, but it now turns out that the dismissal of the Yellow Flags was really the result of disputes similar to those which led to General Bouet's resignation. And the sequel of this new complication is that the disbanded mercenaries have quietly passed over to the Black Flags and are now arrayed against their former employers. Whatever sympathy may be felt for the French troops in the troubles they have to encounter owing to the vacillating policy of the Grévy Cabinet, it cannot be said that those entrusted with the immediate conduct of the campaign in Tonquin are doing much to smoothe away their difficulties.

REFERRING to Mr. Colquhoun's comments on the Indian Opium question in his book “Across Chryse,” *The Friend of China* says:—“Mr. Colquhoun is not a missionary, but an officer of the Indian government, and his testimony will

perhaps find credence among people who have contemptuously rejected missionary evidence, and the more readily that he is no foe to the opium revenue, but rather opposes the anti-opium agitation. For ourselves we hold that it is not lawful to shape our conduct by mere conjectures as to what others will or will not do, when we have done our duty. Let it be granted, for argument's sake, that the abandonment by our nation of its unjust and unchristian support of a destructive trade, although requiring considerable financial sacrifice on our part, will produce no good effects whatever in China, nevertheless we hold that the claims of duty and honour are imperative, and must be fulfilled, whatever the cost, whatever the consequence. For can we think that the case is yet so desperate as to be beyond all remedy, all mitigation. Even now, if our government will but hearken to the voice of conscience, and revert to a policy of international righteousness, we are persuaded that the good effects of our repentance will more than compensate for the sacrifices entailed.”

In this connection we read that, in his recently published “Life of Lord Lawrence,” Mr. Bosworth Smith refers to a memorandum by Lieut.-Colonel Edwardes, C.B., Commissioner of Peshawar, on “The Elimination of all Unchristian Principle from the Government of British India,” which was presented to his superiors in 1858, when the terrible events of the mutiny had impressed many Christian men in India with the conviction that the Indian Government had incurred the Divine displeasure by its support of idolatry, its opposition to Christian teaching by its officers, its patronage of the opium trade, and other inconsistencies. In sequence of this protest, Sir John Lawrence (at that time Chief Commissioner of the Punjab) communicated to his government his own views upon the topics treated of by Sir Herbert Edwardes. In this thoughtful, courageous, and high-minded despatch, Sir John Lawrence gave forth his opinion upon the opium revenue as follows. *The Friend of China* is indebted to the kindness of Dr. Charles Hathaway, who was Lord Lawrence's friend and private secretary, for a copy of the extract:—

Ninthly, the Chief Commissioner concurs generally in what is urged both by Colonel Edwardes and Mr. MacLeod regarding the objectionable character of the connection of the British with the production and sale of opium. In what degree the consumption of opium is deleterious to the Chinese is a matter on which the English are not called upon to pronounce: the Chinese themselves are the judges of that. Moreover, so long as the Christian nations of Europe consume intoxicating liquors, it is needless to take the case of the Chinese into special consideration. The Chinese people, if left to themselves, would demand opium; the people of India in like manner would supply it. But, although the Government may be quite justified in levying taxes on the opium thus produced, it does not follow that we are morally right in encouraging the production, or in actively supervising the producing, storing, carrying, and selling of the drug, and advancing money for this purpose to cultivators. We are right in raising revenue from the drug, but not in employing this particular method for doing so. All this is done, of course, for the benefit of the revenue; and as the question is a financial one, it becomes beset with difficulties. By our present method some 400,000 sterling per annum are raised, and the Chief Commissioner fears that nothing like this amount could be raised by any other method. Morally, the

best course to adopt would be to sever government connection with the production of opium, and to levy a heavy export duty on the drug, similar to that which in the Bombay Presidency is levied on the Malwa opium.

It will be observed, adds *The Friend of China*, that Lord Lawrence was treating the subject entirely from an Indian point of view. He did not criticize the action of the British Government in its Chinese wars and diplomacy. Probably he thought that, writing as an Indian official for the Indian Government, the Chinese affairs were not within his scope. But in 1877 Lord Lawrence showed his hearty desire to secure justice for China by signing a memorial to the English Government advocating on philanthropic grounds the abolition of the opium trade.

A QUESTION which may in future deeply affect the status in America of persons of Asiatic birth, has been brought into prominence by the application of a Chinese resident of Philadelphia for a certificate of naturalization. This aspirant for citizenship is twenty-seven years old; has lived eleven years in the land of his choice; wears no "tail;" speaks English with hardly a trace of foreign accent; is a man of substance, owning several laundries; has an excellent reputation in legal circles, owing to his success in privately adjusting disputes among his litigious countrymen, and is presumed to be a Christian from the circumstance that he took, upon the Bible, the requisite oath renouncing foreign potentates. Having gone through the preliminary formality commonly known as "declaring his intention," he is subsequently informed that under the provisions of the naturalization law he is for ever excluded from the privilege he desires to enjoy. The original statute, which remained in force until thirteen years ago, permitted only "free white persons" to enter the Republican community. After the civil war had removed the disabilities of the negroes, a proposal was made by Senator Sumner to amend the act by striking out the word "white." This was objected to, on the express ground that the Chinese would thereby be made eligible; and Mr. Sumner, whose thoughts were chiefly bent upon the complete enfranchisement of the race in whose behalf he had always laboured, injudiciously gave way, and sanctioned a change by which it was stipulated "that the naturalization laws are hereby extended to aliens of African nativity and to persons of African descent." In 1875, Congress being still apprehensive that Chinese emigrants might force their way into a fastidious national brotherhood which already included, in addition to its multitude of enlightened citizens, a liberal representation of dynamic Fenian savages; masses of totally ignorant and useless Ethiopians; and no inconsiderable number of wild and irreclaimable red Indians;—Congress being thus apprehensive, an additional phrase was inserted into the text, rendering the law of admission applicable only "to aliens being white persons and to aliens of African nativity and to persons of African descent." It would thus appear that hordes of utter barbarians may be carried over from regions

wilder than any known to Stanley, if there be such, and, after complying with the usual regulations, may be invested with all the social and political rights pertaining to American citizenship in its extremest breadth and dignity; whereas a well disposed, well educated, well-to-do denizen of the "city of brotherly love" cannot be similarly endowed, because he came from a continent of which the "hoodlums" of a few immature Western cities do not approve. The laws of America reject every comer from that quarter of the globe in which civilization first dawned upon humanity, and hold out a greeting to wildernesses where civilization is still unknown, and the inhabitants of which are but dimly recognizable as belonging to humanity. They strain at a Mongol and swallow all Africa!

Anomalies of this sort cannot possibly continue. In fact, the principle embodied in the naturalization law is one which the officers of the State Courts seem to shrink from putting into effect. In spite of the narrow legislation of 1870 and 1875, natives of China, as well as of Japan, have been naturalized, without a doubt being thrown upon the validity of the transaction. Whether they have or have not, been admitted to all the privileges of citizenship is a question which we have no means of deciding. It is contended by those who insist upon a literal application of the statute that, whatever process Asiatics may go through, they cannot legally become Americans. How, then, are they to obtain redress for the fraudulent operations of which they have been the dupes, and for which they have been required to pay? The clerk of the court accepts the attestation of any declarant, gives him the required certificate, and collects the fee. After the prescribed lapse of years, the applicant returns, completes the formalities, and goes forth in the fullest confidence that the wished-for end is accomplished;—is justified in that belief by the explicit language of the document he carries with him. It may be within the power of a higher Court to nullify the action thus taken, rob the victim of the title he has waited patiently to obtain, and turn him out of the position which he fairly believes to be his due; but a system which affords opportunity for such an abuse is manifestly false, and cannot last. Other and more liberal amendments to the law will in course of time be proposed and carried. Not so speedily as if the political control in America were exercised by Americans, instead of being largely dictated by fugitives and outcasts from other lands; but soon enough, we trust, to prove that the craven prejudice of to-day is merely an evanescent impulse, to be wiped out and atoned for by the influence of sober and upright conviction.

THAT Chinese merchants are an eminently practical class of persons may be proved, if any proof is needed, by reference to the rules of a trade guild at Canton, published in the last number of the *North China Review*. Commerce at the Southern capital is not what it used

to be. Daily it becomes more difficult to turn an honest penny, and daily a higher grade of intellectual qualities must be employed in the effort. We learn from the remarks prefatory to the rules of the guild, that before Canton was opened to foreign trade, most of the merchants who came to establish themselves in business there, went home with large fortunes, whereas now-a-days the record is of a totally different character. There is not much to interest us in this statement. Merchants are proverbially *laudatores temporis acti*, and the burden of their song all over the world is a similar monotone. The Canton tradesmen, however, are not sentimental about their diminishing opportunities. They bluntly refer the change to the increased difficulty of making "corners" in the market. "Since vessels of foreign type have been admitted," they say, "goods come in a flowing stream, so that now-a-days there is no chance of holding stocks to raise prices as of yore." Hard times for tradesmen, then, mean good times for their customers, so that the world, as a whole, does not lose anything by travelling faster. The reader will doubtless be prepared to find, after this confession of faith, that the object of the Cantonese guild is to combine the materials for constructing "corners," but if this be the purpose of the institution, nothing of it is suffered to appear on the face of the rules. To secure mutual protection against fraud and to supplement the imperfect working of Chinese executive machinery seem to be the chief aims of the coalition. The rules set out by providing for the levy of certain contributions. Members have to pay one mace per hundred taels' worth of transactions, besides storage and transhipment fees on goods not for sale, and a shipping tax of \$1 for every junk they own. The method of collecting these contributions and ensuring their correctness is very interesting. A day being fixed for announcing the name of the largest contributor, the manager of each subscribing firm repairs to the guild, provided with a duly sealed statement of his contributions for the year, and enters his name in the register. After this the members adjourn in company to the San-po Temple and "do obeisance in token of good faith." Even then, however, if there is any suspicion that an account is inaccurate, the firm is required to produce its books for inspection, and should the inaccuracy be proved, the defaulter is fined five times the amount of his default. Besides these yearly meetings there are convivial re-unions every month, on which occasions the members report the amounts of their monthly contributions and then dine together. The guild does not concern itself about Customs and Likin dues, except so far as to recommend their prompt payment, but in the event of a member incurring bad debts through the dishonesty of a local dealer, the guild undertakes to prosecute the latter, and furthermore to proscribe him. This punishment of proscription appears to be the chief weapon of the associates, and a very trenchant weapon too. For when a *hong* is thus proscribed—expulsion from the guild necessarily

includes proscription—any member who is discovered to have dealings with the proscribed tradesman or firm, whether from sympathy or friendship, is fined 100 taels. The rules with regard to lawsuits are peculiar. When a member, having occasion to go to law to obtain redress for a real grievance, finds his resources inadequate to carry on the suit, the guild addresses a joint petition to the court praying for an adjustment of the case, and, further, defrays half the expenses. Additional assistance of a similar nature is also given, but by way of set-off, members having disputes about money matters are required to submit their cases to arbitration at a meeting of the guild, and not to appeal to the authorities unless a satisfactory settlement is unobtainable by the former process. A member having recourse to the courts without first appealing to the guild, is subjected to a public reprimand, and any case he may subsequently submit for the opinion of the guild is dismissed without a hearing. Truly there are points here that might well be imitated by other nationals. The same may be said of the rules with regard to the suppression and punishment of theft. Thus the restorer of stolen property, whether a policeman or a private individual, receives a reward of half its value, and if he captures the thief also, the recompense is increased to eight-tenths of the value. Standard weights and measures are also kept by the guild, and any member convicted of deviating from them is heavily fined. In fine, if the objects with which Chinese merchants associate themselves be correctly deducible from the rules of this Cantonese guild, the tradesmen of other countries might follow their example with advantage.

THE Russian paper *Navosti*, in a recent issue, states that the "forehead fight," a brutal combat inherited from the old Turks, still survives in some districts among the Tartars of the Crimea. A duel of this savage kind took place a short time ago in a Crimean village. The report of it is given by a physician who was called to attend to the defeated combatant. The two foes take their stand at a measured distance from each other with their heads bent forward; then, at a given signal, they rush at one another, butting forehead against forehead, like two goats. The remainder of the duel is fought wholly with the forehead; neither blows nor kicks are permitted, as the man who uses any weapon except his forehead is disgraced. In the recent case blood streamed from the foreheads of both the semi-savages; nevertheless they continued butting at each other with ferocious passion, until at length one of them fell exhausted to the earth. He gathered up all his remaining strength to draw his knife from his girdle, and with one determined stroke he then cut a wide gash across his throat. The physician states that the act of suicide on the part of the beaten man is to be regarded as a direct consequence of the injury done to the brain by the fearful concussions of the fight.

ONE of the passengers, on the last trip of the magnificent liner the *City of Rome* from

Liverpool to New York, as a professional ship-builder and marine engineer, took especial pains to note her performance. In fact, says an American exchange, he took passage for that purpose. He remarks that she is a fine sea boat, but that the shaking of her after body is "something frightful" when she is running at full speed; that abaft her engines the motion is greater than he could have believed would be possible, and that it cannot be a great while before she will show signs of this terrible strain, and will have to be materially strengthened to stand it. She is a well-built vessel, but rivets once started by this heavy strain cannot long withstand the cutting process, and hence she will have to be watched with more than ordinary vigilance.

A NOTICE to mariners has been issued from the Coast Inspector's Office of the Chinese Imperial Maritime Customs, referring to a sunken rock in Amoy Inner Harbour, as follows:—"Notice is hereby given that a sunken rock, conical in shape and having a depth of 11 feet on it at low water spring tides, has been discovered in Amoy Inner Harbour, bearing S. 29° E., distant about 425 feet from High Water Rock. To avoid this rock the pilot must keep Messrs. Malmcampo and Co.'s house well open to the westward of High Water Rock."

ON the subject of the "United States Tariff," as it affects the Silk industry, the *American Silk Journal* translates the following short article from the *Bulletin des Soies* of Lyons:—

The *Chambre syndicale des tissus et matieres*, of Paris, has just sent to the *Chambre de Commerce*, and to the *Chambres Syndicales* interested, a pamphlet reproducing a letter which M. Léon Chotteau has written to it on the subject of the new United States tariff. In this letter M. Léon Chotteau enumerates the raising and lowering of the new tariff so far as it concerns the tissues of silk, wool, cotton, etc. He believes that, notwithstanding a reduction in most of the duties, it will not commend itself to the exporters. He also proposes that the *Chambre Syndicale de tissus* of Paris should make inquiry in the several centres of production in order to gather the desiderata of all the industries to the end of forming arrangements tending to bring about a new lowering of duties.

It is to prepare this inquiry that the *Chambre Syndicale*, of Paris, has compiled a table comparing the old with the new duties, writing to those interested to fill in, in a column reserved for the purpose, such new reductions as they would like brought about in the American tariff.

Furnished with all the responses, M. Léon Chotteau, who will represent a large number of French exporters at Boston, proposes to stir up, either by conference or by published articles, a current of public opinion on the subject of a new revision of the duties of entry in a manner that Congress will be forced to act favorably in the matter.

We cannot but wish for a happy issue for this attempt of M. Chotteau, but with reservations relative to the specific taxation which M. Chotteau proposes to substitute for the *ad valorem* duties, to which the manufacturers of Lyons give preference as the more equitable.

SOME of the nicest points of racing turn on the accurate measurement of the height of a horse. An inch more or less may involve, or otherwise, a penalty of seven pounds; and "seven pounds often means a distance." *Apropos*, according to an Indian paper, an amusing scene was witnessed at the old stand, Calcutta, when the well known racing pony Hawk was brought up for a certificate. He was first passed at the

height he has invariably run at up-country meets; then his owners' representative, praiseworthy wishing to get him as low as possible, took him away, manipulated his heels, and brought him back again; when, lo and behold, he measured an inch more. Why? Simply because his heels being tender he stood on his toes.

A SERIOUS accident happened on Thursday on board the P. & O. steamship *Khiva*. The fourth officer was tallying cargo near one of the hatches, when he was struck by some that was being swung inboard and knocked down into the hold, striking in his descent an iron beam. He is believed to have sustained very serious injuries, including a fractured thigh. Surgical aid from the *Richmond* was at once obtained, and we believe the unfortunate man has since been removed to the hospital.

THE London *Figaro* learns from statute 19, George II., c. 21, that the price of an oath is fixed according to a regular scale. The labourer, sailor, or soldier who curses profanely forfeits one shilling. Every other person "under the degree of a gentleman" has to pay two shillings for the privilege of using bad language, and a gentleman or person of superior rank may be mulcted in five times the amount of the fine imposed upon the labourer, soldier, or sailor, which is hard upon a gentleman or a person of rank, considering that more profane swearing is certainly to be heard for a shilling than any gentleman is capable of.

THE Autumn Meeting of the Toyama Race Club opens to-day, when His Imperial Majesty the Mikado is expected to be present. His Majesty has ordered a prize to be given for an extra race on the first day for half-bred non-winners and Japanese ponies, and His Excellency Nabeshima will give a prize for an extra race (handicap) on the second day.

THE *City of Rio de Janeiro*, bringing the American mail with dates from San Francisco to the 24th ult., arrived this morning, but our advices were not delivered in time for this issue. The voyage has been somewhat prolonged on account of the weather, the vessel having encountered strong winds and heavy sea throughout the passage.

THE *Jiyu Shimbun* reports that the claim of the Lighthouse Department against the steamer *Breconshire* for sinking the Treaty Point Lightship in May last, has been adjusted, the owners of the former vessel paying \$6,000.

By the *City of Rio de Janeiro* we note the arrival of His Excellency Terashima Munenori, late Minister to Washington; also His Excellency the Korean Ambassador, Hong Yong Sik and suite.

WE are informed that the P. & O. steamship *Zambesi* left Hongkong at one p.m. yesterday for this Port, *via* Nagasaki and Hiogo.

JAPANESE PRISONS.

THE details of prison life, to whatever jail they may refer and in however impartial a spirit they may be written, must always present some features more or less shocking to readers who have never themselves been under restraint. Prince KRAPOTKIN'S wonderful stories of the miseries endured by political captives in Russia cannot have failed to stir the pulses of many English men and women, despite the powerful testimony of critics who showed that when his recitals were weeded of sensational colouring and manifest exaggeration, little if anything remained except such a measure of physical inconvenience as is certainly not inconsistent with the motives of punishment. The age in which we live is honorably distinguished by a remarkable growth of humanitarian principles, but that their development sometimes trenches on the confines of reason is nowhere more evident than in the history of prison reform. To such an extent has the public carried its morbid anxiety about the comfort and welfare of criminals, that in some parts of the world prison life is stripped of all its repugnant elements, and has come to be regarded by the pariahs of society as a happy escape from toil and want. Whether it is the intention of the law to make its penalties attractive rather than deterrent is a question concerning which many sensible persons seem to be perplexed.

It was not to be expected that the Japanese, in their almost blind obedience to the dictates of Western civilization, should entirely escape this humanitarian craze. With them, as with all Oriental peoples, criminal procedure in the old times, shrank from nothing that could intensify the terrors of law-breaking, until men learned to regard imprisonment with scarcely less horror than death. Here if anywhere there was scope for radical reform, and the task was so heartily undertaken that, while life in a Japanese jail does not yet satisfy the highest standard of civilized requirements, it has, nevertheless, undergone, during the last decade, changes which for rapidity and thoroughness have no parallel elsewhere. The history of the world is not without instances of a people living up to ethical systems considerably in advance of its written codes, and unless we assume that something of this sort was the case in Japan, it seems impossible to explain the fact that the nation has suddenly passed without any apparent effort or disturbance from the stern restraints of semi-barbarous codes to the gentle procedure of advanced

humanitarianism. Japanese prisons are not built of brick or stone, indeed, nor do they satisfy all the hygienic dictates of Western science, but the same may be said of Japanese houses in general. The inferiority of the former to the latter is probably not disproportionate to the difference that exists in similar cases among ourselves, while, on the other hand, Japan is fully abreast of modern progress in her newly developed system of teaching every prisoner a trade, or making him pursue that with which he is already familiar, so that not only are many of the prisons self-supporting, but their inmates are enabled to set aside a provision for their immediate wants after release. The points that still seem to stand in need of improvement are the treatment of prisoners awaiting trial and the want of some system of classifying convicts. The latter, indeed, is a reform which has not yet been thoroughly carried out in any country, but with regard to the former, Japan seems to be still behind the times. Before the law every man is innocent until his guilt has been established, but the stories sometimes published in the vernacular press seem to show that this principle is not fully respected by the provincial executive.

This subject is suggested by the self-related experiences of one of the staff of the *Choya Shimbun*, who underwent a month's imprisonment for violating the press laws. Translated into English his tale runs thus:—

In May last, when I wrote that editorial paragraph about the Takata affair, under the heading "Extract from the *Takata Shimbun*," I, together with Mr. Sato Tetsuya, our proprietor, was charged with libelling public functionaries. I was convicted and sentenced to one month's imprisonment and a fine of yen 50. After sentence was passed, I was shifted from the Court to the Messenger's Office, where I lunched with my companion. About one o'clock, a police inspector appeared and took me to the temporary prison, where I was handcuffed and tied round the waist, ready for transport to the Ichigaya penitentiary under an escort of armed police. The path between the Court and the Jail is about two feet wide; and the eighth turn which was performed with as much difficulty as twisting through a labyrinth, brought us to our future home. I was then conducted to the *Senjo* (the room where convicts are undressed and examined); and the handcuffs and rope were there removed. Strict enquiry was made as to my health, profession, age, name, possible previous convictions, and so forth. My apparel was then exchanged for the prison uniform, and all my clothing and property was wrapped up, sealed, and stamped to be stored away. Next, I was removed to the prison office with the same ceremony as before—handcuff and rope. I took a seat, and the jailers gave me a wooden bowl, a pair of chopsticks, and a blanket. Shortly afterward, they put me into ward No. 19, relegating Mr. Sato to No. 18. The edifice has two stories and is divided into eighty apartments or wards in all, in one of which are confined the female convicts. There is accommodation for five hundred prisoners, and the prison is used both for unconvicted and convicted persons. The ward in which I was locked up is styled the "Five Days" or the "Condemned" apartment, because here prisoners are confined for five days after condemnation in order to give them time to appeal

against their sentence. After this term they are transferred, as it may be convenient, to the *Ishikawajima* or *Ichigaya* prisons. I was confined with burglars, thieves, pick-pockets, and all other kind of criminals. The room was so small that I could scarcely move, and the stench was offensive in the extreme. During my five days I passed my existence in a constant struggle with fleas. Our ration of boiled rice was of the worst kind, and mixed with barley in the proportion of six to four. Daily each prisoner receives four *go* of this vile and scant diet, in addition to a measure of bean-soup in the morning. I could not eat for two days, till hunger compelled me. I then fully realized the old proverb "Hunger finds nothing unpalatable." The articles permitted to be given to convicts by their relatives or friends, are paper, towels, potatoes, and the like. On the morning of the seventh day after my incarceration, I was transferred in a car to the *Ichigaya* prison with twelve fellow prisoners, including Mr. Yasutake of the *Iroha Shimbun*. The gaol in question is situated on the highest part of Tanimachi and commands a splendid view. It consists of fifteen edifices, three of which are reserved for hospital purposes. There is a house of correction for boys. The large wards accommodate two hundred and fifty prisoners, and the small, from seventy to eighty prisoners. The prison buildings are surrounded by the virtual establishment, offices, and factories. Here the well-being of the poor prisoners is well provided for. They are kept busily engaged making paper, furniture, straw fancy goods, etc. As soon as we made our appearance in the office, a few warders came, and, after giving a receipt for our bodies, changed our apparel for the red prison uniform. Attached to every ward is one prisoner-monitor who directs the other prisoners in their work. He is generally a hard task-master and dispenses swift justice with his fists to those who disobey his orders. He tells them:—"I will release you through the back-gate!" This means that, if the prisoners are not submissive, he will work them to death. The corpses are carried to the cemetery through the back-gate. Hence the expression. As soon as I was put into the ward, the monitor in charge addressed me, saying that he was in for swindling, and that he was anxious to treat journalistic prisoners with the utmost leniency as some atonement for his past crimes. He begged me to be at ease. All convicts are allowed to bathe once a day. The bedding consists of only one square quilt and a wooden pillow. Three methods of punishment prevail—curtailment of rations, confinement in a dark room, and "the pole punishment" (in which a long pole is tied to the back and both arms of the prisoner). The convicts are often subjected to one or other of these penalties. Wooden clappers are used for signals. At the first signal, the prisoners must rise. At the second the gaolers open the ward doors and muster the out-door gangs. At the third signal—breakfast. After that—work. I was told off to the spinning department. At 10 a.m. there is a short rest; and dinner is eaten at 11.30 a.m. At noon work is resumed, and continued until 3.30 p.m. After supper, prisoners are at liberty to read and talk. Professional thieves are, of course, confined in separate wards, and regret leaving prison on the expiration of their term. To them, the jail is a comfortable home where hunger is unknown. "The Chief," as their best man is called, commands a respect from his fellow criminals which almost amounts to fear. The hospital seldom contains less than 200 inmates and the mortality is very great, facts which well illustrate the miserable time prisoners have.

There is not much to startle anyone in this account, but it nevertheless contains one or two points worthy of comment. First, with regard to the dimensions of the so-called "Five Days" cell, we find, on enquiry, that it measures nine feet by nine, and that under ordinary circumstances it is intended to accommodate four prisoners, temporarily. This number may, however, be increased to six on exceptional occasions, and when it is remembered that

space must also be found in the same cell for a wash-tub and other necessary vessels, no doubt can be entertained that the complaint of over-crowding is just. So soon as the convict exchanges this place of probation for a permanent prison, his troubles from want of room cease, but the preliminary crowding still remains inexcusable. Nor can we doubt that the atmosphere of such a cell must be more or less offensive: not so offensive, indeed, as to warrant the language employed in the above narrative, inasmuch as water and deodorizers are plentifully employed—but still sufficiently impure to be disagreeable and deleterious. It is a pity that abuses, so easily capable of remedy, should be suffered to exist side by side with evidences of general and earnest reform.

The question of diet is even more important. We find on reference to the dietary of the Ichigaya Jail, where the ex-editor of the *Choya Shimbun* was confined, that the prison fare consists of three meals per diem. At each meal the principal item is a plentiful supply of rice and wheat, mixed in the proportion of four to six. This is always accompanied by a quantity of pickled turnip (*dai-kon*), as well as by a bowl of vegetable soup, beans, sweet potatoes or fish. It may be presumed that editors of Japanese newspapers are accustomed to better diet, but the writer of the above narrative, while complaining on his own account, bears involuntary testimony to the general nature of prison fare when he tells us that professional thieves regret leaving jail and regard it as "a comfortable home where hunger is unknown."

The charges preferred against the monitors are of such an extravagant nature that they impugn the general accuracy of the whole statement. For several years the prisons of Japan have been under the control of the Police Bureau, and no efforts have been spared to correct abuses of the nature referred to. In 1881 an improved method of distributing the prisoners was adopted, the number of warders and other officials was increased, and the whole system of discipline as well as of supervision received thorough revision. We are assured by the prison authorities that physical violence and threats are never employed by the monitors, even towards the worst characters, and that offences of this description, if committed by the prisoners, are severely punished.

But the most serious exaggeration of the writer in the *Choya Shimbun* is his statement with reference to the health of the prisoners. "The hospital," he says, "seldom contains less than 200 inmates and

the mortality is very great." We have examined the records of Ichigaya Jail, and we find that the average number on the sick list, from January to October of the present year, was 52 per mensem, while the average number of prisoners was 1,127. May and June are excepted from this calculation. During these months the prison was visited by an epidemic of fever, and the inmates of the hospital increased to 105 and 134. The deaths during May and June were 32 and 29, respectively, and the average monthly mortality for the rest of the year was 15. These figures, though not altogether satisfactory, represent a state of affairs very different from that which the *Choya Shimbun* seeks to convey. The experiences of the writer in that journal do not seem to have taught him discretion, and while we could heartily sympathise with any earnest endeavour to expose abuses, we cannot pretend to have any respect for a journalist who seeks to pose as a martyr by exaggerating his own sufferings.

PENAL CODE AND CODE OF CRIMINAL PROCEDURE IN JAPAN.

BOOK III.—OF CRIMES AND DELICTS AGAINST THE PERSON AND PROPERTY OF PRIVATE INDIVIDUALS.

CHAPTER I.—OF CRIMES AND DELICTS AGAINST THE PERSON.

Section I. treats of premeditated murder, and other cases of homicide (Art. 292-298) essentially in harmony with the *Code Pénal* (Art. 205 &c., &c.)

Voluntary and premeditated homicide is designated as assassination, and is punished with death. Premeditated homicide by administering poisonous substances, is considered the same as assassination and is punished with the same penalty.

Voluntary homicide is considered murder, and is punished with penal servitude for life; but if it is accompanied by bodily torture or other acts of cruelty, or if other crimes or delicts precede, accompany, or follow the same, it is punished with death.

Any one who after having determined, with or without premeditation, to kill a particular person, accidentally or incidentally slays another, incurs the penalty of voluntary homicide.

Section II. treats of voluntarily inflicted blows, wounds, and bodily injuries. (Art. 299-307).

The injuries, if followed by death, entail the penalty of penal servitude for life. If the injuries result in the total loss of sight, hearing, or speech, of both hands or both feet, or one of these members, &c., the penalty of minor confinement is inflicted: in case of less serious maiming or mutilation, major detention for from 2 to 5 years.

In other cases the penalty is graduated according to whether the resultant indisposition or incapacity for labour lasted 20 days or more, or whether the loss of time was less protracted, or finally, whether a merely momentary injury or abuse resulted.—Here also, as in case of the homicide, the perpetrator is held responsible for an *aberratio ictus*.

Whoever, purposely and with criminal intent,

administers to another substances injurious to health, incurs the penalties for premeditated bodily injury, which are in every case to be increased one degree.

The regulation in Art. 308 is peculiar, according to which the penalties in this section are inflicted on anyone who, without intending to compass the death of a third party, deceitfully or maliciously advises any one to undertake a certain act which resulted directly in the death, injury, or sickness of the same.

Section III. treats of legal excuses, and exemptions from the penalties for murder and bodily injury.

An appeal for a "legal excuse" is valid:—

1. If the perpetrator was directly provoked by the gross abuse of the victim, and the act was committed in a transport of rage. The perpetrator however must not have been deserving of the provocation.
2. If, in a fracas, two or more persons shall have inflicted mutual blows and injuries, and it cannot be proved from which side the provocation was first given, all the participators shall have the advantage of the excuse for provocation.
3. If the homicide or violence is committed by a husband on his lawful wife or on her companion in crime, at the very moment that he discovers them in the act of adultery. The limitation of the *Code pénal* "in the house of the married" is excluded. The husband cannot take advantage of this excuse if he previously abetted the dissolute habits of his wife.
4. If the homicide or violence took place in day time while the perpetrator was directly resisting an escalade or a breaking through of fences, walls, or the entrance of an inhabited house or its belongings.

The existence of one of these legal excuses effects a diminution in the penalty of 2 or 3 degrees.

Complete exemption occurs in cases of self-defence against undeserved attack; and this is extended to the protection of one's goods against conflagration, plunder, or robbery, to resistance against theft or the attempt to recover stolen property, and to resistance of escalade, house-breaking, etc., by night. In case of excessive violence in self-defence instead of complete exemption a legal excuse is allowed.

Section IV. contains the penalties for death or bodily injuries resulting from negligence. (Art. 317-319).

Homicide from negligence is punished entirely by a fine (from 20 to 200 yen). Injuries of every kind resulting from negligence entail a fine of from 10 to 100 yen, considerably diminished (2 to 50 yen) if the carelessness results in mere injury to health or temporary incapacity for labour.

Participation in suicide (Section V. Art. 320-321) is punishable ("whoever intentionally instigates another thereto") and entails, as well as suicide of the consenting party ("at his earnest solicitation"), a penalty of minor imprisonment for from 6 months to 3 years and a fine of from 10 to 50 yen, which penalty is diminished one degree, in case the participator simply assisted a suicide in the accomplishment of the deed. If the instigator acted from motives of personal interest, the penalty becomes major confinement.

Section VI. (Art. 322-325) treats of illegal arrest and sequestration. In comparison with the *Code pénal* (Art. 341 f.f.) the regulations are comparatively mild. Penalties: Imprisonment from 11 days to 2 months, and fine from 2 to

20 yen, which penalties are raised one degree for every ten days of illegal arrest.

Severer penalties are incurred in cases where deprivation of liberty is accompanied by physical torture, violence, refusal of food &c. &c.—In case such treatment results in indisposition, incapacity for labor, &c., the penalties for bodily violence &c., are inflicted.

Section VII. (Art. 326-329) contains the penalties for threats of murder, incendiarism, violence, &c. It is worthy of remark that, in all cases of threat, prosecution of the offence occurs only on the complaint of the person threatened or his relatives.

Section VIII. deals with abortion (Art. 330-335). The penalties are comparatively mild as compared with the *Code Pénal* (Art. 317), for the woman herself, who intentionally procures abortion, as well as for any third party who may have produced the same, major imprisonment for from 1 to 6 months, and in case of death the time is increased to from 1 to 3 years, and even to 4 years when threats or artifice were used against the *enccinte* woman. Cases in which abortion is intentionally procured by actual abuse only are punishable by confinement.

Section IX. treats of the abandonment of children, aged, sick or infirm persons in a helpless condition. The penalty is imprisonment of various grades according to the place in which the persons (children under 8) were left to their fate. Disregard of the duty of protection voluntarily undertaken entails increase of penalty one degree. Major confinement and even penal servitude is incurred where, in consequence of abandonment in a helpless condition, permanent bodily injury or death results.

Any one who finds such helpless persons within the limits of his property or in places under his control is bound to take charge of the same and announce the fact to the authorities, failing which he is liable to imprisonment for from 15 days to 6 months. This is specially so in cases of severe illness.

Section X. treats of the penalties against kidnapping or doing away with children or minors (Arts. 341-345). There is a distinction made between children under 12 years of age and minors over 12 and under 20 years old. Prosecution results only in case of complaint by the injured party, and the penal case ceases in case of the marriage of the guilty party with the person led astray.

Crimes and delicts against good morals are dealt with in Section XI. (Art. 349-354).

Unchaste acts on children of either sex under 12 years, without violence, entail the same penalty as similar acts on adults with violence or threats. Penalty: major imprisonment for from 1 month to 1 year and fine of 2 to 20 yen.—If the act were committed on the person of a child under 12 years of age accompanied with force or threats, the comparatively mild penalty of 2 months major imprisonment to 2 years, and a fine of from 4 to 40 yen, is inflicted.

Rape committed on the person of a female under 12 years of age entails minor confinement, the same penalty results in case of sexual abuse of a sleeping person, or of one rendered unconscious by the guilty party.

In all cases of violation or rape prosecution takes place only on the complaint of the injured party or of her relatives.

Of course severer penalties are inflicted, even to the extent of penal servitude for life, according to whether the act entailed upon the injured party death, mutilation, or other bodily injuries.

Adultery in case of a lawful wife entails a penalty of imprisonment for from 6 months to 2 years on both the guilty parties. Prosecution takes place only on complaint of the husband,

and is null in case he had previously connived at the adulterous act.—Bigamy also entails a penalty (6 months to 2 years and fine of from 5 to 50 yen).

The penal regulations in Section XII. (Art. 355-361) against calumny and defamation are very limited. The delict of defamation (without a charge of dishonorable acts or of some definite vice) is only a contravention, and is punishable only so far as the defamation was made in public.

False charges before Courts of Justice (*Calomnie, dénonciation calomnieuse*) incurs the penalties against perjury.

Public calumny or defamation (*Diffamation*) of a private person with the intention of injuring him, irrespective of all proof of the truth of the statement, is punished, according to the circumstances of the declaration or the circulation of the injurious reports: 1. Major imprisonment for from 11 days to 9 months and fine of from 3 to 30 yen, if circulated by means of verbal communication or in public addresses. 2. Major imprisonment for from 15 days to 6 months and fine of from 5 to 50 yen if perpetrated by means of publications, the public press, pictorial delineations—sold or posted up, or finally by means of theatrical representations. The crime of defamation of the dead is also punishable.

Under this section come also all those delicts which arise from the abuse of confidential secrets entrusted to physicians, apothecaries, midwives, advocates, attorneys, and religious teachers. All the delicts of this section can be prosecuted only on the complaint of the injured party.

Strange to foreign ideas are the penal regulations of Section XIII. (Art. 362-365) of Crimes and Delicts of *Descendants* against *Ascendants* (ancestors). Homicide of father, mother or other ascendant relative is punished with death. Assistance in case of suicide of such only has the benefit of a mitigation of penalty of 2 degrees. Similar severity of penalty is incurred by descendants who are guilty of violence, abuse, sequestration, threats, desertion, calumny or defamation towards ascendant relatives.

Any one who intentionally refuses one of his ascendant relatives requisite food or things necessary for the preservation of his health incurs a heavy penalty. In none of these cases can the culprit claim the benefit of legal excuses or exemptions from punishment.

CHAPTER II. CONTAINS THE CRIMES AND DELICTS AGAINST PROPERTY.

Section I treats of theft (*de vols clandestins*) of a secret kind (Art. 366-377) in contradistinction to that perpetrated with force or violence (*à force ouverte ou commis avec violence*), (Art. 378-384).

The definition of a theft is that of the *Code Pénal* (Art. 379). The penalty for ordinary theft is major imprisonment for from 2 months to 4 years.

Qualified theft (that committed during a conflagration, an earthquake, a flood, or other calamity, by escalade, house-breaking, or opening of locks) entails a penalty of imprisonment for from 6 months to 5 years. Theft committed by several persons conjointly entails augmentation of one degree in the penalty; if perpetrated in an occupied dwelling house by armed persons the penalty is minor confinement.

The removal of one's own property from the custody of a creditor to whom it had been given as a security is considered theft. Attempt at theft is punishable. All persons convicted of theft are placed under police surveillance. Thefts among domestic relatives are not punishable; only in cases of co-actors (non-related) where the culprit is exempt and the co-actor incurs the usual penalty.

Robbery with violence (under threats or abuse) is punished with minor confinement; under aggravating circumstances, with major confinement; if the violence result in bodily injury, with penal servitude for life; if it result in death, the penalty is death. Any one who accomplishes a theft by depriving another of consciousness by means of narcotics or other similar substances is held guilty of theft with open force and punished with minor confinement.

Section III. (Art. 385-387) treats of Robbery of lost articles by the finder. Refers chiefly to wreckage and lost articles. Penalty 11 days to 3 months and fine of from 2 to 20 yen. The same penalty is incurred by the removal of buried or hidden treasure.

Section IV. in only two articles treats of bankruptcy (Art. 388, and 389) a penalty of imprisonment for from 3 months to 4 years is inflicted on anyone who, at the time of bankruptcy or insolvency, shall have concealed a portion of his assets, or shall have exaggerated the amount of his indebtedness. The same penalty, diminished one degree is inflicted on accomplices and assistants.

Imprisonment for from 1 month to 2 years is the penalty for having, at the time of insolvency, made away with, or secreted, mercantile books in whole or in part, or for having, after declaration of failure, paid one creditor to the detriment of others.

Section V. contains the penalties against swindling (*escroquerie*) and abuse of trust. (Arts. 390-398) a person is guilty of swindling (penalty: imprisonment for from 3 months to 4 years and a fine of from 4 to 40 yen) who excites in another fears of any imaginary impending danger, or the hope of some chimerical advantage, thereby inducing the same to deliver up to him articles in his possession or documents of any kind whatever; in the same category must be reckoned similar frauds committed by taking advantage of the imbecility or inexperience of insane persons or minors. The penalties for swindling are entailed also by a false description of the quality, weight, number or measure of articles in a transaction of sale or exchange, which may lead to actual deception. In the same category are also the fraudulent sale, exchange or mortgage of property not belonging to the person effecting the transaction, and the deliberate sale of mortgaged property under cover of fraudulent concealment of the mortgage. A person is guilty of embezzlement (*abus de confiance*) (Penalty: major imprisonment for from 1 month to 2 years) who fraudulently appropriates as his own, disposes of to others, or uses for his own benefit, sums of money, bills, or other valuables entrusted to his keeping.—This section deals also with the frustration of a security by the concealment or removal of mortgaged articles.

Section VI. deals with concealment of stolen property (Art. 399-401). The matter of this section is on a level with the latest legislation. Penalty: imprisonment and fine, and subsequent police surveillance. The penalty of the receiver is modified according to the circumstances of the crime which procured the articles. If they were obtained by fraud, the punishment of the receiver is less severe than if they were procured by robbery.

Section VII. refers to incendiarism (Art. 402-410). Intentionally setting fire to an occupied dwellinghouse entails the death penalty; if not occupied, penal servitude for life; if the buildings are not intended for dwellings, major confinement.

Setting fire to barges, ships, railway carriages, which serve for the transport of persons, entails the death penalty.

The burning of one's own buildings, which can no longer be occupied, is also punishable, penalty, major imprisonment for from 2 months to 2 years—Setting fire to buildings by negligence is punishable with a fine.

Section VIII. Of Inundations. (Art. 411-414.) The procuring of an inundation by the destruction of dykes, entails a penalty of penal servitude for life if the jeopardized buildings are occupied or are used as dwellings. If not, the penalty is major confinement; if only cultivated fields, etc. are affected, minor confinement.—The changing of a watercourse by the destruction of a dyke or sluice, when done for another's disadvantage or for one's own benefit entails a penalty of major imprisonment for from 1 month to 2 years and a fine.

We must also mention the penalties of Section IX. (Art. 415-416) against those who intentionally cause shipwreck or foundering of vessels. If one or more persons lose their lives by such deeds, the penalty is death; in other cases penal servitude for life. If there were no persons in the vessel, minor confinement is the penalty. The last Section (X.) of Book II. contains the penalties against the destruction and injury of another's property. (Art. 417-424.) There is here a six-fold distinction made in the grade of offence, and the penalty is arranged accordingly.

1. Houses and buildings of another. The destruction or injury of these entails major imprisonment for from 1 month to 5 years, and fine of from 2 to 50 yen.
2. Buildings, appurtenances of the above, such as ornaments, fences, pallsades &c., in yards, gardens, fields, &c.
3. Landmarks or boundaries of property.
4. Personal property.—imprisonment for from 1 to 6 months and fine.
5. Horses, oxen and other domestic animals. The first two are protected by severer penalties. In other cases, the penalty is only fine and results from complaint of injured party only.
6. Valuables (bonds &c.) Penalty, 2 months to 4 years and fine of from 3 to 30 yen.

BOOK IV. CONTAINS ONE SECTION ON CONTRAVENTIONS. (Art. 425-430)

This section contains only the following noticeable points.

Art. 425. No. 14 inflicts a contravention-penalty of arrest for 3 to 10 days or fine of 1 yen 95 sen on any one, who makes a false declaration in favour of a person charged with a contravention.

Art. 426. (Arrest for 2 to 5 days or fine of 50 sen to yen 1.50).

No. 12. "Whoever publicly insults a person."—An ordinary insult is thus made a mere contravention, and is punishable only when publicly perpetrated. The prosecution takes place only on the complaint of the injured party.

Art. 427. (Arrest for 1 to 3 days or fine of 20 sen to yen 1.25).

No. 9. Physicians, surgeons, midwives, whose assistance has been called in serious cases, and who, without legal excuse, refuse their services.

No. 11. Whoever by lies or false intelligence causes public alarm.

No. 12. "Those who for a consideration declare themselves ready to exorcise misfortune, to procure fortune, to foretell the future, or to fathom secrets."

Art. 428 (1 day's arrest or fine of from 10 sen to 1 yen).

No. 4. The invitation to play a game of chance, or to buy a lottery ticket on the public street; so also

No. 5. The public presentation of plays or other amusements without the prescribed permission, and the infringement of special regulations relating to the same.

No. 9. Whoever has himself tattooed or follows the business of tattooing.

Art. 429 (5 to 50 sen fine).

No. 7. Gymnastic exercises or other similar amusements continued in the public street after one prohibition of the authorities.

No. 11. Loud singing or shouting in a public place under similar circumstances.

No. 12. Sleeping in a public place or making a great noise when drunk.

Those contraventions which are not included in this penal Code, will be punished according to the regulations of local authorities intended for such cases.

REVIEWS.*

A book, able and needed, undertaken with the wish of providing both the foreign and native public with a more complete and thorough view of the social and moral questions around us, has at any time no small claim upon the thinking and educated who by their knowledge and position possess great power in directing the popular mind towards a proper and beneficial course of progress. A work of this kind, enlisting our fullest interest, especially at this juncture, is that now lying before us.

As the literature of a similar character in England and America has of late years been largely developed both as to quantity and quality, it is one of the greatest merits of this work that it is not less instructive and impressive than the best of those productions which have preceded it, while, at the same time, the subject matter is presented in an entirely independent light and with a fairness rarely paralleled. The author's thorough acquaintance with scientific and religious literature in all their varied phases enables him to treat the most absorbing questions with simple and lucid directness. Throughout the entire work he evinces also a most commendable familiarity with the great results which the activity of modern research and criticism has accumulated in various other directions, and which throw a much desired light upon subjects otherwise perplexing. That the author has known how to avail himself of such resources is not the least of his merits.

The subject of Christianity and Civilization occupies the first forty-two pages of the work, while the following two hundred and fifty-four pages contain a very thorough and clear discussion of Christianity from a scientific, philosophical, psychological, historical, religious and moral point of view. The book contains also the introductory remarks of the Hon. J. A. Bingham, United States Minister, and of Sir Harry S. Parkes, Her Britannic Majesty's Minister to Japan. Merely to enumerate some of the topics of the first two lectures will aid in forming an idea of the work itself. There are, e.g.: The Limits of Hypothesis; Phenomena do not explain Ultimate Causes; Is Man an evolved Ape? No Proof yet of Tertiary Man; Faith not unscientific; Religion must be scientifically tested; Christianity stands the Test; Basis of Science; Scientific Method; Elements of Religion; The "Origin of Species"; Theory of Physical Evolution; Globe Development; The Indeterminate Problem; Chemical Development; Thomson's Vortex; Atoms; Life Development by Artificial Selection; Development of Species by Natural Selection; Cellular Structure; Autogenesis; Spontaneous Genera-

* *Christianity and Humanity.* A course of lectures delivered in Meiji Kwaido, Tokyo, by CHARLES S. EWE, B.A., including one lecture each by Prof. J. A. EWING, B. Sc., F.R.S.E., of the Science Department, Tokyo University, and Prof. I. M. DIXON, M.A., of the Imperial College of Engineering, Tokyo. Yokohama: R. Meiklejohn & Co., 26 Water Street. 1883.

tion; The Meteoric Transfer; What is Life?; Science and Immortality; Miracle and Law; Animal Automatism and Freedom of the Will; etc., etc. The entire treatment of these subjects is intense and compact, intended to suggest, to guide and to incite, thoughtful inquiry into the foundation of Christian belief. The literary assistance rendered by Professors Ewing and Dixon has resulted in a more thorough sweep of the subjects, and a greater wealth of thought, both being gentlemen of different lines of reading and various habits of thought. Professor Ewing's lecture on "The Relations of the Christian Religion to Natural Science, especially to the Theory of Evolution" is one that breathes the true spirit of thorough scientific inquiry. We do not recollect to have ever seen the theory of evolution treated with more eminent fairness. The most enthusiastic admirer of evolution cannot read the lecture without admitting this fact. Professor Dixon, treating Christianity from an historical standpoint, has done full justice to a subject both instructing and fascinating. What he states concerning the law of the harmony of morality and the law of the community of commercial interests, is worthy of being remembered and carefully tested, whenever the reading of historical works is undertaken. We entertain no fear as to the results of such a test, however severely applied.

The work as a whole from beginning to end is fully abreast of modern thought. It nowhere enters into anything like theological discussion, but, true to its simple yet comprehensive title, it dwells on subjects of universal and unquestioned interest. Christianity is the spiritual advance of humanity by the side of the Bible, and the aim of this work is not only to show how far that end has been attained, but also to indicate the means by which the teachings of Christ may be exhibited in their true unison with every advance mankind can make in knowledge and civilization. The author has fully succeeded in proving the close relation of Christianity to Humanity, i.e., to all departments of human knowledge and life, showing that it is not limited by abstract speculation, but supplies a most direct and vital want of man in every zone and clime. It calls for a thoughtful weighing of all available evidence, based not on hypotheses and guesses, but on well established and universally acknowledged facts gleaned from almost every field accessible to the human mind. While the work has a vigor of its own, and is distinguished by forcible reasoning, its tone is far removed from even the faintest approach to dogmatism. In the present conflict of opinions, it is therefore especially adapted to serve as a faithful guide, and to enable its readers to make an intelligent decision in view of questions so highly important to the individual's weal or woe. To decide wisely and well is the duty of every one; and in the faithful discharge of such duty this work will be of inestimable service.

The typography and the style as well as the contents of the work are excellent. The print is large, the type clear, and the volume itself of convenient and attractive size. Being not a dry abstract treatise, but highly practical and to the point, there are a vivacity, vigor, and originality about it which at once interest and instruct; and while an earnestness befitting its theme pervades the work, it yet possesses the charms of variety and beauty. Its pages contain an abundance of important truths expressed in clear and pungent language. The reader feels that he is moving in the presence of living questions, discussed in "words that burn" and stirring up "thoughts that breathe." Marked by fine graphic power

and great justness of statement, the volume does not consist of declamatory assertions without logical consistency; but the whole as well as its parts show a well ordered scheme of thought, the details of which are kept in proper relation to the central idea of the work itself. We believe the author has written with a full knowledge of what was needed.

In England and America, where so much is said about young Japan eagerly devouring the scientific and pseudo-scientific productions of our modern times, no book could be thrown upon the market that would better repay a careful perusal than this. It will give readers at home a "realizing sense" of Japan's advance within the last ten years, and will modify many opinions hitherto held as correct, but based on conditions of the country that now belong to a past irrevocably gone by. To any one, either in America or England, wishing to get a good insight into the higher strata of Japanese thought we can suggest no better book; and we recommend it, strongly, to the attention of those who take a kindly interest in the spiritual struggles of a country daily receiving increased moral and religious light.

A Sketch of Japanese Fisheries. By NARINORI OKOSHI, Member of the Japanese Consulate in London. London: William Clowes and Sons, Limited, International Fisheries Exhibition, and 13, Charing-Cross, S.W. 1883.

SINCE writing in a recent issue on the subject of Japan at the International Fisheries Exhibition, we have been favoured with an early copy of "A Sketch of Japanese Fisheries," there alluded to, by Mr. Okoshi, of the Japanese Consulate in London. The interest and appropriate nature of this sketch only serve to accentuate the regret felt that the author was not at the proper time officially entrusted and furnished with the means of its preparation and issue as an Official Introduction to the List of Japanese Exhibits in the Catalogue of the Exhibition. The pamphlet is, however, published by the printers and publishers to the Exhibition Commissioners, and will no doubt form one of the series of official or semi-official publications issued under the auspices of the Commissioners. Considering the limited opportunities of obtaining materials for such a work away from Japan, the author may be congratulated on the amount and variety of valuable matter he has been able to collect in the time, and the interest with which he has succeeded in investing the statistics of his subject. Proficiency in English composition is too common now a days among educated Japanese to be a matter of special compliment to a gentleman of Mr. Okoshi's antecedents and position: it is enough to say that the style is always clear, and that the construction and idiom, though throughout sufficiently non-native to attest the genuineness of the authorship (and attesting too, not unfrequently, by the turn of a sentence, the writer's familiarity with French) is never such as to offend the English reader or to obscure the author's meaning.

In a few introductory observations Mr. Okoshi points out the enormous extent of Japan's fishing grounds and the almost universal consumption of fish as an article of diet, taking the place of meat in European countries. And here, by comparing the cheapness of fish in Japan, bringing it within the reach even of the poorer classes of the people, with the dearness which makes it chiefly the luxury of the well-to-do in England, he puts his finger,

perhaps unintentionally, on the crying economic sin, which it was one of the great objects of the present Exhibition to assist in wiping out. We observe that Mr. Okoshi concludes his introductory remarks with an appropriate expression of regret, that, with such an interest as Japan naturally takes in her Fisheries, the national section in the Exhibition should not be "so largely and well represented as might be desired."

We will not follow the pamphlet through the by no means uninteresting estimates and statistics of "Sea Produce," "Fishing Power," *i.e.*, the men and boats employed in the industry, where a statistical comparison is given with the English figures, and "Foreign Trade in Sea Produce," the most salient feature of which last is the extraordinary increase in the amount and value of the export trade during the two lustres from 1871 to 1881. Wherever they are accessible, Mr. Okoshi has recourse to official figures, such as those of the Customs Returns, and other trustworthy sources, giving references to his authorities, and frankly saying so when these fail him; so that the information given under these heads is of the kind expected of such a publication as that the place of which this pamphlet seeks to fill.

Some facts curious enough to English readers are given concerning "Fish and Shell-fish of different kinds to those usually eaten in England;" while those interested in such matters will find, under the title "Mode of Fishing" a considerable fund of information, largely supplemented by some very detailed notes (in Appendix A) furnished by Mr. K. Nabeshima, now a student in London, who has lived, as the author tells us, and we might guess from his name, among the Fisher-folk of Hizen, and been himself addicted to fishing as a sport. The subjects of these special notes are (1) "Throwing-net" (*Toami*) the construction and method of using whereof are minutely described and illustrated by figures: (2) *Ahyu* and *Ahgu*-fishing; and (3) *Bêche-de-mer* (*Namako*, or, when dried, *Kinko*). The description of the method adopted for obtaining *Namako* is particularly interesting. We can almost see the fishing-boat being paddled quietly about in calm weather and clear water, while the fisherman, armed with a bamboo having a barbed iron spear-head, "leans over the gunwale of his boat peering and prying down into the clear water with keen and practised eye." A curious use of oil on the waters is mentioned as being resorted to in this branch of fishing. The fisherman "to assist his power of vision," says Mr. Nabeshima, "adopts a peculiar expedient. He has a tiny vessel, containing oil, in the boat, from which he takes from time to time a small quantity and drops it on the surface of the sea. This . . . enables him to see the bottom so clearly that he has little difficulty in spying down with success even when the water is somewhat deep." Another peculiarity is referred to in connection with *Namako*. It is said that, so strong is the antipathy of this fish to rice-straw, that if brought into contact with it the fish positively dissolves like ice under the sun. It is added that disagreeable effects, produced by partaking too freely of *Namako* as a comestible, find an effectual antidote in the liquor in which rice-straw has been boiled. We must take Mr. Nabeshima's word for these statements.

When he comes to speak of "Fish Cookery," the author becomes eloquent under the influence of a genuine feeling of gastronomic patriotism. His mouth evidently waters for the succulent joys of Japanese-cooked fish, unobtainable, alas! in such

a country as England, where, as he pathetically observes, "fish is often boiled simply, which takes away the best part of its flavour." He is quite right; and it is, as he says, after enumerating some of the tempting varieties of form in which fish are sent to table in Japan, "almost inconceivable to the English mind, how neatly, prettily, and with what genius and excellent taste this branch of cooking is conducted in our country." Indeed, personal experience apart, after perusing Mr. Okoshi's almost poetic culinary panegyric, one feels bound to admit that the cookery of fish is, not "almost" as he too modestly claims, but altogether "an art" in Japan. He suggests, with the proselytizing zeal of a genuine enthusiast, that it is worth while for our countrymen to study the art of Japanese fish-cooking with a view to its adoption in England: and we have no hesitation in saying that, in some respects, though we could not certainly go much further, we might very well fare worse: still there are one or two points about fish-eating in Japan at which most people at home would be inclined to draw the line.

One very practical and it may be pregnant suggestion is made both by the author and by Mr. Nabeshima, regarding the alleged superiority of the method used in Japan for imparting strength and the power of resisting the action of the water to lines and nets. In England, it appears, this object is sought to be attained by tanning; but it is said to be far more effectually compassed in Japan by applying a varnish of the juice of unripe Kaki (persimmon) called "Shibu." It is claimed for this treatment that it not only better stiffens and preserves the fibre from the destructive action of water, especially salt water, but prevents the tendency to swell, upon getting wet, thereby ensuring to nets greater expedition in sinking. If this be so, a profitable industry might, as Mr. Okoshi points out, spring up in the chemical preparation in Japan of persimmon-juice suitable for export. It is a pity that no specimens of the compound as used are to be found in the Japanese Section of the Exhibition.

In conclusion, we can only tender our congratulations to Mr. Okoshi on his successful little compilation and cordially recommend its perusal to our readers.

CORRESPONDENCE.

[Our readers must distinctly understand that we are in no sense responsible for the sentiments or opinion of our Correspondents, for the accuracy of their assertions, for or the deductions they may choose to draw therefrom.]

THE "RETROSPECTIVE RAMBLER."

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—“Number 68. Saturday August 4, 1859.” So reads the heading of a paper in the *Idler* from which, now, on August 4, 1883, the following Extract is made:—

“The Arabs were the first nation who felt the ardour of Translation; when they had subdued the Eastern Provinces of the Greek Empire, they found their captives wiser than themselves, and made haste to relieve their wants by imparted knowledge. They discovered that many might grow wise by the labor of few, and that improvements might be made with speed, when they had the knowledge of former ages in their own language. They therefore made haste to lay hold on Medicine and Philosophy, and turned their chief authors into Arabic. Whether they attempted the Poets is not known;

their literary zeal was vehement, but it was short, and probably expired before they had time to add the arts of elegance to those of necessity." So far, the old time *Idler*.

Now, this discovery—that "many might grow wise by the labour of few"—is what some of the sons of Old Japan would seem to have made anew; much as Columbus "discovered" America, though the Red Indian was there long before him: nevertheless, it was a true discovery in both cases.

As to "growing wise," however, there is room for doubt whether the information—call it *knowledge* if you please—which comes by mere translation of words, and transfusion of ideas, really *cultivates* to any good degree; certainly it does not tend to develop the mental character: nay, it even dwarfs some of the most important faculties, and entirely blights originality. Our eye falls on the *Chrysanthemum* for September, 1882, where we find the subject of "Translation" treated of—more, however, as to the *style* to be adopted than with reference to the value of translated books. And what does the writer advocate? To translate for the Japanese in the style which employs most Chinese! What a comment upon the impoverishment of native thought, resulting from the neglect of their own language, through having borrowed from, and leaned upon, the most objectionable of all tongues—which indeed, is not a "tongue" at all, in its true sense; for one (I mean, two) cannot converse in it by vocal speech, but must see with the eye, as well as utter with the lips, before the intended meaning can be conveyed from mind to mind. It cannot even claim to be the Algebra of thought; for Algebra *spoken* is quite intelligible.

Now: there is no comparison between the two languages, *as such*. The Japanese is syllabic, inflectional, melodious, and expressive, in all which respects it contrasts favorably with the Chinese, which is insoluble, rigid, inharmonious, and insusceptible of expression, by reason of the appropriation of *tones* (which is the natural medium of emotion) for the purpose of distinguishing meaning. Moreover, it is hard and tedious to learn, and very easy to forget; operose and difficult to write, and—if written in the cursive style—indefinite in the reading; if terse, then ambiguous; if verbose, then inelegant; if accurate, then uncouth.

In short, as some one has well said, "the Chinese language is an epitome of all the curses of Babel," and I cannot imagine a greater national misfortune than that a people who have a charming tongue of their own—flexible, mellifluous, expressive—should burden themselves with such an intellectual yoke; or, being burdened, not have wisdom and energy enough to throw it off.

What the Japanese language wants is simply the development and culture of its own resources. Let the knowledge of facts, and truths, and principles, and of the thoughts of all the ages, be borrowed from any and every source—Chinese, Korean, Dutch, Russian, Portuguese, French, English, American—anywhere, everywhere; but let the expression of all these be in the tongue wherein the people were born. Develop it, mould it, expand it, enrich it, as has been done with our own English tongue, and this beautiful Island Empire, "the Great Britain of the North Pacific," shall then have a language, and in due time a literature, of its own, which will be something worthy to take its place alongside of Spanish for beauty, French for refinement, German for strength, and English for general usefulness. But, let the straight jacket of Chinese rigidity be retained, and

then—farewell to force, originality, and development!

"Ling-So was a man who wanted to have a road by which he could travel conveniently from his own house to a distant point, and back again; which was a journey he needed to perform constantly—every day, indeed. There was already a natural path, but with that he did not feel satisfied, though it was beautiful in itself, and could have been made excellent in all respects, if he would only have taken the trouble to improve it. But he said, No: I have an old neighbour who uses loose pebble stones for his highway: and I will get some from him and make my road like his, as near as I can. So he left his own path, with its wooded shades and pleasant meadows; its streams, and glens, and mountain views; and made a straight, hard road of large loose pebbles, three feet deep; and over this road he preferred to drag himself and his vehicles for many years; while the natural path remained neglected, overgrown, and unimproved.

In process of time, certain friends of his, observing Ling-So's infatuation, ventured to remonstrate, and counselled him to reconsider his plan, and to take a fresh survey of his whole domain, especially of the old pathway, so that"—

The MS. leaves off here abruptly, and we are left to conjecture what course Ling-So concluded to adopt. Perhaps we may one day find out what was the sequel of the story. Let us hope it was a happy one!

Your obedient servant,

RETROSPECTIVE RAMBLER.

THE "CHOYA SHIMBUN" AND THE "YEKI."

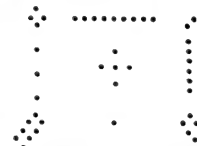
TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—I was very much interested in and amused by a translation from the *Choya Shimbun* on the "Ebb and Flow of Society Matters," which appeared in the *Japan Daily Mail* of the 7th instant. Not that I have any fault to find with the remarkable predictions contained in that article, but what I do most thoroughly condemn is the manner in which the writer deduces his predictions; for it is as inaccurate as it is absurd. If the Editor of the *Choya Shimbun* admires the *Yeki*, let him use it by all means; but it may interest him to hear that the *Yeki* is known to people outside of the editorial precincts, and that when he announces a prophecy he will be expected to base it upon a *bond fide* method of divination,—or to keep his prophetic discoveries to himself.

In the first place, I know of no Chinese mantic method consisting in the "drawing" of "dots," although I am well acquainted with the first of the two calculations mentioned by the *Choya*. From time immemorial the three principal Chinese methods of divination have been as follows:—the scorching of the tortoise-shell, sortilege, and the use of the mystic *tsa*. Again, I fail to comprehend what is meant by the "Twelve Diagrams." There were originally four symbols 四象, afterwards increased to the eight trigrams 八卦: the four symbols being reducible to two primary forms — and —, which represent the first division of the *yin* and *yang* from Unity: the male and female, or active and passive principles of the Universe. In addition to the eight trigrams, Fuh-hi, or one of his immediate successors, is said to have enlarged the basis of divinatory

calculation by multiplying the original number with eight, the result being the 六十四卦 sixty-four hexagrams. A further multiplication of these with six gives the 384 爻, which complete the number to which the diagrams are practically carried. There are, it is true, a few other numerical methods of divination, but none of them is based on the number twelve. Ching-fang 京房, a scholar of the Han Dynasty, used the sixty-four hexagrams in his famous division of the year. This division was based on the seventy-two *ku*. The Taoist Tang Hsiang invented a new method of divination called the 太玄經, in which there were four strokes in each diagram instead of six; his computation containing in all eighty-one diagrams. The number twelve is employed exclusively in astronomical and astrological treatises: there are, for example, twelve divisions of the ecliptic, twelve symbols of the Zodiacal Cycle (the Duodenary Cycle), and twelve symbols for the months.

The first of the prophetic "calculations" is still more remarkable than the second. From the translation I gather that the writer announces this calculation as his own, and makes his prophetic explanation dependent upon the position of the dots in the diagram. The calculation as such is simply a thorough-paced hoax; for the diagram is nothing more or less than the *ho-fu* 河圖, or "Plan of the Yellow River," the invention of a famous Chinese sage, one Shao Yung, who flourished about A.D. 1150. The *ho-fu* is generally combined with the *loh-shu* 洛書, or "Plan of the River Loh," and its present accepted form is said to be the work of Ts'ai Yüan-ting, a contemporary of Shao Yung:—



It appears, however, that Ch'en-twan, a Taoist priest, brought a magic square of fifteen into the *Yeki* as early as A.D. 960 (see the *Japan Weekly Mail*, June, 11th, 1881). These two diagrams are now-a-day necessary prolegomena to the study of divination.

Chinese philosophers tell us that the *ho-fu* and *loh-shu* represent the systems of diagrams and arrangement of the ordinal numbers which were revealed to Fuh-hi and Yü in a supernatural manner. The scholars of every age since the revival of Chinese learning under the Han Dynasty have busied themselves with the restoration of these two mystic diagrams, while, from the supposed principles expressed by the two supernatural revelations, the learned men of the Sung Dynasty devoted themselves to the elaboration of a system of ontology in connection with the philosophy of divination and of numbers. It is stated that until the reign of Sung Hwei Tsung (A.D. 1101-1125) no delineation of the *ho-fu* was made public; but during this period and immediately afterward sages and scholars were busy with its form, and several arrangements of its supposed series of numbers were attempted by students of the *Yeki*. In Shao-Yung's—and the *Choya Shimbun's*—diagram, the total number of dots or spots is fifty-five. The odd numbers—1, 3, 5, 7, 9, making a total of 24—are the "heavenly numbers" 天數, and represent the active principle of the universe. The even numbers—2, 4, 6, 8, 10, or 30 by addition—are "numbers of earth" 地數, or 陰 numbers of

the Confucian Commentary. By a synthetical process, based upon the 易經, the numbers in the *ho-t'u* are reconciled with the eight diagrams, and again with the five elements 五行, which give the starting point for the entire Chinese theory of nature.

I regret that the Editor of the *Choya Shimbun* is so little progressive that he is willing to pose as the inventor of a mystical diagram seven hundred years old; and I would call his serious attention to the well-known proverb, *ron-go yomi no ron-goshiradan*.

Yours, &c.,

F. W. E.

Yokohama, 13th November 1883.

TRANSLATIONS FROM NATIVE JOURNALS.

THE SUSPENSION OF THE *Fiji Shimpō*.

(Translated from the *Fiji Shimpō*.)

This journal was suspended on the 31st of last month by an order of the Metropolitan Police Board to the effect that No. 505 of the *Fiji Shimpō* is calculated to disturb the national tranquillity, and therefore its publication should be prohibited until further notice. On the night of 6th instant, however, the suspension was removed, and we immediately set to work to resume publication to-day (7th instant). We sincerely apologize to our readers for having failed to report any news during the interval.

The cause of the suspension is to be found in No. 505 of the issue, but we are not informed whether it is the leader, domestic news, or foreign news. It is, however, plain that the said number is our sole offence. Our duty is, and will be, to observe more reserve. Journalistic difficulties are numerous. Editors are not always endowed with extensive knowledge; reporters lack literary talent: domestic news is liable to be clothed in error: foreign always reaches us after long delay. But the most urgent of all our troubles is the matter of finance. Outlay exceeds income. No newspaper can make a profit unless it be run on the joint capital of many shareholders, or by a few rich individuals, or with a subsidy from above. The *Fiji Shimpō* was started by the combined efforts of a few poor scholars, who each borrowed a small sum of money from their friends. They gave their labour for nothing. Thus, our independence is maintained by the arduous struggle of a few poor men. The *Fiji Shimpō* is, therefore, the poorest of all journals. Our embarrassment is augmented when suspension is imposed upon us. Our daily loss then amounts to more than *yen* 150; or more than *yen* 750 in the five days which were the period of our recent punishment, Sunday and the Mikado's birth-day excepted. This is too heavy a loss for such poor students as we are. Composers, pressmen, and messengers were thrown out of employment. They could not find another situation, as the times are hard. Their condition was most pitiful. What, then, was the cause of this action? The answer is that we wrote something in the *Fiji Shimpō* that was calculated to disturb the national peace. The Editor is convinced that he was guilty of a political offence and of depriving the employes of their food. Had he been aware of the consequences, he would have refrained from writing anything obnoxious. His repentance, coming too late, is of no avail now. It only remains for him to acquaint the public with his idea of what he will do in future. He entertains no pernicious designs whatever toward the

common weal. He is the most ardent well-wisher of Japan in the matters of commerce, education, politics, and military organization. To him there is no country but Japan. Whatever class may hold the reins of administration or politics, he cares not. He is only anxious to see Japan enjoy the utmost commercial prosperity possible: to cultivate friendship with foreign nations, and keep ready to confront any of them, if necessary, to maintain her national prestige. When these objects are consummated, his desire is achieved. Nevertheless, there are some who attribute our frank words to a desire to assume the control of affairs ourselves. It does not follow that because a man discusses, he desires to have a share in, or control of, public business. Thus, we speak of commerce, but in practice we can have no part in it. We assume the rôle of a scholar, but are clothed only in the rags of scholarship. How much more would this apply to us in the case of military science whereof we have not the slightest knowledge. What functionaries of responsibility have to do is to accept or condemn the opinions of outsiders as the occasion demands. This affords an immense benefit to the nation. If our readers doubt this, let us seek an illustration in the vulgar world. Men discuss women's subjects; but they are not animated by any desire to adopt female costume or otherwise to assume the ways of the weaker sex. Again old men remonstrate with children. This they do without intention to deprive the youngsters of their toys. The sole intention is to tell them of their faults. Females and children are benefited by advice. This being the case, there is no doubt that functionaries may derive advantage from fairly expressed opinions on commerce, manufacture, military subjects, politics, and so forth. It is not our intention to wrest anything from the hand of others. The world is wide and occupations are numerous. Pleasures accompany the faithful pursuit of any profession whatsoever. This is man's freedom. What a world of pleasure! There is a wise saw that a man who does not eat the globe-fish cannot appreciate its delicate flavor. Those who have no knowledge of others' means, cannot envy them. Merchants are merchants: scholars are scholars: politicians are politicians. Each has his own way and knows it. It is only after men have applied themselves to a task that they appreciate it. They must taste in order to relish. But they are wrong to think that others must have an appetite for what they desire. Men have different standings; and according as they cultivate their minds they are capable, not only of abstaining from envy of, but of feeling pity for, others. Thus, the soul is elevated. Can it ever be said to have reached the highest point of refinement. According to Chinese and Japanese history, the dominant element of society in ancient times was the political, which was fostered under the oligarchical governments; and yet even in those days, skill in classics and music commanded great respect and consideration from monarchs. In the present enlightened age professions are numerous. Politics are no longer the sole ruling passion of society; they are but part of man's life. Politics, the military system, commerce, manufactures, and learning, constitute the business of the world, and each of them may bring wealth and fame. There is no necessity for men to pay exclusive attention to one subject. We earnestly hope that the public will take a broad view of matters, and refrain from wasting their brain-fibre over trivialities.

This is and has been our constant idea. We shall not leave to others a monopoly of patriotism: we possess as much of it as any one else. On this

point, no one will disagree with us. Hence, that the *Fiji Shimpō* should have been suspended for publishing something injurious to the national welfare sounds strange, but is not so, after all; because it is for functionaries to decide what things are fit for comment, whilst we are mere outsiders. Be it, however, observed that the opinions of outsiders are likely to be correct if they are independent. On the other hand, the political machinery is so complicated that no outsider can see its working. It is, therefore, not unlikely that in political discussion a newspaper may commit a blunder. Our recent punishment must be thus accounted for. But we entertain no ill feelings any more than we are actuated by avaricious motives. Our only aim is to strengthen the foundations of civilization, and to cause its benefits to be available for ever.

JAPANESE IDEAS OF NEWSPAPER ADVERTISEMENTS.

(Translated from the *Fiji Shimpō*.)

A correspondent says:—In your journal of the 16th of October last, I read a leader headed "Advice to Merchants," in which the secret of how to accumulate wealth is revealed. I have long been convinced that the object of trade is to gain riches; and that, in order to accomplish that, I must make my business flourishing. To render trade prosperous, honesty is essential: still more so is it to acquire from the public a reputation for fair dealing. There are various ways of advertising; but the most effective is that by means of the newspapers. You pointed out that newspapers are the best and cheapest medium. This fact I myself have experienced. You have further pointed out valid reasons for advertising; how to write the notice in an attractive manner; and how to save expense. What you said was mostly new, and consequently instructive, to me. That you should have demonstrated the necessity for advertisements, is not, of course, endeavouring to feather your own nest; but purely disinterested, and intended merely to confer great benefits upon the tradal community, and show the secret of making money; and is also an action of unqualified excellence. I offer my best thanks to the *Fiji Shimpō* for having instructed the mercantile class upon the subject.

So far, you have exhaustively dealt with the necessity of advertising. In my opinion, it is also equally important to read advertisements and acquaint oneself with the condition of the markets. A person wishing to advertise in newspapers, should read the notices first, and judge for himself whether he is selling cheaper than others, or whether his articles are better than those of his neighbors. For instance, a publisher issues a book without knowledge that a similar work has been already published and sold at a cheaper rate than his. Contrary to his expectation, he finds no purchaser, and wonders why his effort meets with no public encouragement. By and by he will regret that he spent a large sum of money in advertisements. On the other hand, those who read the journals are thoroughly acquainted with the prices at which others are selling their articles and making a profit. Ignorance of the matter is not due to any fault on the part of the newspapers, but to the readers who do not pay attention to the advertisements. It is, therefore, most important for all traders to advertise in the public press, and to read the notices.

I have been informed by a European friend that, in foreign countries, all matters concerning trade, and all other business of importance are conducted through the newspapers. The opening of companies, the price of goods, the sale of second-hand furniture and clothing, demands for labour, inquiries for lost articles, etc., are advertised in the papers. Advertisers and the public should both take equal pains to search the journals, which are nothing less than a big registry-office where houses, servants, clerks, book-keepers, and everything else, are all assembled to meet the demand of customers. Altogether, the scene is busy and full of confusion. But trouble is saved, and one can do one's business with great facility. Recently, Japanese journals have been filled with notices of patent medicines and the publication of books. But yet business matters are not advertised to their full extent. It appears as though people were ignorant of the importance of the press. This may be partly accounted for by the fact that business is not good in Japan, and that there are many who have abundant leisure to spend in rumaging about for anything they want. It is to be sincerely hoped that Japanese merchants will learn to advertise in foreign and native papers just as their Western *confrères* do. It is hardly necessary to say that those who read the advertisements always keep themselves well informed of the condition of the markets, and consequently enrich themselves. Speaking egotistically, it suits me to advertise and make money while my countrymen are sleeping; but this cannot always be realized in practice. Unless the whole community is in a flourishing condition, it is impossible to make continuous profits. I, for my own part, fully recognize the necessity of newspaper notices, and will not fail to insert advertisements in all the papers. As regards the style and method, we have at hand the example of Western nations, the result of many years' experience. We should do well to devise such a method as practice demonstrates to be effective. I hope you will spare no effort to give me the necessary instruction on the subject.

[In the article "Advice to Merchants," the editor of the *Fiji Shimpō* clearly pointed out the necessity of advertisements in a tone similar to that of the above letter. His chief anxiety was to remind his readers that journalistic profits are the most laboriously earned of all, and that public liberality in the matter of support of the press will remove many inconveniences.—TRANSLATOR.]

CORRESPONDENCE FROM KOREA.

(Translated from the *Fiji Shimpō*.)

A Chinese man-of-war arrived in Koyo on the 16th ultimo with a mining engineer, who started for Sōul on the ensuing day. It is said that he is accredited with power to adjust commercial matters between China and Korea, as well as to exploit the mines in the latter country. The Koreans regard him as a Chinese official to whom the working of their mines has been entrusted. In our opinion, he is nothing more than a petty Chinese mandarin. A newspaper will be published shortly. On the 16th of October, an English vessel arrived in In-chōn. His Excellency Takezoze, Minister to Sōul, was to start for Japan on the 17th of October, but his departure was postponed until the beginning of November. The trouble arising out of the recent affray between Chinese and Japanese sailors, has been amicably settled. On the 17th and 18th of Octo-

ber, an examination of candidates for military rank was held in the Palace in the presence of the King and Korean and Chinese high dignitaries.

Lately, when I called upon Councillor Kim Pyōng-kuk, I found the gate closed and saw about a hundred people who wore big bamboo hats, straw sandals and ragged clothes, swarming around the place. On inquiry, I found that they were farmers living in the vicinity, who had come to the city to complain to the Councillor about the heavy taxes imposed upon them by their local officials. One of them was honoured with an interview by the statesman, who took a favorable view of their complaints. Occurrences like these are very frequent in Korea. On the 18th October, Japanese troops held a sham fight at Nanzan Hill. They were divided into two parties and indulged in a discharge of blank cartridge. This was the first review of the Japanese troops since the soldiers were stationed in Sōul. The Chinese troops number thirty times as many as ours, and consequently they make a much more gallant show. They are supplied with abundant ammunition, and have target practice almost daily; they also fire a time-gun at noon: altogether their movements cause envy among the Japanese soldiers from Nagoya who relieved the old garrison. The review at Nanzan gave great rejoicing to Japanese residents, especially as such a magnificent spectacle was never witnessed there before. Our sole regret is that their number was so small and is in course of gradual decrease. On the 16th of October, Mr. Aston arrived in In-chōn in an English man-of-war. Prime minister Hong Sun-mok has not yet entirely recovered from illness. In my former report about the presentation by a Chinese of the New Testament to the King, I made a mistake. The correct version is that the Chinese forwarded a copy of the New Testament to the Foreign Office, requesting it to be presented to the King. The officers burnt it and afterward informed His Majesty of the event. They further urged that the Roman Catholic faith is, and must be, prohibited by all means; that the religion works great harm to the nation; and that it was a heinous offence for Korean officers to be made the agents of presenting a religious book to the King. They advised him to exile the Chinese who committed the grave offence. The potentate has not as yet given his decision in the matter. As, however, the affair was reported to Go Chokei, the Chinese general, it is believed that the offender will be sent back to China, as was the case with Ma Ken Tsung. He is one of Li's men, and held an important position in the Korean Government when Ma assumed the temporary control of foreign affairs. At that time this mandarin enjoyed a high reputation. The Koreans believed that Ma's appointment in the Foreign Office would be productive of immense benefit to their country. The said offender's (O Rosho) appointment in the Home Office was likewise regarded with great favour. But the hope was not fulfilled. Ma was accused of insulting the Royal Master and of licentious conduct, and returned to China. O Rosho is about to follow the fate of Ma. On the 14th of October, the Korean Government prohibited the people from coining any copper money secretly. This is looked upon as the result of anxiety on the part of the authorities to prevent the fall in value of old copper coins, which will certainly ensue in case of the abundance of copper money. The Tradal Associations that are worthy of the name, are the Merchant Steamship Company and Shoen Kiyoku, a cigar factory. The former has the capital of fifty thousand taels subscribed by

fifty shareholders, including Nin Yong-sik and Li So-yen. The latter has twenty shareholders and a capital of six thousand riyō, which is now in course of increase. There is one photograph shop owned by Koreans and directed by two Japanese. Some of the prominent Korean officers are making preparations to start a new trading company. A scheme is also afloat to establish a hospital. On the 18th of October, Riutei Shun, who was receiving instruction in Mr. Fukuzawa's school *Keio-gijiku*, was appointed to the Mint which was lately opened for making copper money. Only the director has been appointed up to the present, and his subordinates are not as yet engaged. A great many years ago, the King imported a Chinese translation of foreign books treating of the advantages of steamships, telegraphs, etc., and caused it to be translated into the Korean language. This valuable work was distributed among the inhabitants of the eight provinces. But at that time, the Koreans unanimously regarded it as a book on foreign religion, and condemned it as utterly worthless. Recently, however, the desire to read the work has greatly developed among them. Necessary efforts are, therefore, being made to publish the book so to meet the great demand for it.

THE LOSS OF THE "AKITSUSHIMA MARU."

MARINE COURT OF INQUIRY.

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 12TH, 1883.

A Marine Court of Inquiry was held in the Marine Office of the Agricultural and Commercial Department (Noshomusho) Tokiyo, to investigate the circumstances of the loss of the Mitsu Bishi Mail Company's steamer *Akitsu-shima Maru* whilst prosecuting a voyage between this port and Hakodate. The site of the wreck is about fourteen miles south of Siritaya-seki on the coast of Nambu.

The Court was composed of Geo. Ramsay, Esq. (President), Lieut. J. H. James, R.N., and A. MacNab, Esq.

The President announced that the Court had been assembled by order of the Noshomusho, and proceeded to read Section 10 of the English translation of the Japanese Government Regulations for the examination of Masters, Mates, and Engineers of vessels of foreign form of Construction. It reads as follows:—

Section 10.—If the Agricultural and Commercial Department has reason to believe that any master, mate, or engineer is, from incompetency, gross carelessness, or misconduct, unfit to discharge his duties, the Department may cause an investigation to be instituted, and may suspend or cancel the certificate of any master, mate, or engineer in the following cases:—

1st.—If upon investigation he is found to have been guilty of drunkenness, misconduct, gross carelessness, disobedience of orders, or negligence of duty.

2nd.—If upon investigation it is found that the loss or abandonment of, or serious damage to, any vessel, or loss of life, or serious injury to any person, has been caused by his wrongful act or default.

3rd.—If he is shown to have been convicted of any crime greater than a misdemeanor.

Next the President asked the officers to hand in their certificates of competency, and read the form of application under which they were engaged. It is in these terms:—

To the officers of the Agricultural and Commercial Department.

GENTLEMEN,—Being desirous of obtaining a certificate as a ——— of the ——— grade, I hereby signify my request to undergo the necessary examination for that purpose; and I herewith deliver my testimonials of character, service, &c., as per list on the opposite side, and numbered: ———. And I hereby agree to accept the said certificate subject and liable to such regulations as are now in force, or may hereafter from time to time be made by His Imperial Majesty's Government; and I further declare that I will deliver the

said certificate to the Agricultural and Commercial Department (Noshomusho) or to whomsoever they may direct, whenever I may be called upon so to do.

I am, Gentlemen, Your obedient servant,

Johannes Frahm (Master), J. C. Werner (Chief Officer), H. F. T. Moldt (Second Officer), and Rodger Hamilton (Chief Engineer) handed their certificates into Court. One of the Engineers was absent, and of the other officers present none hold permanent certificates.

Captain Frahm before being examined asked to be presented to the officers of the Court. This done, he asked that a master of the Mercantile Marine be associated with the Court. Captain Ramsay explained that he, himself, was a master of the Mercantile Marine, and that the Court was constituted according to the regulations of the Marine Office of the Agricultural and Commercial Department. It would be open to Captain Frahm, if dissatisfied with the result, to appeal to the Commissioner. The inquiry was then commenced.

Johannes Frahm's examination was first proceeded with. He admitted the accuracy of a copy produced of his report of the wreck addressed to the directors, with one correction. That being made the letter reads thus:—

"AKITSUSHIMA MARU,"

October 10th, 3 p.m.

To the Directors of the Mitsu Bishi Mail Steamship Company, Tokio.

GENTLEMEN,—It is with feelings of the utmost regret that I have to report the grounding of this steamer at 4.45 a.m. to-day about 14 miles south of Siriya-saki, on the coast of Nambu.

After having experienced a very stormy passage the weather at last moderated at midnight, and we were able to steer the steamer and proceed on our voyage. Our position was then according to D.R. Lat. $41^{\circ} 13' N$, and long. $142^{\circ} 15' E$. From hence steered a magnetic course W. by N. $\frac{1}{2}$ N. in order to sight Siriya-saki light, the weather being clear, at 3 hours 40 minutes still no light in sight, slowed down engines, headed steamer to eastward and at 3 hours 58 minutes stopped, ordered third officer to haul in the patent log and take a cast with the deep sea lead, and 4 hours 2 minutes slow astern in order to stop steamer's headway while sounding, a minute or so later sighted what I and everyone else on board that saw it thought to be Siriya-saki light bearing magnetic west and, as I judged about 18 miles distance, was so sure of it that I told the third officer, never mind the lead now, put engines full speed ahead, helm hard a starboard and steered at N.W. by W. Chief officer now on watch, weather clear, and I, having been without rest or sleep for the last 48 hours, now left the bridge for that purpose and gave the chief officer my instructions for the safe navigation of the ship. The next thing I heard was a blow from the steam-whistle and the sound of the telegraph gong. Rushed immediately on the bridge found the steamer about 100 fathoms from the beach, and engines going full speed astern; after engines having gone full speed astern some time, found it useless, she was hard and fast on a level sandy ground, covered with small boulders, which latter, I suppose, must have made several holes in her bottom as she rapidly begun to make water, after hold and engine room; uncoupled main shafting from engines, and worked same with bilge injection, but all in vain, at 10 hours 25 minutes the water extinguished the fires. We can do nothing now to float her until assistance arrives; as per my to-day's telegram; are meanwhile engaged landing cargo and stores; the weather is fine, and W.N.W. of the land.

The chief officer says, he lost sight of the supposed Siriya Saki Light shortly after I left the bridge, but did not call me because he thought we were clear of everything. Had he called me, according to my orders given to him, I feel confident this sad accident would not now have to be reported by yours,

Gentlemen, obedient servants,

(Signed) JOHN FRAHM.

(Signed) JOHN C. WERNER, Chief Officer.

(Signed) R. HAMILTON, Chief Engineer.

Witness also admitted the official log and rough log. He said:—The Chief Officer kept the deck log. The charts produced are those used on the *Akitsuishima Maru* on her last voyage. The deviation card has been left on boardship. There is no space in the log-book for the entry of the deviation. The number of my Certificate is 11, granted in 1875. I have been commander of the *Akitsuishima* for four years and a half. The Chief officer has been with me since October, 1882, with the excep-

tion of a period of sickness in February and March last. I left Yokohama last on the 6th of October at 5 a.m. bound for Hakodate. The weather then was showery, with a strong wind from the North-east, force about "4." To Kinkasan we had the same wind with a high sea. At 4 a.m. on the 8th I was three miles off Kinkasan, and thence steered a North-by-East course by the standard or bridge compass, by which I set the course, and the vessel is steered. The error was 11 degrees easterly. I continued on the same course until it got thick and rainy, when I hauled the ship out a little and then stood in again so as to make a N.N.E. course good. The day was so thick that we got no observations. At 3.45 p.m. Miako Head was West three miles of us. It was rainy and thick, and I set the patent log. I steered then N. $\frac{1}{2}$ W. by compass. The wind was Easterly and rapidly increasing. During the blow I took hourly observations of the barometer. Off Miako (to the best of my recollection (I have no record left) it was 29.95, inclining to fall, sea rising rapidly but not confused. I allowed half a point till 6.30 p.m. on the 8th. The speed was by the patent log about 8½ knots average; but the sea, Easterly, every now and then checked the speed. The hand-log was never used. At 6 a.m. on the morning of the 9th we saw the top of the land. Below was hazy and we could not make out where we were. I had hauled in toward the land at 1.30 a.m., steering good N.N.W. $\frac{1}{2}$ W. (by bridge compass N.N.W. error $\frac{1}{2}$ Westerly) until 6 a.m. The distance run between 1.30 and 6 a.m. was 43 miles by patent log. I have known my patent log choked. In such case I should estimate my speed by guess. From 6 to 9 a.m. I made good a W.N.W. (magnetic) course. I cannot say exactly the speed at the time, wind and sea increasing so rapidly and the ship making half a point leeway. The ship made 11 miles in the three hours. After that the ship would not steer and was unmanageable owing to the force of the sea and wind, the latter blowing a hurricane. Sometimes the ship would come up as close as eight points to the wind, but she would fall off quite three points. She was in the trough of the sea. Her lee-way then must have been about four points. She was making headway at the time through the water. From 9 a.m. to 5.30 p.m. on the 9th she made 42 miles, on a N.E. by N. course. Couldn't work up the course as I was too busy with the vessel, and could hardly get into the chart-room. The chief-officer was equally occupied. The ship's position at 5.30, as marked on the chart, is estimated by me. The weather was moderating and the wind beginning to haul to the West. At 5.30 I wore round. The vessel remained unmanageable until midnight (9th-10th). The sea was then moderating, wind N.W., weather pretty clear. I could see land about three miles distant: the stars were visible. The track was marked on the chart from time to time with the ship's position. The horizon was not clear enough for any stellar observations, neither then nor up to 4 p.m. of the 10th. From midnight I stood in towards the land until 3.40 a.m., when I stood out, steering out on a starboard helm to sound, expecting every moment to see Siriya-saki light. The weather was then pretty clear. I was sure I could see land about three miles away. I could then see three miles. Then I stood in to the land, my course was W. by N. $\frac{1}{2}$ N. northerly (error 6 degrees). The wind was moderating very fast. I had been 48 hours on deck, with the sole exception of when I had to consult the barometer or charts. The greater part of the time I was on the bridge. My reason for preparing to take a cast of the lead is that I had been moving in expecting to see Siriya-seki light; and I thought that from wind and current I might be further north than my supposed position. I might have been in the Straits of Tsugar. Had I got soundings I should probably have kept to the Eastward. I was the first on board to see the light from the bridge. I watched it eight or nine minutes. It showed clear and bright bearing magnetic W. The ship was heading E. by N. (error 11 degrees easterly). I could not take the light's bearing by compass as the funnel was in the way. I was certain that the light was Siriya-seki, as during seven year's experience on the coast I have never seen another light in the vicinity. Soon after I saw it the third officer reported it to me. I did not take a cast of the lead as I knew there should be no bottom. I countermanded the or-

der to sound. Nine or ten minutes elapsed from the time the light was reported to when I gave charge of the deck to the chief officer. The course I gave to the men at the wheel, and after to the chief officer, as N.W. by W. (error 11 W.) I steadied the ship myself on this course. It was then six or seven minutes past four. I kept looking at the light both before and after I had steadied the ship. My orders to the chief officer were to keep the ship steady, and to keep a good look-out. I didn't tell him what time to call me, as I had no intention to go to sleep, but only to change my clothes, and lie down in the chart-room for a little rest. I did not consult the chief officer about the ship's position. I should be sorry to have to consult him about the navigation. He had a chart; but not the one on which I had marked the course. The officers of the watch had access to the charts in the chart-room. I account for the vessel stranding through the false light. It was so clear that I was as sure it was Siriya-saki as I have ever been of any light. When she stranded I came on the bridge, and for a long time kept the engines going full speed astern, until I found it useless. Then I ordered the boats to be got ready and the wells to be sounded. The report was "no water." I put out a kedgie with two six inch lines fixed to the steam-winch. The wind was aback, and the square sails were set aback, and I hauled on the lines and took a turn or two full speed astern with the engines. (The bow was afloat about 100 fathoms off the beach.) I sounded round the ship and found from 15 to 18 feet. The ship was ashore fore and aft from the bridge. I heaved on the kedgie until she made so much water that it would have been dangerous to get her into deep water. The engines were stopped from going full speed astern by my orders. The surf was too high to get out a bower anchor and chain. I ceased going full speed astern because I found that the vessel must sink if she got into deep water. I worked up the ship's dead reckoning daily at noon and gave it to the chief officer. The second officer had instruments and used to take observations. The vessel was last swung two years ago to ascertain deviation. I swung her and calculated by object (Fujiyama) distant about 40 miles. Azimuths and amplitudes were taken whenever opportunity offered. The log-book (produced) was kept by the chief officer. It was not kept to my satisfaction, so I seldom asked for it and did not sign it. In the Mercantile Marine the captain and the chief officer are together responsible for the log; but I do not think this is the case in the Mitsu Bishi Company. (Captain Frahm, questioned why he thought this, did not give any satisfactory reply). The chief officer holds a certificate of competency to keep a log. If I were to sign this log I should have to alter so many things that I should be constantly in hot water with him. (Captain Frahm admitted many omissions in the log-book.) I frequently examined the needles; and the deviation was posted in the chart-room and open to the inspection of every officer. During the past twelve months I have had two chief officers, and one, each, second and third. The officers keep four-hour watches, first 4 to 8, second 8 to 12, third 12 to 4. I found out the site of the wreck from the natives; they called it Odogosawa. The false light has since been seen from the *Takasago-maru* by the Captain, by Captain Hog, myself, and the second mate of the *Takasago*. The Captain of the *Takasago* admitted that in my circumstances I was justified in taking it for Siriya-saki. A Japanese naval officer who visited my ship after she was stranded, as I understood him, said that the light had been put there by his orders for fishermen's guidance, and that it was a red light. When I left the vessel there was only a little water in the main hold, and none in the fore hold. Water first entered in the after hold and then in the engine-room.

To Lieutenant James—From 9 a.m. to 5.30 on the 8th the average course was about N.N.W. On the chart the course is N.N.E. I account for the difference by lee-way. With the average speed 5 knots per hour, the wind S.W., ship heading N.N.W., I do consider that the ship could make four points lee-way. From 5.30 till midnight, the course in the log book is S.S.W. $\frac{1}{2}$ W.; on the chart it is S. by E. $\frac{1}{2}$ E. This difference I account for by lee-way. With the ship heading S. by W., wind N.W., two points aback the beam,

wind and sea moderating, I consider that I was justified in allowing 4 points lee way, the sea being on the bow, and the stern very much down. When we left Yokohama the ship's trim was, 10ft.4 forward, 17ft.2 aft. The *Akitsu-shima* was supplied with a pole compass, and one compass aft and one on the bridge—the steering compass—which last I found the best. The pole compass I could not depend on; and the after compass was so placed as to render an all round azimuth impossible. There is no wheel-house on board.

J. C. Werner, Chief Officer of the *Akitsu-shima Maru*, deposed. When we passed Kinkasan the weather was moderate up to Miako. The speed was about seven knots by patent log and bearings. No bearings were taken for position. I never had any conversation during the bad weather with the captain about the ship's position. My watch is from four to eight in the morning and evening. The ship has not been swung in my time. I did not take any azimuths or amplitudes; but worked up the position by bearings: not by the sun, or the log-book, or otherwise. At noon daily I received a report from the captain to enter in the log-book. I did not take the sun's altitude, as I have not had an instrument for three years. I never took the latitude by a star; but examined the compasses before the ship left port. I am not aware that any compass-book has been kept on board. I kept the log, and, I consider, correctly. I have not much experience in keeping such books, but in this case followed the rules of the *Akitsu-shima*. The barometer is not accessible to the chief officer. The captain used to give me the distance daily. (Witness failed to explain why the columns for distance, deviation, etc., were not filled in.) The captain said it was unnecessary for him to sign the log-book, the chief officer's signature being sufficient. I had no access to the charts by which the ship was navigated. I never asked the captain to let me see them. He did not tell me the ship's position when I took charge of the deck on the 10th. On the night of the 9th it was blowing hard, thick and cloudy weather. At 8 the stars were visible. The course was set southward and westward till midnight. I was told so by the officer of the watch. During my evening watch on the 9th the ship's speed was about 4 knots through the water with four points lee-way. She was not steering, and was heading S.W. No canvas was set. When I took charge on the morning of the 10th, I saw a light bearing about W. by the bridge compass. The captain used to set the courses by that compass, which is the standard. He steaded the ship on a N.W. by W. course before going below. One quarter-master and a sailor were at the wheel: a quarter-master and a sailor were on the look-out in the bow. I estimated the light to be from 10 to 15 miles distant. I took its bearings when I came on the bridge, and again just as it disappeared in the fog. I took charge immediately I came on deck, after going forward to see if the mast-head light was burning. The captain ordered me to keep a N.W. by W. course, to keep her steady, and a good look-out. The speed was estimated, by patent log, about 7 knots. The third officer when I relieved him said he had seen Siriya-saki light and gave me the course. He made no remark about heaving the lead. No night order-book was kept. The standing orders were to keep a steady course, a good look-out, etc. The cargo was thrown overboard when she struck. I don't know why a bower anchor was not carried out. The sea was completely smooth; and it would have been possible to carry out a bower. The sea was not sufficient to endanger the boats. I made no suggestion at all: simply obeyed orders. We steamed full speed astern: hoisted all sail: the wind was about N.W.: got out a kedge about 2 cwt.: two lines were laid and bent on to the kedge, which was taken to the full length of the lines; and then hove away. These was a good strain on the lines. I believe the time was twenty-five minutes past 4. The light was bearing W. by S. about twelve miles off. We lost sight of it in the haze. I did not report losing sight of it to the captain. I thought it would clear again directly. There was no fog, only haze. I could not see the land. About a mile inland the land is high. There were no breakers: the ship's boats could land anywhere on the beach. The look-out quarter-master reported the land to me after I had seen it. When the ship struck I didn't touch the helm, but

rang "full speed astern." When the breakers were first seen I stopped her, and blew the whistle for the captain. The master had been on deck without rest or sleep for about thirty hours. He was much on the bridge. The log-book was written up by me the same day the vessel went ashore. I never checked the courses by the chart, but did not consider that it was impossible for the captain to make a mistake.

To Lieut. James—From 9 a.m. to 5.30 p.m. on the 9th the weather was very stormy, with wind from S.W. The vessel was heading N.N.W. falling off and coming up; the speed was 3 to 4 knots, and she was making about 4 points lee-way. The *Akitsu-shima Maru* would make four points lee-way going four knots an hour and with the wind abaft the beam. It was my watch when she was brought round on the other tack. The wind began to moderate about ten o'clock. Up to midnight the ship was not steering and making about 4 points lee-way.

To Captain Frahm—I had not access to the chart-room or barometer. You never refused me; but I didn't ask, knowing the experience of former chief officers. I might have had access if I had wished too. The light that I lost sight of at 4.25 in a haze bore about W. by S. $\frac{1}{2}$ S. I ascertained the bearing by the bridge compass. That would be 4 points on the port bow. I took the bearings as well as I could, although the weather cloth was up between the compass and the object, and do not know how much I may be out. The vessel's full speed in moderate weather would not be more than eight knots. When I said that she was going about seven knots on the morning of the 10th I meant seven or eight. I do not know whether one of your standing orders is, "If you see anything, or think you see anything, do not stand and look at it, but stop and reverse the engines if necessary, and if I do not then come on deck blow the whistle." I have had that order several times, but I do not recollect that it is a standing order. That is the reason why I did not include it in my description to the Court of your standing orders. It would have been difficult even with the lifeboat to get out a bower, when the vessel stranded; it might have been done on the port-bow. I am not aware whether you had any rest between Kinkasan and Miako. You had none during the blow.

At one p.m. the Court adjourned until 2 p.m.

On resuming Hans T. F. Moldt was examined. He said:—I hold a master mariner's certificate and have been second officer of the *Akitsu-shima* for 22 months. I keep watch from 8 p.m. to 12. Off Kinkasan the weather was rough and the wind strong. No observations were taken that day, I had not seen the ship's position marked on the chart. It was not pointed out to me. To my knowledge the captain was on deck for 48 hours, owing to the state of the weather. My watch on the morning of the 9th was from 8 to 12. It was blowing a typhoon. I do not remember how the ship was heading. The speed was from 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ to 3 knots. At night she was heading S.S.W. $\frac{1}{2}$ W. during the whole of my watch. The ship did not have any steerage way until 5 minutes to 12. I mean that she would not come up to the wind. The helm was hard a port all through my watch. She was making about 4 points lee-way. The wind was N. W., blowing strong till half-past ten when it began to moderate. The engines were going full speed. The sea was on the starboard quarter. There was no sail on the ship, which is schooner-rigged, with a top-sail fore-yard. The course was by the bridge compass that was steered by. It was set by the captain. I don't know what the deviation was during the night watch. If I had wanted to work up the true course, at midnight, I should have found it S.S.W. by W. The deviation-table was hung up in the chart-room. I never looked at it because I never went into the chart-room. The courses are entered in the log book after the watch is ended from the bridge compass. I did not enter the distances. I never took azimuths or amplitudes; but the sun very often. I had no chance to do so this last voyage. The weather was pretty clear at midnight; but no stars were visible; it was somewhat hazy. The captain was mostly on the bridge after the ship struck to get the boats ready. There was not very much sea: it would have not been possible to carry out

a bower anchor with the ship's boats; it was too heavy—about 2,200 lb. No attempt was made. I had not access to the charts of the ship, and never asked the captain to let me see them. I never laid off the position on the charts, nor worked up the ship's position by dead reckoning. After the ship struck and while standing by the *Akitsu-shima Maru* I never saw the light again. I did not look for it.

To Captain Frahm—From my former experience of the ship, I do not think that she was going more than from 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ to 3 knots on the morning of the 9th; I think certainly that she was not going more than 4. I never asked you to let me look at the charts or deviation table. If I had done so I suppose I might have seen them. Supposing that the boats were strong enough, when the ship had struck, to take out a bower anchor, even the lifeboat—the largest we had—would not have stood taking it in under the bow in the condition of the sea.

Thomas Williams, third officer, deposed:—I hold a temporary certificate, granted by Mr. Knipping. I could not pass my examination as second officer. I kept the watch from 12 to 4. During my last watch (on the 10th) the sea was rough but the wind had died away. I relieved the second officer, and got his orders for the course W.N.W. I do not know what the deviation was. The speed was about 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ knots. I guessed it. The captain was on the bridge the whole watch. The engines were slowed down about 4 o'clock, for a cast of the lead. One quarter-master and one sailor were on the look out on my watch: one quarter-master and one sailor at the wheel. The ship's head was put eastward at 4, when the captain ordered me to haul in the lead. The chief officer made my entries in the log, because I cannot write very well. At 4 o'clock I reported a light to the captain. I said it was Siriya-saki: and the captain said, "All right! I know it." As officer of the watch I could go into the chart-room at any time. I had no conversation with the captain as to position. I have never taken any observations on the *Akitsu-shima*. I saw the light when I went below. I don't know how it bore; but should think it was about four miles away. It was a big bright light, and I took it for Siriya-saki which it is very like. It was on the port quarter. I went to my room immediately I was relieved by the chief officer. The captain was on the bridge. I gave my relief no orders beyond the course. I had no conversation with him. No sail was set.

To Lieutenant James—The previous day in my watch the ship was hove to, and making pretty fair weather but some lee-way. She was too light not to make lee-way. The deepest I've seen her is 19 ft. 10 in.

To Captain Frahm—It took me about twenty minutes to get the deep sea lead ready for a cast, and five minutes to haul in the log—in all twenty-five minutes.

Captain Frahm explained that at this time the ship was slowed down and had her head put to the eastward.

Witness—I cannot take observations. The light when I first saw it was "a good bit up;" but I cannot say how many feet above the horizon. I couldn't see the horizon, but the light was a good height above the water.

Mr. Werner, recalled, to Lieutenant James—The light was about twelve miles away—a degree or two above the horizon. I did not see the horizon. On an ordinary fine night and an ordinary voyage, Siriya-saki may be seen at a good distance. Sometimes it shows high and sometimes low. I thought this light was Siriya-saki. I did not think we were getting too close to the land, although the ship was going at eight knots and N.W. When the light disappeared I did not think it necessary to call the captain, as I expected the light to appear again directly.

Captain Frahm asked the Court whether it would kindly request the attendance of the captain or officer in charge of the deck of the *Takasago Maru*, who saw the same light as that referred to subsequently to the wreck of *Akitsu-shima*.

The Court, after promising to consider the matter, adjourned until 9 a.m. next morning.

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 13TH, 1883.

On the opening of the Court, Captain Frahm asked permission to recall the third officer.

The President informed him that his request would be considered later on.

Rodger Hamilton, late Chief Engineer of the *Akitushima Maru*, said—I hold a Chief Engineer's Certificate, No. 64, and have been Chief Engineer of the vessel for about five months. The engineers' watches were:—third 12 to 4; second 4 to 8; first 8 to 12. The *Akitushima's* nominal horsepower was 200. On the 9th of October the weather was bad: the skylight was down; and the engine-room door was closed. All the Engineers were more or less on constant duty for two days until 9 o'clock on the night of the 9th instant. Two nights before stranding we had to stop for two minutes on account of a hot crank-pin. There was nothing else wrong. From the time I left Yokohama the only conversation I had with the captain was about driving the ship as much as I could, on account of the gale. That is all, to the best of my recollection. The engines were reduced before stopping on the 10th of October between 3.40 and 3.58 a.m.—eighteen minutes. With that exception we went, as far as we could, at full speed. On the morning of the 10th the weather was fine from midnight. The vessel was stopped from 3.58 to 4.02, when the engines went astern until 4.05, and then full speed ahead. The revolutions were 52 per minute. Shortly after noon on the 6th, the engines began to race and only stopped racing on the 9th at midnight. At 4.45 a.m. on the 10th I stopped the engines, and then went astern till 5 a.m. when they were finally stopped by the Captain's orders. I presume because it was useless to continue. I suggested to the captain that pumping out the after tank would be the best chance of getting the vessel off. That was done: it took about three hours to pump the tank out. We only pumped out the one tank. Pumping out the two would have left the vessel in the same position as she was. It would take five or six hours to pump out the two tanks. The after tank contains 133 tons: the forward 95. I cannot give any opinion as to the speed of the ship on the morning of the 9th: the engines were racing too badly. On the morning of the 10th the speed was about nine knots. I do not think it was possible to get the ship off with the engines alone. At 10.18 a.m. the fires were extinguished. The water first came in aft, from the tunnel. It came into the engine-room through some damage to the ship's bottom. The water-tight door and sluice-bars were closed. My cabin was situated about two feet aft of the engine-room. I heard the telegraph. I was in my cabin. The third engineer put the engines astern. I got to the engine room immediately. During the bad weather, for two days, I was almost constantly in the engine-room—until the night before striking—only leaving occasionally to take my meals.

To Mr. Macnab—There was no counter in the engine-room. I arrived at the revolutions by the engineer timing the engine hourly with a watch. During the bad weather I had no means of taking the revolutions; the engines were racing too badly. The pitch of the propeller is, I believe, 19.5: the slip about 10 per cent. The slip is more when the ship is dirty than when clean: more in stormy weather and a head wind than when fair. I got the distances I have entered in the log from the captain; to whom at noon daily I reported the revolutions.

Paul Helm, late third engineer of the *Akitushima*, was next questioned. He said:—I hold no certificate. On the morning of the 10th of October I was on watch from half-past four to five. The average revolutions were 53. I was in the fire-room. The steam pressure was 56. About ten seconds elapsed before the engines went astern from the time the telegraph rang. I reversed them. They went astern for about 15 minutes. I felt no shock, as I was working the engine at the time the ship struck. In a minute after the bell rang, the chief and second engineer were down below. I saw water coming in through the tunnel, which was a water-tight one. I do not know exactly what time the fires were put out. We all remained below till the water drove us out. At first the water came in slowly: afterwards very rapidly.

To Mr. Macnab—We always kept a log slate in the engine-room. I counted the revolutions every half hour, and put them down on the slate. (Referred to the log book.) The entries "revolutions

various" for my watch were made by the chief engineer from my statement.

To Captain Frahm—By the tunnel being "water-tight," I mean that it was not in connection with the after-hold. I have the impression that it was not; but never examined it. No water came in through it before we struck.

To Mr. Hamilton—The ship was making (referring to the log), when she struck, 52 revolutions—not 53 as I said before.

Mr. Hamilton, with reference to the engineer's log, remarked that he had had to write it under great difficulties during the storm.

Lieutenant James explained that what the Court wanted specially to arrive at was the speed of the ship during the voyage, and there appeared to be nothing in the deck-log, or the engine-room log, or anywhere else to show that.

At this stage the Court was cleared for a few moments.

On re-opening the President announced that the Court, having deliberated on Captain Frahm's request to recall the third officer, had decided that, as there had been an adjournment for one day, it would not be advisable to take further testimony from him.

Captain Frahm was then recalled by the Court and asked, among others, the two following questions:—

What reason do you assign for not consulting with your officers in reference to the navigation of the ship, especially after the dirty tempestuous weather of the 8th, 9th and 10th of October?

Having taken the entire navigation of the ship upon yourself, never having consulted with your officers, why, after the first bearing, did you not remain on deck sufficiently long to take a second bearing of the light, and then mark her correct position on the chart and ascertain if the course already shaped was a correct one?

He replied:—My chart-room is on the main deck below the bridge, two or three feet forward of the bridge. My cabin is aft. I generally use the chart-room to lie down in at sea. I did not consult my officers even after the dirty, tempestuous weather of the 8th, 9th, and 10th, because if they had differed in opinion from myself I should still have thought it my duty to keep to my own opinion as I was the responsible person. Having taken the entire navigation of the ship upon myself, and not having consulted with my officers, when I had first taken the bearings of the light seen on the 10th, I did not remain on deck to take a second bearing, because after consulting the chart I was sure and satisfied that it was the Siriya-saki light, and made certain that, even if the distance were less than half that I judged, the course would still be clear of all dangers. I looked at the light through a glass. The bridge screens are about 31 feet high, and are not fitted with corner pieces. The compass is amidships. It is protected by another screen, about six feet high from the bridge, and extending for two feet on each side of the pole on which the pole-compass is fixed. This screen reaches about six points on each bow from the compass. The helm was kept hard a starboard all the time from 9.30 a.m. to 5 p.m. on the 9th. The ship is two-masted and schooner-rigged. At that time, if it had been possible to set the main trysail, she would have been brought nearer the wind. It was not set because I knew it would blow away instantly. Any trysail would have blown away. We had no storm main trysail: only a main staysail, which we bent and set on the 8th. The helm was hard a port from 5.30 p.m. till a few minutes before midnight on the 9th. The lee-way was ascertained by judgment. I could see the ship's wake about a ship's length astern. I instructed the chief engineer on the 8th, when the wind had increased so that the ship would not steer, to drive her as hard as he could with safety. I did not ask him what speed the ship was making. The speed was reduced for a short time, by my orders, on the 9th for soundings only. After the ship struck I sounded round her myself, in a boat for three or four hours. I also sent the second officer. Soundings were taken by me to a distance of a cable and a half from the vessel. Shortly after she struck she was making water so rapidly that I knew it would be useless to transfer cargo from aft forward. Assistance arrived from the shore about eight o'clock in the morning, when boats came to save cargo. At noon we had laborers from shore to help us on board to discharge cargo. The vessel was laden in Yokohama under the direction of the

chief officer. I had ordered how she should be trimmed. The purser had said we should have 500 tons of cargo. I therefore told the chief officer to stow the heavy cargo aft and to fill the forward tank. We arrived in Yokohama one morning and had to leave the next. The mate acted as he was told; but as the weather was bad, he was informed at night by the purser that he would not receive all the cargo spoken of. I then told him to fill the after tank, so that the propeller should be immersed. I considered the vessel safe even in typhoon weather when six feet down by the stern. The cargo was 50,000 bricks and about 220 tons measurement goods. I have only my chart to remind me of courses and distances. I decline to say whether I consider the chief officer or second officer capable of taking command of the ship in case of my being disabled. (The witness was pressed on this question but would not answer it.) I had confidence in my officers to a certain degree. In thick or rainy weather I preferred to be always on deck myself. I had no certainty of the ship's position at midnight on the 9th. I could have seen land at least three miles away at that time. I turned the ship's head seaward when about to sound to make sure that she would not drift into danger—as a precautionary measure, in case I found myself on soundings. I laid the bearing and distance of the light, when I saw it, on the chart, and allowed less than the presumed distance. I had not complete confidence in my first officer when close to danger. I would trust him within two or three miles of the land. Had I been on deck when the light was lost sight of I should have immediately turned seaward.

The Court adjourned at noon in order to endeavor to procure the attendance of the Japanese witnesses who were on deck at the time of the disaster.

Wednesday, November 14th, 1883.

Nakashiyo Chojiro was examined, after due caution to speak the truth. He said:—I was a seaman on board the *Akitushima Maru*, and was on deck on the morning of the 10th of October. The weather was not very good until about 5 a.m. I was at the wheel, and had been on deck an hour from 4 to 5. I saw a light which I took for Siriya-seki. I so took it on account of the bad weather prevailing for four days and this light showing up. Both the quartermaster at the wheel and myself saw it; but did not hear it reported. It was the general belief on board that the light was Siriya-seki; but I did not hear the quartermaster say that it was. I have seen Siriya-seki Light twice at night. It is a red one. The light now alluded to was red when first seen: it disappeared. I knew it was a red light, because I could see that it was of a red color. It disappeared about half an hour after I had first seen it. I saw the land immediately afterwards. The vessel struck before the land was seen.

The chief officer was recalled, and the interrogatories and answers of the last witness were read. Neither the chief officer nor the captain had any questions to ask this witness.

The chief officer was then re-examined by the Court. He said—The light was white. The exact time of the ship striking, as given from the engine-room, was 4.45. I should say from 15 to 20 minutes elapsed from the time of losing the light to the ship's striking. I should think the vessel ran about two miles from the time the light was lost to that of striking.

This closed the evidence, and the Court reserved judgment.

His Majesty the Mikado, being pleased with the establishment of a German School in Tokyo, has announced his willingness to grant an annual subsidy of yen 2,400 for the next ten years.

Thirty-eight students have graduated at the Dendrological School and received certificates of competency.

According to the Custom Returns, the total amount of exports and imports during the month of September last were as follows:—Exports yen 3,064,477.077; imports yen 2,401,627.917; excess of exports yen 662,849.17; export duty yen 116,936.383; import duty, yen 111,333.46.—*Hochi Shimbum*.

LATEST TELEGRAMS.

[REUTER "SPECIAL" TO "JAPAN MAIL."]

London, November 10th.

FRANCE AND CHINA.

The Minister of Marine and Colonies has asked for a Supplementary Credit of nine million francs for the Tonquin Expedition.

THE DISTURBANCES IN SERBIA.

The Radical leaders have inaugurated disturbances in Belgrade.

Later.

The revolt is extending.

The Servian troops have captured the insurgent position at Kalafat.

London, November 11th.

FRANCE AND CHINA.

In a speech at a banquet at the Guildhall, M. Waddington particularly emphasized the non-aggressive policy of France.

In reply to M. Waddington's speech, Mr. Gladstone expressed his sympathy with France.

MADAGASCAR.

The settlement of the Madagascar affair is confirmed.

London, November 14th.

REVOLUTION IN MADAGASCAR.

It is reported that a revolution has broken out at Antananarivo, the capital of Madagascar.

The Prime Minister has been murdered, and the Malagasy Envoys strangled.

London, November 15th.

THE INSURRECTION IN SERBIA.

It is officially announced that the insurrection in Belgrade has been suppressed.

(REUTER'S TELEGRAMS.)

London, 2nd November.

The Hovas have offered to treat with the French and preliminary negotiations have commenced.

London, 3rd November.

THE FENIANS.

There have been two explosions on the Underground Railway, and several persons were injured. It is attributed to the Fenians, and a reward of £1,000 is offered for the discovery of the perpetrators.

London, 5th November.

The French Minister of Foreign Affairs has left Paris and been replaced by the President of the Council of Ministers.

NOTIFICATION NO. 36 OF THE COUNCIL OF STATE.

It is hereby notified that the fourth term of the payment of the land-tax, promulgated by Notification No. 14 in the 14th year of Meiji (1881), has been altered as follows:—Fourth term commencing on the 1st of February, ends on the 31st of March during which period five per cent. of the land-tax is payable.

By Imperial Command.

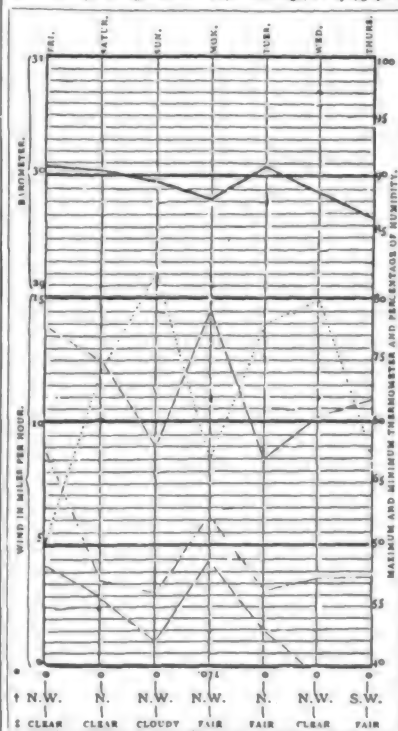
SANJO SANEYOSHI,
Prime Minister.MATSUKATA MASAYOSHI,
Minister of Finance.

November 10th, 16th year of Meiji (1881).

METEOROLOGICAL REPORT.

FOR WEEK BEGINNING FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 9TH, 1883.

Observatory of Daigaku, Moto-Fujicho, Hongō, Tokiyo, Japan.



REMARKS.

Heavy line represents barometer.

Light continuous line—maximum and minimum thermometers.

Dashed line—represents velocity of wind.

Dotted line—percentage of humidity.

The barometer is reduced to the freezing point and to the level of the sea.

* Rain in inches. † Direction of Wind. ‡ Weather.

Maximum velocity of wind 20.5 miles per hour on Friday at 6 p.m.

The highest reading of the barometer for the week was 30.079 inches on Friday at 11 p.m., and the lowest was 29.603 inches on Thursday at 3 p.m.

The highest temperature for the week was 68.7 on Monday, and the lowest was 58.8 on Wednesday. The maximum and minimum for the corresponding week of last year were 63.8 and 57.3 respectively.

The total amount of rain for the week was .071 inches, against 1.843 inches for the corresponding week of last year.

TIME TABLES.

YOKOHAMA-TOKIO RAILWAY.

The Trains LEAVE YOKOHAMA Station at 7.30, 8.45, 9.30,* 10.15, and 11.30 a.m., and 1.00, 2.30, 4.00,* 5.00, 6.15, 8.00, 9.15, and 10.30† p.m.

The Trains LEAVE TOKIO (Shinbashi) at 7.30, 8.45, 10.00,* 10.45, and 11.30 a.m., and 1.00, 2.30, 4.00,* 5.00, 6.15, 8.00, 9.15, and 10.30† p.m.

Those marked with (*) run through without stopping at Tsurumi, Kawasaki, and Omori Stations. Those with (†) are the same as above with the exception of stopping at Kawasaki Station.

UYENO-KUMAGAI RAILWAY.

The Trains leave UYENO at 7 and 11.30 a.m. and 4 p.m., and HONJO at 6.30 and 11 a.m. and 3.30 p.m.

The Fares are:—Special-class (Separate Compartment), yen 2.35; First-class, yen 1.40; Third-class, yen 70.

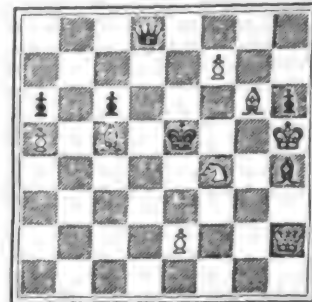
YOKOSUKA STEAMERS.

The Yokosuka steamers leave the English Hatoba daily at 8.15 and 10.45 a.m., and 12.30, 3.00, and 4.15 p.m.; and leave Yokosuka at 7.00 and 9.45 a.m., 12.15 m., and 2.00 and 4.00 p.m.

CHESS.

By W. H. TAYLOR.

BLACK.



WHITE.

White to play and mate in 4 moves.

MAIL STEAMERS.

THE NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From Shanghai, } per M. B. Co. Thursday, Nov. 22nd.*
Nagasaki, &
Kobe }
From Hongkong. per P. & O. Co. Saturday, Nov. 24th.†
From America ... per P. M. Co. Tuesday, Nov. 27th.‡

* Left Shanghai on November 14th. † Zambesi left Hongkong on November 16th. ‡ City of Tokio left San Francisco on November 7th. The Canina (with English mail) left Hongkong on November 11th.

THE NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For Hongkong ... per P. M. Co. Monday, Nov. 19th.
For Kobe per K. U. Co. Monday, Nov. 19th.
For Hakodate ... per M. B. Co. Tuesday, Nov. 20th.
For Shanghai, }
Kobe, and } per M. B. Co. Wednesday, Nov. 21st.
Nagasaki ... }
For Europe, via
Hongkong ... per M. M. Co. Saturday, Nov. 24th.
For America ... per O. & O. Co. Tuesday, Nov. 27th.

The arrival and departure of mails by the Occidental and Oriental, the Pacific Mail, and the Peninsular and Oriental Companies, are approximate only.

VESSELS ON THE BERTH.

Breconshire, for London via ports—Quick Despatch.—Adamson, Bell & Co.
Flintshire, for London via ports.—Quick Despatch.—Adamson, Bell & Co.
Cairnsmuir, for New York via Suez Canal—Quick Despatch.—Smith, Baker & Co.
Canton, for New York via ports—Quick Despatch.—Adamson, Bell & Co.
Oceanic, for San Francisco—27th November.—O. & O. S. S. Co.
Tokio Maru, for Shanghai and ports—21st November, at 4 p.m.—Mitsu Bishi M. S. S. Co.
Venice, for New York, via Suez Canal—Quick Despatch.—Smith, Baker & Co.

SHIPPING IN YOKOHAMA.

STEAMERS.

Breconshire, British steamer, 1,325, J. Thomas, 12th November, — London via Hongkong, General.—Adamson, Bell & Co.
City of Rio de Janeiro, American steamer, 3,548, R. R. Searle, 17th November, — San Francisco 24th October, Mails and General.—P. M. S. S. Co.
Godavery, French steamer, 1,049, Du Temple, 14th October, — Hongkong 7th October, Mails and General.—Messageries Maritimes Co.
Mensaleh, French steamer, 1,273, B. Blanc, 12th November, — Hongkong 7th November, Mails and General.—Messageries Maritimes Co.
Tokio Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,146, R. Swain, 15th November, — Shanghai and ports, Mails and General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S. S. Co.

LATEST SHIPPING.

FREIGHTS.

No improvement to note in freights, and business on the smallest scale. The German bark *Peter*, which sailed on the 15th instant with a cargo of wheat for Amoy, got only 10 cents per picul, but that does not represent the rate at this port, as the vessel was chartered on the other side. For London via ports, the *Flintshire* sailed on the 10th instant from Kobe. The *Canton* and *Breconshire* occupy the berth, the former for New York and the latter for London. The bark *Sagitta* for Havre and London left this to-day.

ARRIVALS.

Alma, American schooner, 45, Brassey, 10th November,—Kurile Islands, Furs.—J. D. Carroll & Co.
Kanagawa Maru, Japanese bark, 1,150, Eckstrand, 10th November,—Nagasaki via Kobe, Coals.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.
Breconshire, British steamer, 1,325, J. Thomas, 12th November,—London via Hongkong, General.—Adamson, Bell & Co.
Mensaleh, French steamer, 1,273, B. Blanc, 12th November,—Hongkong 7th November, Mails and General.—Messageries Maritimes Co.
Onoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 104, Sugimoto, 12th November,—Fukuda, General.—Fukudasha.
Otago, British schooner, 46, Evalt, 12th November,—Kurile Islands, Furs.—Captain.
Volla (6), French gunboat, Captain Fournier, 12th November,—Kobe.
Yoshino Maru, Japanese steamer, 120, Tamura, 12th November,—Yokkaichi, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.
Seirio Maru, Japanese steamer, 459, Nirei, 13th November,—Yokkaichi, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.
Takasago Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,229, C. Young, 13th November,—Hakodate via Oginohama, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.
Shidauoka Maru, Japanese steamer, 334, Nakai, 14th November,—Shimidzu, General.—Seiriusha.
Kairio Maru, Japanese steamer, 270, Amano, 14th November,—Handa, General.—Seiriusha.
Kenjin Maru, Japanese steamer, 230, Masuda, 14th November,—Yokkaichi, General.—Kowyekisha.
Ross, Russian schooner, 53, Wilson, 14th November,—Kurile Islands 8th November, Furs.—R. Clarke.
Shinagawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,169, J. E. Kilgour, 14th November,—Kobe, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.
Seikai Maru, Japanese steamer, 102, Narita, 15th November,—Toba, General.—Seiriusha.
Tokio Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,146, R. Swain, 15th November,—Shanghai and ports, Mails and General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.
Shima Maru, Japanese steamer, 800, Okuma, 15th November,—Kobe, General.—Kiyodo Unyu Kwaisha.
Taganoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 448, Matsu-moto, 15th November,—Yokkaichi, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.
Iso Maru, Japanese steamer, 748, J. Efford, 16th November,—Hakodate 13th November, General.—Kiyodo Unyu Kwaisha.
Kiyokawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 62, Imado, 16th November,—Shimidzu, General.—Seiriusha.
Onoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 104, Sugimoto, 16th November,—Fukuda, General.—Fukudasha.
City of Rio de Janeiro, American steamer, 3,548, R. R. Searle, 17th November,—San Francisco 24th October, Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.

DEPARTURES.

Hiogo Maru, Japanese steamer, 896, R. N. Walker, 10th November,—Hakodate via Oginohama, Mails and General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.
Horai Maru, Japanese steamer, 407, Tokuda, 10th November,—Kobe, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.
Okame Maru, Japanese steamer, 148, Ichishima, 10th November,—Handa, General.—Handasha.
Saiko Maru, Japanese steamer, 180, Ichi, 12th November,—Toba, General.—Seiriusha.
Seirio Maru, Japanese steamer, 459, Tamura, 10th November,—Yokkaichi, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.
Shidauoka Maru, Japanese steamer, 334, Nakai, 10th November,—Shimidzu, General.—Seiriusha.
Sumanoura Maru, Japanese bark, 715, Spiegelthal, 12th November,—Nagasaki, Ballast.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.
Taganoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 448, Matsu-moto, 12th November,—Yokkaichi, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.
Cairnsmuir, British steamer, 1,123, G. L. Castle, 13th November,—Kobe, General.—Smith, Baker & Co.
Genkai Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,914, G. W. Conner, 14th November,—Shanghai and ports, Mails and General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.
Kowyeki Maru, Japanese steamer, 63, Omura, 14th November,—Yokkaichi, General.—Kowyekisha.
Seisho Maru, Japanese steamer, 210, Isoda, 14th November,—Tsuchisaki, General.—Seiriusha.
Shidauoka Maru, Japanese steamer, 334, Nakai, 14th November,—Shimidzu, General.—Seiriusha.
Takasago Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,229, C. Young, 14th November,—Kobe, Mails and General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.
Toyoshima Maru, Japanese steamer, 946, Thomas, 14th November,—Niigata, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.
Yoshino Maru, Japanese steamer, 401, Isami, 14th November,—Yokkaichi, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.
Peter, German bark, 311, H. Möller, 15th November,—Amoy, Wheat.—J. E. Collyer & Co.
Tolomi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,198, James, 15th November,—Fushigi, via Kobe and Baku, General.—Kiyodo Unyu Kwaisha.
Shinagawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 908, J. A. Kilgour, 15th November,—Kobe, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.
Tsuisai Maru, Japanese steamer, 432, Toyama, 15th November,—Hakodate, General.—Un-sosha.
Kamtchatka, Russian steamer, 702, Ingman, 16th November,—Kobe, General.—Walsh, Hall & Co.
Kenjin Maru, Japanese steamer, 230, Masuda, 16th November,—Yokkaichi, General.—Kowyekisha.
Niigata Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,097, Hubbard, 16th November,—Hakodate, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.
Taganoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 448, Matsu-moto, 14th November,—Yokkaichi, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.
Kiyokawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 62, Imado, 16th November,—Shimidzu, General.—Seiriusha.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per British steamer *Breconshire*, from London via Hongkong:—Messrs. Penney and True in cabin.
 Per Japanese steamer *Yoshino Maru*, from Yokkaichi:—77 Japanese.
 Per French steamer *Mensaleh*, from Hongkong: Messrs. Richter, Dinger, and 3 Sisters for French Convent in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Onoura Maru*, from Fukuda:—12 Japanese.

Per Japanese steamer *Takasago Maru*, from Hakodate via Oginohama:—Messrs. Vercoe, Teterniowski, Jancewick, and 6 Japanese in cabin; and 70 Japanese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Seirio Maru*, from Yokkaichi:—60 Japanese.

Per Japanese steamer *Shidauoka Maru*, from Shimidzu:—30 Japanese.

Per Japanese steamer *Kairio Maru*, from Handa:—12 Japanese.

Per Japanese steamer *Kenjin Maru*, from Yokkaichi:—32 Japanese.

Per Japanese steamer *Shinagawa Maru*, from Kobe via Oo-sima:—Captain Geo. Withers, Messrs. Olsen, Reid, Caswell, and Scott, crew of the wrecked steamer *Kworio Maru*, and 119 Japanese.

Per Japanese steamer *Tokio Maru*, from Shanghai and ports:—Governor Tanabe, Governor Nishimura, Governor Chida, Governor Seki, Governor Ishida, Lieutenant Barroll, U.S.N., Mrs. J. C. Hepburn, Mrs. Potter, Mrs. Ripsley, Messrs. C. Kleinwachter, Klempermyer, T. B. McIntyre, Fonscaint, Crappoun, Trub, E. C. Kirby, Takasuji, Isa, Masuda, Harima, Itagaki, Katsuke, Kugawa, Hashimoto, Asami, Takagi, Toda, Kuhara, Suyenohira, Fukushima, Tanaka, Ito, and F. Ito in cabin; and 1 European, 4 Chinese and 282 Japanese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Iso Maru*, from Hakodate: Governor and Mrs. Tokito, and 7 Japanese in cabin; and 100½ Japanese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Kiyokawa Maru*, from Shimidzu:—31 Japanese.

Per American steamer *City of Rio de Janeiro*, from San Francisco:—His Excellency Terashima, Dr. W. Van der Heyden, His Excellency Hong Yong Sik, Korean Embassy, Mrs. A. E. Stevens, Messrs. C. D. Hoffman, Edward R. Jenkins, H. Gechow, A. Jack Hill, N. Mess, Percival Lowell, T. Sameshima, Hamano, T. Miyakawa, Woo Li Tang, Cheu Kwong Lok, Ko Yong Coe, and Hy On Heung in cabin. For Shanghai: Rev. C. R. Mills, and W. Uperoff in cabin. For Hongkong: H. T. Creswell, and Oscar Jackson in cabin; and 639 Chinese in steerage.

DEPARTED.

Per British steamer *Cairnsmuir*, for Kobe:—Mr. Trew.

Per Japanese steamer *Genkai Maru*, for Shanghai and ports:—Sir Sydney and Lady Waterlow, Colonel Mamiya, Colonel Tomohira, Mr. and Mrs. Sneekner, Mr. and Mrs. B. Smith, Mr. and Mrs. C. Hannen, Miss Hannen, and Mrs. Hannen's maid, Mrs. B. A. Valentine and 2 children, Mr. and Mrs. Aguirre, Mrs. Dithlefsen, 2 children and maid, Madame Boudon, Mrs. Mitsunaga, Mrs. Akabane, Miss Crocker, Miss Palmer, Messrs. F. Stokes, O. Munch, J. D. Carroll, R. Lyall, J. D. MacKintosh, R. Millar, S. Samuel, Inouye, Riya, and Hayashi in cabin.

CARGOES.

Per French steamer *Mensaleh*, from Hongkong: Treasure, \$69,000.00.

REPORTS.

The Japanese steamer *Niigata Maru*, Captain J. C. Hubbard, reports leaving Kobe on the 13th November, at 5 p.m. with variable winds and fine weather on the first part to Oo-sima; thence strong easterly winds and fine weather. Arrived at Yokohama on the 14th November, at 10.30 p.m. Passed the British steamer *Cairnsmuir* off Ovari Bay.

The American steamer *City of Rio de Janeiro*, Captain Robert R. Searle, reports leaving San Francisco on the 24th October, at 3.15 p.m. with strong winds, heavy sea, and a low area of low barometer throughout the whole passage. Passed Cape King on the 16th November, at 5.30 p.m. Arrived at Yokohama on the 17th November, at 8 a.m.

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

During the past week the previously reported stagnation has continued, and with scarcely any fresh business, quotations are nominally unchanged.

COTTON YARNS.

| | PER PICUL. |
|----------------------------------|------------------|
| Nos. 16 to 24, Common to Medium- | \$25.00 to 28.50 |
| Nos. 16 to 24, Good to Best - | 29.25 to 30.00 |
| Bombay, No. 20, Good to Best - | 25.25 to 28.50 |
| Nos. 28 to 32, Common to Medium- | 30.50 to 31.50 |
| Nos. 28 to 32, Good to Best - | 32.00 to 35.00 |
| Nos. 38 to 42 - | 35.00 to 37.50 |

COTTON PIECE GOODS.

| | PER PIECE. |
|------------------------------------------------|----------------|
| Grey Shirtings—8½, 3½ to 39 inches - | \$1.70 to 2.15 |
| Grey Shirtings—9½, 3½ to 45 inches - | 1.92½ to 2.40 |
| T. Cloth—7½, 24 yards, 32 inches - | 1.42½ to 1.50 |
| Indigo Shirting—12 yards, 44 inches - | 1.55 to 1.70 |
| Prints—Assorted, 24 yards, 30 inches - | 1.10 to 2.40 |
| Cotton—Italians and Saleens Black, 32 inches - | 0.07 to 0.09 |
| Turkey Reds—2 to 2½, 24 yards, 30 inches - | 1.15 to 1.35 |
| Turkey Reds—2½ to 2½, 24 yards, 30 inches - | 1.35 to 1.55 |
| Turkey Reds—3½, 24 yards, 30 inches - | 1.70 to 1.82½ |
| Velvets—Black, 35 yards, 22 inches - | 5.90 to 6.75 |
| Victoria Lawns, 12 yards, 22-3 inches - | 0.65 to 0.75 |
| Taffetas, 12 yards, 43 inches - | 1.75 to 2.05 |

WOOLLENS.

| | PER PIECE. |
|----------------------------------------------------|----------------|
| Plain Orleans, 40-42 yards, 32 inches - | \$3.80 to 5.35 |
| Figured Orleans, 39-41 yards, 31 inches - | 3.25 to 4.00 |
| Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches - | 0.18 to 0.28 |
| Mousseline de Laine—Crape, 24 yards, 31 inches - | 0.15½ to 0.16½ |
| Mousseline de Laine—Itajime, 24 yards, 31 inches - | 0.18½ to 0.26 |
| Mousseline de Laine—Yuzen, 24 yards, 31 inches - | 0.30 to 0.37½ |
| Cloths—Pilots, 54 @ 56 inches - | 0.30 to 0.40 |
| Cloths—Presidents, 54 @ 56 inches - | 0.40 to 0.50 |
| Cloths—Unions, 54 @ 56 inches - | 0.30 to 0.55 |
| Blankets—Scarlet and Green, 6 to 5½, per lb - | 0.35 to 0.40 |

IRON.

| | PER PICUL. |
|---------------------------------|----------------|
| Flat Bars, ½ inch - | \$2.50 to 2.90 |
| Flat Bars, ¾ inch - | 2.80 to 3.00 |
| Round and square up to ½ inch - | 2.80 to 3.00 |
| Nailrod, assorted - | 2.35 to 2.60 |
| Nailrod, small size - | 2.85 to 3.15 |

KEROSENE.

Sales during the week have been 16,500 cases, and deliveries 16,000 cases. The Market is weak at the following prices.—

| | PER CASE. |
|----------|-----------|
| Devos - | \$1.67 |
| Comet - | 1.64 |
| Stella - | 1.50 |

SUGAR.

The commodity is firmly held for the following prices, but the market for all grades is very dull on account of buyers holding back. All the late receipts have gone into godown, but the Stock on hand is not large.

| | PER PICUL. |
|-----------------|----------------|
| White, No. 1 - | \$8.25 to 8.30 |
| White, No. 2 - | 6.75 to 7.00 |
| White, No. 3 - | 6.30 to 6.40 |
| White, No. 4 - | 5.75 to 5.90 |
| White, No. 5 - | 4.70 to 4.90 |
| Brown Formosa - | 4.25 to 4.30 |

EXPORTS.

SILK.

There has been only a moderate business during the week, and Settlements for that period do not exceed 600 piculs of all descriptions. At one time purchases had almost ceased, but there has been more disposition to buy the last few days at a reduction on former quotations. Export to date is 16,194 bales, against 11,952 bales to same date last year, and the outgoing *Khiwa* is expected to take a fair quantity. Direct shipments on native account have been exceptionally heavy both to Europe and America by recent steamers; but in spite of this outlet Stocks are increased to nearly 6,000 piculs. Prices are not strong and actual purchases would probably make a still further impression on quotations given herewith.

Hanks.—There is now more disposition to operate in these at reduced rates. Among recent sales we note Tomiyoka \$490, Annaka \$440, Hachoji \$415; Shinshu sorts are in demand at the present low rates.

Filatures.—Not very much doing in these at present, buying for the American mail not having yet commenced in earnest. We note transactions at \$610 in best No. 1—fine size—tailing off to \$600 and \$590 according to quality. In coarse kinds the principal business has been in Medium to Common at \$540 down.

Re-reels.—Small business in these, hardly sufficient to test the Market. Good Maibash, like Katsuyama and Five Girl, are obtainable at \$575 or thereabouts.

Kakeda.—Moderate purchases have been made on basis of \$530 for Niwatori, with Common at \$510, Chocho might be got at \$575.

Hamatsuti.—Some little passing at about former prices. *Sodai* a parcel noted at \$410. *Nambu* good has been done at \$395.

QUOTATIONS.

| | |
|-----------------------------------|--------------|
| Hanks—No. 1½ - | \$430 to 490 |
| Hanks—No. 2 (Shinshu) - | 475 to 490 |
| Hanks—No. 2 (Joashu) - | 465 to 470 |
| Hanks—No. 2½ (Shinshu) - | 455 to 465 |
| Hanks—No. 2½ (Joashu) - | 440 to 450 |
| Hanks—No. 3 - | 430 to 430 |
| Hanks—No. 3½ - | 400 to 410 |
| Filatures—Extra - | 610 to 620 |
| Filatures—No. 1, 10/13 deniers - | 600 to 605 |
| Filatures—No. 1, 14/16 deniers - | 590 to 600 |
| Filatures—No. 1½, 14/17 deniers - | 575 to 585 |
| Filatures—No. 2, 10/15 deniers - | 570 to 580 |
| Filatures—No. 2, 14/18 deniers - | 560 to 570 |
| Filatures—No. 3, 14/20 deniers - | 540 to 550 |
| Re-reels—No. 1, 14/16 deniers - | 580 to 590 |
| Re-reels—No. 1½, 14/17 deniers - | 565 to 575 |
| Re-reels—No. 2, 14/18 deniers - | 550 to 560 |
| Re-reels—No. 3, 14/20 deniers - | 540 to 550 |
| Kakedas—Extra - | 600 mom'l |
| Kakedas—No. 1 - | 565 to 575 |
| Kakedas—No. 2 - | 530 to 540 |
| Kakedas—No. 3 - | 500 to 510 |
| Oshiu Seesai—No. 2½ - | 470 to 480 |
| Hamatsuki—No. 1, 2 - | 465 to 475 |
| Hamatsuki—No. 3, 4 - | 420 to 440 |
| Sodai—No. 2½ - | 410 to 420 |

TEA.

The tone of our Market has improved since the date of last report. Settlements amount to 1,725 piculs chiefly of the lower grades. Prices have consequently advanced, and at the close are steady at quotations given below. Supplies from the country come in slowly, and Stocks amount to only 4,100 piculs.

QUOTATIONS.

| | |
|---------------|--------------|
| Common - | \$10 & under |
| Good Common - | 11 to 13 |
| Medium - | 15 to 17 |
| Good Medium - | 18 to 20 |
| Fine - | 23 to 25 |
| Finest - | 28 & up'ds |

EXCHANGE.

Rates have declined during the week, and the business transacted been on a small scale. There have been few Settlements of Bank Paper, and quotations at the close are steady.

| | |
|-------------------------------------------|--------------|
| Sterling—Bank Bills on demand - | 3/8½ |
| Sterling—Bank 4 months' sight - | 3/9 |
| Sterling—Private 4 months' sight - | 3/9½ |
| Sterling—Private 6 months' sight - | 3/9½ |
| On Paris—Bank sight - | 4.68 |
| On Paris—Private 6 months' sight - | 4.80 |
| On Hongkong—Bank sight - | 1/2 o/o dis. |
| On Hongkong—Private 10 days' sight - | 1/2 o/o dis. |
| On Shanghai—Bank sight - | 73 |
| On Shanghai—Private 10 days' sight - | 73½ |
| On New York—Bank Bills on demand - | 90 |
| On New York—Private 30 days' sight - | 91 |
| On San Francisco—Bank Bills on demand - | 90 |
| On San Francisco—Private 30 days' sight - | 91 |

KINSATSU QUOTATIONS.

The following table shows the rate of the day, and the fluctuation during the past week:—

| | |
|--------------------------------|------|
| Monday, November 12th | 107 |
| Tuesday, November 13th | 109 |
| Wednesday, November 14th | 108½ |
| Thursday, November 15th | 108½ |
| Friday, November 16th | 111 |
| Saturday, November 17th | 112 |

IMPORTANT NOTICE.

SMALL CAPITALISTS, wishing to establish a business, should see if there is an opening for a Mineral Water Manufactory in their District. All information and recipes for the purpose of making Lemonade, Soda Water, &c., is given, previous knowledge is not necessary. The demand for these drinks is so much on the increase in all parts of the world, that the outlay for the machinery in all cases leads to a profitable and safe business. Catalogue forwarded free, on application to

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May 1st, 1883.

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in his account of his extraordinary travels in China, published in 1871, says—"I had with me a quantity of Holloway's Ointment. I gave some to the people, and nothing could exceed their gratitude; and, in consequence, milk, fowls, butter, and horse feed poured in upon us, until at last a tea-spoonful of Ointment was worth a fowl and any quantity of peas, and the demand became so great that I was obliged to lock up the small remaining "stock."

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|------------|-------------|------------|-----------------|
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JOSEPH GILLOTT'S STEEL PENS. 1878.

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Printed and Published for the PROPRIETOR, at 72, Main Street, Settlement, by JAMES ELLACOTT BEALE, of No. 106, Bluff, Yokohama.—SATURDAY, November 17, 1883.

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No. 30, VOL. I.]

YOKOHAMA, NOVEMBER 24TH, 1883.

[\$24 PER ANNUM.]

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The Japan Weekly Mail.

"FAIS CE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL," must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith. It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 24TH, 1883.

DEATH.

At 41, Tsukiji, Tokijo, on the 19th November, GRACE MARTHA, only daughter of the Rev. W. T. White, aged 3 years and 7 months.

WEEKLY NOTES.

On Sunday last there occurred in this Settlement a disturbance of unusual magnitude. The parties principally concerned were Russian sailors and jinrikisha coolies. A number of the former were assembled on the English Hatoba waiting for man-of-war's boats to take them off at the expiration of their furlough, when one of their comrades arrived by jinrikisha. The new comer was more or less intoxicated, and so, it appears, were the majority of those on the Hatoba. A dispute arose about the fare, and the sailor attempted to escape without satisfying his jinrikisha-coolie's demands, whereupon the latter seems to have seized the former's cap as a hostage. What happened after this is not exactly clear. A general *milie* took place between the liberty-men and the coolies, and the trouble was rather aggravated than quelled by the interference of the police, who were not

in sufficient force to deal with rioters so numerous and so violent. Several men on both sides were severely injured, notably a sailor who was stabbed in the back, and Sergeant James, an European constable, whom a Russian knocked down with a stone. The disturbance was finally brought to a termination by some Russian naval officers who succeeded in getting their men into the boats. The chief reflection suggested by the fracas is that similar affairs are always possible in this Settlement. It is obvious that if fifty or sixty liberty-men take it into their heads to commit an outrage or to be the violent assertors of their own fancies, there is not, there cannot be, in a petty sea-port town, any police force capable of restraining them. To what dimensions a riot like that of last Sunday may at any moment attain, none of us can pretend to prophesy. Russian sailors do not enjoy an enviable reputation, but we doubt whether they are much worse than the sailors of any other nation. At all events whatever moral distinctions may exist, are not likely to survive the levelling effects of the liquor sold in Yokohama grog-shops—liquor which is subject to no sort of examination and whose retailers are free from every restraint other than the insensible prickings of a publican's conscience. In 1881, when the Russian squadron was at Nagasaki, strange accounts reached us of the liberty-men's doings, and after every allowance had been made for the exaggeration of rumour, it was plain that the peace and order of the port were virtually at the mercy of these boisterous holiday-makers. Here, too, from one to three hundred men may come ashore any day to disport themselves, and once ashore, they represent a temporarily uncontrollable force, capable of wrecking half the Settlement before any competent authority could cope with them. Fortunately such things do not occur, because the men are generally orderly and good-humoured, but the possibility is always before us. The experience of last Sunday may at any moment be repeated on a larger and much more disastrous scale. The obvious inference is that ships allowing a large number of men to go on furlough should be obliged to provide for the discipline of the sailors while on shore. Elsewhere it is customary to send an armed picket with instructions to see that the liberty men behave in an orderly way, and though such a measure must be preceded, in the case of a foreign port, by the permission of the local authorities, that permission could easily be obtained here. Even if steps were taken to remove the ridiculous and childish ob-

structions which render the efficient exercise of municipal control impossible in our Settlement, it would still be to the advantage of Japanese and foreigners alike that the duty of dealing with riotous English, Russian, or French sailors should be undertaken by the men's respective nationals.

The riot of last Sunday offered another illustration of the strange tendency existing in this Settlement to abuse and condemn the Japanese police. There is no reason whatsoever to suppose that the police behaved improperly in the fracas at the Hatoba. They certainly used their batons, but it was in self-defence, as the severe injuries they themselves suffered at the hands of their opponents amply testify. The statements of the Russian sailors are not yet before the public, and it would, therefore, be premature to form any opinion as to the origin of the disturbance, but there is sufficient testimony to show conclusively that police interference was imperative and that the Russians resented it with reckless violence. Doubtless if the police had not interfered they would have escaped a good many wounds and contusions, but they would have received, instead, a chorus of abuse for inefficiency and partiality, and in this instance the condemnation would have been just. The police, however, are not popular with the "patriotic" element of Yokohama. Nothing Japanese is popular, and it would have been quite inconsistent with the traditions of this class had last Sunday's disturbance been suffered to pass without hostile criticism. We were not surprised, therefore, when, at the investigation held by the Russian Consul, one of the witnesses, describing himself as a newspaper proprietor, endeavoured to lay the whole blame on the shoulders of the police. This person's evidence was very sensible and far-seeing from his own point of view. But its effect was somewhat marred by the extravagant demands it made upon public credulity. Few human beings outside a nursery will be found to believe that the police proceeded to arrest a Russian sailor because he had "accidentally struck a Japanese coolie with a piece of orange skin," and that they followed up the proceeding by "brutally assaulting" the man's comrades. Yet this revelation was subsequently repeated in another form by apparently the same witness under the *alias* of "an independent spectator," who commenced by declaring that "an unjustifiable assault was perpetrated on a body of Russian seamen," and then went on to describe the condition of the seamen with admirable ac-

curacy:—"They had consumed a quantity of the poison sold them as spirits, too potent even for these hardy sons of the north," and had "become more or less irresponsible for their actions," nevertheless, "so far as a casual spectator could judge, they were as tractable as such a body of men on such an occasion could be expected to be:" all that they did was to throw oranges, crackers, bread, etc., and "while this harmless play was in progress," the Japanese police attempted to arrest some of them, whereupon a free fight ensued. Up to this point "independent spectator," was consistent enough, but he now went on to say that "the trouble had its origin in a dispute between a jinrikisha-coolie and a spectator," whereas, before, it was the police who arbitrarily attempted to arrest men engaged in harmless play. We do not doubt that this witness was quite as capable of appreciating facts as "such a man on such an occasion could be expected to be," but for the sake of his reputation as a story-teller we could wish that he had not published his latest experiences, or capped his history with the verdict that "had the police refrained from interfering with a lot of men in the condition in which the majority of these obviously were," nothing extraordinary would have happened. What condition that was, we are at a loss to divine. It was a complicated condition at all events—the condition of men who "had consumed a quantity of poison too potent for them;" who were "more or less irresponsible for their actions;" who were nevertheless "as tractable as could be expected," and who were obviously in a state not warranting police interference. It is well that the public should be amused, but on no other grounds can we explain the freak of throwing open newspaper columns to such a fabulist as "independent observer." "Another eye-witness" does not command greater confidence. He, too, thought "the whole affair could easily have been stopped at the start had it not been for the unwarranted proceedings of the police, whom he saw with his own eyes provide jinrikisha coolies with stones and brickbats with which to attack sailors." Wonderful eyes they were, those of this observer. They enabled him to see everything that happened to Sergeant James so accurately that Sergeant James himself contradicted him in every detail. Let us not be understood as seeking to cast doubts on the honesty of either "an independent spectator" or "another eye-witness." We do not in the smallest degree question these gentlemen's sincerity, but we do distinctly charge them with bias. Were it not the fashion in this Settlement to ridicule and abuse the police, such versions of an easily understood affair would never have been offered to, or accepted by, the local press. Whether the police are good or bad is not the question. It is, whether they get fair play, or whether the treatment measured out to them is any sense worthy of an intelligent community.

It is the custom when posting sentries or placing policemen on their beat to provide them with a

schedule of instructions for their guidance. The practice, we understand, has not been neglected even in Yokohama, though, as the local press constantly assures us, the police there are like the cat's tail in the proverb, their presence and their absence are equally inconsequential. Whether well or ill carried out, however, the instructions themselves, in the form to which they have gradually been reduced, are worthy a moment's study. Epitomized, they run thus:—"To check dishonesty and to arrest thieves but to remember that each house in the foreign Settlement is an inviolable sanctuary for law-breakers: to seize all offenders against municipal regulations unless they are foreigners or Japanese within the limits of foreign compounds: to see that sanitary and hygienic arrangements are duly carried out, but on no account to enter the precincts of foreign residences for that purpose: to prevent everything calculated to offend decency and public morality, but to be very circumspect in molesting offenders against one or the other since the majority of them are armed with foreign certificates which place them beyond the reach of Japanese control: to remove whatever impropriety disfigures the environs of the Settlement, but to be exceedingly careful that the process does not extend to places where residents of note, officials and private persons alike, are wont to enjoy their hardly earned recreation: to exercise a rigid supervision over grog-shops but on no account to examine the quality of the liquor sold there or interfere in any way with the conduct of their proprietors: to arrest all drunken disturbers of peace and order unless they happen to be liberty men who by imbibing poison too strong for them have become "more or less irresponsible for their actions," and are "obviously not in a condition to be interfered with:" to arrest or otherwise check all jinrikisha coolies who by offering their vehicles to foreigners are guilty of the implied insult that the latter are not competent to ask for what they want; and, above all, never in any way to interfere with the rights which individual foreigners may conceive themselves or their *employés* entitled to exercise, since the observance of Japanese municipal regulations by Western residents is purely a matter of courtesy." It is understood that these instructions are not yet complete. The course of daily events and the comments they evoke, constantly suggest new additions. Japanese intelligence, however, or to be more explicit, the degree of intelligence which consents to be associated with a baton on a beat, is finite, and apprehensions are beginning to be entertained that the supply may prove inadequate to the demand unless some limit is imposed upon the latter.

THE Korean embassy has returned and will conclude its mission by a somewhat protracted stay in Japan. The public is still ignorant of the purpose of H.E. Min Yong-Ik's visit to the United States. And this ignorance is likely to be permanent unless the public consents to accept the only reasonable version of the affair, namely, that the Ambassador and his suite went

westward with no more serious intent than Lord Bateman avowed when he "shipped himself all aboard of a ship some foreign countries for to see." Yet to the last the American journals kept up the farce of accrediting the peninsular statesman with weighty business. Each day their readers were informed of the visits the Ministers paid to public buildings and other miracles of civilization; of the discussions they held with their attachés, of the notes they took and of the questions they asked. Only, amid all this curiosity and comment, the Great Min Yong-Ik himself held firm to the object of his journey, and "directed his interest to the execution of the duty assigned him by his Sovereign." This manifest steadfastness to a mysterious purpose raised the diplomatic *débütant* many degrees in public estimation, and environed him with all the halo of reverence that encircles official mystery. As a pleasant set-off to his awe-inspiring self-restraint, we have the ingenuous prattle of the other members of the Embassy, their astonishment at everything they saw, culminating when they found themselves in the hotel at San Francisco, with its "lofty ceiling supported by such slender pillars; its great clean white walls; its sunlight which, shining through large window-panes, turned the pillars and white walls into a light pink colour; its elegantly decorated cornices; its rich furniture and table-appointments; its wonderfully beautiful women and strong-figured, wise-faced men; and, above all, its black waiters, whose great white shirts made their faces very black and their eyes an unearthly white." On these things the travellers were always glad to discard, and their interest in Indians and Indian relics seems to have been unbounded. In the presence of the electric light they became practical. "In Japan" said the attaché, Mr. Yu Kil-Chun, "we saw some electrical apparatus, but could not be told what electricity was, though we were left to understand that nobody knew, and that it was a force controlled by devils and not surely under human control. We learn, however, from what we see of its use in America, that it may, like water, be poured from vessel to vessel, and is controlled and used in safety." Later, having observed the inferiority of gas, as shown by a street gaslight standing close to an electric light, Mr. Yu remarked:—"We will begin with the electric light in Korea. In America you have demonstrated that the electric light is cheaper and better than the lights of gas and kerosene, and therefore we need not make the experiment. We will begin where you have arrived." When Mr. Yu gets home he will doubtless make a requisition upon the State strong-box (of which the Commissioner of Customs keeps the keys), for money to buy electric lights, and before long visitors to Seoul will be able to examine the evidences of that city's opulence and cleanliness by the strong illumination of a thousand-candle Brush burner.

Questioned on the subject of printing, the Envoy is reported to have said:—"We have type in Korea, but no printing presses. More

than two hundred years ago a king of Fah Chosun made a great number of iron types, and since then such type have been used in our country." To which statement the *New York Herald* adds the following:—"The type spoken of are those of Chinese characters as shown in several books brought with the Embassy from Korea. That Koreans should have invented movable iron type at so early a date is a remarkable fact when it is considered that such type were never invented by the Chinese or Japanese, those in use in China and Japan at present having been first made by European missionaries since 1830." As might have been expected, the New York journalist gets out of his depth the moment he ventures into Chinese or Japanese waters. The Korean statesman's account of his countrymen's invention of movable metal types is over-modest. It is now well known, chiefly through the researches of Mr. Earnest Satow, that such types were used in Korea 470 years ago. The whole account of the invention and its first employment is given in the *Transactions of the Asiatic Society of Japan* (Vol. X. Parts I. and II.). But it also known that the Japanese, too, possessed movable metal types at the beginning of the seventeenth century. Their own antiquarians speak of a much earlier date (1394), and having regard to the intercourse between Korea and Japan, it is difficult to suppose that any invention appreciated by the former could have long remained unknown to the latter. But it is at any rate certain that, whether imported from Korea or invented in Japan, a considerable quantity of movable metallic type was in stock in Yedo at the beginning of the seventeenth century, while of block-printed books there are examples dating as far back as 1157.

On the happily vague authority of "it is generally understood," but yet with a certain show of assurance and conviction, the *North China Daily News* forecasts a number of impending changes in the Japanese Cabinet. Mr. Mori, now representing Japan in England, is to have the portfolio of Foreign Affairs, its present holder, Mr. Inouye, going to Washington. Admiral Yenomoto, now at Peking, is to succeed Mr. Mori, while Mr. Takezoye, Minister at Sôul, is to proceed to Peking. Our readers will remember that these changes were announced some time ago by a vernacular journal, and it would appear that our Shanghai contemporary's informant derived his inspiration from the same source. So far as we have been able to ascertain, however, the only basis of the rumour is Mr. Terashima's return from Washington, and that, as we have already explained, was necessitated by illness. Mr. Terashima's health is seriously impaired, and some apprehension exists that he will not be able to resume duty anywhere for a considerable period. Mr. Mori's return from London has been talked of for some time, but we are in a position to say that even that is not yet determined, still less the name of his successor.

NOTES.

On the 3rd of October, the sale of tickets for the first series of Henry Irving's performances in New York was opened at the theatre selected for his appearance. Tickets for separate representations, the price of which is \$3.00 each, were reserved for future disposal. For the entire succession of evenings, twenty-four in number, \$60.00 are demanded,—a singularly moderate sum, considering the enormous expense incurred by Mr. Irving in carrying his complete company, stock of scenery, etc., to America. In fact, this fee is simply the equivalent of what is nightly required for stalls at the regular performances in the Lyceum; and is only one half as much as the charge during Edwin Booth's memorable season with Irving. At first sight it would appear that the visitor from England must inevitably lose money; but all danger on that score is doubtless averted by the superior "holding" qualities of the American theatres. No London play-house, even with the four or five tiers of the old pattern, can seat nearly as many spectators as the average New York establishment, with its three divisions. This is chiefly owing to the absence of boxes, which in England occupy disproportionate space, and accommodate comparatively few auditors. Moreover, when the seats are all taken in a British theatre, the house is filled,—the lobbies and passages being totally unavailable. Theoretically this is the more correct system, but a dozen practical reasons could be bought forward in favor of the freer and more open style of construction. The latter is an enormous advantage to the manager, when he has a good entertainment to offer, for it often happens that nearly if not quite as many as those who sit, will be content to witness the proceedings standing. The consequence is that the receipts are usually twice as large in America as in England. A "two hundred pound house," in London, is greatly above the average. Only the most powerful "stars" can draw such, continuously. In New York, a nightly return of \$2,000, is not extraordinary, when the attraction is of the highest class. The inspiring effect, upon the actors, of audiences like those which gather on especial occasions in America, can hardly be realized by players whose experience has been confined to the older country. Irving has had wonderful triumphs, and enjoyed "receptions," at home, more enthusiastic than have been accorded to any other British actor of the time; but he never knew what it was to have a greeting like that which awaits him from the New York community. The hearty spirit of American hospitality would ensure that, under any circumstances; but the remembrance of his courtesy and true comradeship toward Booth, when the latter was in grief and trouble, will intensify the warmth of his welcome a hundred-fold.

We have spoken of the theatre "selected" for Irving, but in point of fact there was probably little choice. Few of the New York managers could afford an opening to so costly an *entour-*

age as that of the distinguished English star. Mr. Wallack, the *doyen* of his calling, happens to have two houses, from one of which he personally withdrew a few years since, finding it too far "down town,"—that is, too near the business part of the city,—although when built, twenty years before, it was the uppermost place of amusement on Manhattan Island. This he now gives up to occasional visitors. Under ordinary conditions its position might be considered a drawback; but the exceptional circumstances of Mr. Irving's advent removes this disadvantage. It is not one of the largest of New York theatres; but at the prices fixed, it will seat \$3,500, and contain \$5,000. If the visitor can be sure of even \$3,000 each night in New York, whereas the limits of his London house prevent his taking much above \$1,000, he will have no financial reason to regret his foreign tour. Of course the figures just mentioned represent only the legitimate receipts,—the amount with which Mr. Irving's treasurer will have to concern himself, when each night's business is over and done with. The actual sum paid for tickets, at least the first few representations, will be nearer \$12,000 than \$5,000. The band of brigands known as "ticket speculators" have taken measures to secure the whole body of seats, with the expectation of retailing them at prodigious profit. It is alleged that no degree of precaution can prevent this abominable imposition. The sale opened, as has been said, on October 3rd. Throughout the previous day, the large iron gateway of the establishment was besieged by hired men and boys, waiting for the first places in the *queue* of purchasers. These were paid thirty cents an hour or \$5.00 for a day and night. Most of them slept on camp-chairs provided by their employers. At nine o'clock on the morning of the 3rd, the doors were opened, and the line of approach was formed. At the proper time, each supposititious applicant would yield his place to the real buyer. It was announced that no individual should be allowed more than ten season-tickets; but this rule was easily circumvented, and it is known that one adventurous investor secured upward of \$10,000 worth. Altogether, on this opening day, the sales were 511 in number—amounting to \$30,660. Four-fifths of the buyers were speculators.

SOME weeks ago, reference was made in these columns to an opinion delivered in Boston, Massachusetts, by Justice Nelson, of the U.S. Circuit Court, in the case of a ship-carpenter of Chinese descent, who was born in Hongkong, and to whom the law excluding Chinese laborers was therefore declared inapplicable. According to this decision, in which Justice Lowell of the same Court concurred, a native of Hongkong, being a British subject, is not liable to the provisions of an Act directed against Chinese immigration. Most persons, outside of California, will be surprised to learn that this simple and apparently sound conclusion has been set aside by Judge Field, of the U.S. Supreme

Court, sitting in banco with Judge Sawyer, in the city of San Francisco. Most persons, indeed, will be a good deal more than surprised at the learned Justice's ruling "that the fact of a Chinaman being born in Hongkong does not constitute him a British subject." That is a question, we should fancy, concerning which the view of the British Government might be supposed to take precedence over that of Judge Field. It is highly improbable that the point will ever be raised, but we are strongly inclined to believe that any individual of Chinese parentage, born in Hongkong since that island became an English possession, who should undertake to assert his privilege of admission to the United States, as a British subject, would be sustained to the fullest extent by the Government of Great Britain; and that this latest San Francisco decree would be found to have the precise value of a piece of waste paper. The several inane arguments by which Judge Field attempted to sustain his position hardly require examination, but as an example of what a professional logician may be reduced to when he sets out to propound a legal absurdity, we quote the following:—"The coming of Chinese laborers to the United States, without any limitation as to the countries from which they may come, is suspended." "In respect to the Restriction Act no consideration is deemed necessary to the position of other Governments regarding the Chinese within their borders." It is almost needless to say that this theory, if carried to its ultimate consequences, might produce the gravest international dissensions. The United States Government once deliberately invited war with Austria, in defence of the rights of a person of Hungarian birth, who had not—if memory serves us correctly—even become an American citizen, but had only declared his intention to be naturalized. On that occasion, Austria yielded;—as the United States would be required to yield if the pretence were made of sustaining the doctrine laid down in California,—provided that doctrine were boldly confronted and defied by anybody sufficiently interested to force the matter to a definite issue.

The question may reasonably be asked,—“What could have possessed a Judge of the Supreme Bench of the United States to risk his reputation and weaken the dignity of his office by so extraordinary an enunciation?” It is not for us to supply the answer; but by briefly describing the political attitude in which the learned gentleman now stands, we may enable readers to form their own opinions on the subject. Judge Field is one of that too numerous body of prominent American citizens who are inflamed with Presidential aspirations. He has long been a candidate for nomination, though never a nominee. He is without strength or influence in any other part of the country than the extreme Western States, and is unsupported by a single newspaper except the *Alla California*. It is openly proclaimed, we regret to say, that he has secured the advocacy of this sheet by serving, in his judicial capacity, certain local

interests on the Pacific Coast. This charge may, or may not, be true. It would be lamentable to see it verified. But of the facts that he is striving for the Presidency; that he has no following but in one or two Western States; and that the people of those States are as reckless in their animosity against the Chinese as he himself is in his struggles for the Chief Magistracy,—of these things there is no possibility of doubt. By the light which they afford, the decision reversing Judge Nelson's rational opinion may perhaps be accurately interpreted.

The career of a China-ware vendor in Shanghai seems to be exposed to vicissitudes. A few days ago, one of these gentlemen was quietly carrying his wares along Foochow Road when a foreigner coming along, gave him a shove which produced fatal effects among his crockery. The pedlar, laying down his load, followed his assailant to ask for redress which he received in the shape of half a dozen sound strokes from the other's cane. Satisfied with this, he was about to resume the fragments of his load when a policeman appeared upon the scene, and to him the injured man exposed his wrongs. The policeman was a person of quick resolution. He immediately began to abuse the pedlar “in the foulest language,” and told him that unless he wished for a good clubbing and to be locked up, he had better take himself off at once, which advice the China-vendor wisely followed. The details of this interesting scene were communicated to the *North China Herald* by a Chinese correspondent, who explains that had the policeman followed the foreigner, “he would have himself received a good caning or whipping” at the latter's hands. This Chinese gentleman—a remarkably good English scholar, apparently—takes occasion to regret that the scheme of importing Sikhs to police Shanghai failed. He says that the Chinese constables only enforce municipal regulations against those whom they do not care to offend, and that the Superintendent of Police has acquired a reputation which exercises a deterrent effect on Chinese complainants. Native residents of Shanghai are evidently becoming dangerously exalted. They begin to imagine that Chinamen are included in the application of the principle, “all men are equal before the law.”

The *Mainichi Shimbun* has a report of a banquet given by the Japanese Chamber of Commerce at Pusan, Korea, whereat the principal guests were officials, including Mr. Robert, commissioner, and other officers, of the newly organized Korean Customs Service. The event was on the 26th of October, and its principal incident appears to have been an address by Mr. Yamada, President of the Chamber. He reminded the convives that eight years had elapsed since the conclusion of the Commercial Treaty between Japan and Korea in the ninth year of Meiji, and that during the interval the condition of trade had not been altogether decrepit. Meanwhile no duty had been imposed

upon either imports or exports. Hence the Treasury was neither benefited nor the reverse, whether trade declined or prospered. This, thought the speaker, was the real cause why Korean officials failed to recognize the benefits of international trade, which they regarded with invidious eyes. It was regrettable that a Custom House had not been earlier established for the plenishment of the coffers of the Korean Government, which would soon become aware of the importance of international trade. He congratulated the Government upon the organization of a Custom House under competent and experienced officers. He was certain that they would spare no effort to promote the interests of foreign merchants. Mr. Robert replied, reciprocating the sentiments of Mr. Yamada, and affirming that, in accord with the instructions of his chief, Mr. Yamada, he would spare no effort for the encouragement of foreign trade.

The experiment of the new U.S. postal note, which was expected to serve as a convenient auxiliary to the money-order system, does not prove as satisfactory in operation as it appeared to be in theory. It was intended to simplify the transmission of small sums—less than five dollars—and to enable minor debts at a distance to be paid without the complicated formalities of the more familiar method. The law authorizing the use of postal notes was passed in the early part of this Congressional year, and went into effect in September. It provides that any applicant may purchase, at a money-order office, notes for amounts as high as \$4.99, for each of which a fee of three cents is charged. These are payable “to bearer,” at any duly specified office in the United States, “within three months from the last day of the month of issue.” No identification of the collector is required, his signature to the note alone being demanded. In case the period of payment should be allowed to go by, the note may be exchanged, either at the issuing office or that of liquidation, for a new one of similar value, at a further expenditure of three cents. The apparent advantage of the new expedient is its freedom from intricate details and its cheapness,—the cost of a regular money-order being nearly three times as large. When first proposed, and before it had been practically tested, it was hailed as an unquestionable public benefit; but after a month of trial, its efficacy begins to be doubted. A general call has arisen, if not for its abolition, at least for radical changes in its plan. The complaints appear, however, to be caused by carelessness on the part of the postal clerks, and by the insecure quality of the notes provided, rather than by any distrust of the scheme itself. Ordinary printing paper and common ink being used, the opportunities for forgery and alteration are abundant, and the few safeguards attempted are wholly insufficient to defy the manipulations of expert rogues. The blunders of country postmasters, moreover, are found to involve almost as much danger as the ingenious devices of counterfeiters. If the new system is to be continued, the Government will probably find it

necessary to recall all the blanks thus far supplied to the various offices, and replace them with more trustworthy forms. This will involve considerable expense, as no less than forty millions of blanks have been distributed. It will also be desirable, it is supposed, to dispense with the signature of the payee, on collection, and to allow the vouchers to be presented by any holder, at any money-order office in the Union. Then, it is anticipated, the postal notes will become really serviceable mediums of exchange.

If the withdrawal and destruction of this large number of forms is unavoidable, we shall have another instance of the singular lack of foresight displayed in the issue of U.S. Government tokens. Apart from the errors and imperfections detected from time to time in the paper currency, for which reasonable excuses could be offered, the examples of impracticable coinage have been sufficient to constitute a minor department of numismatic curiosities. Without much effort of memory we can recall discarded half-cents; three or four varieties of the three cent piece, neither of them entirely satisfactory; two cent and five cent pieces now nearly forgotten; two issues of silver dollars which are not tolerated by the community; and, latest of all, a five cent coin which in size, colour, and workmanship so closely resembled the standard five dollar gold piece that its circulation had to be summarily stopped within a month of its first appearance. For premature deliveries of this description, the U.S. Treasury seems to have an especial proclivity. It would be easier to understand them if it were not universally known that both the artificers of the Mint and the engravers of the Currency Bureau have, on occasion, produced work the design and execution of which their most artistic European competitors would have difficulty in rivalling.

THE *Mainichi Shimbun* gives the following particulars of the recent fire in the Miike Coal-mines:—On the 21st of September last, the convicts employed in the mine rose and set the oil cases (stored in the mine to be used for mining purposes) on fire. The flames immediately spread to the timber stacked in the vicinity and thence to the pits. At the time, there were over three hundred and fifty men working in the pits, including convicts and free laborers. Two hundred and eighty-three escaped, the rest were burned alive. No means for extinguishing the fire being available the pits were all closed; but in vain. The smoke from the Mitsuyama shaft ascended into the air to the height of 1,300 feet. There was no supply of water, or of engines either, for the matter of that, to flood the mines. Carbonic acid gas was freely pumped into the shafts with the effect of reducing the combustion below. The loss of mining machinery and the destruction of the coal beds is great. Three hundred tons of coal have been hitherto turned out daily from this mine. The expenses were about *yen* 1 to *yen* 1.50 for each ton of coal. But since the fire it has cost *yen* 2

to *yen* 2.50 to obtain the same amount. Hence the rise in value of the fuel in question.

FROM Tientsin a correspondent of the *Shanghai Mercury* writes that M. Tricou was leaving the Northern port on the 29th October:—"As far as is known Li Hung-chang has firmly refused all the propositions and demands of the French Minister, even Abbé Couraux's claims and Mr. Dillon's expenses to Manchuria and back." And, again, "Our Chinese friends inform me that the White Flags who have joined the Black Flags, have defeated the French troops, and that the Black and White flags have surrounded Hanoi, but *not taken it*. It is said that on account of this news China has assumed such a firm attitude towards France." The correspondent concludes by mentioning *an adit* "that the Emperor of Japan has invited M. Tricou to be a guest of his while passing through Japan."

THE Messageries Maritimes Company have now been running steamers to Melbourne and Sydney for some time. In a recent Sydney paper we find the following account of a race between the P. & O. steamer *Clyde*, and the M. M. steamer *Salasie*, both new boats, down Hobson's Bay:—"An interesting steamship race took place between the P.M.S. *Clyde* and the M.M.S. *Salasie*, from Williamstown to the Heads. Some time ago the P.M.S. *Shannon* and the *Salasie* had a similar race, the former winning. On this occasion the *Salasie* put off into the stream at about 1 p.m., and waited about half-an-hour for the *Clyde*. No sooner had the latter started than the *Salasie* put on steam and shot away at once, gaining the lead. Both vessels are regarded as exceptionally fine steamers in their respective lines, but the *Clyde* was heavily loaded, while the *Salasie* has discharged part of her cargo. It is pointed out that the rules of the P. and O. service forbid racing, and it is represented that the captain of the *Clyde* had no intention of anything of the kind; but it was noticed by persons who went down to the Heads on the *Clyde* that the vessel was going at a great pace, and was quivering with her powerful engines at work. The *Salasie* fully intended to race, and altered her time of departure, and waited for the steamer to start. Once under way, she gained perceptibly, and arrived at the Heads 20 minutes before the *Clyde*, the respective times being—*Salasie*, 4.10 p.m.; *Clyde*, 4.30 p.m."

WHILE the Parisians are discussing the possibilities of a war with China (says the Paris correspondent of the *Standard*), they are overlooking a very serious and much greater danger nearer home. The interviews between the German and Austrian Emperors, between Prince Bismarck, Count Kalnoky, and General Manteuffel, and between Prince Hohenlohe and the King of Italy, ought to have warned them that there was danger at hand far nearer home than China. Roumania, Servia, Italy, and Spain have now become members of the Austro-German Alliance, and I have reason to

believe that this alliance will very shortly have a practical result. It may not be next week or next month, but it will certainly not be long delayed when the German Government will take the initiative of a proposal which will have a startling effect throughout Europe. I am assured by a person whom I know to be in the confidence of Prince Bismarck that Germany has agreed with Austria and the other members of the alliance, which now embraces the whole of Continental Europe, excepting France, Russia, Denmark, and the Scandinavian Kingdoms, to propose a general Congress, with a view to a mutual and general disarmament. As to the time at which this thunderbolt of war is to be launched under pacific pretences I cannot say. But I am assured it has been assented to by Austria, Spain, and Italy, and I can hardly suppose that some inkling of the matter has not reached Her Majesty's Government. Some knowledge of it has certainly reached Russia, and it would render the *coup d'état* in Bulgaria intelligible enough. On the other hand, a Madrid correspondent telegraphs that public opinion in Spain has so strongly pronounced against any German alliance that the official organs have declared that King Alfonso's journey to Berlin and Vienna is not likely to lead to any treaty or alliance at present.

It seems scarcely necessary to contradict the story circulated by a Shanghai journal to the effect that M. Tricou, during his stay in Japan while *en route* for Europe, is the guest of His Majesty the Emperor. Having regard, however, to the exceptional nature of M. Tricou's recent mission to China, as well as to the part he is accredited with having played in the dispute between the latter country and France, we have thought it worth while to ascertain, by direct enquiry, whether any grounds whatsoever exist for such a rumour, and we are in a position to state, on the best authority, that our Shanghai contemporary is wholly misinformed.

In translations of notes from Japanese papers, published in the *Japan Daily Mail* of the 20th instant, was one of a paragraph in the *Hochi Shimbun* announcing that the corpse of a young man, supposed to be a student, had been found near Masago-cho, Hongo, Tokiyo, seamed with wounds, and close by him was a long sword. The *Hochi* of the 20th relates that the lad was murdered and that his assassin was arrested promptly after the commission of the foul deed, which was perpetrated on the 17th instant. The criminal is a paper-hanger employed in the Agricultural and Commercial Department, where the butchered lad was in service as a messenger. Matsumoto, for that is the name of the assassin, a man of thirty, had scraped acquaintance with his victim, whom he endeavored to persuade to steal all or as much as he could of the salaries of the officers of the Department, who are paid on the 17th of each month. Hatano Kinya, aged seventeen, stoutly refused to be a robber and a dupe, and was waylaid at night on his

way home and stabbed to death by his tempter. But this human fiend had only half finished his work. There was another young messenger, Nawasaburo by name, more susceptible to his influence, and who succeeded next day—when the murderer coolly returned to his work—in abstracting seventy-five *yen*, only twenty of which, however, he handed to Matsumoto. This latter expended the whole of the money swiftly; and then, fearing disclosures and consequences, caught his second victim unawares, stabbed him, and flung him into the Castle moat, near Kudan, whence he was rescued, still living, by the police. He confessed his own guilt and gave such information as led to the arrest of the murderer, who is now charged with his double crime.

REFERRING to a scheme for the employment of female doctors in India, the *Spectator* says that it is one of the few thoroughly sensible plans recently started by philanthropists, and seems likely to be a success. A sum of a £4,000 has been raised in Bombay, to guarantee salaries for two or three years to English ladies—one of them is Miss Pechey, M.D., a most successful student, who fought through the great Edinburgh fight—and £20,000 to start a native hospital for women; while in Madras, four ladies have been admitted to practise by the local Medical College. One of these is that remarkable woman, Mrs. Scharlieb, who came to England to perfect her medical education, and distanced all competitors at the London University. Lastly, Mr. Rivers Thomson, Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal—and we may remark, the firmest opponent of the Ilbert Bill—in a minute full of clear sense and sympathy for native suffering, has over-riden the opposition of the Council of the Medical College, and ordered the admission of female students, if qualified by general education. The number of entrances is certain to be large, and in a few years each of the Three Presidencies will have a staff of female doctors thoroughly familiar with the language and inured to the climate. They will reduce the sum of human misery far more than a dozen orders admitting lads with an English veneer on them to positions for which they are hopelessly disqualified. We are glad to notice also that the new doctors intend to make a business of their work, to claim fees from those who can pay, and to earn if they can good incomes for themselves. One fortune made by a woman as a doctor in Calcutta will keep the supply more regular than any amount of philanthropy in individuals, who after a few years die out.

WE learn with some surprise, from the columns of the *North China Daily News*, that the last Consular Trade Report for Yokohama has been omitted from the recently published Blue Book. Commenting upon this omission, our Shanghai contemporary says that, "without a report on the trade of Yokohama, the Commercial Reports from the Consuls in Japan are as incomplete as those from their brother officials in China, minus that from Shanghai;" and then proceeds to observe that, although the Report for

the Yokohama trade is doubtless a much lengthier document and requires longer time to prepare than those from the smaller ports, "the Consul at Yokohama might surely have completed his labours in time to have allowed his paper to appear with those of his colleagues." This is a little hard on the Consul for Yokohama, and at the same time argues a very uncharacteristic want of information on the part of our Shanghai contemporary. For surely the latter ought to know that the Kanagawa Trade Report was published months ago in the columns of the *Japan Mail*, as part of the series which goes home in pamphlet form every year from Her Majesty's Legation in Tokiyo. It is quite true, as the *North China Daily News* observes, that "business men have no time to throw away upon reports on trade a twelvemonth old;" and that "it cannot be pleasant to a Consul to know that his labour has been as good as lost." But with these facts in view our Shanghai contemporary behaves somewhat inconsistently when it proceeds, in November, to discuss Reports which were published here in June, and at the same time shows the Consul for Kanagawa that his labour has really been "as good as lost" so far as the Shanghai foreign press is concerned. If the *N. C. Daily News* will refer to the files in its own office, it will find that there was no delay on the part of the Kanagawa Consul, and that all the reports from Japan now embodied in the Blue Book were in the hands of the foreign mercantile community of China and Japan half a year ago.

THE feeling of mutual uneasiness prompting, as the telegraph has just informed us, angry polemics between France and Germany, receives practical demonstration in the former country's budget. The revised estimates show a deficit of 55 million francs, chiefly owing to the enormous military expenditure. Five hundred and ninety-three million francs is the sum appropriated for the two services, and of this amount the supplementary budget embraces three hundred millions, viz.:—110 millions for fortifications and war material; 11 millions for construction of ironclads; 140 millions for dockyards and canals; 3 millions for underground telegraphs, and 36 millions to cover the deficit in 1883.

THE *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* reports that, shortly after 7 a.m. on Tuesday, the 18th instant, an attempt was made by a man at Kanda, Konyacho, Tokiyo, to murder the wife of one of his neighbours. The woman's cries soon attracted a crowd of persons to the place, where the pavement, and the lintels of the house, were found spattered with hair and blood. The outrage arose out of a domestic squabble. The would-be assassin had some time previously met and quarrelled with his wife, who had abandoned him, leaving a number of children with him to support. He became desperate and commenced a search for his wife, with motives of revenge. Wandering about, he heard, issuing through the door of a house,

the voice of a woman which he mistook for that of his faithless consort. Bursting into the tenement he seized a woman by the hair, and drawing a dagger from his sleeve, inflicted several wounds upon her face and head. It appears that at the climax of the assault he discovered his error; for before he had effectually completed his bloody work he dropped his victim and ran away. The police are said to be on his track.

WE are informed that the state of the subscription lists for a testimonial to H.E. Sir Harry S. Parkes is as follows:—Hongkong, \$50; Shanghai, \$105; Nagasaki, \$99.50; Kobe, \$120; Tokiyo and Yokohama \$1,171; Total, \$1,645.50. The lists sent to London and New York have not yet been returned.

THE frequency with which new applications of the electric current is being recorded is evidently greatly in excess of the number which capitalists and others have perfected and introduced. The latest is exceeded in novelty, perhaps, only by Edison's phonograph, which, while it promised to revolutionize the art of recording vocal utterances, has proved of no practical value beyond exhibition purposes. Gentilli's glossograph, now at the Vienna Electric Exhibition, is a little instrument by which speech is automatically reproduced as soon as uttered. There is an apparatus which may be placed in the mouth of the speaker so as to come in contact with the roof, lips and tongue "without inconvenience," and which when connected with an electro-magnetic registering appliance "commits the sounds to paper." It reproduces the whisper as well as a shout, and works five times as rapidly as the fastest short-hand writer. It differs from the phonograph in depending on a law of acoustics, and the characters made in recording sounds are of a size to permit easy reading—that is, so soon as they have been translated. The *Pall Mall Gazette* expresses the view that a second instrument may be constructed to translate the characters of the glossograph into type-writing. The only essential to the successful operation of the glossograph is distinct articulation.

THE following curious story is taken from the latest issue of the *Kapunda Herald*:—"For some time past the telegraph line between Kapunda and Freeling has been working very badly, and repeated attempts to unravel the cause have proved unsuccessful. The evil increasing, Mr. Rutter, telegraph operator stationed at Kapunda, was on Tuesday, August 21, dispatched to closely inspect the line with a view to its remedy. After proceeding a few miles Mr. Rutter unexpectedly discovered the source of all the trouble. He found at the top of one of the telegraph posts a magpie's nest, in the building of which the bird had displayed considerable ingenuity. It had forcibly wrenched away with its beak the wire which bound the line to the insulator, and, after fixing the wire in a suitable position, had commenced to build its

future home. When it is remembered that it is impossible to unbind the wire without the use of pliers, the difficulties with which the magpie had to contend will be better recognised. There were eggs in the nest. Mr. Rutter removed the obstruction and repaired the line, which is now restored to its normal condition. On reporting the matter to head-quarters the authorities confessed themselves sceptical of the account given by Mr. Rutter, and suggested that that gentleman had discovered a mare's nest, not a magpie's. Mr. Rutter assures us that the facts as related by him are quite correct."

HOWEVER indefensible the conduct of the Parisian mob may have been during the King of Spain's brief and inharmonious visit to the gay capital, it did not altogether become the newspapers of England to denounce the French Government for failing to foresee and guard against the disturbances. *The Times*, in particular, held forth upon this subject in a tone of superior propriety calculated to convey the idea that such irregularities were possible only in France, and could never by any chance occur upon the tranquil and orderly soil of Britain. As a matter of fact, there is not a city in Europe where the vagabond element may not be found in sufficient force to set the laws temporarily at defiance; and riotous demonstrations against individuals obnoxious to the rabble have been at least as frequent in London as in any other metropolis. Unwelcome visitors from abroad have not been the only objects of popular disfavor. The impartial mob has been quite as ready to lavish its attentions upon domestic, as upon foreign, victims. The iron shutters of Apsley House stood for many years in testimony of the Duke of Wellington's disagreeable experiences, and if Mr. Gladstone does not resort to the same measures of protection, it is because he prefers the risk of an occasional extra glazier's bill to the permanent disfigurement of his residence. A complete list of London outbreaks during the present century would stretch to as great a length as any similar catalogue of continental uprisings. They have not generally been considered very harmful, and in some cases have actually tended to the public advantage, by giving timely warning of the necessity for political concessions too long withheld. But while they remain in common recollection, it is ridiculous for the leading journal to lay down police-laws for a neighboring community, and undertake to show wherein its preventive methods are defective. The London pot does not shine a bit brighter, in this respect, than the Parisian kettle; and it would puzzle an expert in weights and measures to determine the difference between the mote on one side of the Channel and the beam on the other.

There is one point, however, in connection with this over-criticized incident at Paris, which deserves consideration in this part of the world. It does not matter a particle, so far as the reputation of a city for good government is

concerned, whether the object of a vulgar assault is a King, or a body of police, or a squadron of cavalry. The unexpected outbreak has simply to be put down, as speedily as possible. But it matters a good deal for the character of the community in which the outrage occurs. It is the baseness and the cowardice of an attack upon a person who, from the nature of his position, can take no active step in self-defence, which will be remembered against the city of Paris, and not the inability of the local magistrates to prevent the demonstration. A monarch situated as the King of Spain was, during his visit in France, is entitled to all the privileges of honourable weakness, if we may so express it, and should be as naturally exempt from molestation, in every decent man's judgment, as a feeble woman or a helpless child. The creature who would thus take pleasure in insulting the Sovereign of another country would delight in beating his wife or making sport of the infirmities of age. This is the opinion of civilized humanity; and to the same sentiment we may trace the indignation and horror which thrill through the world when attempts are made upon the lives of rulers, rather than to a survival of the ancient spirit of blind, unreasoning loyalty. It is a wholesome conviction, and may be safely reckoned upon in most places where intelligence and enlightenment have made their way. To find it wanting in any community composed of representatives of European and American advancement, is by no means an agreeable sign. It would almost appear that, in some minds, any release from the legal and social restraints which prevail at home, awakens a latent propensity to licence and grossness. For it is undeniable that the tendency exists, both here and in China, among a considerable class, to exhibit an amount of coarse insolence and brutality toward those in authority which would neither be tolerated nor attempted in places under less imperfect control than these extra-territorialized settlements. Nowhere else are the military and civil functionaries of nations subjected to such ill-treatment by irresponsible aliens as in China and Japan. Here, in particular, we have seen the advisers of the Sovereign held up to obloquy by ignorant defamers, and the Sovereign himself made the object of vulgar and silly jests. The men who engage in this ignoble revelry are of precisely the same stamp as those who might be seen hooting at Alfonso's carriage, smashing windows in Carlton Gardens, or shrieking filth at their Queen, on Westminster Bridge. They know that those whom they assail are defenceless by reason of their station, and, believing themselves safe from punishment, they pursue their cowardly game, secure from the only consequences that would weigh with them. Thus it follows that we behold an order of beings, in the Far East, making it the business of their lives to practise a wantonness which the veriest dastards of Europe would be ashamed of, while a larger circle stimulates and encourages them in poltrooneries which every reflecting man knows to be mean, vicious, and degrading, not alone to those who get their livelihood by

them, but equally to those who supply the means of such basely earned subsistence.

THE 20th instant being the birthday of Her Majesty Queen Margherita of Italy, Her Majesty the Empress of Japan caused the following telegram to be forwarded to Rome:—

TO HER MAJESTY QUEEN MARGUERITE OF ITALY.

Accept my sincere congratulations upon the auspicious recurrence of Your Majesty's birthday. May Your Majesty enjoy continued prosperity and happiness.

HARUKO, EMPRESS.

Tokyo, Imperial Palace, November 20th.

The next day, the following reply was received in Tokyo:—

TO HER IMPERIAL MAJESTY THE EMPRESS OF JAPAN.

Deeply moved by the kind wishes of Your Majesty, I thank You most sincerely.

MARGHERITA.

Monza, Royal Palace, November 20th, 1883, 7.05 p.m.

This is the first occasion on which Her Majesty the Empress has addressed a similar congratulation to an European sovereign, and we trust that the happy precedent may be often followed in the future. Japan's recent history justly entitles her to feel that distance no longer bars her admission to the family of Western States and her sympathetic participation in the events of their histories.

It is not easy to see why the luxury of divorce should be more accessible or more sought after by Protestants than by Roman Catholics, yet such is certainly the case in Switzerland. In the Roman Catholic cantons, the number of divorces does not average one per cent. of the marriages, whereas in the Protestant cantons the maximum is 13, and minimum, 4, per cent. On the whole, Switzerland is essentially the land of divorce. Berlin is the only place that can compare with it. The compilers of statistics in the former country have shown pretty clearly that the confessional is in some degree responsible for conjugal disagreements. Their figures are thus:—in every hundred marriages, where both husband and wife are Catholics, the divorces only amount to 0.7; when both husband and wife are Protestants, the number is 2.8; when the husband is Catholic and the wife Protestant, 3.2, and when the husband is Protestant and the wife Catholic, 4.5.

A RECENT number of *Harper's Weekly* contains several sketches from the seat of action in Tonquin and Annam, the fidelity of which seems open to no question. As is almost invariably the case, even in literal reproductions of Oriental scenes, the peculiarities of landscape and architecture convey an impression of far greater picturesqueness than an inspection of the original would justify. The view of a street in Hué, the captured capital of Annam, presents similar general features to those of a busy, spacious thoroughfare in some Japanese town; but observers who are familiar with the region depicted are aware that its dirt, dilapidation, and squalid monotony have no parallel in this more thrifty empire. A temple of the same city is reproduced so as to indicate a certain ingenuity of design, but the eye accustomed to such struc-

tures, in South Eastern Asia, at once detects the shabbiness and insignificance of the reality. The port of Haiphong and a village rendezvous of the "Black Banners" suggest nothing distinguishable from the average type of Chinese scenery, and the only tolerably effective illustration is a group of the "Black Banners" themselves, apparently on picket service, but not particularly attentive to the duty of the hour. The central figure of this party fairly represents the ideal of a semi-savage Asiatic warrior, though he might perhaps be equally acceptable in the character of a gnome in a pantomime, or as a fiend of the supper scene in "Don Giovanni." Altogether, these first fruits of the pictorial correspondents in Tonquin are rather disappointing.

Wx have recently had occasion to speak in plain terms of the gross misrepresentations practised upon the American public in connection with the Japanese exhibits in the Foreign Exposition recently opened at Boston. The general ignorance concerning details of Japanese workmanship doubtless enables interested speculators to impose upon newspaper reporters to an extravagant extent; and we need not be overwhelmed with surprise at seeing the fantastic inventions of unscrupulous pedlars,—whose absurd fables are recited with every pretence of grave authority,—reproduced in journals which have no means of testing the information dealt out to them. But it is truly pitiable to find a person like Mr. J. J. Jarves, an expert and an acknowledged arbiter in questions of European art, allowing himself to be used as an instrument in these unworthy deceptions. Mr. Jarves has contributed to a New York periodical a series of articles upon the Exposition, signed with his own respected name, in the course of which Japan is frequently mentioned. Among his allusions the following is prominent:—

Japan makes, perhaps, the most conspicuous exhibit of all countries, being a governmental affair. It embraces both her ancient and modern art and industries, giving a complete view of her past and present civilization.

This was written and published some time before the Exposition was opened. It is reasonable to believe that Mr. Jarves had made no examination of the Japanese section, and accepted, without inquiry or scrutiny, such statements as were forced upon him by those who may have been most directly concerned in misleading the public. He is too experienced a connoisseur not to discover the true quality of the contributions from this country, when he comes to look at them, and he will then regret—a little too late, unfortunately—that he was led to characterize the display as a "complete view of her past and present civilization"—an announcement as remote from the truth as the assumption that it is "a governmental affair." The misfortune of such unwarranted statements is that, by awakening just suspicion, they throw discredit upon the entire exhibit, and possibly detract from the value of what it may contain in the way of genuine and meritorious productions,—of which we believe not a few have really been sent to Boston by private collectors.

THERE ought not to be much difficulty in determining whether adultery or contempt of court is the heavier crime, yet it appears that the ideas entertained upon this subject by some French magistrates do not accord with the vulgar theory. A gentleman of a somewhat humble rank, while serving a term of three years' imprisonment in the jail at Clairvaux, managed to discover that his wife was not entirely faithful to him during his absence. The lady and her lover, were cited before the Correctional Tribunal of Sainte-Menehould, whereupon the former, not only avowed, but vaunted her error. "Yes, Mr. President," she said, "I admit the charge, and I hope that the intimacy complained of many long continue. I cannot choose but love the man who raised me from the condition of a miserable beggar to be a happy woman; who took my baby out of the straw and gave it a comfortable bed; who clothed me when I was almost naked, and who has never failed to minister to my wants. My husband is a wretched thief: my lover, a brave and honest workman. It is not difficult to choose between the two." The Tribunal, unmoved by this reasoning, sentenced the woman to be imprisoned for three months and the man for six days. Thereupon the former raised her voice and denounced her judges, calling them a pack of bandits, and bidding them punish her as much as they pleased, but not commit the revolting injustice of imprisoning an innocent and noble man. The reply of the Tribunal was directed to the gendarmes, who laid hands on the lady and provoked her to utter fresh abuse. Ultimately she gave herself up to tears and silence, and the Tribunal proceeded to judge her second offence. A lawyer who was present took pity on the woman and pleaded her cause, urging that she ought not to be held accountable for conduct which was obviously hysterical. But the Tribunal, taking a different view, sentenced her to four months' imprisonment in addition to the previous penalty. It was thus established that impertinence to the Bench is a graver sin than adultery. The Parisian journals, however, refuse to accept this ruling, and earnestly call upon the President to exercise his right of pardon. It is to be hoped that he will do even more.

STRANGE instances of superstition crop up from time to time even in civilized Europe. A belief in the miraculous power of certain shrines seems, if possible, to be gaining ground, and the possibility of holding converse with the spirits of the dead is an article of active faith with many good folks. Faith in demoniacal possessions is, however, rarer, and the following well-authenticated case is worth nothing:—A young girl in the neighbourhood of Pratinolo, Italy, having the misfortune to be epileptic, the chief groom of Prince Demidoff, and a priest named Ranfagni, took it into their heads to exorcise the evil spirit that possessed her. They accordingly seized her and carried her to the shrine of the Madonna of Bocca di Rio, where, after the recital of numerous prayers, they saw

a brick in the pavement pushed aside and there emerged a black cat, which of course was the devil himself. The girl's fits, nevertheless, continued, and as it was plain that the whole family of evil spirits had not been driven out, the good father Ranfagni, confessing himself a defective *chasseur des diables*, summoned a colleague from Bologna, and the two have addressed to the archbishop of the diocese a petition praying for permission to proceed with the necessary rites of exorcism.

Wx learn that the Great Northern Telegraph Company's steamer *Store Nordiske*, now engaged in laying the submarine cable between Japan and Korea, has successfully completed the section between Yobuko (Kiushiu), and the Island of Iki. The progress of the work has been much interfered with by a continuance of very bad weather.

A *New York Sun* correspondent has been told by a revenue officer that as many as a thousand Chinese have already entered the United States from British Columbia since the passage of the Restriction Act.

THE American ship *Clarissa B. Carver*, Captain L. Dow, arrived at the anchorage last evening after a fine weather passage of 166 days from New York. The Captain remarks that he has not shipped a bucket of water on deck for over forty days. This vessel came by way of Australia, and seems to prove without a doubt that this route, although considerably further, is far preferable at this season of the year coming through the China Sea, where vessels have to contend with a strong adverse monsoon (N.E.), and are fortunate if they escape a typhoon or two, as is proved by the reports of vessels which have arrived of late by the latter route. The vessels seem to make better passages and avoid considerable heavy weather by coming the former route.

THE British bark *Cross Hill*, which arrived here yesterday from Cardiff, has had a long and tempestuous voyage. She had two men washed overboard and then washed back again, but the second officer was not so fortunate, being washed over the other side of the vessel, and was never again seen. The vessel's report will be found in the shipping column.

Wx are happy to learn that Mr. Lindau, the officer of the P. & O. steamer *Khiosa*, who was seriously injured on board that vessel on the 15th instant, while tallying cargo, is progressing favorably toward recovery under the skillful treatment of the surgeons of the General Hospital.

Wx hear that the schooner *Mary C. Bohm* was seized yesterday, immediately on her arrival in harbour, at the request of the Manager of the Chartered Mercantile Bank of India, London, and China; and that some litigation on the subject is pending before H.I.G.M. Consul, the nominal owner, Mr. P. Bohm, being a German subject.

MARITIME DISASTERS ON THE COAST OF JAPAN.

THE series of misfortunes experienced by the vessels of the Mitsu Bishi Company during the past twelve months are less to be regretted from a pecuniary point of view than because of the loss of reputation they will inevitably entail upon the *personnel* of the Company's fleet. Exactly a month ago, a Marine Court of Inquiry, having investigated the circumstances attending the wreck of the steamship *Sumida Maru*, decided that "ordinary caution and attention to the rules of navigation would have saved the ship from the disaster which overtook her," and further placed on record their opinion that "the Captain navigated his ship from the time of passing North Shiroshima in a most unseamanlike and irregular manner." The strong terms of this finding were amply justified by the facts elicited at the investigation, and if the public were astonished to learn that such a verdict was possible in the case of an officer hitherto enjoying a high reputation for competence and caution, they were also, it must be confessed, a little startled by the apparent disproportion between the sentence of the Court and its finding. The lessons of experience are not likely to be quickly forgotten after they have been inculcated by a calamity like the casting away of a fine vessel, and from this point of view a year's suspension was perhaps sufficient to meet the requirements of the case. But it scarcely comes within the functions of a Marine Court to attach weight to these prospective considerations. The master of the *Sumida Maru* is understood to have owed the leniency of his punishment to the influence of a recent precedent, in itself open to criticism. Our English common law, after all, is little more than a code of precedents, and there is no reason why maritime law should be less dependent. Yet it does seem a little contrary to the dictates of sound sense, a little like building fallacy upon fallacy, that an exceptional precedent should be taken as a guide to the possible perpetuation and multiplication of error. On the other hand, practically speaking, the degree of punishment inflicted by a Court in these cases is not of paramount importance. The consequences entailed by an adverse finding, the loss of reputation and probably permanent loss of employment except in an inferior grade, are penalties which, following of themselves, wholly outweigh the written sentence. What the public has chiefly to consider is the thoroughness of the investigation and the competence of

those that conduct it, and in these respects the recent inquiries held in Tokiyo leave nothing to be desired.

It was hoped that the investigation into the loss of the *Akitsushima Maru* would have the effect of removing the unfavorable impression produced by the *Sumida Maru's* case, and of proving that the second disaster was in no respect referable to careless or unskillful seamanship. But unfortunately the result has not confirmed this hope. The facts elicited at the three sittings of the Tokiyo Court during last week show that the system of navigation and discipline pursued on board the *Akitsushima Maru* was in the highest degree unsatisfactory. So far as concerns the train of events which led immediately to the loss of the vessel, we do not propose to speak. Nobody can fail to sympathise with the master, who after forty-eight hours of sleeplessness and watching, at last saw his ship saved, as he believed, from the perils that had menaced her, and retiring for a brief rest, was roused to find her hard ashore. Too much experience sometimes produces carelessness. Captain FRAHM had a seven years' acquaintance with the seas he was navigating, and it is not wonderful that he trusted his judgment to the neglect of aids which might have averted the catastrophe. But whatever verdict may be pronounced in this matter, there can be no second opinion as to the rashness, we had almost said the recklessness, of a master who excludes his officers from all participation in the navigation of his ship. Captain FRAHM seemed to take a pride in engrossing the whole responsibility of navigating the *Akitsushima Maru*. He never consulted his chief officer, and declared that "he should have been sorry to have to consult him," an equivocal statement which seemed to have reference rather to some romantic sentiment of independence than to any suspicion of the chief officer's incompetence. The consequence was that the chief officer never saw the chart on which the ship's course was marked. Had he been required at any moment to take charge of the vessel, he must have found himself gravely embarrassed. The barometer was not accessible to him, and for three years he had not used, or even possessed, a sextant. He kept the log, entering in it, amongst other things, certain reports which he received from the master, but his method of performing this duty gave so little satisfaction that Captain FRAHM "seldom asked for the book and never signed it." Mutual independence could scarcely have been carried any farther. The captain acknowledged that in

the Mercantile Marine he would have been jointly responsible with his chief officer for the log, but did not think, and could give no reason for not thinking, that this was the case in the Mitsu Bishi Company. Failing any satisfactory explanation of such an unwarrantable hypothesis, we can only conclude that Captain FRAHM's idea of the duty he owed to his Japanese employers was in a measure based on the fact that they were Japanese. The second officer's story was not less extraordinary. He never looked at the deviation-table; never went into the chart-room; had no access to the charts and never asked the Captain to let him see them. These two men, being habitually excluded from every thing that concerned the navigation of the ship, were not consulted as to her position during the thick weather that ended in her loss. They were not consulted because, according to the Master's admission, whatever their opinion might have been, he would still have thought it his duty to abide by his own. Whether or no these officers were capable of taking command of the ship in case of his being disabled, he declined to say, but admitted, when pressed, that he had not complete confidence in his first officer, though he could trust him within two or three miles of land.

It must be plain to everyone reading this evidence that, from the master downwards, the officers of the *Akitsushima Maru* were more or less under the guidance of an every-man-for-himself principle. The master took no care for anything outside his own immediate responsibilities. He excluded his officers from all the higher functions of their posts, and thus virtually incapacitated them to replace him in the event of an emergency. His confidence in their competence was limited, and he never seems to have reflected that he was adopting the surest plan to render them incompetent. The officers, on their side, appear to have accepted this position without remonstrance. They never asked to see the charts; were content to accept, without query, the distances and courses given by the master, and did not even seek information as to the ship's whereabouts. A narrower and more perfunctory interpretation of duty, it is impossible to conceive. At first sight the impression conveyed is that the master must have been an exceptionally anxious, pragmatical sort of person, who could not endure to entrust to others any office he was capable of performing himself. But looking a little farther, we are disposed to suspect that Captain FRAHM ought not to be solely blamed for this unreasonable dis-

tribution of authority. We doubt whether any officer who really felt himself master of his ship and thoroughly recognized that the ultimate charge of every part of the vessel, as well as of everything that happened on board, must rest with him, could ever have become reconciled to such an anomalous state of affairs. Captain FRAHM did his own duty, stoutly and earnestly enough according to his lights, but beyond that he gave himself no thought, and the same may be said of his officers. A service where neither reciprocity of responsibility nor interchange of confidence exists, cannot be said to be in a very satisfactory condition. It may be worth while for the Directors of the Mitsu Bishi Company to consider whether the system obtaining in the *Akitsuishima Maru* was referable to the idiosyncracies of the officers or to the peculiarities of the administration under which they served.

FRANCE AND CHINA.

THE telegram which we publish this morning explains the rumours that have circulated here during the past two days. As might have been anticipated, the reality does not justify the reports that preceded it. China has not declared war, nor is there any immediate prospect of her doing so, though the position she now takes is strong enough to suggest a purpose by no means peaceful. The first portion of the telegram contains nothing new. China has always advanced her claim to the suzerainty of Annam with a resolution worthy of a more substantial title, and her formal protest against the treaty of Hué is understood to have been entered immediately after the signature of that document was announced. But the telegram becomes more difficult to interpret when it speaks of "Chinese positions in Tonquin." Up to the present we have not heard much of any places which come under that definition, nor, indeed, are we in possession of any definite information as to the movements of the Chinese troops that crossed the frontier some months ago.

The course of the negotiations in Paris and Peking has been so devious, and the information supplied to the public so meagre, that it is scarcely possible to be quite sure of the position really taken up by each party. A careful comparison of the telegrams published in the latest American journals enables us to say, however, that China's proposal at the beginning of October was that the Red River should form the boundary line between her terri-

tories and the provinces occupied by the French. Everything to the north of that river was to be Chinese; everything south, French. This determination of the boundary would have excluded France from nearly the whole delta of the River, that is to say, from the district most rich in mineral resources and, therefore, most coveted by her. M. FERRY accordingly replied by proposing an important rectification. China was to occupy the district north of the river as far as Hung-hoa—a town lying a little above Sontai—but from the delta itself she was to be entirely excluded. France, on the other hand, was to occupy the whole littoral of Tonquin, and her possessions on the north of the Red River were to extend inland as far as a line drawn from Hung-hoa through Tuyen-Kwang to Ko-bang, a town lying in the mountains which form the boundary of Kwantung. This arrangement would have thrust China out of Tonquin altogether, since the only portion remaining to her would have been a small triangular space, of which the Red River and the above line would have constituted the sides. The Cabinet at Peking rejected the memorandum embodying M. FERRY'S proposals, and put forward a counter proposition of the nature of a compromise. The water communication between Haiphong and Hanoi is by a canal called the Thai-binh Canal. This canal China suggested as the limit of French occupation to the north of the Red River, while, with regard to the river itself, she proposed that the navigation of its lower waters should be free as far as Tung-hoa, at which place a Custom House should be established. The result of this modification would have been to divide the delta between the two parties. China, in short, by offering to concede half of the French demands, showed her willingness to arrive at an amicable solution. This counter-proposition seems to have been formulated about the 6th of October, and it was immediately announced that France, no longer regarding the negotiations as serious, was resolved to precipitate a settlement of the question by vigorous operations in Tonquin itself. A menacing exposition of his programme seems to have been the last act of M. TRICOU'S somewhat theatrical performance in China. Faithful to the farcical rôle he played from the first, he is said to have introduced himself to Prince KUNG, not as a diplomatist charged with the conduct of the Annamite negotiations, but as a distinguished traveller whose visit to the Chinese capital had no other object than an inspection of the Great Wall.

Ultimately, however, he is understood to have announced his Government's intention to postpone all further discussion of the question until France should have exterminated the Black Flags and obtained possession of the whole of Tonquin, to achieve which feats the army of occupation was to be immediately raised to a strength of from twenty-five to thirty thousand men—African troops and native contingents included—and measures of the most vigorous description forthwith adopted. It does not appear, however, that these announcements seriously perturbed the T'sung-li Yamèn. They had probably come to regard M. TRICOU as a species of mercurial menace-monger whose airy thunderbolts were too unsubstantial to disturb the serenity of the political horizon. Nevertheless, in this instance, France's temporary intentions had received correct interpretation, and when the T'sung-li Yamèn finally ascertained that the idea of the French Cabinet was to prosecute a policy of aggression in Tonquin without further reference to China, the manifesto which forms the subject of Reuter's telegram this morning was issued.

It follows, then, that the "Chinese positions" referred to in the telegram are the northern portions of the delta of the Red River, and more especially the town of Bac-ninh, which is said to be actually garrisoned by the van of the Chinese regular army. Our readers will doubtless remember that a reconnaissance in force was undertaken against the latter place about a month ago, with the result that its attack was indefinitely postponed, as the nature of the defences and their armament implied a task too difficult for the scanty force at the disposal of the French General. This was probably fortunate. A collision between the two armies would immediately have removed the question beyond the range of amicable discussion. Still it will be seen that the limit of concession has been reached. China's claim to the northern half of the delta is now based upon actual military occupation, and, if the French attempt to proceed with their programme, "armed resistance" will be the inevitable result.

Our private information is to the effect that the manifesto of the Chinese Government was issued on the 18th instant, that is to say, on the very day when, as the telegram informed us yesterday morning, the final resignation of M. CHALLEMEL-LACOUR was formally announced. Later on in the same day we learn that negotiations were resumed be-

tween M. FERRY, the new Minister for Foreign Affairs, and the Marquis TSENG. Now, apart from the fact that M. CHALLEMEL-LACOUR has always been regarded as the great obstacle to an amicable solution, there can be no doubt that the manifesto of the T'sung-li Yamèn was in M. FERRY'S hands when he resumed negotiations, the obvious inferences being that the resignation of the bellicose Minister and the issue of the manifesto stood to one another in a very close relation, and that China's resolute assertions of her rights did not prove a serious obstacle to the re-opening of the conference. On the whole, then, we shall probably be right in not regarding this manifesto with much apprehension. It cannot fail to accelerate a solution, but that that solution will be of a warlike nature we see no valid reason for anticipating.

THE JAPANESE DRAMA.

A celebrated antiquarian of Kiyoto, discussing the date of his countrymen's earliest efforts in the Ceramic art, gravely placed among historical evidence the story of the earthen pots in which the Emperor God Susa-no-wo stored the blood of the miraculous dragon he had slain. Such fables are received with a derisive smile by the practical philosophy of the Occident, and those that believe them are apt to be classed with simpletons. But it would be a difficult question to determine towards which side the balance of credulity sways. The marvellous traditions, alike inconsistent with the dicta of science and repugnant to common sense, which constitute the staple of our most cherished creeds, are not less dependent upon an unreasoning exercise of bigotry and superstition than the myths among which the Japanese annalist discovers the germs of his political and religious systems. Japan was once trodden by divine feet; so was Palestine: Japan was once the scene of miraculous manifestations; so were the places visited by the Children of Israel; the heaven of Japan was once the arena of disputes among the divinities, ending in the expulsion of some of their number; so was the heaven of Christians: in short the curious student will find, when he comes to compare the faiths of the Occident and Orient, that both are pretty equally poised on similar substrata of superstition, and that whatever may be the relative merits of the later aspects of the two, neither has any valid cause to be disdainful of the other's fabulous heirlooms. Even though this were not so, it will manifestly repay us best to consider the story of the Japanese drama from a Japanese point of view, since no otherwise can we understand its true relation to the spirit of the people and their traditions.

The story of the retirement of the Sun

Goddess into a rocky cave, and of the device resorted to by her brother and sister divinities to entice her from her retreat, is already familiar to many foreign students of Japanese mythology. The deities, finding themselves condemned to live in darkness during the absence of their light-giving sister, could conceive no better way of dispelling her ill-humour than by holding a sort of noisy revel outside her cave. Their only accessories were a number of cocks, which by some means or other, they persuaded to crow, so that the Sun Goddess began to think the day was dawning without her. Hearing, too, the sounds of merriment, her feminine curiosity overcame her. She pushed aside the door of the cavern just sufficiently to peep out, whereupon the God of Strength, who had been stationed at the threshold, thrust his fingers into the crevice and pulled away the rocky barrier completely. The Sun Goddess stood once more revealed, and in the path of her effulgence was seen her sister divinity, Ama-no-Usume, dancing with more resolution than reserve. This curious tradition, quite as rational in its way as the vagaries performed by the celestial luminaries at Joshua's command, constitutes one of the most revered chapters of Japanese mythology, and is avowedly an article of faith with all the disciples of the Shinto creed. By them the Sun Goddess is regarded as the ancestress of the present Imperial Family, and her shrine at Ise has no rival. The interest of the story in this context is that the dance executed by Ama-no-Usume before the cave is regarded as the origin of theatrical performances in Japan. Any one who chooses to visit a Shinto Shrine on a day of festival will see there a girl, dressed in white with a branch in her hand, dancing a simple but graceful measure to the music of a drum and fife. This ceremony dates from the birth of the Shinto creed. It is a humble imitation of Ama-no-Usume's traditional performance, and like the latter, its intention is to propitiate the deity of the Shrine.

In a subsequent century, when the sceptre of Japan had already been swayed by several generations of heaven-descended monarchs, the throne came to be shared by two brothers, of whom the elder, Hono-susori, was a skilled fisher, and the younger, Hiko-hoho-semi, a mighty hunter. One day, from some unexplained freak, the two agreed to exchange their professions. Hono-susori took his brother's bow and arrows and set off to hunt, while Hiko-hoho-semi repaired to the sea with hook and line. But it fell out with these demi-gods as it has always fallen out with weaker mortals who neglect the wise maxim, "*ne sutor ultra crepidem*." Both failed equally. Then the elder, reconciling himself to his incapacity, restored to his brother the implements of the chase, and desired that his own fish-hook should be given back to him. But the hook was not forthcoming. It had been dropped into the sea. Hiko-hoho-semi, with much trouble, manufactured a substitute which he offered to his brother. Hono-susori, however, declined to be satisfied, and became

violently unreasonable when the other sought to make good the loss by forging a number of new hooks. At last Hiko-hoho-semi, unwillingly convinced that it was his brother's resolve not to be appeased, gave up the attempt, and wandered disconsolately along the sea-shore. Every wave that surged at his feet cast up on the beach some useless waif, but never among them all could he discover the object of his search. "They do but mock me, these unpyting billows," he thought, and turning away in despair was about to retrace his steps, when a voice, called him by name. Looking back, he saw, standing by the margin of the waters, a hoary-headed old man, in answer to whose sympathetic enquiries the prince told the story of his dilemma. Thereupon the old man offered to conduct him to the palace of the Sea God where he would certainly recover the lost hook. Hiko-hoho-semi readily consented. His reception at the palace of the marine deity was most gracious, and his host having summoned the vassal fishes, one by one, for examination, the lost hook was at last found. The prince, meanwhile, had fallen in love with the daughter of the God of the Ocean, and receiving her to wife, lived happily for some time under the sea. But the fair land he had left was never entirely absent from his thoughts, and his faithful bride, sympathising with his regrets, supplicated her father to let him go. The Sea God consented. Bidding good-bye to his guest, he presented him with two precious stones, one of which was endowed with the property of making the tide flow, the other, with that of causing it to ebb. The recovered prince, bearing these precious jewels and hook, returned to his native land, only to find his brother as implacable as ever. In vain he tried to pacify him, until at last it became necessary to have recourse to the miraculous jewels. No sooner was the tide-urging gem produced, than the waves of the ocean came surging up from the shore, and surrounding Hono-susori, began to buffet his life out. In this deadly peril the morose demi-god was constrained to humble himself and beg for mercy, but for a time his entreaties were disregarded, until at last he vowed that if his life were spared he would become his brother's servant and mime. Then Hiko-hoho-semi produced the tide-restraining gem, and the waves, receding, left Hono-susori safe. The younger brother now called on the elder to fulfil his promise, and the other, after some hesitation, smeared his face and body with red clay, and performed a dance in imitation of the straits to which he had been reduced in his struggle with the waves, and his vain attempts to escape from them.

To this tradition is referred the origin of the tragic pantomime, even as that of the comic is found in the dance of Ama-no-Usume. Little, however, is recorded of the stages by which these dances passed from purely religious rites into devices for popular entertainment. It seems pretty clear that, during the middle ages, performances, somewhat resembling the masks fashionable in Europe at about the same

period, occasionally took place before the Emperor or members of his family. Murasaki Shikibu, one of the greatest of Japanese authoresses, tells of a Genji Prince who thus acted in the presence of the Mikado, and it is easy to understand that there would have been nothing incongruous in the proceeding, since the Emperors were the reputed descendants and acknowledged representatives of the deities. It was not, however, till the days of the Hôjô Regents that this class of entertainment became at all common, and the form it then assumed, under the name of *Nô*, subsequently underwent but little modification. The actors uttered no sound; their gestures and postures alone were in unison with the spirit of their parts. At one side of the stage sat a company of men who, keeping time to the music of drums and flutes, recited an elaborate and often highly poetical narrative of the circumstances of the piece. This narrative really constituted the essence of the *Nô*, for the dance itself was mechanical, unnatural, and incapable of expressing emotion or enlisting sympathy. In order to relieve the monotony of the piece, there was introduced a species of interlude, when the actors, finding their voices, uttered a series of jokes which to modern ears sound, for the most part, clumsy and inept. It is not, indeed, possible to assert with confidence that this was the exact form of the *Nô Kiyôgen* in the time of the Ashikaga and Hôjô Regents, but it is the form recognised by later generations, and reproduced to-day chiefly, if not altogether, for the sake of its antique associations.

The incalculable influence for good which the celebrated Hideyoshi, better known by his official title of Taiko, exercised upon all the arts and sciences of his time, is equally conspicuous in the case of the drama. There lived at the Court of Nobunaga, in the middle of the 16th century, a maid of honour by name Ono O-Tsû. Her literary abilities, no less than her graceful manners, won for her the favorable notice of the Lady Yodo, Hideyoshi's consort, who, with the design of making the beautiful girl's accomplishments better known, commissioned her to choose her own subject and write something of a more important character than she had yet attempted. The result was a twelve volumed historical romance founded on a tradition that Yoshitsune, the most celebrated of Japanese warriors, when travelling, as a mere boy, to take refuge with Hidehira, Duke of Oshiu, had fallen in love with the daughter of a wealthy yeoman of Yahagi in the province of Mikawa. To every Japanese, and indeed to every foreign student of Japanese history, there is a wonderful charm in the most trivial incidents of this Oriental Bayard's life, whose dauntless courage, noble chivalry, and tragic fate will be remembered so long as his country lasts. The Maid of Honour's book, when completed and dedicated to the Lady Yodo, excited the latter's admiration so much that she presented it to Hideyoshi, and he, in his turn, struck by the artistic arrangement and flowing diction of the work, ordered a blind musician of the Court, by

name Iwafune, to adapt it to music. It happened that, a short time previously, there had been imported from Riukiu a new instrument called *Jabisen*. It had only two strings at first, but very soon another was added, and its name was thenceforth changed into *Samisen* (from *san* three.) To the accompaniment of this instrument, in the use of which he was eminently skilled, Iwafune sang O-Tsû's libretto, thus inaugurating a class of performance which to this day enjoys undiminished popularity under the title of *Jôruri*, as Yoshitsune's early love was called. O-Tsû's romance is no longer extant, though it enjoyed undisputed popularity at the time, and many a minstrel made his living in after years by singing to Iwafune's music the words of the girl dramatist.

To trace the connection between the *Jôruri* and the regular play, it is necessary to refer here to the story of a woman called O-Kuni, who visited Kiyoto some years before O-Tsû's romance was composed. A native of Idzumo, where one of the chief Shintô Shrines stands, she had been accustomed from her childhood to dance before the tutelary deity, as Ama-no-Usume had danced before the cave of the Sun Goddess. O-Kuni had the genius of an originator and the face of even such a perfect woman as Ama-no-Usume herself might have been. She soon conceived and elaborated a dance far more graceful and intricate than the solemn paces and stiff gestures of the traditional performance before the shrine. Ambitious of gaining wider applause for this new accomplishment, which the people of her time regarded as something wonderful, she travelled to Kiyoto, and obtained an introduction to the Ashikaga Regent, Yoshiteru. The nobles of the capital were not slow to appreciate her talents and she was summoned, time after time, to dance before the magnates of the Court. Among Yoshiteru's officers was a handsome youth, Nagoya Sanza, who also was noted for his histrionic ability. He was the author of two or three historical dramas, which, with the aid of his friends and O-Kuni's party of actresses, were performed after the most approved fashion of the *Nô Kiyôgen*, to the great satisfaction of the Regent and his nobles. But life had its real, as well as its theatrical, side for O-Kuni and Nagoya. They fell in love with one another, and their secret correspondence having been discovered, to the great scandal of the austere courtiers, they were both expelled from the Court. Necessity now compelled them to convert their previous pastime into a means of livelihood, and a few years later, by permission of Nobunaga, they established a theatre at Kitano in Kiyoto. This was the first theatre in Japan. The performances carried on there, however, had nothing in common with the modern drama. They were simply dances—elaborate displays of that music of motion, so captivating to Japanese eyes, so difficult of appreciation to European. After the death of his friend and protector Nobunaga, Hideyoshi, munificent patron of everything that deserved patronage,

summoned O-Kuni to dance before him. It was the custom of this remarkable man to bestow titles of distinction upon those who excelled in their various arts and professions, and on this occasion he declared that O-Kuni was "peerless among women," adding, with a sincerity which the story of his life endorses, "would that I were equally a man among men!" The details of the dress worn by the great *dansusee* at this performance are minutely recorded, but her most interesting ornament was a rosary of crystal balls, which Hideyoshi, condemning as not sufficiently magnificent, caused to be changed for a rosary of coral beads equally large.

O-Kuni had a daughter, who inheriting her mother's name and a great part of her talent, carried on the theatre at Kitano with success and no little renown. But in truth the performances presented to the pleasure-seekers of those days scarcely possessed the embryo of dramatic art. They were nothing more than elaborate dances; not such rapid and violent muscular achievements as the fashion of the Occident approves, but even such solemn measures of "woven paces and of waving hands" as Vivien may have trodden in the "wild woods of Broceliande" when she charmed the hollow oak into a tomb for Merlin. Soon, however, this barren accomplishment was to be supplemented by another element which opened up a new field for the Japanese stage.

Contemporaneous with O-Kuni the younger was a woman by name Shimada Mankichi, celebrated for her mechanical ingenuity. It does not appear that she ever attempted to employ her ability in useful directions, and, indeed, the conditions of the time were not likely to encourage such an essay. At any rate her reputation chiefly rests upon a species of puppet show which she is said to have invented. It consisted of a number of wooden figures, fashioned and attired so as to represent characters from the *Jôruri* of O-Tsû and Iwafune. Worked partly by mechanical contrivances, partly by concealed assistants, these puppets moved and gesticulated in unison with the recitation of the *Jôruri*, and thus, for the first time, there was introduced upon the public stage a performance which embodied the rudiments of acting as the word is now understood. Another innovation devised and successfully employed by Shimada was the curtain. It is easy to see that something of the sort was essential to the successful management and disposition of the different puppets employed in different scenes. The curtain became from that time an important item of stage paraphernalia, but its advantages were never sufficiently evident to overcome the conservatism of the *Nô Kiyôgen*. To this day the classic mime despises any adjunct not sanctioned by the traditions of barbaric days. At the close of a scene, the sick, the wounded, and the slain all get upon their legs and walk stoutly off the stage.

Shimada's puppet-show soon acquired a wide-spread popularity, and in proportion as its hold upon the fancy of the public became conspicuous, the art of composing

and singing *Jōruri* was gradually developed, until at last there was found among its votaries a man whose works still occupy a prominent place in the repertoire of every Japanese musician. Chikamatsu Monzayemon was born at Hagi in the province of Chōshū and received his education at a Buddhist temple of Karatsu, in Hizen. The events of his younger days, as well as the chain of circumstances which induced him to devote himself to literary pursuits, are not accurately recorded. We find him, when he had reached man's estate, journeying to Kiyoto and there taking service in the household of a well known nobleman. In this position he remained for some years, but at the close of the seventeenth century he resigned his office, and thenceforth the composition of *Jōruri* engaged his whole attention. About a hundred dramatic pieces flowed from his nimble pen. One and all possessed undoubted merit, but the most celebrated among them was the *Jōruri* of *Kokusenya*. The downfall of the Ming Dynasty of China was but a few years old and its events were still fresh in the memory of the dramatist's generation. Among those who through evil report and good report had remained faithful to the dethroned family and exhausted all the resources of ingenuity and heroic devotion to retrieve its fortunes, was Teiseiko (Chinese Ching-shin-kung) or *Kokusenya*. This prince of loyal servitors was born in Japan. His father Teishiriu (Ching-chi-lung), had lived for some years in exile at Hirado, an island off the coast of Hizen, and there married a Japanese lady. Their son Teiseiko was thus half a Japanese, and his extraordinary career, distinguished as it was by the display of qualities dear to the heart of every true *Samurai*, stirred the deepest sympathies, and entranced the attention, of the whole Japanese nation. It was when this excitement was at its keenest that Chikamatsu produced his drama, embodying the chief incidents of *Kokusenya's* story. It was published in the year 1705, and some idea of the popularity it acquired may be gathered from the fact that, despite the miserable histrionic resources of those days, the piece occupied the stage at Kiyoto continually for three years. Chikamatsu died in 1724.

Here, however, it is necessary to note that the theatre itself had not remained unchanged up to the time of Chikamatsu. After O-Kuni the elder and her lover Sanza set up their play-house at Kiyoto, others were not slow to follow their example, and the Western capital possessed, before long, quite a number of these establishments. At some of them the performances were limited to puppet-shows, while at others the entertainment consisted of *Kabuki*, as the dances of O-Kuni's company were called. In the early times of its development, the *Jōruri* was put upon the stage at the former class of theatres alone, the *Kabuki* retaining its original independent character. Little by little, however, the dancers of the *Kabuki*, obeying the popular taste, began to follow the example of the puppets, and thus at last the *Jōruri* came to be acted by living men and women. It

will be seen from this retrospect that the elements of the Japanese drama, as it now exists, were developed, in some sort, independently. First, we have the solemn measures which, nominally descending from the mythological era, formed a portion of the Shintō ritual, and constituted the basis of the classic *Nō Kiyōgen*. Then we have O-Kuni's modification of these, presented to the public under the name of *Kabuki*. Then we have Shimada Mankichi's puppet shows, adapted to the *Jōruri* of O-Tsu and her successors. And finally we have the *Kabuki* and the puppet-shows combined to produce the essential features of the modern drama.

At this point the law interfered to effect a change which thenceforth passed into a distinguishing characteristic of the Japanese stage. For reasons not recorded but easily divined, the Government, about the year 1630, prohibited women from taking any part in theatrical performances where men were engaged, and this prohibition, never subsequently annulled, led to the development of a race of male actresses, who carry the realities of their rôle to such lengths that their sex is popularly supposed to become a matter of uncertainty to themselves. A few years later the growth of the drama received a much more serious check. The theatres were everywhere closed by order of the authorities. This veto was motivated by a desire to check a species of immorality which, originating in the perpetual camp and barrack life of the preceding generation, found exceptional facilities among the followers of the dramatic profession. But public opinion did not support the legislature in this ill-judged measure. The theatrical companies, deprived of their source of livelihood, petitioned the Government, and were allowed to resume the practice of their profession under assumed names.

Twenty-four years after the death of Chikamatsu, (1748), Japan's greatest dramatic work, the *Chiushingura*, was published. Its author was Takeda Idsumo, of whose life but few details have been transmitted. He is the Shakespeare of Japan, and like Shakespeare his story must always remain a matter of conjecture to his countrymen. It is true that few writers of plays have ever been furnished with such a theme. The story of the Forty-seven Loyal *Ronin* has no parallel in the history of the world, and though the suicide of these heroes was forty-seven years old when Takeda wrote, their memory had lost nothing of its hold upon the national affection. Three or four attempts had already been made, with more or less success, to dramatize their story, but when Takeda's work appeared, everything that had preceded it ceased at once to be remembered. The unanimous verdict of his countrymen immediately crowned him king of the drama, and his right to wear the laurels is still unchallenged. The *Chiushingura* has been translated into English, but it has been stripped of all its flesh and blood and transformed into a mere skeleton in the process. The fire and imagination of the

original; its rich and nervous diction; its stirring pathos, and the sunny vein of laughter that peeps out here and there among its graver scenes, have all disappeared. That they could be preserved and made familiar to European readers there can be little doubt, but the pen that accomplishes the task must be little inferior to that of Takeda himself.

Associated with the great dramatist in the compilation of this *chef d'œuvre* were two lesser celebrities, Naniki Senriu and Miyoshi Shoraku; but whether their share in the work was large or small, their names have never emerged from the shadow of their coadjutor's renown. To Chikamatsu, on the contrary, the author of *Kokusenya*, many critics assign a still higher place. And in some respects not without reason. For while Takeda Idsumo has the advantage in solidity of style, carefulness of composition and faithfulness to the soundest canons of dramatic art, Chikamatsu is unquestionably superior in point of brilliancy, fertility and originality. Again, while the latter's unaided pen enriched the literature of his country by more than a hundred plays, Takeda, with the assistance of others, all more or less distinguished writers, produced a far smaller number. On the whole, the position of Chikamatsu Monza, as father of the Japanese drama, seems to have survived the competition of his renowned successor.

Besides the *Chiushingura*, Takeda Idsumo composed two celebrated plays called *Ten-jinki* and *Kagami-yama*—plays in which the hand of the master is unmistakably discernible, though they belong to a much lower grade in the dramatic literature of his country than that universally assigned to the "League of the Loyal Ronins." Among the best remembered names of his immediate successors we find those of his son, Takeda Koidzumo, of Hasegawa Senshi, and of five or six others whose works, though famous in their day, have not survived the test of time.

Meanwhile numerous theatres had been established in the three capitals, and various improvements introduced in scenic arrangements and other details. The most important change was the separation of the drama proper from the *Jōruri*, though the exact time when this separation was accomplished, as well as the manner of its accomplishment, are difficult, if not impossible, to determine. Up to the days of Chikamatsu, and probably to a still later period, there were always present on the stage *Jōruri* singers, who described every process and action of the piece in recitative, only pausing when the characters had something to say for themselves. A similar custom obtains even at the present day whenever the old classical pieces, or others modelled on the same lines, are performed. In short the early dramatists, or, to speak more accurately, the writers of *Jōruri*, were obliged not only to compose the dialogue of their pieces, but also to describe the scenes in detail and to analyse the motives of the characters. Subsequently the functions of the dramatist were limited to writing dialogue and accompanying it

with a few stage directions, so that their works scarcely differed from those of their Occidental *confrères*. But if this was an undoubted gain from a histrionic point of view, it was an equal loss from a literary. For the Japanese language does not lend itself to the production of anything great in dialogue. Its finer qualities can only be displayed in narrative; and, by the elimination of the latter, the drama of the country was inevitably deprived of its poetic elements. The essence of the piece survived, indeed, but the beauty of its form was lost.

Since the era of Chikamatsu and Takeda, undoubtedly the golden era of Japanese dramatic composition, many authors of note have attracted public attention, but the most distinguished names among them are Hiraga Gennai, Tsuruya Nanboku, and Kawatake Shinshichi. The first of these, though not a writer of plays by profession, was a man of rare artistic ability; the second is famous for the originality of his plots and their wealth of incident, while the third, Kawatake, is still alive, and though fully seventy, betrays no diminution of literary ability.

Hitherto we have spoken of theatres at Kiyoto only, because in a historical notice that city naturally presents itself first. But if the Western capital claims to be the birth-place of the Japanese stage, the Eastern can boast a stage that was born when the great city was still in its infancy. One day, nearly three centuries ago, Iyeyasu, the first and most renowned of the Tokugawa Shoguns, paid a visit to the workmen who were engaged in laying the foundations of the Castle of Yedo.* Among all the monuments of power and prosperity erected by the feudal chiefs throughout the provinces, there was none comparable with the huge structure which Iyeyasu projected for his stronghold and the colossal blocks of granite destined for the battlements of the eastern gate, had just arrived from Osaka when the Shogun came to examine the progress of his pet scheme. It was a sunny morning in early winter, and the chronicle says that the builders, dressed in parti-coloured holiday attire, chaunted a lusty refrain by way of welcome to the "divine warrior," as they swung their mighty rammer over the future bed of the granite boulders. Iyeyasu paused a moment to listen, and presently, among the chorus of chaunters, his quick ear distinguished a rich, sonorous, and exceptionally musical voice totally unlike anything he could have expected to hear in such circumstances. Listening curiously, he soon observed that this maker of unwonted melody was a workman fantastically attired and wearing a monkey-faced mask. The Shogun advanced to the side of the platform on which the builders stood, and touching the singer's shoulder, complimented him on his skill, before—so the story runs—the other was aware of his presence. Almost terrified by this august propinquity, the man dropped on his knees, and snatching off his mask, displayed a face whose frank and comical expression was improved rather than marred by the

* Now called Tokiyo, or Eastern Capital.

confusion of the moment. Experience and necessity had made Iyeyasu a quick interpreter of character. He questioned this whimsical builder, and learned that the man, an actor by profession, had voluntarily come from Kiyoto for the sake of taking a share in the erection of the fortress planned by Japan's greatest soldier and statesman. Iyeyasu acknowledged this proof of devotion by appointing the stranger to be an overseer of works, and in this capacity the some-time actor showed himself well worthy of the trust reposed in him. Judging by the light of subsequent events, however, we may infer that his visit to Yedo was not altogether so disinterested an undertaking as his own statement implied. For after a time we find him soliciting official permission to set up a theatre in the new city. He did not base this request on purely selfish grounds, but boldly declared that the stage was an essential instrument in developing popular intelligence, and that every large town ought to be provided with a theatre—an opinion which the illustrious Hideyoshi had practically endorsed by sanctioning the erection of a theatre in Osaka. Whatever influence this reasoning exercised upon the authorities, it is certain that they offered no opposition to the enterprising actor's proposal, and shortly afterwards a theatre was established in Sakaicho, under the management of the sweet-voiced overseer, Nakamura Kan-zaburo. Nakamura-za, as the new playhouse was called, is still a favorite resort of Tokiyo pleasure-seekers, but its management has long passed out of the hands of its celebrated founder's descendants. Its success was immediate and signal, so that Nakamura's example was shortly afterwards followed by two other speculators, and in a few years Yedo possessed three theatres Nakamura-za, Ichimura-za and Morita-za. Subsequently a decree was promulgated, limiting the number of playhouses in the capital to three. Historians attribute this order to official apprehensions lest the multiplication of these places of amusement should injure the morals of the people, but it seems more probable that the Government's action was inspired by a petition from the theatrical folks themselves.

Our attention at this stage naturally turns to the actors themselves, and to the curious chapter of accidents which resulted in their degradation to the lowest ranks of the people. "Dressed in embroideries, living in luxury, and yet—a beggar," was the soliloquy of a famous actor, who, when overtaken by a mortal sickness, saw himself debarred from procuring the assistance of a court physician. Readers of the vernacular press to-day, finding it recorded that this actor was present at such and such a social gathering, or the other invited to the house of a prominent statesman, scarcely remember that until the Restoration, fifteen years ago, the occupants of the Japanese stage were only a shade higher than the very dregs of the populace. Such, however, is the fact, and the fall of "the children of the pear orchard"—as the Chinese call them—to this low estate is said to have been entirely

unconnected with either their own merits or conduct. The first theatre Kiyoto, and therefore Japan, possessed, was set up by the river's side in a plain called Shijogawara. This place had long been noted as the chief resort of the city beggars, and a facetious citizen one day conceived the notion of calling the players themselves "men of Kawara." The nickname, little by little, ceased to be used in jest, and was ultimately recognised as a correct description by the law itself, which relegated actors and their followers to a rank between the lowest order of Japanese proper and the outcast class of *Yeta*. Despite this ban of proscription, religiously observed as it was by every Japanese with any claim to respectability, the actors appear to have preserved all their pride of descent, and to have waited patiently for the day when their traditions should be respected by the public no less than they were revered by themselves. In no country, perhaps, and among no class of experts, has the theory of transmitted talent been more unhesitatingly accepted. Each representative of a great name based his hopes of success not less on his genealogy than on his abilities. An outsider, whatever his skill, could not look to be admitted into the ranks of the pedigreed magnates until a life devoted to the unswerving pursuit of his profession had qualified him to be himself the founder of a race of actors. For those, on the other hand, who were born to distinction, the stage was a sort of mimic kingdom, and from all its denizens they received an amount of respect and obedience which doubtless went far to restore the respectability denied to them by popular caprice. It cannot be questioned that these habits imposed a certain restraint upon the development of histrionic skill, if indeed they had not sometimes the effect of substituting tradition for ability. But they helped, on the other hand, to hold the society of actors far above the class to which they legally belonged, and to prepare them for the place they were destined to occupy in later and more liberal times.

Unfortunate, however, as was the social lot of actors up to recent years, it must not be supposed that their popularity was seriously affected by their position. On the contrary, the people have never withheld from them a liberal measure of esteem. Their lives, their adventures, and their idiosyncracies have always been matters of household tradition, and their memories are held in affectionate respect. On the whole, indeed, they have less cause to complain than the dramatists whose works are the foundation of their art; for while not one Japanese in a hundred is familiar with the names of Chikamatsu and Takeda, even the very children call the heroes of their nursery tales Yebizo and Danjiuro. Fame, in truth, has been singularly unjust to Japanese dramatists. The works of their greatest representatives have never yet been collected and published, while scarcely ever does the name of an author figure upon the title pages of the *Joruri* books from which Japanese maidens learn to lisp

their first songs. Not that the educated Japanese is indifferent to the efforts of his countrymen. On the contrary, he demands for them a high place in the ranks of intellectual achievements, and stoutly disputes the notion that either they or their *confrères* of the Middle Kingdom, were a prosaic, unimaginative race. The present generation of Chinamen, he will tell you, may be a people without inspiration or ideality, but the history of their ancestors shows a succession of ages rich in poets and literati, whose writings, to those that understand them, need not fear comparison with any standard. In point of dramatic talent, however, precedence is claimed by, and justly belongs to, Japan. Such dramas as the Chinese possess are frigid and artificial, scarcely rising above the level of the old English miracle play, whereas the library of Japan comprises in this section, works which, though they lack the elaboration and classical finish of their Western rivals, are certainly not wanting in *verve* and originality.

As might have been expected, the restoration of the actor class to its proper social status gave a considerable impetus to theatrical enterprise, especially in Tokiyo, where several new companies were formed. But the conservatism of Japanese histrionic art has naturally limited the number of its acknowledged representatives. There are not many names sufficiently great to warrant their possessors in attempting to fill the *roles* of the heroes and heroines of the historic drama. A Japanese audience is critical. It has its standards, traditional standards, some approach to which is imperatively necessary in the *tachi-yaku*, or leading characters, while even in the minor parts a certain measure of skill is essential. Moreover, the Japanese are not really a theatre-going people. Whether old prejudices still survive, or whether the true dignity of the drama has never been recognised, the upper classes regard the play as a pastime unworthy of educated men, while even the middle and lower classes, since a visit to the theatre occupies a whole day from sunrise to sunset, are content to see a piece once, or twice at most. These various causes have combined to limit the number of theatres to four in Tokiyo, three in Osaka, and one each in Kiyoto and Nagoya. The actors of the three last, or the Western School, are considered to excel in accuracy, grace and fidelity, but to those of Tokiyo, or the Eastern School, the palm is accorded for realism, vigour, and originality. The rivalry between the two schools was very keen after the Restoration, but the celebrities were inevitably destined to gravitate to Tokiyo, which now possesses incomparably the best theatre in the Empire, that of Shintomiza—as well as the best actor, Ichikawa Danjiuro. This actor is the ninth of his race. All his ancestors were more or less famous, but to his father Yebizo is unanimously accorded the leading place on the Japanese stage. Yebizo's conceptions of historical characters have ever since been accepted as standard models,

and he is accredited with the first successful attempt to introduce a natural element into the canons of his art. There is still a considerable margin of exaggeration and grotesqueness that might be lopped off with advantage, but the quiet, self-contained style of the present Danjiuro promises to achieve reforms scarcely second to those of his father. Yebizo was not only an actor, but also a noted scholar, and the versatility of his talent enabled him to achieve considerable reputation in the sciences of fencing and equestrianism. But the luxurious fashion of his life attracted the unfavorable notice of a Government which carried paternal arbitrariness far enough to visit with severe penalties subjects who ventured to transgress its economical ordinances. Yebizo was banished from Yedo, and his compulsory departure still continues to be recorded among the calamities of the city's past history. He settled in Nagoya, leaving behind him his son, Ichikawa Danjiuro. The latter, a man of singular comeliness as well as exceptional ability, is said to have turned the heads of half the female population of the capital. Japanese ladies are never slow to appreciate the graces of a great actor. The romantic girl has no larger praise for a gallant than to liken him to Gado, Tokizo, or some other stage celebrity, and many a servant maid, who has never entered the door of a theatre, hides among the treasures of her wardrobe a penny portrait-book of histrionic magnates. Of the opportunities thus afforded Japanese actors have seldom been slow to avail themselves, and it is much to the credit of Ichikawa Danjiuro that, in spite of exceptional temptations, he never allowed himself to be contaminated by the licentious habits of his craft. His life was pure, and his frugal unostentatious ways won for him recognition and reward at the hands of the same Government which had decreed his father's expulsion. Danjiuro's end was very sad. When his fame was at its zenith he visited his father in Nagoya after a separation of many years. The old man, though pecuniarily independent, seems to have longed to repeat the triumphs of his younger days, and, perhaps, to be avenged, after a fashion, upon the city that had cast him off. At the time of his son's visit to Nagoya there happened to be present there the manager of an Osaka theatre. This man sounded Yebizo, and finding that his advances were not rejected, conceived the enterprising idea of engaging the services of both father and son. The scheme, had it succeeded, would have immediately given the Osaka stage conspicuous precedence over that of Tokiyo. Yebizo was entranced by the prospect of gratifying his pique and his vanity at the same time. He refused to listen to his son's remonstrances, and conjured him, in the name of filial piety, to accept the engagement at Osaka. Determined not to forsake the colours of his school, and equally reluctant to disobey his father, Danjiuro escaped both alternatives by committing suicide. His place in Tokiyo was filled, not unworthily, by his younger brother, of the same name, whose reputation, as an

artist and a man alike, is scarcely second to that of any of his predecessors.

Of the drama as it exists to-day, and of the modifications it has undergone during the past decade, space fails us to speak. The subject is full of interest, but those features which, while requiring most accurate delineation, will also best repay examination, necessarily fall without the limits of a newspaper essay.

CORRESPONDENCE.

[Our readers must distinctly understand that we are in no sense responsible for the sentiments or opinion of our Correspondents, for the accuracy of their assertions, or for the deductions they may choose to draw therefrom.]

THE ROW ON THE HATOBA.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—Will you allow me through your columns to make a few corrections of the versions given in the *Japan Gazette* of the 19th instant of the affray which took place on Sunday afternoon. I read, for instance:—

One strong, handsome looking Russian came down the Bund, apparently perfectly sober and certainly not knowing what was going on; and when he passed the gates of No. 1 I tried to persuade him to come in and await the termination of the tumult, when a coolie came up from behind and knocked him insensible with a stick, which was of course the sign for a renewed effort on the part of the Russians. Sergeant James, for instance, did not receive his wound from a sailor but from a policeman; when struggling with a tar, a so-called guardian of the peace, armed with a stone, came up, and in trying to strike the sailor on the head, hit Sergeant James such a tremendous blow that I thought it would finish him.

The spot where I was first struck was exactly at the corner of the English Consulate, which is opposite the main entrance to the Custom House sheds and wharfs. At this point a Russian sailor, who with a comrade was pursuing a Japanese policeman, overtook him, and, striking him over the back of the head with a heavy stake, felled him to the ground. I rushed forward, but was too late to avert the blow, and the sailor turned on me and aimed a violent stroke at my head. I raised my right arm, holding the staff, and protected my head, but my arm was virtually disabled. My assailant then turned and ran towards the hatoba, I in pursuit; but he got away and on to the wharf, as I was met by two of his comrades, one of them armed with a stone as big as a brick, which he carried raised in both hands. Thus I fought my way close to the wall and round the Custom House corner to the new red brick office opposite Messrs. Jardine, Matheson & Co.'s red brick godowns. At this point, I being still close to the wall, and just against the pillar post-box, the Russian with the stone got behind me and let it fall on my skull. I fell, and he on top of me. Then he seized my staff, which he tried to wrench from my hand, succeeding in doing so only after he had broken by sheer force the strong lanyard by which it was secured to my wrist. At this moment, if some jinrikimen had not come to my assistance and caught hold of my assailant, I am pretty sure he would have battered me to death with my own club. However, they held him long enough to allow my comrades of the Japanese police to come to my rescue, and they had to beat him off me. I cannot say if I received one of the blows meant for him, but I am sure that not one was aimed at me. I was then put into a jinrikisha and taken away helpless and almost senseless to Dr. Wheeler, who dressed my wounds.

I will add that I fail to understand how any person standing at the Bund entrance to No. 1, could have seen me when I was first assailed at the corner of the English Consulate opposite the main gate of the Custom House, or even when I was knocked down and prostrate against the brick office at the Custom House. A glance at the site of the fight, or even at a map of Yokohama, will show what I mean.—I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

THOMAS JAMES,

Acting Sergeant, Foreign Municipal Police,
Settlement Police Station, Yokohama,
November 20th, 1883.

THE CHINESE LEGITIMISTS.

Above the signature of "I. MYSELF," in the *Moniteur des Consuls*, is a curious article on the Legitimists of China. If we might hazard a guess, we should ascribe it to the pen of Mr. Maurice Jametel, whilom interpreter to the French Legation in Peking, a young man of great promise and research, and at present a frequent contributor to the columns of the *Economiste* and other leading French journals on matters relating to the Middle Kingdom. Be the author, however, who he may, his contribution is of great interest. He heads it.—"The Secret Society of the 'White Lily'—The conspiracy of the 'Hats' at Wuchang—Panic in Northern China—The New Taipings—Plan of the latest Rising—Chu denounces the Plot—Arrest of the Conspirators—Numerous Summary Executions—The Penalty of the Fifth King of Hades—Vast Organization of the 'White Lilies' throughout the Empire—The aborted Plans of the Conspirators at Wuchang." The annalist then writes as follows:—

A vast insurrection of the Chinese against the Tartar-Manchu element, in a measure resembling the great Taiping rebellion, has been on the point of breaking out at Wuchang against the constituted authorities. And although it was provided against in that town, it is believed apparently that serious troubles may occur in a great number of provinces, simultaneously, with no less an object than the overthrow of the present Manchu-Tartar line. We know that this dynasty reigns over the Chinese Empire by right of conquest, and not by that of birth; and that, many centuries ago, the victorious Tartars replaced the Chinese family by that of their own chief upon the Imperial throne of the Son of Heaven. The rebellion of the Taipings, whose emperor succumbed at Nanking, was a formidable attempt on the part of the Chinese to restore to the rulership of the Empire a National Emperor. The present confederation has the same object. The members appear to have chosen as the time wherein to put their scheme into execution that when the supreme power will be placed in the hands of the young Sovereign who is within a short time of his majority. It is, to say the least, singular that the Celestial Legitimists should have adopted the same emblem as that of France and Navarre.

Subjoined is the story of a Chinese correspondent of the Wuchang plot. We will follow the text as literally as possible. The date is May, 1883:—

"On the 28th of last month a certain number of the alumni of the 'Secret of the White Lily' invaded the town of Wuchang, giving themselves out as students who had come to compete at the examinations. They hired a house situated at the rear of the prison and contiguous to the Chefu's Yamén, posting outside a placard announcing that this house was a place of meeting for good men.

"A person named Wong opened a bean shop on the ground floor. His son, named Sheng, was in the service of a small mandarin, and had been, for some time, a member of the Society. When the conspirators came to hide themselves in the town, he acted as their guide, and served them in everything to the best of his power.

"He had been notified that the rising would take place on the 28th of the third month, at the fourth watch of the night, and that the burning of the prison would be the signal of the insurrection.

"A man of the name of Chu, who had quite recently belonged to the garrison of the town, and had received a commission as lieutenant for meritorious service, had just opened a draper's shop near Wang-shan-men. As a matter of course he had daily relations with his customers, among whom was a member of the White Lily Band, who undertook to enroll him in the society. Chu pretended to assent.

"Consequently, he was presented at a meeting of the confederates, and received the regalia of the association. First of all he was invested with the cap (or hat) adopted by the members of the sect, and resembling that formerly worn by the servants and partisans of the Ming dynasty. He also received a written talisman of the following form:—Above,

the character for 'Feng' (the wind); in the middle an innumerable quantity of small dots, with a number of circles joined together in a chain; and at the foot, the characters for 'Chi-king,' or Imperial Order.

"As soon as he was in possession of these material proofs, Chu, leaving his house furtively at bed-time, hurried to denounce the plot to the Commander of the Garrison, who, troubled and alarmed, instantly communicated the revelation to the Viceroy T'u Tsung-ying, who ordered the arrest of the confederates.

"These latter being taken unawares, were unable to arrange for either resistance or escape, and spread through the town in disorder, hastening toward the gates. The soldiers succeeded in arresting forty of them. Those who succeeded in escaping were very numerous.

"The prisoners were taken to the Yamén of the Chefu and subjected to rigorous torture. Some confessed that one of the sections of the secret Society had established its head-quarters in the Buddhist convent of Shu-chwang-t'ai. An armed descent was accordingly made the same night upon this nunnery. Four conspirators and all the nuns were arrested and carried off to the Yamén. In the convent a large quantity of kerosene oil and the ashes of paper which had been burned after drenching in the same inflammable liquid were also seized.

"The Fan'tai, the Tiet'ai, Tao'tai Titu, the Chefu, and the Che'sien, then all met in the Court of Justice, and proceeded to the interrogatory of the prisoners. Some confessed immediately: others were proof against all kinds of torture, while some affirmed that the son of a certain unattached Tao-tai, named Ting-ching-ho, and his cook were affiliated to the band.

"Soldiers were sent to surround the yamén of Tao'tai Ting, and the young man and the cook were brought before the tribunal. Ting accompanied his son. The judges were much embarrassed by this proceeding, and did not know how to act according to precedent. Nevertheless the young man was immediately examined and then taken to prison.

"The declarations made by the mass of the confederates were so contradictory that the judge, begged the Viceroy to draw up a memorandum for their instruction. Then followed numerous executions. Between noon and six o'clock at night thirty-five conspirators were decapitated. Their bodies were piled up in the middle of the Courtyard of the Chefu's yamén. One could hear the blood spouting. The heads were nailed to the gates of the town, as an example to the people. Wang ghan was among those executed. In the evening the corpses were carried out of the town by the East gate. At nightfall a peace-officer arrested one of the supposed rebel chiefs, and took him to the Chefu's yamén. His name was Teng.

"He was the fifth of his line, and was known as Yu-Yen Wang—the Fifth King of Hades. After having been tightly bound, hand and foot, he was cast into the dungeon with the other prisoners. During the night the sentinels yelled at frequent intervals and banged their gongs in order to give proof of their vigilance.

"The urban population were allowed to look after their daily business just as usual; but the nine gates of the city were rigorously closed, and no one could either enter or leave. However, on the 30th, very early, two gates, the Han-Yan and the Wang-Shang, were half opened to allow passage to the water-carriers. The precaution was taken to connect the two leaves of each gate by a strip of printed paper, in order that they should not open too widely, and should only allow room for one person at a time to pass through. Everyone who went by was closely searched: the gates were closed at four o'clock in the afternoon.

"According to what has transpired from the avowals of the confederates, it appears that the organization of their brotherhood is of vast extent, and that they have fastnesses and numerous alumni in every province of the Empire. Hence it happens that, no matter how many arrests may be made, the number of the confederates cannot be materially diminished. At the moment of his being taken into custody, the Fifth King of Hades, otherwise the 'Incarnate King of Hell,' as some call him, wore a long silk garment, a purple robe, and satin shoes. When he crossed, for the first time,

the gate of the town, his gait was firm and haughty. But when he arrived at the Yamén in sight of the heap of corpses thrown higgledy-piggledy one on the other, he changed colour. Lifting his eyes, he cried aloud:—"The azure sky will never stop my career." The mandarins questioned him very briefly and then incarcerated him. At midnight he was dragged out of prison, and, without any form of trial, beheaded before the gate of the Tien-fu temple, immediately behind the Yamén.

"Now, if we can believe the gossips of the streets, Teng was in no way affiliated to the sect of the White Lily; but he had never pursued an honest calling, living, on the contrary, by swindling. He was well learned in the law; and his subtle tongue always got him out of his scrapes, the magistrates being unable to accumulate proofs against him. It is for this reason that the opportunity of a plot against the dynasty was availed of in order to get rid of him. Indeed, it is beyond doubt that this man had done nothing to deserve death; and, nevertheless, he died unpitied on account of the criminality of his life. At ten o'clock on the following morning six other associates were arrested and taken to the Chefu's Yamén. The corpse of him who had been the 'Incarnate King of the Shades' was borne out of the town.

"At the present time the authorities redouble their zeal for the arrest of suspected persons; and soldiers of the garrison patrol all night long in the hope to effect other arrests. The reason of this is that the organization of the Society is vast and has spread over the whole Empire. The first rising should have taken place on the 25th. It did not occur on that date for the simple reason that all the confederates had not met at Wuchang. Owing to this misadventure it was postponed by their chief to the 28th, in the fourth watch. The Tower of the Yellow Stork, and the Convent of Shu-Chwang-Tai were both simultaneously to have been inundated with kerosene and set on fire. The light thus produced would be the signal to the people of Hankow to take part in the strife of Chinese against the Tartars.

"The plan of the *émeute* was as follows:—To open the prisons and free all the prisoners: to massacre all the magistrates: to storm the arsenal, seize the arms and distribute them among the confederates: to take possession of the town, to hold it and make it a base of operations in the war against the Manchu Emperor. This effected, confederates were to have been sent in all directions with orders to raise levies, liberate all the prisoners confined without the capital of the province, demolish the jails, and massacre all the Imperialist mandarins. "Happily," the celestial chronicler concludes, "the conspiracy was discovered. The conspirators were arrested two hours before the moment decided upon for the rising. This brief interval renders it impossible to divine what might have happened at Wuchang in case Chu had not revealed the plot. Among the talismans seized were found some inscribed with certain symbolic words, as 'Command,' 'Control,' and 'Act.'"

Here closes the Chinese narrative. This confederacy of Chinese Legitimists or Nihilists (which you will) proves one thing, to wit:—that a party, strongly organized throughout the Empire, is ready to profit by the least reverse of the Tartar dynasty to raise anew the standard of the Taipings.

H.I.H. PRINCE ARISUGAWA'S TRIP TO EUROPE AND AMERICA.

The subjoined paper is translated from the Narrative of Lieut.-Colonel Yamato, and Secretaries Nishi and Hayashi, and addressed to his Excellency Tokudaiji, Minister of the Imperial Household Department:—

On the 18th of June 1882, at about twenty minutes past seven a.m., the Prince accompanied by his suite, consisting of Hayashi Tadashu (Secretary to the Engineering Department), Nishi Tokujiro (Secretary to the Mining Department), Hayashi Ki (Imperial Physician), Yamamoto Kiyotaka (Lieut.-Colonel), and Kato Maro (an officer of the Department for Foreign Affairs), left the Palace at Akasaka, and at eight a.m. entered a special train provided for them in which they arrived at

the Offices of the Port Admiral, Yokohama. After a short rest the party embarked on a steam launch which conveyed them to the French steamer *Tanis*. Many distinguished visitors, including Princes, Sangi, and Ministers, came to say farewell to the illustrious traveller. At 10 a.m. the vessel steamed out of the harbor. As the object of the trip was private, no guns were fired to ruffle the peaceful repose of the sea. The weather was overcast and drizzly. Fellow-voyagers with the Prince were H.E. Asano and his consort, on their way to Italy, His Excellency having been appointed Minister to the Court of that country. Some students going abroad for education were also on board. We experienced a storm between Yenshunada and the north of Formosa. On the afternoon of the 25th the steamer arrived in Hongkong, where the (acting) Governor, Mr. Marsh, with Major Hamilton, and our Consul, Mr. Ando Taro, came to welcome His Highness, whom the Administrator begged to accept the hospitality of Government House, an offer which was gladly availed of. As we could not all be accommodated in that residence, Hayashi and Yamamoto only accompanied the Prince, the others of our party lodging at the Hongkong Hotel. Our trip being unofficial, salutes were dispensed with at our request. Four sedan-chairs were provided for us. The bearers were dressed in crimson livery and wore hats of ceremony. Mr. and Mrs. Marsh received the Prince at the door of Government House. After some conversation, we adjourned to the dining-room where our host and hostess and their nephew Mr. Townton entertained us at one table. Subsequently Mrs. Marsh and Townton played some music with which we were much pleased. Breakfast was served in private to the Prince; the Marshes were not with us. On the 26th we visited the Public Gardens and several other places of interest. On the 27th we had the pleasure of witnessing, in the Governor's grounds, the game of lawn-tennis, played by resident ladies and gentlemen, who were thus offered an opportunity of being presented to the Prince.

On the 28th we again visited the Public Gardens. The day being the Queen of England's Birthday, we were able to witness a parade of the garrison, the Prince being received on the ground by General Sargent, with whom he dined the same evening, twenty-eight gentlemen having been invited to meet him.

On the 29th we bade farewell to the Governor; and by 11 a.m. went on board our steamer which left the harbor at noon. On the 2nd of July we arrived in Saigon, when we were visited by an aide-de-camp of the Governor, on whose part the Prince was invited to pass the time of the vessel's stay at the Palace, a courtesy accepted by His Highness, who landed in a native-built boat, and was conveyed in a carriage to his destination, where he was received by the Governor, Mr. Emile Delepere in person. The Prince and his party were lodged upstairs. Carriages were always at their disposal, and availed of to visit the neighboring towns, which are mostly of Chinese style. What most struck us was the luxuriance of the tropical foliage. In the evening we were entertained at a banquet; and then followed an hour's conversation on the topics of the day.

On the 3rd we visited the Botanical Gardens, the Military Hospital, and the town generally. After the mid-day meal we thanked the Governor for his graceful hospitality, and returned to our steamer which left the harbour at 3 p.m. While in Saigon we heard of the trouble in Egypt, and were told that the Suez Canal was closed—a rumour that we failed to reduce to any certainty.

At 7 a.m. on the 6th we reached Singapore. As the Governor, Sir Frederic Weld, was absent, Mr. Cecil C. Smith (the Colonial Secretary) came to welcome us instead. On shore the Prince was received by a guard of honor, through whose ranks he was conducted to the carriage which conveyed him to Mr. Smith's residence. Under Mr. Smith's guidance the Prince, Hayashi, and Hayashi Ki paid a visit to the town. In the evening we returned to the steamer.

On the 13th we arrived at the harbor of Colombo. Officers came off to the steamer, on behalf of the Governor, to take the Prince's orders. Although we had declined any ceremonial reception, yet a salute of twenty-one guns woke the echoes of the harbor. After lunch we visited several places,

returning at 2 o'clock to the steamer. We heard by telegraph that the English fleet had bombarded Alexandria, and closed the Suez Canal. At 4 p.m. we left the harbor.

On the 21st the ship reached Aden. During the voyage thither from Colombo, we experienced a trade wind, and were not much troubled by the heat. One of the passengers came from Batavia where cholera was raging; and we were consequently compelled to remain on board the vessel. The Governor wrote to the Prince expressing his sorrow at being unable to visit him. We heard a salute of 21 guns. An English major-general came on board. We sailed on the 23rd from Aden, and came to Suez on the 28th. The neighborhood was a great battle field; and all Europeans had escaped on board their ships. At one p.m. our steamer entered the canal, which had been opened after the battle of Alexandria, and was now guarded by the English and French fleets.

We arrived at Port Said on the 29th and were boarded by the Italian Consul, who requested the Prince to inform him when he expected to arrive in Naples, whither he had orders to telegraph His Highness's approach. The steamer left at 6 p.m.

On the 2nd of August we arrived at Naples. Colonel Kontobera (?) and Lieutenant-Colonel Kanjani (?) visited the Prince in full dress uniform. Prince Biyokui (?) (Secretary of the Foreign Department), Satsuko (?) (Controller of the Imperial Household), and our own Secretary of Legation, Saito, also came to escort us to the Palace. This edifice was built externally with a view to durability, but inside it is splendidly furnished. Three carriages were always at our disposal; and our food was of the most sumptuous kind. On the 4th we took carriages and drove to Vesuvius, whence we went to Pompeii. The day was very hot; and we were much fatigued by our journey. On the 5th, starting at 6 a.m., we went in a man-of-war to Sorrento where we put up at a hotel. The scenery of the place is splendid; and we had fine views of Naples and the volcano. In the afternoon we visited the island of Capri, where there is a cave thirty feet high, but with an entrance only three or four feet wide. Thence we went to a village called Ptsuori (?) where we found the ruins of Emperor Nero's famous bridge. In returning we saw the big drain, twenty feet high and ten feet wide, built by the ancient Romans.

On the 6th we were taken to the Dockyard, where we saw the *Italia*, probably the largest man-of-war in the world, then still in process of construction. As it is said that when she is commissioned she will probably sail round the world, we may expect to see her in Japan. During our stay in Naples we visited Museums and many other places of interest.

On the 7th we set out for Rome, accompanied by Robera (?), and Kanjania (?), in a special train at 6.30 a.m., arriving at about two o'clock in the afternoon. Yanagiwara, our Minister to Russia, came to meet us. He was leaving for St. Petersburg on the morrow. We went in carriages to the Palace, which was built of old by one of the Popes of Rome, and is one of the most splendid edifices in Italy. On our installation in our quarters the Foreign Minister came to see the Prince. After we had taken some refreshment we visited the Cathedral of St. Peter, and the site of several historical buildings. As a serious disease was prevalent in the capital, and we were told that the King of Italy proposed to meet His Highness on the 10th at Monza (?), we hastened to return.

On the 8th we came to Florence, where we stayed and explored all day; on the 9th to Milan, where the Duke of Genoa received the Prince at the Railway Station, and where a Band of Music was playing. The two Princes went in the same carriage to the Palace. At three p.m. the King, attired in morning dress, came to visit His Highness.

By order of the King, the Duke presented the Prince with the insignia of the Annonciado; and at 11 o'clock in the morning His Highness went by special train to the Palace at Monza. The King met him at the station and rode in the same carriage with him to the Palace. The town was gaily decorated. We banquetted in the Palace, and afterwards each received a decoration in honor of our visit. Again entering the same carriage, His Majesty and Prince Arisugawa drove to the Gardens and thence to the station, where they parted, the King expressing to His

Highness his regret that he could not accompany him any farther, as the visit of a German Prince was expected. Having cordially thanked the King for his kind reception, the Prince, accompanied by the Duke of Genoa, entered the train, and the party returned to Milan just as the clock was striking 3 p.m. At night the citizens showed their appreciation of the Prince's visit by illuminations and fireworks. The Duke of Genoa's place of usual residence is Turin, whither he would have been accompanied by the Prince; but as the latter was very anxious to pass through the Saint Gothard tunnel, he had reluctantly to decline this invitation.

Leaving on the 12th, we passed through the tunnel connecting, through the Alps, the countries of Italy and Switzerland, and presently found ourselves at Lucerne in the latter country. And here we desire specially to acknowledge the kindness that we experienced in Italy. On the 14th we ascended the Righi Kulm. On the 15th we arrived at Berne, where Ida, our Minister to France, received us. As the President of the Helvetic Republic was absent from the city, the Prince visited the Vice-President only. On the 16th we reached Lucerne; on the 17th Geneva where we went to Touro (?) and inspected the watchmaking establishments.

We set out from Geneva on the 19th, and arrived in Paris at 11 o'clock that night, where H.E. Ida was waiting to receive us. The Prince lodged in the Legation. The Japanese Prince Ito, who was then residing in England, came across the channel to visit H.I.H. Arisugawa. Sangi Ito had also despatched Saionji to meet us, suggesting that it would be well to send Mr. Secretary Nishi to Russia as the Prince's forerunner. This was done, and the messenger left Paris for St. Petersburg on the 22nd.

On the 24th we went in carriages to the house of President Grévy, where we were received by General Chanzy, and the Master of the Ceremonies, Morel. After we had waited about fifteen minutes, the President came to meet the Prince, and shortly afterwards Madame Grévy led us to her salon. We returned to the Legation, and some three hours later the President visited the Prince, and appointed Major——— to provide for our amusement. He accompanied us in our excursions; but no special entertainment was provided for us by the French Government.

A sad event occurred on the 30th. Our physician, Mr. Hayashi died. The expenses of the funeral, the cost of the monument, etc., were all defrayed by the Government. Sangi Ito visited the Prince.

On the 9th of September we set out from Paris. We had intended to go to Germany, but Mr. Aoki, our Minister at Berlin, advised the Prince that he would do better to visit Russia directly, as the Kaiser was absent from his capital and the Czar's coronation had been indefinitely postponed. The Prince decided to follow this counsel; and on the 10th we arrived at Hanover, where Aoki met us. We left on the following day, he accompanying His Highness. On the 12th we reached Kaisburg (?); and left it on the 13th, soon afterward, passing the Russian frontier, where we were received by Lieut.-Colonel Ramsdorff. The people welcomed us joyously, and showed us great respect.

On the 14th at about five p.m. we arrived at St. Petersburg, where Yanagiwara, our Minister, and Nishi who had preceded our party, met us. The Band began to play as the train stopped. We were received by two Russian Ministers of Department and the Prefect of Police, and escorted to the Winter Palace. The streets were thronged along the route. The Prince, accompanied by us, visited the King of Montenegro, who was then in the Palace. The Prince's apartments were on the first story—and were the same, it is said, as those which the Crown-Prince of Russia used to occupy. Splendid views were commanded from them. The approaches were guarded by sentries and policemen. In the afternoon the King of Montenegro, the Minister, and second Minister, of Foreign Affairs, called on the Prince.

On the 16th, at about 11 o'clock, we started for Peterhoff by special train. Here stands Alexander's palace. The journey occupied about thirty minutes. The high officers who came to receive us wore splendid uniforms. A brother of the Russian Emperor walked in advance followed by Princes Reilutenburg (?), and Oldenburg, Ministers of State, and others. After taking a brief rest, we

started for the Palace, where the Czar himself received the Prince, and the two talked together most intimately.

The Prince spoke to the following effect:—

Our Emperor having heard of the approaching ceremony of the coronation of the Czar of Russia, and desiring to offer his congratulations upon the occasion, has deputed me to be present as his representative. I regret extremely that the rites have to be postponed, and the more so because I cannot remain until the period now appointed for them. Nevertheless, I congratulate myself upon my admission to your Majesty's august presence, and on the opportunity thus afforded me to express my Sovereign's regard for you.

His Majesty replied in terms of great kindness, thanking H.M. the Emperor of Japan for the thoughtful sympathy displayed in this visit, and regretting that Prince Arisugawa was unable to remain in Russia to be present at the coronation. The Prince then offered the compliments and felicitations of the Empress of Japan to the Czarina, who replied cordially. A general conversation upon the events of the Prince's voyage ensued, until we adjourned to dinner, after which the Prince went back to his quarters in the Winter Palace, where the Emperor soon after paid him a visit.

On the 17th we returned to St. Petersburg, where His Imperial Highness called upon the Austrian Prince then residing there, and presented him, on behalf of our Emperor, with the Order of the *Chrysathemum*.

On the afternoon of the 23rd we left St. Petersburg, and arrived the following day at Moscow.

Here Prince Arisugawa was received by many distinguished individuals of literary as well as official standing. He was lodged in the Kremlin Palace; and the hospitality we enjoyed was of the same kind as that shown us in St. Petersburg. A national Exhibition was being held during our stay; and was visited by the Czar. It was therefore arranged that the Prince should in Moscow take his final farewell of the Czar, who had announced his intention of visiting the Prince in reply to a question from the latter as to when he should have the honor of calling upon the monarch. While His Highness was exploring the wonders of the Palace, Mr. Giers, Minister of Foreign Affairs, came to him and presented him and the members of his suite with sundry decorations, on the part of His Imperial Majesty. In the evening the Emperor, himself, arrived and requested the Prince to offer to the Mikado his sincerest regards and good wishes. He then bade *adieu* to the Prince and his party. On the 24th and 25th, we visited the Exhibition and other places of note; and on the 26th left Moscow, *en route* for Warsaw, escorted as far as the station by several officials. The people on the route seemed as glad to see us as were those who greeted us on our first arrival in Russia.

On the 28th, at about 1 p.m., we reached Warsaw, where the Governor and other distinguished personages at the head of a body of troops welcomed His Imperial Highness, and escorted him to the Imperial Palace. After dinner we were taken to the theatre where we witnessed a ballet. On the 29th, after visiting the Governor, the Prince made a tour of the sights of the town, including the Public Gardens, returning in the evening. The morning of the 30th we went to the Emperor's garden. We dined in the evening with the Governor, after which we left Warsaw by train for Vienna.

Early on the morning of the 31st we arrived in Austrian territory; and hence the Prince sent a telegram to the Czar announcing his safe arrival, and thanking His Majesty for the kindness he had experienced during his sojourn on Russian soil. Lieut.-Colonel Ramsdorff bade us farewell at this point.

On the 1st of November we reached Vienna, the capital of Austria, where Ito (Sangi) and Honma and Ida (Ministers) received the Prince, who took up his abode in the Japanese Legation. As the Austrian Emperor happened at the time to be travelling in his dominions, the Prince awaited his return, and in the interval we visited the Gun Factories, the Imperial Stables, and the Hydrographical Office of the War Department.

On the 8th the Emperor, having returned to his capital, sent carriages to convey the Prince and the rest of us to the Palace, where His Highness was at once ushered into the Imperial presence, the courtiers remaining in the anti-room. A moment later the Prince came thither, and there received the

Emperor, who thus returned the compliment of the Prince's visit. The Prince was invited to dine with the Sovereign in the Palace of Schönbrunn. The King of Saxony and the grandson of the Emperor of Germany were also guests, and conversed intimately with our Prince, after being introduced to him. Shortly afterwards dinner was announced. On the right of the Emperor sat the King of Saxony; on his left the Prince; then the Prussian Prince, and Ito, Sangi. After dinner the conversation was general and unrestrained.

On the 9th Major-Generals the Princes Karl and Ludvig (the brother of the Emperor) called on the Prince at the Legation. The Austrian Prince remarked that he had three sons, one of whom he intended to travel in Japan. There were no other entertainments than the one mentioned above in the capital; but the Emperor invested the Prince with the Order of Leopold the First, and the members of his suite with other decorations.

On the 12th we left Vienna. Our first intention had been to leave for Germany on the 9th; but Aoki, our Minister to that country, had written to the Prince, recommending him to postpone his visit a little as the Emperor was absent at the Hot Springs, and His Majesty wished to treat him with all possible courtesy in return for the kindness his own grandsons had experienced in Japan. Hence we determined to visit Holland before going to Berlin.

On the 13th we arrived at Mayence: 14th Frankfurt and Wiesbaden. On the 15th we sailed down the Rhine to Cologne, where Sakurada, our Minister, received the Prince.

On the 16th we arrived in the Netherlands Capital, and were welcomed by Consul Bodin. On the 17th the Minister of Foreign Affairs and Major Seizen-Brod (?) called upon His Highness. The King was in the country suffering from indisposition, and so was unable to receive the Prince. The citizens had reminded the Government of the intimate relations that had long subsisted between Holland and Japan, and requested that the Prince should be treated as the guest of the nation; but the request was not complied with. During our sojourn of three days we visited several places of interest. The King conferred the distinction of the Lion of the Netherlands upon His Highness. On the 19th we reached Amsterdam, where we visited many of the "lions" of the place. The next year a Great Exhibition was to be held there and the buildings were (at the time of the visit) in course of construction.

Leaving Amsterdam on the 21st, we arrived at Berlin on the following day. H.E. Aoki and the German Prefect of Police received the Prince. The treatment we received was not exactly what we had been led to expect. We were lodged in the Japanese Legation. On the 24th the Emperor of Germany having returned from Baden-Baden, Prince Wilhelm called on Prince Arisugawa, inviting him to the Palace on behalf of the Emperor, who sent a carriage to convey him thither. The reception much resembled that in Austria, the principal difference being that the German Kaiser's bearing toward the Prince was more distant than that of the Austrian; and the persons present were much more numerous. The ex-German Minister to Japan, Baron von Eisendecker, was there. On the 25th, by invitation of the German Crown Prince, we went to Potsdam, and were handsomely entertained. One thousand soldiers were mustered for Prince Arisugawa's inspection. The Crown Prince accompanied His Highness back to Berlin, where the Emperor conferred the order of the Great Red Eagle upon the latter, presenting his suite with decorations.

We left Berlin on the 27th, and arrived in Brussels, the capital of Belgium, at 2 p.m. on the 28th. The King happened to be absent from town on a hunting excursion at the time; but returned immediately he heard of the Prince's coming in time to receive him that day and to return his visit.

On the 29th the King presented the Prince with the insignia of the Grand Military order, and other Orders were conferred upon the rest of us. In the evening we were entertained at a banquet in much the same style as in Austria and Germany, with the difference that, in Brussels, Her Majesty was present. After the dinner we went to the theatre, accompanied by several of the people of the Court. The Prince occupied the Royal Box. All next day was occupied in visiting Arsenals,

Dockyards, and other Government establishments, under special introduction by the authorities. When the Prince entered a gate a band of music played. We inspected also the Central Prison with its bath-rooms, kitchens, and lavatories. We were conducted round the Forts by the Minister of War, and to the Iron Foundries by the Vice-Minister for Foreign Affairs.

On the 2nd of November we left Brussels, and passing through Paris, went straight on to Bordeaux, where we arrived on the 3rd. We inspected the establishments of several famous wine-makers, and attended an International Exhibition of wines and liqueurs. This being our Emperor's birthday we kept holiday. On the 4th we left Bordeaux by rail.

We reached Madrid on the 15th; and next day witnessed a bull-fight. The arena was circular with a circumference of about ten cho (660 ft.), enclosed by a palisade 5 ft. high, outside which were the seats of the spectators. There were two gates facing each other in the enclosure. Above one of them was an estrade for the musicians. In the arena were two horsemen, each armed with a lance, and their chargers' eyes bandaged with black stuff; and some six or seven very peculiarly dressed men on foot, standing here and there, holding in their hands pieces of red blanket. After the band had played, one of the gates was opened, and behold! a burly bull with wide-branching horns rushed into the arena. Each of the horns must have been at least two feet long. The footmen got in front of him, waving their red rags, till the beast was angry and charged them. Nimbly did they elude him, one after the other. Then the horsemen in their turn assailed the bull. We were told that one of these animals had been known to kill fifteen horses in one day. We saw one bull destroy three horses. When the bull became exhausted one of the men on foot killed him with a sword about two feet long. Bull after bull appeared, all with much the same result, until eight had been murdered and dragged away. This sport was on a Sunday; and simultaneously with the bull-fighting Christian services were being conducted in a Christian country. What a wicked custom do Christians here perpetuate!

On the 7th the Prince was invited to the Palace, a carriage being sent to convey him thither. He was escorted by two high functionaries of the Court to the throne. On the 8th the King returned the Prince's visit; and in the evening His Highness dined in the Palace, sitting between the Queen and the King's sister. Several of the Court ladies dined with us. Great intimacy seemed to obtain. After dinner the King led the Prince to another room and carried on a confidential conversation with him for some time; afterwards adjourning to the armoury. His Majesty expressed great admiration of Japanese arms and armour. The Prince promised His Majesty that he would send him a collection from Japan after his return to that country. We then left the Palace, the Prince taking leave of the Queen and the sisters of the King. Her Majesty's condition at this time was interesting. It has long been a custom with Spanish Royalty whenever a child is born to the reigning House for the King to show it, lying on a silver-cloth pillow, to the Ministers, at his Court, of Foreign Powers. As it happened our Minister, Ida, was invited to be present on the recent occurrence of this ceremony in Madrid. We hear that the custom had its origin in the time when it was the law that no girl could ever succeed to the throne of Spain. It was in Portugal that we heard of the birth of Her Majesty's daughter.

On the 9th we visited the Military Depots and public exhibitions. The King decorated the Prince with the insignia of the Grand Order of Charles III.

We left Madrid on the 10th, reaching Lisbon on the 11th. Next day the Prince went to the Palace. No carriages were provided. We were all admitted to the presence of the King and Queen. This royal lady is the daughter of the late King of Italy, and has a reputation for great sagacity. The Prince's visit was returned by His Majesty. We observed that the Palace was a building of great simplicity.

Starting from Lisbon on the 13th, and passing through Madrid and Bordeaux, we arrived on the 16th in Paris where we put up at the Grand Hotel. We left again on the 19th for England. On our arrival at Folkestone we found Prince Iun and H.E. Mori, Minister to the Court of St. James's,

awaiting us; and the same night we arrived at the Legation in London. No provision had been made by the British Government for the Prince. Our baggage which had been forwarded from Belgium was detained for examination. The Minister represented to the Government that the effects of Royal personages were allowed to pass through Custom Houses duty-free. He was not listened to, and the baggage was examined.

On the 24th the Prince, by invitation of the Queen, went to Windsor Castle. We had heard that special trains were provided for such occasions; but when we arrived at the station we found that the railway-carriages were common for the Prince and everyone else. When we alighted at Windsor we found three carriages waiting to take us to the Castle. Arrived there, the Prince was conducted at once to the dining-room by the Foreign Minister. The repast had already commenced. We hear that a demand was made for railway fares. During our stay in London no Royal or official personage visited us. We went about the city. On the 30th we left London for Liverpool, where we inspected some cotton factories on the 1st of December. About 4 p.m. on the 2nd, we embarked on board one of the Cunard Line steamers *en route* for the United States. During several days we experienced wind and rain-storms.

On the 15th of December we arrived in New York, and were met by Terashima. The Prince and his suite were lodged in the Windsor Hotel. General Grant sent his son to call on the Prince, and placed two carriages at His Highness's disposal. Japanese merchants resident in New York provided an entertainment for the Prince on the 17th; and on the 19th General Grant organized a banquet in his honour at the Club.

Leaving New York on the 20th we visited the falls of Niagara, and arrived in Washington on the 23rd. On the 26th the American Home Minister called for the Prince, whom he accompanied in a carriage on a visit to President Arthur. On the 27th we made a trip to Washington's old house at Mount Vernon, by the authority of the President, who, however, was not one of the party, being represented by the Home Minister. The representatives of several foreign States were with us, and there was saluting, music, and feasting.

We departed from Washington on the 28th of December, 1882, and reached San Francisco on the 3rd of January, 1883. We devoted the whole of one day to visiting objects of interest. On the 9th we went on board the steamer *City of Peking* and passed the night in harbour. Leaving on the 10th we encountered a succession of storms in the Pacific.

At 9 p.m. on the 1st of February we arrived in Yokohama; and at half-past eleven landed in the steam launch of the Port Admiral, and took train for Tokyo. On the 2nd at two o'clock in the morning the Prince entered the Palace at Akasaka. On account of the hour, several rites usually observed were dispensed with.

On the 11th we were received in audience by the Emperor, and afterwards entertained in the Palace.

APPENDIX.

The Royal Palaces in Europe are for the most part constructed with a view to strength and durability, and hence are not remarkable for external elegance. Yet beauty and elegance are cultivated within. Style and plan are much the same in all countries we visited. In all there are massive flights of steps from the carriage drive to the portico. The buildings contain drawing-rooms, guest-chambers, large and small dining-rooms, bed-rooms, and a throne-room. These are all on the second storey. The ground floor and the third storey are mostly reserved for offices, and the use of attendants and musicians.

The demeanor of Emperors and Kings alike was very courteous and friendly, and not in the least ceremonious. When entertaining guests they generally dress in plain uniform. In Italy the King wore a plain morning dress: the Portuguese monarch wore a common navy coat.

While we were in Madrid the French Minister visited the Spanish King. He had four carriages. In the first, drawn by six horses, he rode himself; the Secretaries occupied the next, drawn by four horses. An escort of cavalry accompanied them, and some ten men on foot. The officers who received our Prince were of the rank of Grand Marshal, Grand Chamberlain, attendants

of first and second rank, and some military officers.

The return visits of the Potentates were usually made within an hour of the Prince's. In Spain, however, the King did not return his call until the following day. When officers are admitted to the presence they stand, and the sovereign with his consort walks down the line exchanging a greeting with each individual. At a banquet the royal pair sit face to face at the middle of the board. The principal guest is seated at the right of the Queen; or if the august lady is not present he occupies her seat. The rule is that she should attend should she happen to be in town; but in Belgium the Queen gave a separate entertainment. Splendid carriages and horses, such as were placed at the Prince's disposal, are attached to every Royal establishment. Sometimes the Prince rode in the special carriage of the Sovereign.

TRANSLATIONS FROM NATIVE JOURNALS.

THE NAKASENDO RAILWAY.

(Translated from the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*.)

The Government has decided to proceed with the construction of the Nakasendo Railway, and has instructed the Public Works Department to make an extra appropriation of yen 500,000 for the 19th fiscal year (1884), so that the work may be commenced at once. The idea is excellent. According to the best authorities this line is to connect with the Nippon Railway at Takasaki, whence it will run *via* Inagori to Tanaka, Shinshu, and thence to Matsumoto, Nakasendo, Ogaki Gifu, in the province of Mino, and there join the Sekigahara line, thus linking together the Eastern and the Western capitals. The principal iron-ways at present in full working order are:—(1) the Tokiyo-Yokohama, length 18 miles; (2) Kobe-Otsu, 58 miles; (3) Tsuruga, 41 miles; (4) Tokiyo-Mayebashi, 51 miles; and (5) the Temiya line from Sapporo, 37 miles. This last mentioned road, being in Hokkaido, does not particularly concern our present discussion. The Tokiyo-Yokohama Railway was built in 1872, and is one of the most important of all. The second was laid under Government auspices—the section between Kobe and Osaka having been completed in 1874; that between Osaka and Kiyoto in 1876; and that from Kiyoto to Otsu in 1879. This road ranks next to the Tokiyo-Yokohama one in point of importance. The third line likewise is a Government undertaking, and is already under traffic with the exception of that portion through and beyond the Yanagase tunnel which is rapidly approaching completion. The fourth mentioned enterprise is a private one; and trains are already plying as far as Honjo, with a prospect that they will reach Mayebashi before next summer. The Nippon Railway Company will shortly join this line at Shinagawa to the Tokiyo-Yokohama road, thus reducing the time of travel between Yokohama and Takasaki to a few hours. When the Yanagase tunnel is completed, goods can be sent by rail from Kobe to Otsu, *via* Osaka and Kiyoto, and thence to Tsuruga by steamer across Lake Biwa and thence again by rail to Sekigahara. This journey can also be accomplished in a few hours. The net-work of railway communication thus established will remove many obstacles and difficulties hitherto inseparable from intercourse between the East and West of the main island. Formerly two days were occupied in travelling from Takasaki to Sekigahara by way of the Nakasendo. Infants can realize the advantages to be gained by the proposed change in the method of locomotion; and it is only reasonable that the Government should realize its project promptly. The main obstacles in the line of work are the hilly region of Iwagori and Mount Kiso, where engineering operations will be arduous and

the expense enormous; but that is no reason for the adjournment of the undertaking. It is not too much to say that, however large a sum of money the country may have expended upon railway works, the benefit accruing is not half what it might be, owing to the absence of connection between the lines—a defect which will be happily remedied by the construction of the Takasaki-Sekigahara route. Meanwhile, considering the state of the national finances, the expenditure on the part of the Government of half a million yen in the nineteenth fiscal year on railway construction is an act of resolute policy which we cannot too much admire; and yet the sum in question is barely one per cent. of what is actually required. Unless more than yen 500,000 is yearly disbursed on similar undertakings, it will be long before our railway system becomes a boon. The loss arising from lack of facility for traffic and the conveyance of mails so long as the lines remain incomplete is inestimable. From the mere stand-point of national economy it is desirable that the railway system of this island should be perfected with the least possible delay. The outlay heretofore made by the Government in the construction of iron roads, including the sums paid for land, rolling stock, etc., is as follows:—Tokiyo-Yokohama line, yen 3,038,672; Kobe-Osaka, yen 4,484,228; Osaka-Kiyoto, yen 2,817,845; Kiyoto-Otsu, yen 786,134; and Temiya-Sapporo, yen 785,161, making a total of yen 11,912,143. This is by no means a trifling amount. Although the full possible advantage has not yet been secured owing to the short length of the lines and their isolation from one another, yet they yielded a total income of yen 1,792,551 for the year ended June, 1882. The expenses incurred in working them during the same period were yen 759,382; so that the net profit is yen 1,033,169 or ten per cent. on the capital. In the beginning, useless expenditure was incurred owing to the heavy cost of the staff. But as employes are now thoroughly acquainted with all the details of their work, the expenses will be curtailed to a great extent and the work will be completed in a satisfactory manner, as indeed we may affirm from the demonstration of present experience. Difficult as the construction of the Takasaki-Sekigahara line must be, the officers will prove fully equal to all emergencies; and it only remains for us to hope devoutly that the necessary funds may be raised as speedily as possible. When the line is completed, a great change, for decline or prosperity, as the case may be, will be manifest in the regions of commerce, agriculture, and manufacture. The result, however, causes us no apprehension whatever; and so long as the completion of the line means the removal of impediments, we must look upon it with the greatest satisfaction. The mail service, and all kinds of traffic, will be facilitated even to the extent that we shall be able to visit Kobe in a day, and do ample justice before bed-time to the savory viands for which each city is famous, after feasting our eyes upon the glories of the cherry-blossoms on the banks of the Sumida River. Our means of pleasure will augment in proportion to our material progress.

THE FILIAL DUTY OF JAPANESE FEMALES.

(Translated from the *Fiji Shimpō*.)

"We receive our being from our parents. Hence an essential part of our duty, as descendants, is to preserve that being from injury." This precept, although a mere Chinese dogma handed down from olden time, yet contains a fraction of truth. The duty of mankind in respect of parents, is obedience to their orders—except if such be utterly unjust and unreasonable—and to share their sorrows as well as their joys. The recognized rule of human society is that children should share equally the reverses and the good fortunes of father and mother. This is also the prime source of social harmony. Does a family fall into indigence? Each one of its members has to take his or her share of the consequent misfortunes: it is not blame-worthy for women to sell their clothes in order to

provide food for their relatives. But should they betake themselves to a life of infamy we must censure them, however laudable their intention may be. Even their bodies are a sacred heritage from their progenitors, which their filial piety alone should protect from abuse. The sale of their persons is therefore a violation of dutifulness, and in our opinion the most serious infraction of any. In Western countries, however poor a family may become—though its women may sell not only all their ornaments but the clothes from their backs—they will not vend their persons. But, in Japan, the girls who are held to have carried their devotion to their parents to the sublimity of virtue, are those who seek voluntary exile in the quarters of shame. What a mistaken idea of duty! Certainly Japanese women are ignorant of the inner meaning of filial piety!

If we search for the origin of this custom we shall find it in popular novels and stage-representations. Doubtless, these instructors of the public aim at the encouragement of well-doing and the correction of evil—fostering loyalty, virtue, and truth; and censuring malice and falsehood. As a natural consequence, the extremes of good and ill are sometimes so forcibly delineated as to be really inconsistent with the occurrences of every-day life. Virtue always commands the loud applause of the universe: vice its sternest reprobation. The object of romances and plays is to work upon the imagination; and, with this in view, the novelist would fain portray the filial affection of women, in their voluntary prostitution, as an expression of self-sacrifice worthy of admiration. Thus he incites dutiful maidens to condemn themselves to a life of infamy in order to rescue their indigent parents from distress. The injurious effects produced are daily before our eyes. Successive generations have come to look upon female venality as a type of children's duty; and the girl members of poor families consider their degradation not only in the light of a necessity prescribed by filial devotion, but as an honorable estate. The public, also, has been taught to regard the practice with genuine approbation, just as it applauded the self-immolation of the faithful *samurai* beside the corpse of his lord. The public has never realized the fact that prostitution is a violation of the filial relation. The misconception here indicated has given rise to a vile custom which has lost all the hideousness of its real aspect to the eye of a Japanese—a result which must be attributed to the endeavors of novelists and dramatists to secure the approbation of the public in representing the extreme phases of human life.

Since the abolition of the feudal system, since the Restoration, no suicide as a token of respect for a deceased master is known to have occurred. But, on the other hand, the sale of human-beings, from a mistaken idea of the dictates of filial piety, is far from having been abolished. Instances of its occurrence are daily reported in the newspapers. What can be the reason of this? Political ideas change with a change of policy; but social customs are not so easily altered. This is a universal rule. The practice of suicide at a master's death has fallen into desuetude since the Restoration; but the interpretation of the meaning of filial piety has undergone no amelioration whatever. True, ten years is not long enough to destroy a popular credence so deeply rooted as this; but we are inclined to believe that the special custom we allude to has not only not received one germ of decay, but even flourishes with increasing vigour. This is the fault of our learned men. Editors of journals are credited with knowledge; and are consequently responsible for the rectification of social evils. The error is that they applaud the conduct of those loyal females who sacrifice their virtue on the altar of their filial devotion. These writers borrow their language from the old novelists, and their work is thus but a reproduction of ancient literature. This has the effect of encouraging prostitution; for the time-honored tomes referred to had already so largely disseminated the evil that no modern journalistic effort is needed to its increase. Should the idea embodied in the practice become more firmly rooted than now in the brain of the vulgar, nothing will be able to eradicate it. The whole matter is a source of great grief to us; and we deem that the first duty of our educated men is to do their best to rectify what is a dreadful social evil.

MARINE COURT OF ENQUIRY.

THE LOSS OF THE "AKITSUSHIMA MARU."

The Court assembled yesterday at ten o'clock, at the Marine Bureau, Tokyo, to deliver judgment in the above case, as follows:—

The *Akitsushima Maru* was an iron screw steamer, built at Glasgow, December, 1873, of 1,146 tons register and 200 horse-power, and owned by the Mitsu Bishi Mail Steamship Co. of Tokio.

She left Yokohama on the 6th of October last, at 6.15 a.m. bound for Hakodate, having 50,000 bricks on board and about 220 tons of measurement general cargo stowed in the after hold, the trim of the vessel being aft 17 feet 2 inches and forward 10 feet 4 inches, she thus being 6 feet 10 inches by the stern. The ship was commanded by Mr. Johannes Frahm, who held a master's certificate of competency, No. 11.

On the morning of the 8th at 4 a.m. the vessel was 3 miles east of Kinkasan, she having experienced strong N.E. winds accompanied with rain and dirty thick weather. At 3.45 p.m. on the 8th she was 5 miles east of Miyako Head.

From this time the wind increased rapidly and veered to the eastward, and at sunset the vessel was hauled off the land until 1 a.m. on the 9th, wind being south, when a N.N.W. course was shaped, the weather having moderated somewhat. The land was sighted at 6 a.m. on the 9th, when a W.N.W. course was shaped by the bridge compass (which was also used as the standard compass) until 9 a.m. when the wind having veered round to the S.W. it blew with great force; ship fell off into the trough of the sea, was heading then N.N.W., having the helm hard a starboard, ship making by master's judgment 5 knots an hour, and 4 points leeway. The speed of the ship was estimated by the officers at 2½ to 4 knots. The log was never hove.

On the 9th at noon the position of the ship was not worked up by any one.

By 5.30 p.m. on the 9th the ship had made 42 miles on a mean N.N.W. course (by bridge compass) the wind veering to the westward; she was then put on the starboard tack and made a S.S.W. course (by bridge compass) having the helm hard a port, 4 points leeway being allowed by the master. Wind at N.W., up to midnight, she had made by the master's reckoning 22 miles as shown on his chart.

During the latter part of first watch the weather moderated rapidly, and at midnight a W.N.W. course (by bridge compass) was shaped, and speed increased to 8 and 9 knots.

Shortly before 4 a.m. on the 10th, the master feeling uncertain as to his position, gave orders to take a cast of the lead, and turned the ship's head to the eastward and stopped the engines. At this instant a light was seen by the captain and third officer simultaneously, judged to bear west distant 18 miles according to the master's estimation; 12 and 4 to 5 respectively according to the 1st and 3rd officer's evidence.

The light without any hesitation the master assumed to be that of *Siriya-saki*, and he at once countermanded the order to sound; put the engines full speed ahead, set the course N.W. by W. (by bridge compass) and steadied the vessel himself, and after watching the light (as by his own evidence) for 8 or 9 minutes he went below for rest, &c., leaving the chief officer in charge of the deck.

At 4.25 a.m. the light was lost sight of; and at 4.45 a.m. the land was sighted right ahead, engines put full speed astern, but she had taken the ground at a point about 15 miles south of *Siriya-saki* where she eventually was abandoned, the efforts to float her having failed.

Between the ship's movements as recorded in the log-book and those shown on the chart by which the master navigated the vessel, there exists a serious discrepancy. In the log-book the mean of the courses is N.N.W., while the track on the chart is N.E. by N. ¼ N.; again, from 5.30 p.m. to midnight the course in log-book is S.S.W. and S. by W. ¼ W. and on the chart it is S. by E. ¼ E.

This the master explains to be due entirely to leeway which he allowed in laying down his track. In his evidence the master states he allowed a speed of 5 knots for the same intervals, and not

withstanding his peculiar trim, being 6 feet 10 inches by the stern, we find it difficult to believe that a ship moving at that speed through the water, and having the wind 2 points ahead the beam could possibly make so much leeway. From this we are of opinion that the master committed a grave error in judgment in allowing so much leeway as 4 points, combined with a 5 knot speed, and point out that a reduction in either of these elements in his calculations would have given him a much more correct position at midnight on the 9th of October.

Here we would remark upon the irregular manner in which the navigation of the ship has been apparently habitually conducted. The log-book has been kept very irregularly, as it shows no record of the speed per hour, error of compass, barometrical readings; neither is any account of the ship's position at noon, bearing a distance at noon entered, and only one remark as to leeway. The master appears to have trusted entirely to his knowledge of the land, having lost sight of it for a few hours, and the log-book affording him no guide, he is obliged to rely upon his own judgment and memory; he never considered it necessary to consult his 1st or 2nd officers.

We are further of opinion that, considering the great uncertainty of the ship's position at midnight on the 9th and the fact that land could not be seen at a greater distance than 3 miles, it was imprudent in the extreme to shape a direct course for it at such a speed, from 8 to 9 knots.

The fact that the ship's head had been turned to the eastward at 4 a.m. on the 10th with the intention of taking a cast of the lead, shows that the master was still uncertain of his position; consequently to have accepted the light seen as that of *Siriya-saki* so unhesitatingly and without further verification than that of 8 or 9 minutes' watching, and immediately to have gone full speed ahead again on a N.W. by W. course, was perfectly reckless.

By leaving the bridge at this critical time the master committed a grave neglect of duty from which his long exposure and want of rest did not exonerate him in the least, particularly as from his evidence we gather an entire want of confidence in the abilities of his officers.

We are also of opinion that the vessel, being 6 feet 10 inches by the stern, was not in a perfect seaworthy condition, particularly during the typhoon season.

JUDGMENT.

We find the master to have been guilty of:—
1st. Error in judgment by over-estimating the speed and leeway on the 9th of October.

2nd. Imprudence in shaping his course direct for the land at a speed of 8 knots from midnight of the 9th of October; and also for running the ship at the same speed on a N.W. by W. course immediately after sighting the light at 4 a.m. on the 10th of October.

3rd. Neglect of duty in leaving the bridge and deck when so uncertain of his position and distance from the land while the ship was steaming full speed towards it.

We therefore advise that his certificate of competency as master be suspended for 12 months.

Also we consider the chief officer, Mr. John C. Werner, to have contributed in a great measure to the disaster in neglecting to call the master when the light disappeared, in not turning her head to seaward or not reversing the engines to full speed astern. Consequently we recommend that his certificate of competence as first mate be suspended for 6 months.

In both cases the suspension to be from date of judgment.

G. E. O. RAMSAY, President.
THOS. H. JAMES } Assessors.
A. F. MACNAB }

I hereby approve of this decision and direct that it be carried out accordingly.

SAIGO TSUKUMICHI,
Minister of Agricultural and Commercial Department.

Tokio, November 19th, 1883.

The certificates of Rodger Hamilton, chief engineer, and Hans F. S. Moldt, second officer, were returned to them.

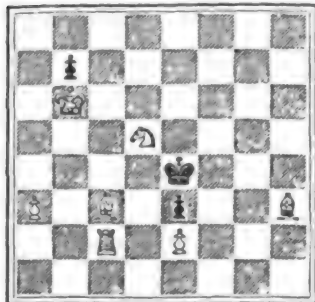
In answer to an enquiry from Captain Frahm, the President stated that, according to section 13 of the rules which applied to foreign built vessels

he could appeal against the present decision. It would be necessary for him to do so within a week, and he would have to address his request, in the first place, to the Minister of the Agricultural and Commercial Department, stating the grounds on which he based his appeal. He would afterwards be informed to whom further to apply.

CHESS.

Problem by W. B. MASON, Nagasaki.

BLACK.



WHITE.

White to play and mate in 3 moves.

Solution to Chess Problem of 17th November, by W. H. TAYLOR.

- | | |
|---------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| White. | Black. |
| 1.—Q. takes B. | 1.—Q. takes Q. ch. |
| 2.—K. takes Q. | 2.—P. to R. 4. |
| 3.—P. to B. 8, becoming B. | 3.—Anything. |
| 4.—Mate. | 3.—K. takes Kt. |
| | 3.—Anything. |
| 3.—P. to B. 8, becoming Q. ch. | if 1.—Q. to Q. 4. |
| 4.—Mate. | 2.—K. takes Q. |
| | 3.—K. moves. |
| 2.—Kt. takes Q. | if 1.—Q. to K. Kt. 4. |
| 3.—Q. to Q. 4, ch. | 2.—P. takes Q. |
| 4.—P. to B. 8, becoming Kt. mates. | 3.—Anything. |
| | if 1.—Q. to Q. 3, or Q. to K. B. sq. |
| 2.—Q. takes Q. ch. | 1.—Q. to Q. 7. |
| 3.—P. to B. 8, becoming Q. | |
| 4.—Mate. | |
| | if 1.—Q. to Q. 6. |
| 2.—B. takes Q. and mates in 2 moves. | |
| 2.—Q. to K. B. 6, ch. and mates in 2 moves. | |
| 2.—Kt. takes Q. and mates in 2 moves. | |

There was a display of electric light in Awoyama Palace the night before last. Their Majesties the Mikado and the Empress and Empress Dowager witnessed it. The naval Officers and Privy Counsellors who were present were afterward entertained at dinner, which was enlivened by the music of the Marine Band.

His Majesty the Mikado paid a visit to the Nobles' School yesterday and witnessed equestrian exercises, fencing, and gymnastics by the students. Mr. Harmond, of the Naval Department, has been appointed to the *Tsukushi Kan*.

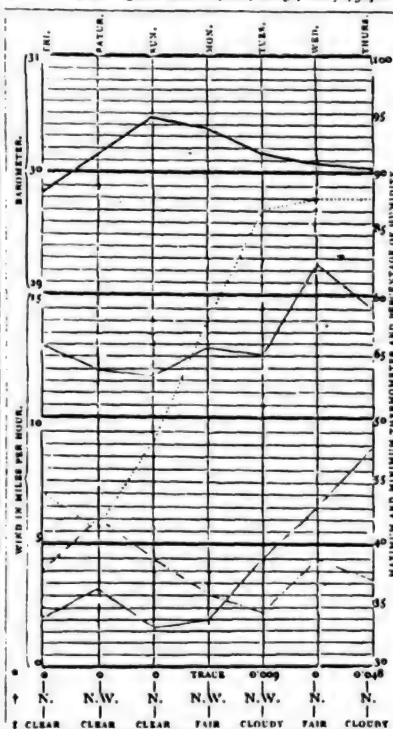
The *Kamei Kan*, a building to be devoted to the reception of foreign visitors, will be formally opened on the 27th instant. Invitations will include the *corps diplomatique* and distinguished foreigners.

H.E. Terashima, Minister to the United States of America, is now in Tokyo, under medical treatment.—*Mainichi Shimbun*.

METEOROLOGICAL REPORT.

FOR WEEK BEGINNING FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 16TH, 1883.

Observatory of Daigaku, Moto-Fujicho, Hongô, Tokijo, Japan.



REMARKS.

Heavy line represents barometer.
Light continuous line—maximum and minimum thermometers.
Dashed line—represents velocity of wind.

Percentage of humidity.
The barometer is reduced to the freezing point and to the level of the sea.

• Rain in inches. † Direction of Wind. ‡ Weather.
Maximum velocity of wind 23.3 miles per hour on Friday at 6 p.m.

The highest reading of the barometer for the week was 30.43 inches on Sunday at 11 p.m., and the lowest was 29.819 inches on Friday at 6 a.m.

The highest temperature for the week was 62.3 on Wednesday, and the lowest was 33.3 on Sunday. The maximum and minimum for the corresponding week of last year were 65.3 and 33.0 respectively.

The total amount of rain for the week was 0.058 inches, against 0.00 inches for the corresponding week of last year.

MAIL STEAMERS.

THE NEXT MAIL IS DUE

| | |
|------------------------------------------------|-----------------------|
| From Hongkong, per P. & O. Co. | Saturday, Nov. 24th.* |
| From Europe, via Hongkong, per M. M. Co. | Monday, Nov. 26th.† |
| From America, per P. M. Co. | Tuesday, Nov. 27th.‡ |
| From Shanghai, Nagasaki, & Kobe, per M. B. Co. | Thursday, Nov. 29th.§ |

* *Zambesi* left Nagasaki on November 22nd. † *Tanaka* (with French mail) left Hongkong on November 19th. ‡ *City of Tokio* left San Francisco on November 27th. § Left Shanghai on November 21st.

THE NEXT MAIL LEAVES

| | |
|-------------------------------------------------|----------------------|
| For Kobe, per K. U. Co. | Monday, Nov. 26th. |
| For America, per O. & O. Co. | Tuesday, Nov. 27th. |
| For Korea, via Coast Ports, per M. B. Co. | Tuesday, Nov. 27th. |
| For Shanghai, Kobe, and Nagasaki, per M. B. Co. | Thursday, Nov. 29th. |
| For Europe, via Hongkong, per P. & O. Co. | Saturday, Nov. 30th. |

The arrival and departure of mails by the Occidental and Oriental, the Pacific Mail, and the Peninsular and Oriental Companies, are approximate only.

LATEST TELEGRAMS.

[REUTER "SPECIAL" TO "JAPAN MAIL."]

London, November 16th.

FRANCE AND GERMANY.

There is a renewal of angry polemic between France and Germany, the latter adopting a threatening tone.

London, November 18th.

RESIGNATION OF CHALLEMEL-LACOUR.

The final resignation of M. Challeml-Lacour has been formally announced, and M. Ferry has been appointed Minister of Foreign Affairs.

FRANCE AND CHINA.

The London papers comment on what is described as the enigmatical policy of France with regard to China.

Later.

Negotiations have been resumed between M. Ferry and the Marquis Tseng.

More troops have sailed for Tonquin.

London, November 20th.

The Chinese Government has issued to the different Powers, including France, a manifesto in which the claim to suzerainty over Annam is reiterated, and protest is made against the action of France with reference to Annam, and more especially with regard to the treaty of Hué, which fails to recognise such suzerainty. The manifesto intimates that an amicable solution is still possible, but it adds that if France still farther extends her unlawful operations to (*sic*) the Chinese possessions in Tonquin, armed resistance will be the consequence, for which France alone must assume the responsibility.

London, November 21st.

The *Daily Telegraph* has published a telegram from Paris in which the Marquis Tseng has declared that a French attack upon Bach-ninh would be considered a *casus belli*. Meanwhile, orders have been given to Courbet to attack.

TIME TABLES.

YOKOHAMA-TOKIO RAILWAY.

The Trains LEAVE YOKOHAMA Station at 7.30, 8.45, 9.30,* 10.15, and 11.30 a.m., and 1.00, 2.30, 4.00,* 5.00, 6.15, 8.00, 9.15, and 10.30† p.m.

The Trains LEAVE TOKIO (Shinbashi) at 7.30, 8.45, 10.00,* 10.45, and 11.30 a.m., and 1.00, 2.30, 4.00,* 5.00, 6.15, 8.00, 9.15, and 10.30† p.m.

Those marked with (*) run through without stopping at Tsurumi, Kawasaki, and Omori Stations. Those with (†) are the same as above with the exception of stopping at Kawasaki Station.

UYENO-KUMAGAI RAILWAY.

The Trains leave UYENO at 7 and 11.30 a.m. and 4 p.m., and HONJO at 6.30 and 11 a.m. and 3.30 p.m.

The Fares are:—Special-class (Separate Compartment), yen 2.35; First-class, yen 1.40; Third-class, sen 70.

YOKOSUKA STEAMERS.

The Yokosuka steamers leave the English Hatoba daily at 8.15 and 10.45 a.m., and 12.30, 3.00, and 4.15 p.m.; and leave Yokosuka at 7.00 and 9.45 a.m., 12.15 m., and 2.00 and 4.00 p.m.

SUNDAY CHURCH SERVICES.

Christ Church : 11 a.m. and 5.30 p.m.
Union Church : 11 a.m. and 8 p.m.
Roman Catholic Church : 8 and 9.30 a.m.
English Church, No. 12, Sakaicho, Shiba, Tokijo : 11 a.m.

LATEST SHIPPING.

FREIGHTS.

Freight business remains in its lethargic state as last reported. The steamship *Breconshire* left on the 19th instant with a partial cargo for London and Hiogo and Chinese ports, and the steamship *Canton* on the 21st for New York. The British ships *Sattara* and *Haddon Hall* are expected to leave port in a few days, no charter offering here. The steamship *Venice*, whose arrival is daily expected, is on the berth for New York.

ARRIVALS.

Saghalien, Russian schooner, 52, Johnson, 17th November, — Hakodate 10th November, Whale oil and General. — R. Clarke.

Yoshino Maru, Japanese steamer, 401, Isami, 17th November, — Yokkaichi, General. — Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Canton, British steamer, 1,096, Jaques, 18th November, — Hongkong 10th November, Mails and General. — Adamson, Bell & Co.

Hiogo Maru, Japanese steamer, 896, R. N. Walker, 19th November, — Hakodate 16th and Ogino-hama 18th November, General. — Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Stella, Russian schooner, 40, Isaacs, 19th November, — Kurile Islands 8th November, Furs. — F. Retz.

Taganoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 448, Matsumoto, 19th November, — Yokkaichi 16th November, General. — Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Takasago Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,229, C. Young, 21st November, — Kobe 19th November, General. — Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Seika Maru, Japanese steamer, 102, Narita, 21st November, — Toba 19th November, General. — Seiriussha.

Horai Maru, Japanese steamer, 407, Tokuda, 22nd November, — Sendai, General. — Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Nagoya Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,900, Wilson Walker, 22nd November, — Shanghai and ports, Mails and General. — Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Seirio Maru, Japanese steamer, 454, Tamurai, 22nd November, — Yokkaichi, General. — Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Yechigo Maru, Japanese steamer, 790, E. Jones, 22nd November, — Awamori, General. — Kiyodo Unyu Kwaisha.

Kamtchatka, Russian steamer, 782, Ingman, 22nd November, — Kobe, General. — Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Seisho Maru, Japanese steamer, 210, Isoda, 22nd November, — Kobe, General. — Seiriussha.

Clarissa B. Curver, American ship, 1,100, L. Dow, 23rd November, — New York 7th June, General. — China and Japan Trading Co.

Cross Hill, British bark, 1,019, J. Smith, 23rd November, — Cardiff 4th June, Patent Fuel. — H.M. Naval Depot.

Mary C. Bohm, German schooner, 48, Baade, 23rd November, — Kurile Islands 13th November, Furs. — P. Bohm.

Saiko Maru, Japanese steamer, 65, Miura Toshi, 24th November, — Handa 21st November, General. — Handasha.

Shidzuoka Maru, Japanese steamer, 334, Nakai, 24th November, — Shimidzu 21st November, General. — Seiriussha.

Taganoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 448, Matsumoto, 23rd November, — Yokkaichi 21st November, General. — Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Taiyu Maru, Japanese schooner, 35, Cota Zinger, 24th November, — Hakodate 16th November, Seaweed. — Kowyekisha.

DEPARTURES.

Kanagawa Maru, Japanese bark, 1,184, Eckstrand, 17th November, — Nagasaki, Ballast. — Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Khiwa, British steamer, 2,609, P. Harris, 17th November, — Hongkong via Kobe and Nagasaki, Mails and General. — P. & O. S. N. Co.

Sagitta, British bark, 579, Taylor, 17th November, — London via Kobe, General. — H. MacArthur.

Shima Maru, Japanese steamer, 800, Okuma, 17th November, — Kobe, General. — Kiyodo Unyu Kwaisha.

Seirio Maru, Japanese steamer, 459, Tamura, 18th November, — Yokkaichi, General. — Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Yoshino Maru, Japanese steamer, 401, Isami, 18th November, — Yokkaichi, General. — Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

City of Rio de Janeiro, American steamer, 3,548, R. R. Searle, 19th November, — Hongkong, Mails and General. — P. M. S.S. Co.

Breconshire, British steamer, 1,325, J. Thomas, 19th November, — London via ports, General. — Adamson, Bell & Co.

Ise Maru, Japanese steamer, 748, J. Efford, 19th November, — Kobe, Mails and General. — Kiyodo Unyu Kwaisha.

Tokai Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,046, Carrew, 20th November, — Hakodate General. — Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Canton, British steamer, 1,096, Jaques, 21st November, — New York via ports, General. — Adamson, Bell & Co.

Hiogo Maru, Japanese steamer, 896, R. N. Walker, 21st November, — Hiogo, General. — Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Najednik, Russian frigate, Captain Kologeras, 21st November, — Shanghai.

Tokio Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,146, R. Swain, 21st November, — Shanghai and ports, Mails and General. — Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Sukune Maru, Japanese steamer, 475, Okuma, 22nd November, — Hachinohe, General. — Kiyodo Unyu Kwaisha.

Seirio Maru, Japanese steamer, 454, Tamura, 22nd November, — Yokkaichi, General. — Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Takasago Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,229, C. Young, 23rd November, — Hakodate, Mails and General. — Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Kowyeki Maru, Japanese steamer, 63, Omura, 23rd November, — Yokkaichi, General. — Kowyekisha.

Onoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 104, Sugimoto, 23rd November, — Fukuda, General. — Fukudasha.

Mensaleh, French steamer, 1,273, B. Blanc, 24th November, — Hongkong, Mails and General. — Messageries Maritimes Co.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per Japanese steamer *Tokai Maru*, from Iterup via Hakodate: — 3 Japanese.

Per Japanese steamer *Hiogo Maru*, from Hakodate via Ogino-hama: — 60 Japanese.

Per Japanese steamer *Taganoura Maru*, from Yokkaichi: — 58 Japanese.

Per Japanese steamer *Takasago Maru*, from Kobe: — 4 Japanese in cabin; and 189 Japanese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Horai Maru*, from Sendai: — 5 Japanese.

Per Japanese steamer *Nagoya Maru*, from Shanghai and ports: — Governor Hara, Governor Kitagaki, General Nozaki, General Yamaji, Mrs. Hitchcock and daughter, Lieutenant R. D. Hitchcock, U.S.N., Dr. Rodgers, U.S.N., Captain Byrne and servant, Messrs. Elliot, Goto, Oyamuchi, Tanaka, Utsumi, Mayeda, Shin, Harada, Matsumoto, Okabayashi, Sato, and Akiyama in cabin; and 1 European, 3 Chinese, and 170 Japanese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Seirio Maru*, from Yokkaichi: — 80 Japanese.

Per Japanese steamer *Yechigo Maru*, from Awamori: — Captain Carter and 20 Japanese.

Per Russian steamer *Kamtchatka*, from Kobe: — Mr. Komareff.

Per French steamer *Mensaleh*, for Hongkong: — Messrs. H. Degron, Roberts Twiss, Hynes Marrot, T. Marsu, and Hanajima in cabin.

DEPARTED.

Per British steamer *Khiwa*, for Hongkong via Kobe and Nagasaki: — Mr. and Mrs. Lucy, Mr. Melbye and servant, Miss Lockyer, Messrs. A. C. Reed, J. Wilson, G. Mayezono, Mow Thong and 3 children, Loe Him Thing, Kock Sin Char, Ah Num, and Ah Yen in cabin; and 9 Chinese and 16 Japanese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Tokio Maru*, for Shanghai and ports: — Rev. and Mrs. G. M. Fisher, Mrs. A. O. Stevens, Mrs. Klempermer, Rev. C. R. Mills, Rev. J. J. Alexander, Captain G. J. Burdis, Messrs. A. H. Jack, G. Sale, G. Zancolo, G. Kleinwachter, W. H. Percival, C. D. Hoffmann, C. Vercoe, G. Richter, E. B. Jenkins, J. Taylor, Tanomitch, Tcherymakowsky, Matsumoto, Itakura, Midzutani, Ogasawara, Kaio, Saito, Suzuki, Sone, Kiyooka, Honjo, Kawasaki, Watanabe, Koshikabe, Harima, Okiyama, and Ogasawara in cabin.

Per American steamer *City of Rio de Janeiro*, for Hongkong: — Mr. H. T. Creswell, and Oscar Jackson in cabin; and 640 Chinese in steerage.

CARGOES.

Per British steamer *Khiwa*, for Hongkong via Kobe and Nagasaki: — Silk, for France, 555 bales; for London, 148 bales; Total, 703 bales.

Per Japanese steamer *Nagoya Maru*, from Shanghai and ports: — Treasure, 120,000.00.

Per French steamer *Mensaleh*, for Hongkong: — Silk for France, 634 bales; for England, 133 bales; for Italy, 10 bales; for Switzerland, 17 bales; Total, 791 bales.

REPORTS.

The British bark *Cross Hill*, Captain John Smith, reports leaving Cardiff on the 4th June with light N.E. trades in North Atlantic Ocean; crossed the Equator on the 8th July in 29 deg. W. long. Had the S.E. trades well from the southward in the vicinity of the Cape of Good Hope; had violent gales from the south with heavy seas and unsettled weather accompanied with much thunder and lightning. On the 6th August, during a hard gale from S.W., a whirlpool crossed the ship's bows, travelling at the rate of about 30 miles per hour; on the 7th still blowing heavy; on the 8th increasing with high cross sea running; towards midnight moderated somewhat and squalls less frequent. At 10 p.m. wind fell light and veering from W. by S. to S.W. by S. and blowing in furious gusts from each quarter; a tremendous sea running and ship laboring heavily and constantly filling her decks with water; in endeavouring to wear ship all hands were washed about and two men washed overboard, the next sea bringing them in board again. Mr. Hoffmann, the second officer, was unfortunately washed overboard on the port side at 11 p.m., the only indication we had of missing him was a cry from astern, and under the circumstances we were unable to do anything for the poor fellow; it would have been madness to have attempted to lower a boat in such a sea on a dark wild night and not even a star visible, moreover no one volunteered and nothing could be done to rescue him; on the 9th gale moderated which continued to Sunda Straits, through which we passed; on the 15th September came through Gaspar Straits, on the 18th September into the China Sea, through which we experienced very unsettled weather. On the 1st October barometer falling, weather looking suspicious, with signs of a typhoon, made our preparations; sent down top-gallant masts and yards and hove ship to; at 8 p.m. blowing hard from N.W. by W. and veering to S.W. and S.S.W. with high confused sea, ship filling her deck; put small bags full of oil over the side, which had the desired effect. Ship eased considerably; on the 2nd weather moderated, kept ship away and stood to the north and eastward, ship taking large seas on board both sides fore and aft. At noon on the 3rd settled down to a light S. wind with clear sky; sea going down sent masts and yards aloft and made all sail. On the 15th October came through Ballanting Channel into the Western Pacific Ocean, and thence to port have experienced a succession of adverse winds with unsettled weather. Arrived at Yokohama on the 23rd instant after a trying passage of 170 days.

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

During the past week there is nothing of interest to report, business generally continuing in an extremely depressed state. Yarns are quite unsaleable, and for Piece Goods the sales made have been of a trivial character. Metals are quiet, and the few Settlements reported do not show any change in prices.

COTTON YARNS.

| | PER PICUL. |
|----------------------------------|------------------|
| Nos. 16 to 24, Common to Medium- | \$25.00 to 28.50 |
| Nos. 16 to 24, Good to Best - | 29.25 to 30.00 |
| Bombay, No. 20, Good to Best - | 25.25 to 28.50 |
| Nos. 28 to 32, Common to Medium- | 30.50 to 31.50 |
| Nos. 28 to 32, Good to Best - | 32.00 to 35.00 |
| Nos. 38 to 42 - | 35.00 to 37.50 |

COTTON PIECE GOODS.

| | PER PICUL. |
|------------------------------------------------|----------------|
| Grey Shirtings—8½, 38½ to 39 inches - | \$1.70 to 2.15 |
| Grey Shirtings—9½, 38½ to 45 inches - | 1.92½ to 2.40 |
| T. Cloth—7½, 24 yards, 32 inches - | 1.40 to 1.45 |
| Indigo Shirting—12 yards, 44 inches - | 1.55 to 1.65 |
| Prints—Assorted, 24 yards, 30 inches - | 1.10 to 2.40 |
| Cotton—Italians and Sateens Black, 32 inches - | 0.07 to 0.09 |
| Turkey Reds—2 to 2½, 24 yards, 30 inches - | 1.15 to 1.35 |
| Turkey Reds—2½ to 3, 24 yards, 30 inches - | 1.35 to 1.55 |
| Turkey Reds—3½, 24 yards, 30 inches - | 1.70 to 1.82½ |
| Velvets—Black, 15 yards, 22 inches - | 5.90 to 6.75 |
| Victoria Lawns, 12 yards, 42-3 inches - | 0.60 to 0.72½ |
| Taffetas, 12 yards, 43 inches - | 1.75 to 2.05 |

WOOLLENS.

| | PER PICUL. |
|---------------------------------------------------|----------------|
| Plain Orleans, 40-42 yards, 32 inches - | \$3.60 to 5.25 |
| Figured Orleans, 39-41 yards, 31 inches - | 3.25 to 4.00 |
| Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches - | 0.18 to 0.28 |
| Mousseline de Laine—Crape, 24 yards, 31 inches - | 0.15 to 0.16½ |
| Mousseline de Laine—Tajime, 24 yards, 31 inches - | 0.18½ to 0.23½ |
| Mousseline de Laine—Yuzen, 24 yards, 31 inches - | 0.30 to 0.37½ |
| Cloths—Pilots, 54 @ 56 inches - | 0.30 to 0.40 |
| Cloths—Presidents, 54 @ 56 inches - | 0.40 to 0.50 |
| Cloths—Union, 54 @ 56 inches - | 0.30 to 0.35 |
| Blankets—Scarlet and Green, 6 to 5½, per lb - | 0.35 to 0.40 |

IRON.

| | PER PICUL. |
|---------------------------------|----------------|
| Flat Bars, ½ inch - | \$2.50 to 2.90 |
| Flat Bars, ¾ inch - | 2.80 to 3.00 |
| Round and square up to ½ inch - | 2.80 to 3.00 |
| Nailrod, assorted - | 2.35 to 2.60 |
| Nailrod, small size - | 2.85 to 3.15 |

KEROSENE.

No business has transpired in Oil during the past week beyond the sale of 2,000 cases Stella (rather stained), at \$1.44 per case. Deliveries have been only 10,000 cases. The *Clarissa B. Carrer* has arrived with 40,500 cases, making present Stock some 667,000 cases of sold and unsold Oil in first hands. Quotations remain:—

| | PER CASE. |
|----------|-----------|
| Devos - | \$1.67 |
| Comet - | 1.64 |
| Stella - | 1.50 |

SUGAR.

The small transactions that have been put through during the week have been at late rates, and no change in prices has to be noted. Recent arrivals have been small.

| | PER PICUL. |
|-----------------|----------------|
| White, No. 1 - | \$8.25 to 8.30 |
| White, No. 2 - | 6.75 to 7.00 |
| White, No. 3 - | 6.20 to 6.40 |
| White, No. 4 - | 5.75 to 6.00 |
| White, No. 5 - | 4.70 to 4.90 |
| Brown Formosa - | 4.35 to 4.30 |

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

The present week has witnessed a very large business in this staple export; some buyers have entered the market at the very low prices ruling and any further decline is for the time being arrested. Settlements 17th to 23rd inclusive are returned as 1,482 piculs. The total export to date is now 17,691 bales, against 12,579 to the same date last year. Direct

shipments continue; but not on so large a scale as a fortnight ago, and with the heavy business of the week Stocks are reduced to 4,700 piculs. Buying for the American Mail has been brisk; there is some disposition on the part of Japanese to make considerable shipments also in the same direction, and doubtless the *Oceanic* circulated to leave on the 27th instant will take a large quantity.

Hanks.—There are signs that these have touched bottom for the present; still the rebound (if any) has been very slight; fully half the total Stock consists of this class. News from home is not particularly brilliant, and with any falling-off in the present demand prices might resume their downward course. Among the transactions of the week we notice Shinshu ranging from \$455 for good to \$485 for "Shiban." Shimonita \$470. Chichibu \$440, fair Joshi \$430. Hachoji \$415 down.

Filatures.—The best chops have been rather neglected, the trade running on Good to Medium sorts. A parcel of Tokosha was reported early in the week at \$595, a long price, if correct. Other chops, ordinary to good No. 1, have found purchasers at \$580 to \$585, while large parcels of Hida and Mino sorts have been taken at \$570 to \$530, according to grade.

Reels.—These also have been enquired for to some extent, and fair to ordinary "Zaguri" have had the preference over the better kinds. Katsuyama is reported sold to a native shipper, price unknown, but supposed to be the equivalent of \$570 or thereabouts. Five Girl might probably come at about the same figure; Bushu and Yehigo descriptions have found takers at \$530, \$512½, and \$500.

Kakada.—There has been some little business done in these, but again the best kinds have been least sought after, and sorts costing \$540 to \$520 have had the preference with buyers. There is not much change in the nominal quotation for the higher qualities, but there has been no business in them to test the market.

Hamatsuki.—One of the features of the week has been the heavy settlements in this branch, nearly 500 piculs having changed hands at prices ranging from \$470 to \$370. In medium *Sendai* a few transactions reported at \$460. *Taysam* sorts have been dealt in at \$380 for Tajima, and \$360 Shimada.

QUOTATIONS.

| | |
|-----------------------------------|--------------|
| Hanks—No. 1½ - | \$480 to 490 |
| Hanks—No. 2 (Shinshu) - | 475 to 480 |
| Hanks—No. 2 (Joshiu) - | 465 to 470 |
| Hanks—No. 2½ (Shinshu) - | 455 to 465 |
| Hanks—No. 2½ (Joshiu) - | 440 to 450 |
| Hanks—No. 3 - | 430 to 435 |
| Hanks—No. 3½ - | 400 to 410 |
| Filatures—Extra - | 610 to 620 |
| Filatures—No. 1, 10/13 deniers - | 590 to 600 |
| Filatures—No. 1, 14/16 deniers - | 585 to 595 |
| Filatures—No. 1½, 14/17 deniers - | 570 to 580 |
| Filatures—No. 2, 10/15 deniers - | 560 to 570 |
| Filatures—No. 2, 14/18 deniers - | 560 to 570 |
| Filatures—No. 3, 14/20 deniers - | 540 to 550 |
| Re-reels—No. 1, 14/16 deniers - | 570 to 580 |
| Re-reels—No. 1½, 14/17 deniers - | 555 to 565 |
| Re-reels—No. 2, 14/18 deniers - | 540 to 550 |
| Re-reels—No. 3, 14/20 deniers - | 520 to 530 |
| Kakadas—Extra - | 600 nom'l |
| Kakadas—No. 1 - | 565 to 575 |
| Kakadas—No. 2 - | 530 to 540 |
| Kakadas—No. 3 - | 500 to 510 |
| Oshiu Sendai—No. 2½ - | 460 to 470 |
| Hamatsuki—No. 1, 2 - | 455 to 465 |
| Hamatsuki—No. 3, 4 - | 400 to 420 |
| Sodai—No. 2½ - | 400 to 410 |

WASTE SILK.

Business in this branch has been active also, transactions for the week are returned as 1,100 piculs, bringing the total settlements for the month up to close upon 4,000 piculs. All descriptions, from Mawatta and Filature Noshi down to low Kibiso and Neri, have participated in the movement. Prices, speaking generally, are lower than they were a month ago, but, with an active market and reduced Stocks, buyers find it difficult to make any further impression.

Pierced Cocoons.—The better qualities are now practically finished for this season, and the parcels remaining in stock are of a light yield. There has only been one small transaction during the week, but anything over 70 per cent. would be worth \$105.

Noshi-ito.—About 300 piculs reported sold during the week: good Oshu done at \$140; good Filature kinds in small quantities at \$130 to \$115; Shinshu, assorted, \$95 to \$110; Joshiu, ordinary to best, \$75 to \$100.

Kibiso.—Some business in Filature kinds at \$117½ for best; Oshu, fair to good, \$90 to \$95; Shinshu, well cleaned, \$75; Mino, ordinary, \$70; Shinshu, second quality, \$50; Koshu, \$40; Joshiu, ordinary, \$30; Hachoji, \$20 to \$15; Neri, \$18; and \$14 for fair to good Shinshu district. Settlements of all kinds 600 piculs.

Mawatta.—Last week saw some rather heavy purchases at \$185; for best Oshu this week there has only been one transaction noted at \$172½, and this is supposed to be for Shinshu.

QUOTATIONS.

| | |
|----------------------------------|-------------|
| Pierced Cocoons—Medium to Fair - | \$90 to 100 |
| Noshi-ito—Filature, Best - | 150 |
| Noshi-ito—Filature, Good - | 130 |
| Noshi-ito—Filature, Medium - | 110 |
| Noshi-ito—Oshu, Good to Best - | 140 to 145 |
| Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Best - | 110 |
| Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Good - | 100 |
| Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Medium - | 90 |
| Noshi-ito—Joshiu, Best - | 100 |
| Noshi-ito—Joshiu, Good - | 85 |
| Noshi-ito—Joshiu, Ordinary - | 75 |
| Kibiso—Filature, Best selected - | 115 to 120 |
| Kibiso—Filature, Seconds - | 110 to 105 |
| Kibiso—Oshu, Good - | 95 |
| Kibiso—Shinshu, Best - | 75 |
| Kibiso—Shinshu, Seconds - | 50 up |
| Kibiso—Joshiu, Fair to Common - | 50 to 30 |
| Kibiso—Hachoji, Medium to Low - | 30 to 15 |
| Kibiso—Neri, Good to Common - | 30 to 12½ |
| Mawatta—Good to Best - | 175 to 185 |

Exchange has not fluctuated much during the week, but closes fairly strong. London credits 4 m/s, 3/9½; New York 30 d/s, 91½; 60 d/s, 91½; Paris 6 m/s, fcs. 4.81. The native Specie Banks have been competing for business and have done a considerable quantity of paper at about 1 per cent. under the rates here quoted. Kinsatsu, yen 110½ = \$100.

Export Tables Raw Silk to 23rd Nov. 1883:—

| | Season 1883-84. | 1882-83. | 1881-82. |
|--------------------|-----------------|----------|----------|
| | Bales. | Bales. | Bales. |
| France and Italy - | 10,085 | 6,310 | 2,907 |
| America - | 5,337 | 4,333 | 2,067 |
| England - | 1,475 | 1,936 | 1,711 |
| Total - | 16,897 | 12,579 | 6,685 |
| | Piculs. | Piculs. | Piculs. |
| Waste Silk - | 9,847 | 7,557 | 5,842 |
| Pierced Cocoons - | 1,378 | 2,447 | 1,433 |

TEA.

The closing week shows an activity even greater than that commented on in our last Market Report, and Settlements since the 16th instant amount to the large total of 2,435 piculs, comprising all grades. Prices as quoted below must be considered nominal. Our supplies again are coming in very slowly, and it is evident that native dealers this season intend to supply only the Yokohama Market in such quantity as will meet the immediate requirements of purchasers, and thus avoid any large accumulation of Stock at this port. Good Medium and Fine grades are now very scarce, and it seems impossible that the bulk of these have already come forward to Market. Teas in Stock in Yokohama are estimated but 2,800 piculs.

QUOTATIONS.

| | |
|---------------|--------------|
| Common - | \$10 & under |
| Good Common - | 12 to 13 |
| Medium - | 16 to 17 |
| Good Medium - | 18 to up'ds |

EXCHANGE.

Rates have slightly advanced during the week, but the business transacted has been considerable. At the close rates are firm.

| | |
|-------------------------------------------|----------|
| Sterling—Bank Bills on demand - | 3/8½ |
| Sterling—Bank 4 months' sight - | 3/9½ |
| Sterling—Private 4 months' sight - | 3/9½ |
| Sterling—Private 6 months' sight - | 3/9½ |
| On Paris—Bank sight - | 4.60 |
| On Paris—Private 6 months' sight - | 4.81 |
| On Hongkong—Bank sight - | 100 dis. |
| On Hongkong—Private 10 days' sight - | 100 dis. |
| On Shanghai—Bank sight - | 73 |
| On Shanghai—Private 10 days' sight - | 73½ |
| On New York—Bank Bills on demand - | 90½ |
| On New York—Private 30 days' sight - | 91½ |
| On San Francisco—Bank Bills on demand - | 90½ |
| On San Francisco—Private 30 days' sight - | 91½ |

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May 1st, 1883.

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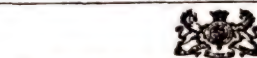
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[£24 PER ANNUM.]

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The Japan Weekly Mail.

"FAIS CE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL," must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith. It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, DECEMBER 1ST, 1883.

DEATH.

At Stoke Newington, near London, on the 26th instant, MARY, relict of the late JOHN GRIFFIN, in her 76th year. (By Telegram.)

On November 30th, at 7 a.m., at the Yokohama General Hospital, of dropsy, R. B. CUTHBERTSON, aged 35 years.

WEEKLY NOTES.

A MEETING was held in the Chamber of Commerce Rooms on Thursday afternoon to consider the advisability of maintaining in Yokohama a church and clergyman of the Established Church of England. The monthly expenditure in connection with this institution is \$270, including \$175 as salary to the chaplain, and there is a debt at present of \$600. The meeting did not appear to be either able or willing to face these pecuniary responsibilities, and for a time it seemed as though the evil days which have overtaken the Settlement would deprive its community of a luxury enjoyed by almost every English village. The debt is now borne by the treasurer, Mr. Edward Whittall, a gentleman

whose name is honorably associated with all Yokohama's charitable undertakings, and the meeting was naturally anxious that some means should be devised for discharging this liability before Mr. Whittall's departure from Japan. It was pointed out, with much force, that little if any difficulty is experienced in procuring subscriptions in Yokohama for purposes of amusement, but that the burden of charitable works generally falls on the shoulders of the same persons, the older members of the community. An addition may be made to this statement—namely, that in no part of the world does an appeal on behalf of a case of real distress meet with a more generous and rapid response from all classes of residents. Reduced to a question of simple arithmetic, however, the difficulty about the Church assumes this form—that three hundred persons must be found to subscribe \$10 each, or one hundred and fifty to subscribe \$20 each, per annum. The former sum is little more than a fifth part of what so many of us pay for the privilege of reading the newspapers at the Club, and the latter is less by one half than the aggregate of the yearly subscriptions to the Boat, Tennis, and Cricket Clubs. The Church, then, must fall to the ground because we value it very much less than our places of recreation. This is an unpleasant truth, but it is a truth nevertheless. Possibly its contemplation may help to swell the list of gentlemen who have come forward as part guarantors of the money required for next year's service.

ON Wednesday evening the Rokumei-kwan, or new Reception Hall, was opened in Tokiyo. At the inauguration banquet the Minister for Foreign Affairs made a remarkable speech, evidently inspired by a most cordial desire to promote friendly relations with foreigners. His Excellency pointed out that the original intention of the building had been to provide a suitable place for receiving distinguished visitors, but that as the work advanced, its projectors become more and more cognisant of the advisability of contriving some means of bringing the Japanese and the foreign residents into closer social contact. With this object the dimensions and arrangements of the edifice had been altered, so that it can be used not only as a reception hall but also as a club, to which foreign members will be admitted as well as Japanese. The project is most excellent, and we trust that it will be fully carried out. The results attained will not, perhaps, be

sensibly great, but a hearty welcome is due to every plan for enabling Japanese and foreigners to mix more freely and learn more of each others dispositions and peculiarities.

AMONG the outward-bound passengers by the P. & O. mail steamer to-day (Saturday), is Mr. Fred. Lowder, legal adviser to the Bureau of the Imperial Government in Yokohama, who returns to England on leave of absence. Few residents of this Settlement enjoy a larger share of the Community's respect and affection, and these sentiments found most hearty expression at a farewell dinner given in Mr. Lowder's honour by the members of the Yokohama United Club on Friday evening. We hope soon to hear of Mr. Lowder's restoration to perfect health, and to welcome him back to a Community which could ill afford to lose so genial a friend and so able a barrister.

VARIOUS reports of a warlike tendency have reached us during the week, some going so far as to announce positively that China has declared war. These alarms are, of course, inevitable under the circumstances. The principal parties in the Tonquin dispute have now brought their disagreements to a crisis which must speedily end one way or the other, and since the French and Chinese forces are within easy reach of one another in the contested territory, rumour has more reason than usual to be an alarmist. But, as we have already pointed out, there is no ground for immediate apprehension. The French have let their opportunity slip. Had they moved resolutely against Bac-ninh three months ago, it can scarcely be doubted that they would have obtained possession of the place without any of the complications which its attack will now entail. But while they occupied themselves with fruitless assaults upon Sontai, the Chinese troops moved quietly down and secured the great advantage of being first on the field. From the outset the French had no serious opposition to apprehend on the part of the Annamites, or even of the Black Flags. The former were incapable of military cohesion, and the latter were, after all, only a handful of men. China was the real difficulty, and since it was well known from the time of the Bourrée treaty that her pretensions would be limited to the district north of the Red River, the French force could have been employed with most foresight and effect in that part of the country. Were the invaders stationed at Bac-ninh now instead of the invaded, things would

present a very different complexion for China. It would be for her to support her protest by aggressive measures, and thus assume the responsibility of striking the first blow, whereas, under existing circumstances, she can challenge the French to dislodge her from the district which she claims the right to protect. At first sight this retrospect seems to impugn the ability of the French commanders in Tonquin. But the inference would be unjust. They have accomplished quite as much as was possible to men who had to fight against heavy odds, against a terrible climate, and against a vacillating policy. Comparing the military programme with the tone of the negotiations in Paris and Peking, one is puzzled to discover any evidences of a common plan. Diplomatically France refused to acknowledge that China had any right to a voice in the pending issues. The Annamese, by the treaty of 1874, accepted a French guarantee of their independence in exchange for a promise to conform their foreign policy to that of France. Thenceforth they were directly answerable to France, and the latter was no more bound to consult the Cabinet at Peking because the former chose to send a tribute-bearing embassy thither, than she would now be bound to negotiate with the Sultan of Turkey did the Bey of Tunis despatch an envoy to Constantinople. But France has not been consistent in her policy of ignoring China. Within a short time after the signature of the treaty of 1874, her Consul at Canton concluded with the Viceroy a Convention which distinctly recognised Chinese rights in the districts of the upper reaches of the Red River. Further, it appears that whenever an Annamite embassy visited Peking, the French Legation offered some species of remonstrance, or made some attempt to prevent the delivery of the tribute, thus perpetually recalling to the Chinese Government's recollection a state of affairs about which the apathetic statesmen of the Middle Kingdom would probably have given themselves no concern whatsoever had they been permitted to ignore it. Nepal and Burmah were included, equally with Annam, in the list of lands that owned Chinese suzerainty, yet the English Foreign Office never took any steps *vis-à-vis* China either at, or subsequent to, the time when the whole of the former and half the latter State passed under British protection. Moreover these errors of French diplomacy were shown to be the outcome, not of accidental bungling, but of a real uncertainty with regard to China's rights. For in a work* published by the chief interpreter of the French Legation in China, the question of the suzerainty of the Middle Kingdom over Annam was discussed after a fashion that gave acknowledged weight to China's claims. All these things considered, French diplomatists' recent attempt to ignore China altogether in their relations with Annam, was attended with considerable difficulty. From the first M. Tricou seems to have adopted this policy unflinchingly. But, he too, was somewhat

* *Histoire des relations de la Chine avec l'Annam-Vietnam*, par M. Devéria.

handicapped. He was obliged to confess that, if he did not come to Shanghai to negotiate, he had no object whatsoever in coming there, and that his visit to Peking was motivated solely by a desire to see the Great Wall. The Chinese statesmen were too astute to be deceived by these shallow pretences. Nevertheless had the policy M. Tricou represented been resolutely pursued both in the field and in the Cabinet, France's position to-day would be much simpler. Had the expeditionary forces made it their first business to occupy the districts to the north of the Red River, they would not only have anticipated China, but also interrupted the reinforcements and munitions of war she undoubtedly sent to the assistance of the Black Flags from time to time. But such a programme demanded a vigour and unanimity of resolution which were unfortunately wanting in the French Cabinet. When Tonquinese affairs were brought before the Chambers last spring, the dangers threatened by China's pretensions, then too tangible to be ignored, were carefully concealed, and the subsidies asked for were too small to accomplish anything decisive. Thus, while a handful of French troops have been bravely struggling to obtain possession of Sontai and other strongholds of the Black Flags, the latter's communications with Canton, *via* Bac-ninh, have remained open, until at last the Chinese troops have marched down and occupied a strong position in the disputed territory. We cannot too much regret this strategical blunder, if such it may be called, for while fully recognising China's right to be heard in a question that concerns the territories bordering her own, it is quite certain that the cause of peace and civilization would be best served by the successful accomplishment of France's designs. Now, however, an immediate advance against Bac-ninh would be little short of madness. Since the beginning of the campaign in Tonquin up to the present time, a total of about 5,000 French troops have been sent there. A considerable fraction must be deducted from this number on account of casualties, while fully three thousand are required as garrisons for the ten posts occupied by the French. Probably the largest body available for operations in the field does not exceed twelve hundred men, a force utterly inadequate to undertake anything against the Chinese. We may be sure, therefore, that even supposing France is willing to engage in a struggle with China, her commanders in Tonquin are instructed carefully to avoid a collision until they are in a position to assume the offensive with some hope of success—that is to say, until they can put, not one, but ten, thousand men in the field. Even so long ago as the end of October, they were engaged in an operation which to military eyes suggests a defensive rather than offensive programme, namely, the construction of a *fil-le-du-pont* at the point where the road from Bac-ninh crosses the Red River. China, on her side, can afford to remain quiet. She occupies the disputed zone of territory, and a forcible attempt to dislodge her from it is the only contingency that need

precipitate war. On the whole, therefore, the first news of any serious change in the existing state of affairs may be expected to come from Paris, and for our own part, we do not look to receive any such news.

THERE have been two tolerably severe shocks of earthquake during the week, but on the whole the present year has, so far, been exceptionally free from seismic disturbances in Japan. It would almost appear as though the force that causes these catastrophes had temporarily exhausted itself elsewhere. In addition to the disasters in Ischia and Java, we have now to hand the particulars of a terrible catastrophe which, on October 16th, visited the Island of Chios, the entire coast of Anatolia and a considerable portion of the interior of Western Asia Minor. The first, and by far the most serious, shock is said to have lasted only quarter of a minute. It was followed by three lesser shocks in quick succession, which were only about half the duration of the first. Thus in less than a minute all the villages between Chesmeh and Vouria were completely wrecked, and at least 2,000 persons buried under the ruins. The *New York Herald's* telegraphic account of the catastrophe at Smyrna and elsewhere is as follows:—

The loss of life in the city of Smyrna proper was not very large, the wave seeming to have spent its force before it reached there; but the scenes among the people were far beyond description. The fear and consternation were terrible. The most resolute persons dare not stay to rescue friends in danger, though many lives might have been saved by so doing. The first thought of all seemed to be self-preservation. Crowds of men, women, and children rushed into the open spaces and the middle of the streets. The caravans bridge was crowded with a motley lot of people, and the camel grounds adjacent were completely thronged with human beings. The castle on the summit of the hill was thrown down with a tremendous crash. The large Roman Catholic Cathedral, a comparatively new building, was damaged considerably, one of the towers falling and killing some eight or ten people who were running wildly from their homes near by. The railway station was badly damaged, and the tracks of the road are so much torn out of line and torn up that it will be impossible to run trains for several days to come. About an hour after the first shock several fires broke out amid the ruins, and added for the time being to the terrors of the situation, but they were put out before serious damage had been caused.

A wave of inky blackness swept from the *Ægean* Sea through the Gulf of Smyrna, bringing disaster to a number of the many vessels in the magnificent harbor. Several ships were carried far upon the shore and landed high and dry in places from which it will cost hundreds of dollars to get them afloat again. The city is in a great state of confusion and uncertainty, and nobody ventures to sleep in houses. Hundreds of rude and impromptu tents have been put up in the suburbs, and large numbers of people who cannot be accommodated even in these meagre quarters are lying upon cots, and even the bare ground, rather than return at present to their more dangerous habitations in the town. The tide, which is ordinarily but twenty-five inches, rose to a height of more than seven feet, sweeping away much of the portable property on the shore as well as a number of fishermen's huts. Several thermal springs in Budja were intercepted for the time, but appeared again shortly afterward of the color of blood. The extent of the field of action shows that the forces which produced this great earthquake were manifested deep in the interior of the planet, and not on the surface only. The pecuniary loss to the city of Smyrna will be very great, but the loss of life will hardly exceed three hundred persons.

In the island of Chios, in the archipelago, a few miles beyond the promontory on which Smyrna is situated, the shocks were felt with terrible severity. The first one occurred almost simultaneously with that felt in Smyrna. The entire four hundred miles of territory of Chios seemed to be for the time but one undulating sea of earth waves following each other

rapidly, like the swell of an ocean storm. The subterranean rumble was followed so quickly by the terrible shock that the people were given neither time to fly nor to throw themselves into the arms of loved ones and bid them an everlasting adieu. Frightful noises succeeded the shock—the terrified cries of human beings and crushed animals. A thick dust was diffused into the air and the sky was darkened as on the darkest night.

The limestone rocks dotting the island were rent asunder. The beautiful valleys were seamed with enormous fissures. The course of the streams which irrigate the fertile plains were suddenly changed. Nearly all of the extensive wine cellars on the island were utterly ruined and the loss to the owners will aggregate an enormous sum. At Kastro, the capital of the island, the castle built in front of the city as a means of defence in the olden time was levelled to the ground. Three small silk factories were totally destroyed, and one cotton factory was damaged almost beyond repair. Of the town's population but few people escaped.

The loss of life in Kastro will aggregate fully nine hundred souls. Most of the dead are Turks. In other parts of the island over thirteen hundred people are so far reported killed, and it is feared that the number will greatly exceed the present estimates when all the outlying territory is heard from. It is, of course, very difficult to get reports from places at a distance from Kastro owing to the difficulties attending travel and the excited state of the populace. Along the coast of Western Asia Minor, or Anatolia, the shocks were felt with great force, and the latest reports indicate that the effects of the earthquake were very severely felt as far into the interior as Kula—over ninety miles east of Smyrna. There is no doubt that when the results of the disaster are fully made known the loss of life and the damage to property in the territory west of the Halys, the Karajah Dag and the continuing range as far as Lake Iber will be very great. All the villages between Cheshmeh and the Voula are totally wrecked, scarcely a house being left standing to mark the sites of the many thriving places which on Monday were scenes of life and bustling activity, for this is one of the busiest seasons with the people of the peninsula. It is estimated that about three thousand persons lost their lives in this part of the country.

The earthquake waves seem to have followed the coast line all the way from Alva to Melissa, and the whole territory over which the great shocks extended was at times rocked simultaneously and sensations similar to sea sickness were experienced by nearly all the inhabitants. Those who watched the sky noticed that the drifting clouds seemed at times to be arrested in their motion. Advices from the interior indicate that the loss of life in that section may reach 4,000 souls, and will certainly number fully three-quarters of that estimate. The number of maimed will be very large. At Eskihissar the dead are about one hundred and fifty. From Sart the loss of seventy-five lives is reported. In Melissa the damage was slight, and the loss of life will not number over fifty, the earthquake seeming to have spent its force near that point. At Gena the dead number about eighty. From many other villages similar reports are constantly coming in at Smyrna, and it is very difficult at this time to make an approximation even of the loss of life. The Porte has issued an appeal to the people to assist the sufferers by the earthquakes, stating that 20,000 of the survivors of the disaster in that region have been rendered homeless.

Anatolia, a large part of which seems to have been devastated by the earthquake of Tuesday, is a peninsula forming the western extremity of Asia. It comprehends various Turkish vilayets and islands, and in its wildest sense appears to include all Asiatic Turkey. Anatolia proper is included between the thirty-sixth and forty-second parallels of north latitude and between the twenty-sixth and forty-first meridian of east longitude, and is bounded north by the Black Sea, the Sea of Marmora and the Dardanelles, west by the Grecian Archipelago and south by the Mediterranean. Its greatest length is about seven hundred miles and its greatest width some four hundred and twenty miles, giving it an area of 270,000 square miles. The surface may be termed an elevated plateau dotted with salt lakes and enclosed by two ranges of offshoots of the Armenian mountain system. Everywhere lofty mountain masses, more or less connected, are to be met with. Much of this formation is of a volcanic kind, and traces of igneous action extend over a considerable space. The total population of the country has been estimated at 4,500,000, of which some the Ottoman Turks constitute about nine-tenths; the remainder are Greeks, Armenians, and gypsies. Agriculture (sugar cane growing) is in the most rude and primitive state, and roads, as understood in civilized countries, are unknown. Manufactures are practically unknown. The village of Cheshmeh is in Asia Minor, opposite the

island of Scio, forty miles south-west of Smyrna. It has a population of six or seven thousand and a large citadel, the residence of a Turkish Governor. It was at Cheshmeh, in 1779, that the Russians burned the Turkish navy.

A LETTER from Saigon to the *France*, speaking of terrible cruelties committed by the French soldiers in Tonquin, appears to have excited great astonishment and indignation in Paris. Our readers will remember that when the news of the capture of Hué reached Yokohama, we commented on the strange fact that while the French casualties only amounted to one man wounded, the Annamites were reported to have had twelve hundred killed. This discrepancy seemed too great to be accounted for by mere superiority of weapons or tactics, and rumours were subsequently circulated to the effect that great and unnecessary mercilessness had been displayed by the attacking force. The letter referred to above accuses Admiral Courbet of issuing a general order that no quarter should be given to men, women, or children, and then goes on to say that three hundred Annamites who had taken refuge in the Bay of Thouan, were shot down to a man, while one hundred and fifty more, who were drifting in a junk, without arms or oars, were also massacred. The *Temps* denies that Admiral Courbet gave any such order; but admits that 1,200 of the enemy were slain at Thouan. The *Figaro*, on the other hand, seems to credit the charge against the Admiral, and declares that he permitted these atrocities, at the instance of Commissioner Harmand, in order to terrorize the Annamites. We do not attach the slightest faith to such accusations, so far as the French officers are concerned, but it is difficult to avoid a conviction that the conduct of the men has not been worthy of their nation. A letter, of which we published a translation some days ago, contrasted the discipline of the military and naval forces very unfavourably to the former, and said that the troops at Hué were entirely beyond control. The history of campaigns is seldom free from some incident showing that when men's combative instincts are roused, the thirst for blood often becomes an uncontrollable mania. But these savage propensities are fortunately not easy to excite. In the circumstances of the attack on Hué and in the nature of the resistance offered by the garrison, there was certainly nothing to warrant a display of ferocity such as that attributed to the French soldiers. Additional and much stronger evidence is, therefore, necessary before credence can be given to rumours of this disgraceful character. Meanwhile, we observe that a reward of two thousand dollars is still set upon the head of the leader of the Black Flags, Lun-vinh-Phuoc, by the French authorities. Yet the writer of the letter exposing and condemning the cruelties supposed to have been perpetrated at Hué, finds a valid excuse for French fury in the fact that Commandant Riviere's head was carried off as a trophy by the enemy.

An extraordinary story has been telegraphed from Vienna to New York. A girl of great

beauty, who occupied the post of *demoiselle de comptoir* at the Volksgarten, was loved by the son of her employer, Herr Szabo. The young couple announced their intention of getting married, whereupon Szabo dismissed the girl from his service. As this measure proved ineffectual, his wife subsequently wrote to one of her friends, an inspector of police, declaring that the beautiful waitress was ruining young Szabo, and begging the inspector to find some means of removing the girl from Austria. Upon the receipt of this unsubstantiated denunciation the inspector ordered the waitress to be arrested. She was taken from her humble lodging at night and placed in a cell with the lowest class of female criminals. The next morning she was informed by the Police Commissioner that unless a remittance she expected from her mother in Bavaria arrived within twenty-four hours, she should be sent out of Austria in charge of a gendarme. Overcome with grief and shame the unfortunate girl drew a revolver which she had concealed on her person, and placing the muzzle against her breast, shot herself dead. The event has caused a terrible sensation in Vienna, where the citizens are said to be at fever heat against the police—the only institution of the Austrian Empire that has undergone no improvement since the days of Wallestein or Prince Eugene.

NOTES.

We read in a French journal that China's relations with Russia are not of the most amicable character. In the beginning of July last, it is stated, a Chinese dignitary, the military Governor of Hun-chun, arrived at Vladivostock with a brilliant staff, and demanded an audience with the Russian Governor, General Baranoff. Admitted to the latter's presence, the former, in an arrogant fashion, required the restoration of a village called Savelofka, which the Russians have occupied since 1864. General Baranoff replied that he was not empowered to deal with such a question, and that if China had anything to complain of, the Cabinet of Peking should address itself to that of St. Petersburg. Thereupon,—so the story runs—the Chinese officials marched out of the room without saluting or paying any regard to the commonest forms of courtesy. The General was a little shocked by this procedure. He sent an aide-de-camp to inform these extraordinary ambassadors that unless they quitted Russian territory within twenty-four hours, he should send them to the frontier under escort. In connection with this story, we are informed that Russian troops are embarking at Odessa for Vladivostock, and that an iron dock has just been despatched from England to the same place, but we do not apprehend that the relations between the two empires are likely to be disturbed by a mere question of *savoir-vivre*.

THE Pope's liberality in opening the Papal archives to students of history will probably be the means of adding largely to the historical treasures of the nineteenth century. Strange

stories are told about the documents composing these archives. It is said, for example, that the Jesuits have obtained possession of all the papers which concern themselves, and, again, that many important writings lie buried in the garden of the Vatican. Recent telegrams from London, also, speak of systematic efforts on the part of the clergy to hide away the archives lest the Italian Government should carry out its rumoured intention of assuming their custody. The archives of extraordinary ecclesiastical affairs, of the Propaganda, of the Inquisition, and of the Congregation of the Index Expurgatorius are said to have been thus served, and many others are believed to be concealed on secret shelves within walls or behind masses of papers. What the library does contain, it would be very difficult to tell. The documents recently made away with by the clergy were originally kept in the Palace of the Quirinal, where they would have fallen into the hands of the secular power had not a Papal emissary obtained permission to remove them by persuading the Commander of the Italian troops that it was simply a question of baptismal registers without historical value. Even if these are missing, there still remains a goodly array of documents stored in the three floors of one of the Vatican buildings called the "Specola." "The first floor, consisting of eight rooms, is called the "Department of Avignon," and is entirely taken up with the rescripts, bulls, briefs, and apostolic letters collected by the Popes at Avignon during the period of the schism. The four large rooms into which the second floor is divided contain what are called the archives "del Castello," a collection of documents referring to the temporal power. The collection derives its name from the fact that it was formerly kept in the Castle of St. Angelo. The space on the third floor is entirely devoted to the correspondence of the Popes with the Nuncios credited to the different foreign Powers." The mere recital of such historical treasures is enough to throw students into a flutter, and we may expect to hear, one of these days, that the "Specola" has well repaid earnest research. It will be no easy matter to consult the archives, as they are not catalogued, and the only attempt hitherto made to divide them has been their classification by countries. But difficulties of this sort are not likely to deter explorers when rewards so large are in prospect.

THE holiday experiences of Mr. Thomas Hughes in New York constitute a chapter of solace to those who believe that the world of the nineteenth century, in its merciless rapidity of motion, has shaken off all the simplicity and freshness of its more restful days. Mr. Thomas Hughes left Ireland in 1849. The gold-fields of California were the object of his travels, and after a few years of persevering industry, he became possessed of a valuable mine. Money soon came in as fast as he could gather it, accompanied by the honours it always brings in its train, as, for example, the presidency of the board of aldermen of Tucson. In 1883 the successful digger grew home-sick, and thought

he would pay a visit to the places of his nativity. As a necessary preliminary, he put fifty-two thousand dollars in his hand-bag. Then he started for New York, and arriving in the great city on the 21st of September, lost not a moment in going out to see the sights. During his residence in the West he had heard splendid tales of the Bowery, and had learned to believe that a man need only walk a few blocks of that celebrated thoroughfare to see "bald-headed snipes of the prairie" making targets of each other, or policemen clubbing "snoozers from the upper trail." But the Bowery was not true to its reputation on the day of Hughes' visit. He saw only busy wayfarers and hurrying citizens. Wearied and disappointed, his eye at last fell upon a saloon window with the name "Mike Cleary" blazoned in golden letters. The returning patriot felt that the owner of such a title must be a chip of the true old Hibernian block. He stepped in and invited Mike to drink. The invitation was accepted, repeated, returned, and *vice versa*, until Hughes became communicative. He wanted to see the city, he wanted to have a good outing, but above all, he wanted to witness a genuine pugilistic set-to. Mike was most obliging. He was charmed with the ingenuous old geologist, and longed to introduce him to a benevolent friend, by name William Bennett. The ceremony was performed that evening, the three men examining one another repeatedly over their little fingers. Then they began to do the city, and so thoroughly did the two chaperons discharge their duty in this respect, that before half a dozen days were past the miner had disbursed three thousand dollars on account of cigars and drinks alone. Then his combative proclivities asserted themselves vehemently. He grew enthusiastic about prize-fighting, and said he would give anything to see a thorough-paced mill. Mike thought there would be no serious difficulty. It was only a question of money, but he was politely sceptical as to the ex-alderman's willingness to put up the necessary amount. Thus challenged, the old miner produced a certified cheque for \$10,000, and handed it over as security that he meant business. Another introduction was now accomplished. The miner was presented to "a responsible gentleman of sterling integrity" who had consented to act as stake-holder. This was a householder by name "Shang" Draper, a burglar and ex-convict, who made no difficulty about taking charge of a thousand dollars, the preliminary deposit. Articles of agreement were now drawn up for a match between Sullivan and Mace, for \$10,000 a side, and on the 4th of October the miner handed over his second deposit of \$4,000. The final deposit of \$5,000 was to have been paid on the 6th, but on the 5th, Mr. Hughes learning something of "Shang" Draper's real character, became alarmed and went off to Washington to see Sullivan himself. Sullivan told him that Cleary had no authority to make any match of the sort, and recommended immediate proceedings to recover the \$5,000 already deposited. The old miner hastened

back to New York, only to learn, however, that as he had failed to pay up the second \$5,000 on the appointed day, all the previous deposits were forfeited. It was an artistic plant, which Hughes should have thankfully included among the experiences he had come to enjoy. But he appealed to the Tombs Police Court, and the magistrates put Cleary, Draper, and Bennett under heavy bail to appear for subsequent examination. The defence was that the intentions of these gentlemen were honest, and that a fight would actually have been arranged. Mr. Thomas Hughes showed himself game to the last. He didn't care a cent about losing the money, he said, but he did care about being "played for a sucker." We can only hope that in Ireland his American disappointments may be compensated by the sight of some bailiff-beating or landlord-shooting.

THE love of litigation is a strange fantasy. Mr. Abraham B. Miller is a warehouseman, doing business on the East River front both above and below the lately constructed New York and Brooklyn Bridge. Shortly after the building of the bridge began, he instituted a suit to prevent its erection in the manner proposed. The Act of Congress authorizing the structure provided that "it should not obstruct, impair injuriously, or modify the navigation of the river." This Act was referred to the Secretary of War for arithmetical interpretation, and he decided that a height of 135 feet above mean low water in the centre of the span would satisfy the provision. Even with that height, however, it is plain that vessels having very high masts could not go under the bridge without striking or lowering their upper spars, and upon this fact Mr. Miller based his suit, which he has carried on for years alone and unaided. Meanwhile the roadway of the bridge has sunk about 4 feet, but as it was originally raised more than 139 feet, it is still above the minimum height, though its descent has proved fatal to the masts of more than one vessel. The strangest part of the business is that if Mr. Miller gains his suit, the only result will be another Act of Congress legalizing the bridge as it stands. The worthy litigator is well aware of this. He has before his eyes the case of the Wheeling Suspension Bridge, which had to be thus converted from a law-breaking, into a law-fulfilling, structure. Yet he goes on spending his money on the costly whim of compelling the legislature to legalize its error. It is a pity that such a superabundance of public spirit is not better directed.

THE New England Reform League is a body composed of about fifty gentlemen, "eminent in their several callings," who formed themselves into a league a year ago with the object of "promoting an improvement in public sentiment and legislation on the subject of divorce." The League has a valid *raison d'être*. Statistics have been collected showing an immense increase in the number of divorces that take place in the United States. In Maine, Rhode Island, and New Hampshire there is now one divorce

to every ten marriages. In Ohio the rate has risen from 1 in 26 to 1 in 17. In Chicago, Louisville, Connecticut, and Michigan, it is 1 in 13, while in San Francisco and several counties it is 1 in 6. The investigations of these fifty gentlemen go to show that the number of divorces is directly proportionate to the legal facilities for obtaining them. It may be presumed that if the law offered no difficulties whatsoever, conjugal constancy would be unknown in the West. We trust that things are not quite so bad as this, but they are certainly in a condition with which the much-abused customs of the Orient will bear momentary comparison.

In the *North China Herald* we find a note with reference to the relations that exist between the *Japan Mail* and the Japanese Foreign Office. It seems a little strange that a subject of this sort should be so constantly brought forward, but public curiosity requires aliment of some sort. The *North China Daily News*, too, approaches the question in a fashion that does not entirely preclude discussion, and leaves us free, as we were always quite willing, to state the simple facts. When the *Japan Mail* passed into the hands of its present proprietor, the support it received from the Japanese Government was not more than that afforded to any of its local contemporaries. Three months afterwards the official subscription was largely increased, but the increase was neither solicited nor accompanied by any conditions expressed or understood. Had it involved any sacrifice of independence, it would certainly have been rejected. Nevertheless, since in past years some relations were known to have existed between the Foreign Office and the *Mail*, the proprietor deemed it advisable, while acknowledging the Government's support, to disavow all contingent responsibilities. On that plain footing the relation has ever since stood. We leave it to our Shanghai contemporary to determine for himself whether, under these circumstances, he rightly describes the *Japan Mail* as "an organ of the Gwaimusho," or whether he is justified in speaking of its "accepting duties that pertain to a kept paper." It is difficult to devote space to these explanations without an uneasy feeling that we are egotistically obtruding upon our readers' notice matters of no public interest whatsoever. Our desire has always been to address ourselves through these columns to men who value reason and logic too highly to ignore both on account of a suspected motive. Yet since our private affairs do seem to possess some interest for our neighbours, we will venture to trespass still further on our readers' indulgence, and to explain, that of the proceeds of the Government's subscription every dollar has been expended upon the improvement of the paper. Nothing whatsoever has gone into the pocket of the proprietor, who by endeavouring to supply the foreign residents of Japan with a journal worthy of their intelligence, has so far exceeded the support they were able to offer that he finds himself to-day a much poorer man than when the *Japan Mail* first came into his possession. It is a little hard to be obliged

to take the world into one's confidence in these respects, but it is still harder to be openly accused of sacrificing self-respect and independence to conditions which have neither material value nor real influence. The editor of this journal has lived many years in Japan; has devoted much time to the study of the people and their language; has made many valued friends both among official and unofficial classes. That he heartily sympathises with the aspirations of the nation and its efforts, and that he regards with regret and humiliation the illiberal and injudicious policy pursued towards it by many Western States, he frankly acknowledges. He does not hide from himself that the Japanese case presents weak points, and that the Japanese methods of urging it are sometimes open to criticism. But, in all verity, there are fault-finders enough in the field. Were there none to say a friendly word or advance a just plea on behalf of this people, they might properly regard us as the captious and inimical aliens our pretended representatives try to make us appear. The true interest of foreigners in Japan is identical with the interest of the Japanese themselves. Neither can be materially advanced until the unhappy obstructions set up by race prejudice are cleared away from the path of free intercourse. Japan is earnestly anxious to get rid of those obstructions. Many foreigners act as though they were equally anxious to perpetuate them, and the result, disgraceful alike to our intelligence and our civilization, is a miserable deadlock which we shall spare no efforts to remove whatever Ministers may be in power and whatever support they may extend to the *Japan Mail*.

PUBLIC attention in the United States has been recently directed to the extortions practised by Custom House officials. Mr. Francis Whiteley, a merchant of New York, was the first to bring the matter to the attention of the authorities by preferring a charge of black-mailing against a Customs Inspector who had refused to pass his baggage without a fee. Subsequent investigations tend to show that fees are expected as a matter of right by many officials, and that failing such douceurs they will not hesitate to annoy, and even to insult, a passenger. Mr. Whiteley's example was followed by a Mr. Donat, who said that when, in company with his partner, he landed in New York a year ago, he was accosted by a tall well-dressed, authoritative looking man, who told him plainly that he had better pay something to the inspector or look to be detained a long time. The traveller was reluctant at first, but finally nodded acquiescence, upon which the tall man called an inspector and Mr. Donat's luggage was marked "passed," without undergoing any examination whatsoever. The inspector then asked whether the money was ready, and being answered in the affirmative, put out his hand, took what he was given and transferred it without examination to his pocket. The New York merchant says that he "got even" with his black-mailer by handing him a shilling instead of a sovereign, but a well-known Custom House

official has emphatically recorded his disbelief in this story on the grounds that an inspector "would know the difference between the feel of a shilling and a sovereign on the darkest night you ever saw." In Mr. Donat's case the baggage examiners extended their system even to his cab fare. They were very polite about procuring a vehicle and then demanded double the proper fare. These disclosures furnish material for a little newspaper agitation, but to the public in general they convey no intelligence. A protective system may be a good device for revenue purposes, but its effects upon commercial morality are matter of history. If abuses of this nature flourish in America, it is not, we presume, because American officials have less regard for probity than officials anywhere else, but because their temptations to be dishonest are stronger. At the same time it is only fair to observe that Americans themselves do not admit the impeachment. They say that the habit of offering bribes to custom house inspectors has been introduced from Europe, where, in the words of the *New York Herald*, "you've got to see everybody wherever you go, government officials and all." In support of this assertion the same journal tells a story of a New Yorker whose first travels took him to London on a day when the Queen happened to open Parliament. Being a little "full" as he stood in the crowd to see the Royal procession pass to Westminster, and being, moreover, "disgusted with the universally outstretched hand for the inevitable fee," he determined to take time by the forelock for once, and accordingly threw a sovereign towards Her Majesty as she rode by, shouting:—"There you are! Take your share, — you!" The date of this event is not recorded, but the evil effects of European, and especially English, example were evidently felt very soon in America. Twelve years ago a gentleman arrived in New York with a dozen pairs of fine razors among his baggage. He declared the razors and asked how much duty he should have to pay, whereupon the inspector put two of the razors into his pocket with the remark "this makes it all right." It is very proper and pleasant that attempts should be made to correct these abuses, but on the whole the effect of the effort will probably be to increase the perquisites of the black-mailers.

NEWSPAPER fictions are always considered safe when Japan is the theme. No writer with a taste for the marvellous need be at a loss so long as this Empire is within reach of his pen. Among the "literary notes" floating through the press of England and America, we find the interesting statement that the Mikado is so much enraptured with Mr. Edwin Arnold's poem, "The Light of Asia," that he has written a private letter of congratulation and eulogy to the author. This may fairly be held up to admiration as the prize Oriental falsehood of the year. Other fables may have some conceivable, even if illusory, basis to rest upon; but this possesses the pleasing singularity of being utterly destitute of credibility, in whatever aspect it may be

regarded. The inventor's imagination has carried him to a point beyond the widest stretch of possibility.

THE mania for mastering the Niagara whirlpool is unsubdued, and the record of attempts to repeat Captain Webb's undertaking is becoming a little wearisome. All hazardous swimming exploits in the river are now forbidden by authority, but efforts to achieve distinction by other methods are not wanting. The skeleton boat, constructed in imitation of the *Maid of the Mist* having once passed safely through the perilous gorge, was carried back to the starting point and launched again, a few weeks ago. On this occasion, considerable difficulty was caused by the endeavours of various individuals to take passage on the fragile craft. One man, named James Scott, belonging to the neighborhood, succeeded in concealing himself until the last moment, and was highly indignant at being compelled to abandon his project. The vessel accomplished her voyage in much the same manner as on the first trial, suffering no serious injury at any part of the course. But a smaller and much stronger boat, fourteen feet long, which was sent on the same errand, immediately after, was seized by the revolving current, whirled around with immense force, and finally dragged beneath the surface into depths from which it did not reappear. So the question as to the navigability of the lower rapids is a trifle more unsettled than ever.

THE geography of Tonquin is so little familiar to the general public that few persons find it easy to appreciate the relative positions of the French and Chinese, or to follow the course of the negotiations that have taken place between the Cabinets at Paris and Peking. The rough sketch given below will, perhaps, help to elucidate the situation. The dotted line passing through Hung-hoa, Thuyen-kwang, and Kobang is the limit proposed by the French for their protectorate in Tonquin, a proposal that excludes China from the whole province with the exception of the triangle, of which Sontai forms the apex, while Laokai and Kobang lie at the extremities of the base. China's counter-proposal is that the French protectorate should be pushed back to the canal of Thai-Binh, which constitutes the water-way between Hanoi and Haiphong, and that a custom house should be established at Hung-hoa. According to this scheme of partition, France would occupy the whole province to the South of the Red River, and about half the delta of the stream. Meanwhile the van of the Chinese army is posted at Bac-ninh, a town situated on the main road from Hanoi to the province of Canton, and about the centre of the disputed district. Bac-ninh appears to be strongly fortified. A recent reconnaissance showed Krupp guns in position there and resulted in a resolve to defer further operations. According to the telegram received on Saturday last, Admiral Courbet had received orders to advance against the place, but this rumour does not appear credible. What-

ever may be the ultimate consequence of the Chinese manifesto, its immediate effect will be to temporarily check French advances northward of the Red River. Admiral Courbet's handful of men would doubtless be ready to undertake an expedition to Peking itself if they were directed to make the attempt, but there are limits to human capabilities, and it is not likely that a force which is scarcely strong enough to hold its own against the Black Flags, will be ordered to engage the Chinese army also. On the other hand, Bac-ninh and Hanoi are so near that a collision between the forces occupying the two places is at any moment possible, and we are disposed to think that M. Ferry and the Marquis Tseng, recognizing the imminence of this peril, will spare no pains to bring the negotiations to an amicable termination. The scheme of deferring further discussion until after the extermination of the Black Flags and the occupation of the whole province by the French did not include the contingency of a Chinese army posted in the middle of the disputed district.



HEREDITARY mania in the United States sometimes takes the form of recklessness in the use of pistols and shot-guns. The Redmond family's case is in point. John Redmond's two nephews were building a fence, when their uncle was rash enough to dispute the line they followed. They settled the question by silencing him in perpetuity with a shot-gun. The occurrence did not attract much notice, as all the Redmonds were known to be desperate men. John Redmond junior was no exception. On the 15th of October, he visited Satesville, and finding an immense crowd of country folk who had assembled to see a circus, he rode among them, flourishing pistols and defying everybody. By and bye he espied a coloured man, Charles Campbell, with whom he was not on pleasant terms. He, therefore, took two shots at the negro, but missed his aim. Campbell then opened fire with varied success. His first bullet lodged in the abdomen of an old gentleman who was standing by. His second entered the leg of a little child, and his third pierced Redmond's heart. Campbell was carried off to jail, but Redmond's friends took him out the same night and lynched him. It is exceedingly rash on the part of coloured men to resort to violence in defence of their lives.

THE Chinese Consul in New York, speaking of the probable effect of a war between France and China, said, on the 3rd of this month:—"The

trade between China and the United States is very large and likely to be affected by a general war, but the ports of China are so directly connected with foreign interests, that to blockade these ports would be to affect foreign interests to such an extent that the French would hardly dare to attempt it. The principal mail port of China is Hongkong, and to blockade the river to Canton would necessarily cut off Hongkong from foreign intercourse. He did not think the French would be likely to get their country into a quarrel with England and the United States, as well as other nations, by blockading this port, for, by so doing, they would shut out the greater portion of trade. He believed before the war reached such a stage the other nations affected would intervene and put an end to the strife. New York merchants were interested. Before a general war could take place it would be necessary to give ninety days notice to foreign nations, during which time the United States could get out all the teas and silks, required for a year, and although it would cause a rise in teas and silk, no actual scarcity would be felt for that length of time. The United States could also export to China large quantities of American products. It was, however, believed France would hardly dare to close up the Chinese ports, especially Hongkong, and so long as that was kept open American trade would not be seriously interfered with." It is possible that the American interviewer may be ignorant that Hongkong is a British, and not a Chinese, port; but a Chinese Consul is hardly likely to fall into such an error. The charlatanism of reporting personal conversations, as worked by the Americans journals, is daily more apparent.

THE report of the proceedings of the Dai-Sek-kiyo-kwai, on the 19th and 20th instant, is not pleasant reading to those who, as friends of Japan, have some respect for her reputation. No incident in the history of this country's recent progress has moved the outer world to more earnest and just admiration than her display of religious tolerance. When we remember that aversion to Christianity—an aversion founded on the political intrigues of Jesuit propagandists—was at the root of all her anti-foreign prejudices, it seems only logical that in divesting herself of the latter, she should lay aside the former also. But when has religion shown itself submissive to the rules of logic? Even at this very moment of writing, a majority of the English people practically declines to admit that a man can honestly discharge the duties of a member of parliament without subscribing to the forms of a faith in which his conscience forbids him to believe. Japan may fairly claim to have advanced a step farther than that. She has removed every barrier to freedom of thought. Disciples of Christianity are not less eligible for secular offices than followers of the Buddhist or Confucian creeds, and foreign missionaries are permitted to preach the faiths they profess wherever they please throughout the Empire. No more convincing evidence could be furnished of the Government's sincere adherence to the

principles of progress. But with the student class a different spirit seems to prevail. If we may judge by the conduct of the youths who disturbed the proceedings of the Sekkiyo-kwai, they have so misread Mill, Huxley, and Spencer, that their idea of supporting the cause of reason is violently to impose silence upon every expression of adverse opinion. They will do well to reflect whether the materialistic doctrines they themselves so ardently support, could now be publicly avowed with safety had not the progress of thought been long ago freed from the restraints of intolerance and prejudice. The philosophy of Mill and Spencer did not grow up under the shadow of an Inquisition or within sight of the stake and the rack, and when the disciples of that philosophy have recourse to the repressive policy of the past, their conduct is at once unworthy of their masters and false to the spirit of their faith. There is but a small interval between the displays that disgraced the synod of the Sekkiyo-kwai ten days ago and the pitiable fanaticism that consigned Cramer to the flames and Galileo to a dungeon in past centuries. There will doubtless be persons ready to condone such youthful intemperance, and to attach little importance to the demeanour of a party of students. But we cannot forget that these young men who refused to allow their own countrymen a fair hearing, are in a measure representatives of the generation that is growing up under the influence of Western civilization. It is for that generation to show what the world may expect of Japanese intelligence and we can assure them that their recent exhibition of rude intolerance, however much of it may be attributed to the giddiness of youth, is inevitably significant of their incomplete adaptation to the improved social conditions of their country.

PROBABLY the largest piece of casting ever manufactured in Japan was accomplished at the Mitsu Bishi Engine works on Thursday in the presence of a number of visitors. It is a cylinder for a compound engine, and weighs about five tons. The directors of the work deserve great credit for the perfection of their arrangements.

A TELEGRAM from London to the New York Associated Press dated the 5th of November says that "the dispute between China and France has reached the verge of open warfare." The most explicit and positive instructions, looking to the proper and thorough conservation of British interests, were yesterday and to-day issued to all the departments. Inquiry at the Admiralty Office, where during the past forty-eight hours unusual activity has prevailed, elicited the fact that the Lords of the Admiralty had been directed to proceed at once to completely re-enforce the British fleet in Chinese waters. It is understood that the majority of the heavier vessels of the British fleet will be divided between the Chinese ports and the remainder maintained on rapid cruising duty, and British traders and residents at different ports will be at once offered shelter. A rumor is current in this city to-night that orders have been issued

to naval commanders to resist all attempts on the part of the French to blockade any Chinese ports where there exists actual British interests. It is reported that a conference has been arranged between the Marquis Tseng and Earl Granville, Minister of Foreign Affairs, Lord Harrington, Minister of War, and Lord Northbrook, First Lord of the Admiralty."

THE annual report of the Washington Mint Director shows that the gold received and operated upon during the year was valued at \$49,000,000, while the silver amounted to nearly \$39,000,000. The coinage for the year was valued at \$66,200,704, the total gold coinage being \$35,936,927 and the silver \$28,835,470, of which \$28,111,119 was standard dollars. The profits on the coinage of silver dollars amounted to \$3,701,331, and the silver profits of the last five years amounted to \$13,860,310. The silver circulation, the Director says, is in excess of the requirements, and he expresses a belief that the equal coinage of both gold and silver by all nations is desirable. He suggests that Congress should consider the question whether the law directing the monthly coinage of two millions of silver dollars should not be modified or repealed. The Director recommends that the coinage of the gold dollar and the three-cent nickel piece be discontinued, and the repeal of the Act authorizing the coinage of the trade-dollar and that the latter coins be sent to the mints and exchanged for other silver dollars. The production of gold during the current calendar year will be about \$32,000,000 and silver about \$49,000,000 and silver about \$49,000,000. The estimated circulation of coin on October 1, 1883, was \$544,512,699 gold, and \$235,291,323 silver.

MAN has been so much accustomed, "since Adam dug and Eve span," to wear the skins of the beasts that he has conquered in the chase, that it is not astounding by any means to find him more or less consciously wearing the skin of his deceased fellows. The practice of tanning human hides dates back at least as far as, if not farther than, the time of Ziska, who ordered that part of his epidermis should be made into parchment for the cover of a drum, so that his carcass though dead might yet speak to his soldiers. Now-a-days, if we may believe General Butler, one of the best of American strategists, and a hero of the great war—a dead pauper's skin is an article of value as mere peltry. The General appears to believe that many a pretty woman in New York is gloved and booted with the hide of her antecedents. A Boston telegram to a Chicago newspaper, dated the 20th of October, says:—"Before the Senate Committee on Education and Labor this morning, Charles T. Chance, a Somerville tanner, testified:—"The men complain some about this tanning human hides. I saw hides myself as much as five or six years ago, and know men who heard of them eleven years ago, and knew men who heard of them eighteen years ago. The business has been increasing ever since, until lately. Three

or four months ago it was stopped. I have seen several whole hides of women that had been tanned. They were perfect and looked as natural as life. I have seen them at Muller's tannery at Cambridge, the last one about a year ago. Dan McDermott of Somerville saw one; also a man named Warster of Somerville. Dan McDermott cut a piece off and carried it in his pocket two years. The proprietors must have known of it. Men told me the proprietors did most of the work on these hides with their own hands. There are plenty of men who could tell all about this, but they don't dare." But the *New York Nation* ridicules General Butler's idea. It says:—"Butler's strange infatuation for his 'tanned human skin' issue has received another shock. It was shown long ago that the specimens which he exhibited as evidence of the horrible uses to which the bodies of paupers were put by the people of Massachusetts, never had any other origin than the freakish desire of a medical student to see what kind of leather the human skin would make. There was no evidence that the skin used had been taken from a Tewksbury pauper. Yet Butler goes on talking about it, circulating campaign documents with pictures of it, and even printing a Republican ballot on paper which is colored like it. He also paraded before the investigating committee a shoe which he said was made of human skin. The firm of tanners from whom the Governor obtained all his 'samples' now come forward, and say that he is wilfully misrepresenting the facts about them, and that 'there is no more human skin about the Tewksbury shoe than there is about a buffalo robe,' it being made of dog-skin. Yet we doubt if Butler will abandon his 'issue' even now. It is about all he has, and he has succeeded so well in the past by appealing to the prejudices of the lowest and most ignorant voters that he has little faith in any other kind of campaigning."

THE instinct of the public is seldom entirely at fault. When a civilized and intelligent community assumes the duty of executing its criminals without waiting for legal sanction, it may fairly be presumed that there is real need of sterner and swifter restraint than that provided by the written codes. This is forcibly illustrated in some of the police records of the United States. The people have no solid confidence in the vitality of official justice, so they take upon themselves the duties of judging and punishing offenders. The third page of the *New York Herald* of October the 13th offers suggestive evidence upon this point. We read there, first, of the execution of a man called Ellis Craft, who, in company with one William Neal, broke into a cottage in Ashland, Kentucky, criminally assaulted two girls, and then having murdered them as well as their brother, a cripple, set fire to the house. These men were arrested on the confession of one George Ellis, who declared that he had been an unwilling witness of, and to some extent a participator in, the crime. Ellis was condemned to life imprisonment in the

penitentiary, but this sentence did not satisfy the mob. They took him from jail and hanged him, and the propriety of their act was acknowledged by the man himself, who, with the rope about his neck, declared that he justly merited the severest penalty. Popular opinion was equally resolute, though its practical expression was less successful, in the case of Craft and Neal. Their immediate death was demanded, without the formality of a trial, and the State employing military power to protect them, three men were killed and twenty wounded in the controversy that ensued. Craft was executed on the 15th of October, two years and ten months after the perpetration of his crime, the greater part of that interval having been occupied in trying him twice over, once in the ordinary course and once on appeal. Neal is still to be retried. No wonder that people who dislike revolting crimes chafe a little at such cumbrous and tardy processes. Reading on a little farther in the same sheet, we learn that Henry Kyle, an eighteen-year-old negro boy, was seized, on the 11th of October, while assaulting a five-year-old girl, and given in charge of two bailiffs. The officers had reached a ferry below Spring Creek when they were overtaken by a band of mounted masked men, who demanded that the prisoner should be turned over to them. The bailiffs declining, a fight ensued, ending, of course, in Kyle's capture. The next morning, the negro's lifeless body was found in the creek "riddled with bullets from head to foot." The telegram adds:—"No steps to make any arrests have been taken and none are anticipated."

On the same day two drunken negroes, of Russellville, shot and killed a white man who was also drunk. The negroes were incarcerated, but a mob took them from jail, a few hours afterwards, and hanged them. The mob is said to have been "composed of good citizens." Frequent as are these applications of Lynch law, we never hear of any penalties inflicted on the lynchers. It ought to be possible to arrest and convict them, but no efforts seem to be made with that object. The people decide for themselves who shall be summarily punished and who shall be left to take the many chances of escape offered by ignorant or partial juries and dædalian processes. Their decision is virtually final, absolutely so where a negro is concerned, and their arbitrary assumption of jurisdiction leads to nothing more than some half-hearted expressions of order-loving citizens' regret.

A WRITER in a Hongkong contemporary, exponent perhaps of colonial opinion, seems to think that the importation of jinrikishas into the Island of Fragrant Streams is not an unmixed good. He observes that to "drive through the labyrinth of Queen's-road jinrikishas is beyond a joke, as I have recently had occasion to practically prove. To drive at snail's progress is about the only speed that can be adopted without risk of hurling jinrikishas and their happy (?) occupants to the realms of Heaven-knows-where. The

trouble is, that the more cautious one is, the more considerate one may be, the more one is imposed upon by downright refusal to make way an inch for one's self and quadruped. It is the old story of boats and junks crossing a steamer's bows at imminent danger distance, just for the fun or the luck of the thing. I should not hesitate to teach the jinrikisha coolie a practical lesson not to bar my progress by blocking up the left, middle, and right of the road, did I not refrain out of consideration for the unfortunate occupants of his vehicle. It is not pleasant to see a stout Dutch captain and a still stouter Dutch captain's wife, in a chaotic state in the gutter with their jinrikisha topsy-turvy and the bearer flattened to the consistency of a pancake by the united weights of the captain, his wife, and the jinrikisha being precipitated on the top of him. And yet, this may be the result of a mere touching of jinrikisha wheels by an endeavour, by no means reckless, to penetrate the present every evening confusion of the Queen's-road jinrikisha traffic. Heaven help the general state of things if the tramway and jinrikisha traffic are *both* to flourish in the early coming by and bye."

The same writer asks:—"Has anyone ever studied the effect produced on an individual by being run into by a jinrikisha?" He answers:—"I have. The temper it gives rise to is something astonishing to behold. Of one special occasion I may say, however, that had the jinrikisha coolie, who was so summarily dealt with, turned round and given his maltreater a jolly good licking, I should have stood by and said—it served him jolly well right. No man is justified in giving way to his temper to the extent of beating a coolie unmercifully with a by no means small cane, because he happens to be run into—he being in fault the whole time by walking in the road."

Or late years there have occurred many deaths from hydrophobia in Shanghai. At the latest meeting of the Shanghai Municipal Council a curious application from the Chinese officer in charge of the "Dog Refuge" was read. We quote from the *Mercury*. The "native asked for permission to send two or three coolies into the Settlement with a box for the purposes of catching stray dogs, which would afterwards be taken to the Refuge, and be kept and fed." The Conscrip Fathers decided not to grant the permission asked for, and informed the applicant that "when the dogs at present in the Refuge are sent away into the country, the Council will consider whether they can allow those subsequently caught by the Police to be taken there."

THE Paris correspondent of *The Times*, writing early in October on the Franco-Chinese embargo says:—"The Marquis Tseng has not yet received a reply to the French memorandum, nor even any acknowledgment of its receipt. Not only, however, has the memorandum certainly reached Peking, but M. Tricou must have been informed of the impression of the Chinese

Government after having received it. M. Ferry must therefore have learnt from his own Ambassador at Peking, as well as from the Chinese Ambassador here, what China's resolution is, and that she is resolved, if not to claim Tonquin for herself, at least to allow no European Power to possess it. . . . It is not, moreover, on the Black Flags that the question depends. It has all along been known that they are merely the vanguard or a screen disguising the eventual Chinese army, which army would have to be faced if the Black Flags were not there to defend the territory in the name, or on behalf, of China. The Black Flags may, possibly, be discouraged; but the question is whether they are still encouraged by China, who does not conceal that she has hitherto encouraged them as constituting the vanguard of her own army. However, the matter is that France is confronted by China, and with her she must come to an agreement, unless she is strong enough to dispense with an agreement. What is now clear is that the influence of the Marquis Tseng has not been duly appreciated. The settlement between France and China mainly depends upon him. It is his opinion which will prevail at Peking, and with him the question must be settled, for any convention that may be concluded will be in a spirit impressed by him on the Chinese Government."

Of the recent importation of English policemen into the British Settlement at Shanghai the *Mercury* of the 14th instant says, that the steamer *Bellerophon*, from Liverpool, brought out twelve policemen from home, for the Municipal Police Force. If size is a sufficient guarantee to put fear into mortals, these new arrivals will certainly succeed; they are an exceedingly fine lot of men.

WE are requested by Mr. Hoffman to state that the loss sustained by him in the recent burning of his store is not covered by insurance. He says that he allowed a policy of \$4,000 to lapse the other day. The actual insurance on his property was only \$6,000 at the time of the disaster.

THE British ship *Haddon Hall*, Captain Leighton, was towed to the outer anchorage this morning, and will sail for Hiogo on Monday with a portion of her original cargo from Mid-dlesbro'. She will afterwards proceed to Manila, to load for Europe.

A WELL-ATTENDED and pleasant meeting was held yesterday evening in the Union Church, the object being an endeavor to devise means whereby the sale of spirituous liquors shall be restricted. Captain Skerrett, U.S.N., presided.

THE laying of the submarine telegraph cable between Japan and Korea was successfully completed on the 23rd instant, and the line will no doubt be opened for traffic very shortly.

DR. BUTCHER, Dean of Shanghai, contributes a paper to the *Fortnightly Review* on the "Copts and El Islam."

THE ABUSE OF EXTERRITORIAL PRIVILEGES.

THE employment of exterritorial privileges in the foreign Settlements of Hiogo and Osaka as a means of enabling Japanese to evade the laws of the land, is another characteristic episode in the history of the unfortunate system foreigners have introduced into this country. For the past two years the Japanese Government has been at considerable pains to check gambling operations in paper money. As a general rule, legal restraint cannot be successfully applied to such operations, but an exceptional responsibility devolved upon the administration of this empire, since the evil had been fostered, if not chiefly developed, by the unsound financial policy of past years. It was inevitable that speculators should take advantage of opportunities furnished by a currency subject to constant official manipulation, and Ministers whose predecessors had contributed to attract speculation into this pernicious channel, were in a measure bound to divert it, if possible, into healthier directions. Whether wisely or unwisely, however, the law has imposed its veto upon Exchanges where gambling on margins is carried on, and the police have been actively engaged in searching out and punishing offenders against this prohibition. But the police have no access to foreign premises, and foreigners, Americans excepted, claim exemption from all Japanese laws and regulations. It follows, therefore, that if Japanese speculators and European residents are so minded, they can combine to defy the laws, these by converting their houses into gambling exchanges and those by going there to gamble. This is what appears to have happened in Hiogo and Osaka. Japanese tradesmen and Portuguese householders have made arrangements to convert the latter's premises into asylums for exchanges of which the police had succeeded in purging the native towns.

This is not surprising. Were there no disposition to violate the laws, there need be no laws. If there is profit to be made by prostituting the privileges we have usurped in Japan, there will certainly be found persons to prostitute them. When Consuls issue notices politely requesting their nationals to observe certain local regulations of the Japanese Government, the public treats this official farce and its subject alike with smiling unconcern. That the regulations, themselves, being generally designed to confer a public benefit, are not obstructed, does not lessen the absurdity of the proceeding. The fact remains that

obedience or disobedience is wholly a matter of option. This was the case with all the sanitary regulations enacted during the cholera epidemics of recent years. Out of the eighteen nationalities represented in Yokohama, the Ministers of one or two at most were competent to make the regulations binding upon their countrymen. With the rest, it was a matter of chance. And in one instance, it will be remembered, the officers of the Sanitary Board could not obtain permission to disinfect the premises of a foreigner who had died of the disease. Consular authority declared itself unable to sanction any such step. Public opinion, too, displayed complete apathy. Respectable residents did not dread the cholera, and saw no reason to sympathise practically with Japanese administrative disabilities. But the case is different with the Hiogo and Osaka Exchanges. Two foreign journals have taken up the subject with commendable warmth, and condemned the offending Portuguese in no measured terms. Yet the language employed by these very journals is, if possible, more suggestive than the abuse they denounce. For while both of them agree that the conduct of the Portuguese will receive universal censure at the hands of respectable residents, neither has any better remedy to offer than "an unequivocal expression of public opinion." These foreigners, who for a pecuniary consideration assist Japanese to violate their country's laws, are to have their names published in the newspapers and "their conduct thoroughly exposed," which sentimental penalty will, it is hoped, induce them to turn from the error of their ways. They are to be taught by journalistic essays or correspondence—for we fail to discover any other method of expressing public opinion on such a question—that local society will close its doors upon persons who by abusing the privileges of exterritoriality imperil the permanence of that precious system. It is unnecessary to dwell upon this aspect of the affair. Reason and justice find no place in the arguments of men who venture to maintain that respect for public opinion is the only barrier which the Treaties suffer to exist between pecuniary gain and conspiracy on the part of foreign residents to assist Japanese violations of Japanese law.

But, speaking practically, is this the only barrier existing at present? Is it really true that the preservation of good order in Japan depends upon the disposition of the foreign residents? Are we soberly asked to believe that any

Portuguese, or let us say, British, resident, is at liberty to convert his house into an asylum for Japanese law-breakers unless his conscience is still sufficiently sensitive to be pricked by fugitive expressions of local journalistic disapproval? The idea sounds laughable. Few of us will be disposed to admit that the system a handful of strangers have set up for their so-called convenience and security in Japan, entails consequences so disgraceful to the civilization we represent. It happens, however, that the public is in a position to forecast the exact issue of this Hiogo and Osaka abuse. A precisely analogous case occurred some four years ago in Tokiyo, and was made the subject of strong comment in these columns. We will repeat the main incidents of the affair briefly, in order that our readers may be able to answer the questions propounded above.

In October, 1874, there was issued, over the signature of the First Minister of State, a notification forbidding the establishment of Exchanges for carrying on speculative transactions in rice, kerosene, and certain other staples, except under the special sanction and supervision of the authorities. In July, 1880, it came to the knowledge of the Tokiyo Municipality, that a British merchant, residing in the Foreign Settlement at Tsukiji, had there established a Kerosene Oil Exchange, in partnership with a number of Japanese citizens, who, being thus removed beyond the immediate reach of the police, were daily carrying on an illegal traffic with impunity. The Governor of Tokiyo lost no time in communicating the fact to Her Majesty's Consul, requesting him to restrain his national, so that the regulations enacted by the Japanese Government for the order and general welfare of its subjects should not be rendered abortive. The reply of the Consul was that he had no power to comply with such a request, since the business in question, though unlawful for Japanese, was legitimate for Englishmen and did not conflict with any existing provision of English law. The Governor may well have been perplexed by this rejoinder. It suggested a new interpretation of a treaty of friendship. In common with all his countrymen, he had been accustomed to regard exterritoriality as a device for exempting foreign residents from Japanese jurisdiction and Japanese legal penalties only, not as a scheme for relieving them of any obligation to respect the laws and customs of the country whose hospitality they were enjoying. Yet the Consul's answer upset this theory completely, and virtually laid down the principle that Englishmen living

in an Oriental country are not required to regard any laws save those that exist in their own land, and may even carry their independence to the length of assisting Japanese subjects to violate Japanese laws. A further communication was now addressed to the Consul, informing him that the law in question had for its object the suppression of gambling transactions injurious to public morality and calculated to cause financial distress, and that being a general law, British subjects living in Japan were not exempt from its operation. The Consul, however, had no authority to revise an interpretation given to the treaty by Her Majesty's Minister. Desiring, as all British officials earnestly desire, to co-operate heartily with the Government of this country in preserving order, he was, nevertheless, obliged to repeat that Englishmen in Japan could not be prohibited by any English law from establishing and carrying on oil Exchanges, were they so minded, whatever might be the provisions of Japanese law. All that he could do was to inform the Tsukiji merchant that his associates were violating the laws of their country, and to advise him to prevent their resort to his premises. This advice was followed, so that, practically, the desired end was attained, but the fact remained that it was attained solely through the good-will of the Consul and the complaisance of his national. Upon the voluntary exercise of these qualities, and not upon the sovereign rights of an independent State, had the Japanese Government been reduced, by treaties of amity and commerce, to depend for the enforcement of its own laws within its own territories.

It may well be supposed that the question was not allowed to rest there. Absolute lawlessness and possibly grave public danger might at any moment result from the position assumed by the British authorities in this discussion. The Japanese Government could scarcely assent to the monstrous proposition that a business prohibited in general terms by the laws of the Empire, as detrimental to the public welfare by whomsoever conducted, may be freely carried on by Englishmen living in Japan simply because the social conditions of the British Isles do not necessitate a similar prohibition there. Such a contention was sufficiently outrageous to have brought about a final settlement of some sort, and doubtless it would have had that result, but for the imminence of treaty revision. The prospect of that long-deferred operation offered a reasonable ground for postponing

all discussions involving large issues. The treaties, however, are not yet revised, nor is there any evidence, so far as we know, that Great Britain, at all events, is disposed to modify her interpretation of the privileges of extraterritoriality. Her Representative found Japanese statesmen visionary and unwise because they did not direct all their efforts to obtaining an increase of three or four per cent. in the tariff, rather than to clearing away obstructions which, by preventing the opening of the country, cripple the growth of commerce, and render friendly and unrestricted intercourse impossible.

Perhaps the Portuguese authorities will take a different view of their treaty obligations. Perhaps they will restrain, and even punish, their nationals for themselves violating, and enabling the Japanese to violate, the laws of the Empire. Meanwhile, these events are not wholly regrettable, since the honest and unreserved expressions of condemnation they have evoked from two English local journals will help to convince the Japanese, if they are not already convinced, that English opinion, though apparently indifferent to a glaring error of theory, will never sanction its practical consequences. Abuses such as those reported from Hiogo and Osaka will soon convince all honest-minded persons, that the Japanese cannot possibly throw this country open to men who confess that their obligation to respect the laws of the land is measured entirely by caprice or convenience.

THE DISTURBANCE AT THE DAI GAKU.

NOTHING can be more lamentable than a revolt against order and propriety such as has recently thrown into confusion the operations of the University in Tokio; and nothing is more certain than that the only chance of remedy in the present case and of immunity from similar disturbances in the future lies in a firm and resolute enforcement of the laws which have been ruthlessly and wantonly violated. The evidence which we have been able to gather, from various sources, admits of no other inference than that the outbreak was utterly without substantial cause, and can be traced to no legitimate grievance, either real or imaginary, on the part of the students. Those who participated most actively in the demonstration do not pretend that they had wrongs to redress, or were actuated by any motive beyond the mischievous impulse of the moment. It is believed that a few of the prominent instigators had certain

private vexations, more or less genuine, but it does not appear that these were shared in common or were made the pretext for combined aggressive action. All subsequent inquiries have failed to elicit any ground of general complaint, or any testimony indicating a pre-arranged conspiracy to attack the University or its officers. The disturbance seems to have been the result of a series of accidental causes, to which no deep-seated animosity towards institutions or individuals contributed.

That there were a few dissatisfied and querulous members of the upper classes, such as no University is free from, the authorities have always been aware: but they have been equally aware that these malcontents were never formidable, and probably had no intention of making themselves appear so. On the day selected for the graduating ceremonies, October 27th, arrangements were made by a large body of students for a festival of their own, at a house of resort outside the city limits. The cheer at this establishment was too liberal, and the majority of those present lost their heads. Whether the few ill-disposed seniors, previously alluded to, deliberately took advantage of the opportunity, or were merely impelled by vicious influences to expound their troubles for the edification of the multitude, remains a matter of doubt; but it is recorded that the whole body started forth, after further indulgence in wine and oratory, in a condition of abnormal effervescence, intent upon projects which none of them could well have contemplated beforehand, and which, certainly, none would have dreamed of executing in their sober senses. Fresh stimulants were consumed on the way, which, while incapacitating some from subsequent action, additionally excited others. The whole performance seems to have been as discreditable as, we are assured, it was exceptional. The students marched as nearly in procession as they could to the University, arriving at which the temporary fury of some of them was aggravated by discovering that refreshments, which they were not invited to partake, were in course of consumption by native and foreign visitors. Without warning, and apparently without definite plan, they then began to break down fences, force doorways, and destroy such furniture as they could lay their hands upon. All efforts to induce them to desist proved unavailing, and it was finally found necessary to call in the police, before whom the offenders retired, and the tumult ended.

What followed was the most unfortunate

feature of the affair, in the estimation of the Japanese officials. Always lenient, and especially so when unusual excesses may be ascribed to influences outside of their immediate jurisdiction, they would have abstained from extreme severity; and, after proper acknowledgment of error and avowal of contrition, the students would, for the most part, have been permitted to resume their positions and proceed with their course of education. But it seemed as if the organization which was lacking before the event, had been carried into effect afterward with such completeness that nothing could be extracted from a single participator in the commotion. Every mouth was sealed. No student would divulge anything which might implicate one of his fellows. Deep regret at what had occurred was manifested by many of the younger rioters, and not a few acknowledged their shame and grief at having been led into such disgrace; but nothing could be discovered as to the alleged or supposed cause of the assault, nor could any clue to the identity of the ringleaders be gathered. The utmost consideration was shown throughout, and the way was made as easy as it possibly could be, with due regard to discipline, for the return of all; but with rare exceptions, they obstinately refused to yield a point. The half dozen who are suspected of having instigated the onslaught are supposed to have taken the ground that the authorities would certainly set aside their own dignity as well as the rules of the institution, sooner than lose so large a proportion of the inmates,—not less than one-third of the total number being involved; and by disseminating this view among the majority they perhaps found it easier to hold them to their pledges of secrecy. Whatever the reasons, it is certain that, after a fortnight of fruitless investigation, no course remained open but that of expelling nearly one hundred and fifty scholars, including many of the most advanced and promising, whose previous record had been unimpeachable, as regards both scholarship and deportment. The University is thus crippled to a painful degree, hardly a single class being free from a derangement which may call for complete reorganization.

Singular as it may seem, the majority of those concerned in the disturbance,—while mortified at what has befallen them and remorseful at having inflicted sorrow and distress upon their best friends,—utterly refuse to look upon their conduct as seri-

ously reprehensible, or as calling for extreme measures of punishment. Not a few of them, through some distorted conception of college habits and usages in Western countries, are beset with a wild notion that an occasional "row" is the correct thing in an institution of learning, and ought rather to be encouraged than forbidden by the authorities. One of the agitators declared, on examination, that neither he nor any of his habitual associates were especially inclined to join in a rebellion, but they had understood from remarks let fall by certain professors, that the scholars of the Dai Gaku were altogether too tame and spiritless, and needed a little of the animation displayed by boisterous and insubordinate sophomores in Europe and America. On that hint, it was averred, they acted; and no suspicion that their escapade would be harshly dealt with ever occurred to any of the particular party in question. This ridiculously frank avowal may serve to indicate the purposeless and incoherent character of the whole proceeding. As it was an attack without an aim, so, they supposed, it would be without grave consequences. And, although their eyes are now opened to that part of their mistake, they still obstinately decline to admit that they have been guilty of more than a trifling and harmless, though perhaps indiscreet, freak. In this defiant spirit they continue to hold themselves, many proclaiming and apparently really believing, that the faculty will even yet give way, and re-admit them without further sign of penitence. In this, however, they are totally at fault, and it is becoming a serious question whether they will ever, by any means, regain their lost stations. They can do so only by presenting themselves at the next examination of new candidates, when after proper submission, they may take such places as they are found qualified to fill. Their course of study being broken up, they will probably at the best, be thrown back a term or more, unless they can secure private tuition which will enable them to keep pace with their former fellows. It is unfortunate, in every respect, that so stringent an exercise of authority has been found requisite; but it is next to a certainty that, if discipline had not been duly enforced in this instance, orderly government would have been at an end forever in the Tokiyo Dai Gaku.

CHINESE IN AMERICA.

THE vexed question as to the admission of persons of Chinese birth to citizenship in the United States continues to be agitated in Philadelphia, where the discussion first arose over the case of an intelligent and prosperous laundry proprietor, as already described in these columns. The manner in which the subject is treated by the Courts of that city betrays not only inconsistency, but also a singular ignorance of the laws relating to naturalization. On the 4th of October last, a Chinaman named CHUNG KEE presented his petition to a certain Justice ARNOLD, and, after the requisite formalities, received his certificate and went forth, as he supposed, an American in every legal sense. On the very next day, CHUNG KEE's brother, CHUNG LAM by name, appeared before the same Court, for the same purpose. Another magistrate, Justice YERKES, was sitting in place of Justice ARNOLD, and by him the application was summarily rejected. In this instance, the decision was not based upon the naturalization laws of 1870 and 1875, but upon the law of 1882, especially restricting Chinese immigration. The fourteenth section of this Act provides that "hereafter no State Court or Court of the United States shall admit Chinese to citizenship, and all laws in conflict with this Act are hereby repealed." There is no room for doubt about the meaning of this language, and it is certainly extraordinary that the terms of a statute so recently passed should be unknown to any judge in Philadelphia—or in the whole country, for that matter. As it happens, however, many Chinese have received diplomas of citizenship during the past year; paying, therefor, the required fees. If CHUNG LAM had gone with his brother, on October 4th, instead of waiting till next day, he would have been admitted, and Justice YERKES would have had no occasion for reversing the action of his learned brother. Justice ARNOLD, on receiving information of the adverse decision, issued an order revoking the papers which he had granted the day before. It would appear as if the Courts generally were disposed to consider the petitions of respectable Chinamen in the light of plain reason and common sense, unconscious of the fact that a national law compels them to act as the instruments of a narrow and illiberal prejudice which never had a real existence, excepting in two or three extreme Western States. A judge in the enlightened regions of America may perhaps be pardoned for doubting the possibility that "hoodlum"

hatreds can be made, by law of Congress, to interfere with the administration of justice three thousand miles away from California; and for failing to examine the records which point out so gross a perversion of legal and moral principles.

We observe that while the leading American newspapers accept Justice YERKES'S mandate as inevitable, they generally express regret at its necessity, and acknowledge the unsoundness of a statute which thus discriminates against an inoffensive race. We also observe with satisfaction that Justice FIELD'S decree in San Francisco, excluding a British subject of Chinese birth, named PONG AH LUNG, is treated—excepting by one prominent journal—with the contempt it appears to deserve. The exception, strange to say, is the *New York Tribune*, which, during the lifetime of its founder, HORACE GREELEY, would as willingly have advocated an absolute monarchy at Washington as it would have approved a decision so obviously inspired by political motives as the one we are considering. It is hardly necessary to point out why the *Tribune* just now stands forth as the exponent of the Pacific Coast's cherished prejudices, instead of representing the intelligent bulk of the nation, as it once did. That riddle may easily be guessed by any who think it worth studying. But it is pitiful to see a journal originally identified with the truest spirit of progress and liberty, sustaining a false theory with a pretence of logic at which a school-boy would laugh. "AH SIN, from Peking," says the *Tribune*, "looks very like AH SIN from Hongkong, and if he takes passage at the latter port, who is to prove that he was not born there, after Hongkong became a British possession?" . . . "The exclusion is not of subjects of China, but of 'Chinese laborers,' and PONG AH LUNG is a laborer, having 'all the peculiarities of the subjects of China,' Justice FIELD says, although he claims to be a British subject." We are not disposed to waste words over this affectation of reasoning, at which the writer himself must have blushed when he penned it. It is enough to say that, on the same fallacious plea, any laborer, from any part of the world, may be prevented from landing in the United States, if he appears to "have the peculiarities of the subjects of China." It may be true, as the *Tribune* farther remarks, that Great Britain "will not take offence" at this particular denial of British privilege; but it is a poor piece of business to rejoice over an exemption from international difficulties, when that exemption is attributable

solely to the trivial character of the transaction and the humble station of the man whose rights are violated. "England," we are assured, "will hardly carry her traditional sensitiveness upon the rights of British subjects so far as to insist that the Chinese she has involuntarily adopted in acquiring the island of Hongkong shall be allowed to set up laundries in San Francisco." Probably not. But that being the case, the United States Government will owe its immunity from reproach and complaint to the careless indifference of Great Britain, and not to the rectitude or righteousness of its own course. At the same time, it would be agreeable to know what the *Tribune* would say if England, by virtue, let us suppose, of a law excluding Frenchmen, should refuse ingress to a Louisiana citizen of French descent, "having all the peculiarities of the subjects of" France, whom the United States "had involuntarily adopted in acquiring" the territory of Louisiana. Of course, in quoting the word "involuntarily," we do not at all concede the propriety of its use; for the bare idea of "involuntary" action, in any connection with the deliberate annexation of a colony, is too preposterous to impose upon the slowest-witted reader. Nor, we may say, do we regard the attitude of a single New York newspaper, considered by itself, as entitled to the attention we have given this subject. But it is not yet certain that the main question will be allowed to rest undisturbed, and if it be brought into prominence, we may expect to find precisely these assumptions of the *Tribune*, and no others, urged by higher authorities in defence of Justice FIELD'S untenable propositions. It is with a view to the broader possibilities of the future that we examine the points at issue,—and not especially with reference to the details as they at present stand. Nevertheless, it is impossible to overlook entirely the anomalous features thus far developed. A judge of the Supreme Court of the United States commits himself to a decision which will not stand the most ordinary legal tests, and which is levelled against British law and the rights of British subjects, because he wishes to be President, and discovers an opportunity of gratifying the (so-called) Democratic element of the State of California. The *New York Tribune*, a leading Republican journal, which is pledged to oppose Justice FIELD politically under all circumstances, having been purchased not long ago by a California millionaire and magnate, now supports a judgment delivered in the interest of that section of the country. And neither the Government of

Great Britain, nor that of Hongkong, it is confidently assumed, will stir a step toward securing redress for an affront to both of them, because the actual wrong inflicted touches only a poor devil of a working man, who calls himself PONG AH LUNG.

OPENING OF THE ROKUMEI-KWAN.

On Wednesday evening a large party of Japanese and Foreigners assembled, by invitation of His Excellency the Minister for Foreign Affairs and Madame Inouye, to inaugurate the new Reception Hall near the Hibiya Parade Ground in Tokiyo. The building is a handsome structure, destined to serve the double object of a place for receiving distinguished foreign visitors and a Club. It accordingly comprises dining-rooms, reading-rooms, card-rooms, bed-rooms, and salons. The portion intended for receptions is limited to the front façade on the upper floor. It includes a central ball-room, of moderate size, side rooms and verandahs, with corridor for promenading. The site is excellently suited to the purpose of the building, being within five minutes drive of the Tokiyo-Yokohama railway terminus on one side, and on the other, about the same distance from the palace of H.I.H. Prince Arisugawa, the Foreign Office, the Austrian and Italian Legations, and the numerous residences of noblemen and Ministers at Urugasumi and Nagata-cho. Something, however, had to be sacrificed to convenience of site, as the soil of the Hibiya district is ill-suited to support large stone or brick structures. Thus for the foundations of the Rokumei-kwan, as the Reception Hall is called, it was found necessary to use deep filling and framing covered with concrete, and since to reduce all weights to a minimum was of paramount importance, the least limit of height consistent with the character of the edifice, and the least thickness of walls consistent with solidity, had to be adopted. The building is in a somewhat free style of classic character, with a central pediment, flanked upon both sides by a cast-iron colonnade, imparting to the façade a light, and when illuminated, as on Wednesday, a slightly fantastic character, suited to a place of amusement. The internal arrangements are excellent, and the originality and good taste of the whole structure reflect great credit on the architect. Japan, however, still requires a building specially adapted to the demands of large receptions. For such a purpose the Rokumei-kwan will doubtless be temporarily used, but some incongruity can scarcely fail to become apparent, after a time, in the double object it is at present intended to fulfil.

On Wednesday night the large garden in which the building stands was completely festooned with lanterns of various colours, and over the colonnade were the illuminated characters "Rokumei-kwan." The Imperial Princes, Ministers of State, and Foreign Representatives

(1) This name, which signifies "The hall of the star's voice," i.e., The hall of Summer, was suggested by His Excellency the First Minister of State.

were invited to a banquet at six o'clock. They were received by His Excellency and Madame Inouye, and at the conclusion of the repast the former spoke as follows:—

YOUR IMPERIAL HIGHNESSES, YOUR EXCELLENCIES, LADIES, AND GENTLEMEN:—It is only a quarter of a century since intercourse was first established between Japan and Western Countries, but during that short period, a feeling of friendship and good-will towards foreigners has gradually advanced, and at the present day a wish is everywhere expressed to render these sentiments more enduring by making our relations with the Occident more intimate. Distinguished travellers now approach our shores with the same assurance of a hearty welcome with which they visit less remote countries. Nevertheless, it was well known that the Capital of the Empire afforded no proper place where such travellers could be accommodated. To meet this requirement, the construction of this Hall was originally conceived. As the work progressed, however, the fact constantly forced itself upon our consideration that, while we were thus providing for the casual stranger within our gates, we were making no provision for those foreigners who dwell in our midst. This latter consideration has induced us to enlarge our original project, and the building has been carried to completion. It has been determined to make the Rokumei-kwan a place where Japanese and foreign gentlemen alike may meet socially, and form acquaintances and friendships which know no degree of latitude and longitude and which are not limited by national boundaries. If my words have failed to convey my meaning, the name we have given to this Hall will I trust, testify our motive. In calling it the Rokumei-kwan, we intended to illustrate, by borrowing a phrase from an old Chinese poem, that harmonious social intercourse of persons of all nationalities which we desire and expect to take place here. Rules and Regulations are being prepared, and we hope soon to be able to announce the opening of the institution to those who may wish to become Members. We trust that our undertaking may be crowned with success, but under any circumstances, our work will remain as an evidence of that desire to cultivate and perpetuate those relations of cordial goodwill and friendship which are everywhere recognized as the most important factors in the enlightened advancement of the world. In conclusion, I desire to express our sincere thanks to Mr. Conder, the architect of the building, for the energy and the practical knowledge he brought to bear upon the work, and which have so largely contributed to the successful completion of the enterprise.

To this speech the United States Minister, as Doyen of the Corps Diplomatique, replied briefly as follows:—

YOUR IMPERIAL HIGHNESSES, YOUR EXCELLENCIES, LADIES, AND GENTLEMEN:—Having heard with pleasure the address just made by His Imperial Majesty's Minister for Foreign Affairs, wherein the Minister was pleased to acquaint us that this beautiful structure, so spacious and so complete in its appointments, will be open alike to the Representatives of all nations and to the people of Japan, thereby furnishing facilities not hitherto enjoyed in this Capital for the cultivation of friendly intercourse between the people of Japan and those of foreign States; the Diplomatic Corps deem it fitting to the occasion to offer, as the expression of their united sentiment, health and prosperity to Their Majesties the Emperor and Empress of Japan, and health and prosperity to the people of Their Majesties' Empire.

Mr. Conder, architect to the Imperial Government, by whom the building was designed, then rose and said:—

YOUR IMPERIAL HIGHNESSES, YOUR EXCELLENCIES, LADIES, AND GENTLEMEN:—I should not venture to address you this evening were it not for the very kind way in which His Excellency the Minister for Foreign Affairs has mentioned my name as the architect of this building. There is a certain amount of satisfaction in assisting, be it in ever so humble a way, in the conversion of this large wooden Capital into a permanent city by the erection here and there of solid and enduring buildings within its precincts. Any one looking down from the eminences around Tokiyo upon the scene below cannot fail to be struck by the gradual transformation which is slowly but surely going on. Tokiyo must some day become a city of brick and stone; and the time is not far distant, let us hope, when no wooden huts will be built within its precincts.—when those fearful configurations will no longer illumine the midnight sky, spreading ruin and desolation in their path,—when the alarm of the fire-bell shall no

longer arouse the inhabitants from their slumber. I am fully aware of the many defects of this building. Erected on mud, a large portion of its fun-Is have been sunk in its foundations. An architect's work has often to be one of trimming and compromising. But although I look forward to the day when far statelier buildings will adorn this city, there yet remains to us some satisfaction in having been connected with the earlier efforts of workmen still young in new trades, and whilst there were still many difficulties to overcome, in the manufacture, transport, and procuring of new materials. I say *us*, because I must hand over a large portion of any credit due for our results, to two gentlemen, Mr. Sannomiya and Mr. Suyematsu, who have been connected with me as responsible officers throughout. I delight to have to mention so few; not because we can thereby take greater credit to ourselves, but because it gives me the opportunity of mentioning a matter which is sometimes overlooked. There is a Japanese adage—"Too many boatmen pull the boat on land," and this is particularly true of any technical piece of work conducted by responsible but untechnical inspectors. Nothing is more fatal to the successful accomplishment of any technical piece of work than an unlimited number of untechnical responsibilities;—a condition which changes what should be an executive body into a deliberative, legislative, and obstructive one. Our special thanks are due to His Excellency Mr. Inouye for the kind confidence and freedom which he has given us during the construction of this work and to which primarily I attribute any success attained; and especially I personally reiterate those thanks for his kind reliance in myself and his courtesy in inviting me to join in this august assembly this evening.

At half-past eight the general body of the guests began to arrive, and before long the assembly numbered more than a thousand, among whom were included all the principal residents of Tokiyo and Yokohama. Dancing was kept up to a late hour, and the entertainment was in all respects worthy of the purpose which the building is intended to serve,—a purpose which was explained in such earnest and feeling terms by His Excellency the Minister for Foreign Affairs.

CONNECTION OF ASTRONOMICAL WITH SEISMIC PHENOMENA.

The occurrence of two such terrible catastrophes as those in Ischia and Java within so short an interval has naturally inspired an unusually voluminous outbreak of earthquake literature, all more or less interesting to general readers, and especially so to dwellers in the Japanese Islands, which occupy a nearly central position in the chain of seismic activity. One of the most curious essays on this subject is from the pen of a French scientist, M. Delauney, who, a short time ago, addressed a communication to the Academy, claiming to have correctly predicted the earthquakes in Ischia and Java. M. Delauney's essay is published in the *Voltaire*, under the title of "*Les lois des tremblements de terre, et des autres phénomènes météorologiques.*" The writer commences by presenting to his readers a table wherein are shown, in four groups, the various years of maximum seismic activity between 1751 and 1850. The table is as follows:—

| | | | | | | |
|---------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------------|
| FIRST GROUP. | | | | | | |
| 1759. | 1770. | 1783. | 1794. | 1806. | 1817. | 1829. 1841. |
| SECOND GROUP. | | | | | | |
| 1755. | 1756. | 1778. | 1789. | 1802. | — — | 1837. 1848. |
| THIRD GROUP. | | | | | | |
| | 1755. | | 1783. | | 1811. | 1841. |
| FOURTH GROUP. | | | | | | |
| | 1771. | | 1800. | | 1829. | |

It will be observed that the period for the two first groups is twelve years, approximately, while that for the two last, is about twenty-eight years.

Now these happen to be nearly the periods within which the planets Jupiter and Saturn perform their revolutions round the sun, and it occurred to M. Delauney that some connection might be found to exist between the two phenomena. He accordingly set himself to calculate the positions of these planets at the dates indicated in the above table, and the results of his calculations were thus:—

| | |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------|------|
| Approximate longitude of Jupiter for the years of the First Group | 265° |
| Approximate longitude of Jupiter for the years of the Second Group | 135° |
| Approximate longitude of Saturn for the years of the Third Group | 265° |
| Approximate longitude of Saturn for the years of the Fourth Group | 135° |

The coincidences here apparent are certainly remarkable. In M. Delauney's opinion, they almost justify an assertion that our globe experiences a maximum of earthquake shocks when Jupiter and Saturn are at or near the points in their orbits represented by longitudes of 265° and 135°. There is also another fact to be noted with regard to the century under consideration. The years in which the greatest numbers of shocks occurred were—

1765, 1783, 1829, 1841.

Now these four years belong at the same time to both the classes defined above. For them, therefore, it would seem that the actions of Jupiter and Saturn were combined.

The discovery of these coincidences, or laws, if such they may be called, led M. Delauney to predict that May, 1877, and July, 1883, would be memorable months in the seismic story of the globe. His predictions were remarkably fulfilled. Proceeding to extend his theory, he observed, statistically, that August and November are the months of maximum seismic disturbance. Now in these months the longitudes of Venus and Mars are 265° and 135°, approximately. Hence he formulated the general conclusion that earthquakes are produced when the planets traverse the meteoric streams which our globe meets in August and November. He goes a step farther, too. Having regard to the fact that all phenomena of terrestrial and cosmical meteorology are connected, he declares that "all meteorological phenomena are due to passages of the planets through groups of cosmical atoms, especially those of August and November."

But how do the planets exercise these influences? M. Delauney's answer is interesting and ingenious. In the first place, he postulates that the sun and the planets, by their attractive force and their motions, surround themselves with all the gases which they find in space. These gases, which are incessantly renewed, are compressed, and exercise a certain pressure themselves on the atmosphere of the planet. But this pressure is not everywhere alike. Smallest near the poles and in high latitudes, it only assumes an appreciable value in the equatorial zone. Generally, indeed, it is along the equator that the gases thus encountered by the planets, flow. Observe now what happens when a planet traverses a cosmical group of atoms. At first the planet, passing into a relatively dense medium, loses a certain portion of its vital force. This

lost "work," is distributed, as we shall see just now, in two forms, calorific and dynamical. For, in consequence of the accumulation of cosmical matter in the equatorial zone, the flow in that zone is no longer sufficient, and the matter assumes a tendency to escape by the poles. This escape takes place with considerable violence. The cosmical molecules, arriving at the poles from different directions, collide, are condensed still further, and produce cyclones, magnetic deviations, and polar auroras. In short, the matter which continues to flow along the equator is simply condensed, but that which makes its way to the poles is not only condensed, but launched again into space with great velocity. The portion thus lost forms itself oftenest into a comet, especially in the case of a large planet, like Jupiter, animated by a rapid rotatory movement; and the comet, again, by its swift passage through space, exercises in its turn, a heating effect upon all the gases it meets. Thus the effect of a planet's passage through a collection of cosmical atoms is, first, a heating of a certain portion of the planetary space, and then another heating due to the action of the comet, the second development of caloric lasting longer and making itself felt over a larger area than the first. Now, with regard to the influence exercised by these phenomena on our globe. The earth encountering heated gases, that is to say, gases possessing an increased elastic force, its atmosphere will undergo a certain pressure. This abnormal pressure will be principally felt in the equatorial zone, and the atmosphere will develop a tendency of displacement from the equator towards the poles. If the calorific effect be considerable, the gases, instead of simply flowing along the equator, may escape by the poles, and phenomena may occur similar to those noted above with regard to a planet. Under any circumstances, the displacement of air from the equator towards the poles will have the effect of changing the conditions of equilibrium between the pressures exercised and experienced by the atmosphere. The crust of the globe will exhibit a tendency to change its form, to swell at the equator and in neighbouring latitudes, and the consequence will be that volcanic eruptions will take place in the equatorial zone. If now the elastic pressure of the gases in space falls again to its normal degree, the atmosphere will return from the poles to the equator, and the terrestrial crust, losing the swelling it has developed, may give way in certain places near the equator, the immediate result of which would be severe shocks of earthquake. Delauney extends his theory even to the sun, and accounts for the spots on the face of the luminary. "When the atmosphere is displaced," he says, "from the equator towards the poles, the barometric pressure at the surface must diminish in the equatorial zone, the consequence being that the liquid mass gives up a portion of the hydrogen it contains, and spots are produced."

If these theories be sound, the curious appearance presented by the sun at the time of the terrible volcanic disturbances in Java will be partially explained. But, on the other hand, seismic phenomena resulting from causes such as those described by Delauney, must be preceded or accompanied by barometrical evidence of a very marked character, and nothing of the sort has yet been recorded. At any rate, it is plain that the discussion of these phenomena is entering a very interesting stage, and we may expect that the difficulties of the subject will not prove entirely invincible by the ability and industry of modern scientists.

CODE OF CRIMINAL PROCEDURE.

BOOK I.—GENERAL REGULATIONS.

Art. 1.—Public action, which aims at the conviction of punishable offences, and the application of legal penalties, is conducted by the officials of the public administration (Ministère public).

Art. 2.—Private action, which aims at a reparation of injuries inflicted upon private persons by penal offences, or the restoration to the same of articles of which they have been illegally deprived, is in the hands of those who are deemed to have been injured, according to the regulations of civil law.

Art. 3.—Public action is independent of that of the injured party, and is not stayed by the abandonment by the same of his complaint or action, excepting in cases provided by the law.

Art. 4.—Private action, for any amount whatever, may be tried before the penal courts, in addition to the public action (accessoirement) excepting in cases provided by the law.—Private action may also be brought separately before the civil court.

Art. 5.—Public and private action must be conducted in a competent court, and according to the mode determined by the law in force.

Art. 6.—If both actions are simultaneously pending before the penal court, or before the penal and the civil court, the private action, on pain of cancellation of both judgements, cannot be first decided. Cancellation is legal when a civil condemnation is followed by a penal condemnation.

Art. 7.—The injured party, who first institutes an action before a civil court, can remove it from the same and bring it before a criminal court only when said court has already admitted a public action on the part of the State Prosecutor.

The injured party, who has instituted an action before a criminal court, can with the consent of the accused, desist from the same and institute proceedings before a civil court.

Art. 8.—Suspension of the action, declaration of innocence (l'absolution de l'inculpé), or the acquittal of the accused does not affect the claims of the injured party for reparation of damage, or for restitution to which he is entitled according to the regulations of civil law.

Art. 9.—Public action ceases:—

1. In virtue of the death of the accused.
2. In virtue of the cessation of the private action, or a compromise with the injured party, in all cases where according to the law, public action is made dependent upon private action.
3. In virtue of a final legal judicial decision (décision judiciaire devenue irrévocable).
4. In case of abolition (abolition de la peine) in virtue of a law passed subsequent to the commission of the offence.
5. In virtue of an amnesty.
6. In virtue of prescription.

Art. 10.—Private action ceases:—

1. In virtue of renunciation of the action or compromise with the injured party.
2. In virtue of a valid judicial decision.
3. By prescription.

Art. 11.—Public action suffers prescription:—

1. For contraventions in 6 months.
2. For delicts in 3 years.
3. For crimes in 10 years.

Art. 12.—Private action is prescribed in the same time as public action, even in cases in which the person who should institute proceedings is incapable of doing so, and although proceedings have been begun before a civil court.

(1) The regulations regarding prescription of execution of penalties are contained in the Penal Code Art. 38-62.

If, however, public action has resulted in a conviction, the private action suffers prescription only according to the ordinary regulations of civil law.

Art. 13.—Prescription begins with the day (inclusive) on which the offence was committed, and if continued several days, with the last day of the same.

Art. 14.—Prescription of public or private action against offenders, accomplices (even if unknown), and persons responsible according to civil law, may be interrupted by an act of prosecution on the part of the State prosecutor, by the injured person as party in a civil suit, or by any judicial proceedings, whether in preliminary examination or in the actual suit.

After the interruption a new prescription begins, which, however, can in no case exceed the double of the time indicated in Art. 11.

Art. 15.—The interruption is not valid, if the proceedings of the criminal prosecution, of the preliminary examinations, or of the actual suit, have been formally invalid; this does not include, however, the incompetence of the examining magistrate or of the court entertaining the action.

Art. 16.—In case of discontinuation of the suit, or of acquittal, the accused can demand damages against the prosecutor, the plaintiff, or the civil party, if these have been guilty of bad faith or gross negligence. The same holds good in case of a conviction, when plaintiff, complainant, or civil party, can be shown to have culpably and grossly exaggerated the offence.

If the civil party fail in an appeal against either preliminary examination or against a final sentence, he may, on application of the accused, be made to make special indemnification to the same for any injury incurred by every such appeal.

The application for indemnification by the accused may be made before the criminal court at any time before the passing of final sentence.

Art. 17.—The accused, even if acquitted, can demand indemnification from judge, state prosecutor, officers of court, or judicial police, only in cases where these persons have intentionally done him an injury or have in his case been guilty of some offence provided for in the penal code.

Art. 18-20 Regulate the terms for penal suits. The time fixed is generally peremptory.

Art. 21-25 Treat of delivery of judicial notifications that are obligatory on the Clerk of the Court or his agents.

The regulations are strict, sometimes on pain of invalidation.

Art. 26 Permits changes and additions in documents only under protection of strict formalities, the neglect of which entails invalidation.

Art. 27.—The Regulations of this Code of Criminal Procedure are applicable to offences committed before its promulgation.

Proceedings already begun in legal form are sustained.

Art. 28 Declares the regulations of this Code applicable also to special penal laws to be hereafter enacted.

Art. 29.—The provisions of this Code do not apply to offences punishable by military or maritime law.

Art. 30 Declares that the definition of relationship, given at length in the Penal Code Art. 114 and 115, is also applicable to the Criminal Procedure.

BOOK II.—ORGANIZATION AND COMPETENCE OF CRIMINAL COURTS.

CHAPTER I.—GENERAL REGULATIONS.

Art. 31.—The ordinary criminal procedure will be undertaken by the same courts and tribunals, that deal with civil justice.

Art. 32.—Seat and jurisdiction are fixed by Imperial decree.

Art. 33.—At every court and tribunal one or more officers of the public administration (State prosecutors) are appointed.

Art. 34.—The functions of the public prosecutor in reference to criminal procedure consist in:—

1. The investigation of punishable acts.
2. Making application to the courts for examination and trial, and the application of the law to offences.
3. The execution of orders and judgments of courts.
4. The defence of the interests of society before the courts.

Art. 35 Requires the uninterrupted attendance of an official of the department of public prosecutor at all sessions of Criminal courts.

Art. 38 Regulates the competence of courts according to the gravity of offences, as follows:—

1. Contraventions are dealt with in police courts.
2. Delicts before correctional tribunals.
3. Crimes are adjudged in Criminal courts.

The higher courts are competent to deal with lesser offences also, when graver ones are dealt with at the same time, even when there is no connection between them.

Art. 39 Gives the definition of connection of offences.

Art. 40-43.—Competence as affected by locality:

The judgment of offences committed, in case of doubt *forum praeveniens*. On the whole the principles of modern criminal procedure are followed.

Art. 44.—The same is true of all material connections. The competence of a court over the offender carries with it the competence to deal with all co-actors and accomplices.

Art. 45.—If an offence has been committed in a foreign country, the court of the district in which the offender has been arrested, or where he has been received, when delivered up by the foreign power, is competent to deal with the case.

Art. 46.—A special law regulates the competence of courts to deal with offences committed on board merchant ships.

Art. 47.—On pain of nullifying the decision, a magistrate who has assisted at the preliminary examination is prohibited from participation and judgment in the trial. Members of the higher Courts of Justice are also specially excluded from cases in which they have acted as examining magistrates. They are also excluded from cases of appeal where they have had to do with the decision of the lower court, also on pain of nullifying the proceedings. There are a few exceptions only, particularly in case of an appeal against a judgment for contumacy.

Art. 48.—Every judge before whom a case is brought is to decide as to his own competence.

CHAPTER II.—OF POLICE COURTS.

Art. 49-53.—Justices of the Peace; Competence; Contraventions.

Art. 51.—The functions of public prosecutor are to be performed by a competent police-officer who is under the jurisdiction of the public prosecutor of the higher (correctional) court.

CHAPTER III.—OF CORRECTIONAL TRIBUNALS.

Art. 54-62.—Competence: Judgment of delicts: Conducting of preliminary examinations of charges for delicts and crimes; decision regarding appeals from Police Courts.

The appointment of ordinary judges for correctional courts is made for one year by the president of the higher court. The appointment of examining magistrates is made for one year by the Minister of Justice. In case of ne-

cessity supplementary judges for both functions may be appointed; who shall attend both preliminary examinations and the trials, with a *voluntum consultativum*.

The functions of State prosecutor in correctional tribunals are undertaken by a government official of the higher court, or one of his substitutes.

The duties of the judicial police are performed by the public prosecutor, in conjunction with the Prefects of Tokio, and those of other districts. As assistant officials, in addition to the above and under their direction, there are "commissaries-general" (*Keishi*) and commissaries of police (*Keibu*), sub-prefects, justices of the peace, and district wardens. Their principal functions are in the preliminaries to an action.

CHAPTER IV.—OF COURTS OF APPEAL.

Art. 63-69.—Cases of appeal from police courts are decided by a bench of at least three judges in correctional courts. The functions of the public prosecution are performed by the State prosecutor or one of his substitutes.

All officials of the department of state prosecution, are under the control of the public prosecutor, within the bounds of his jurisdiction.

CHAPTER V.—OF CRIMINAL COURTS.

Art. 70-76.—These decide all criminal cases; they sit once every three months, and consist of a president and four colleagues. The functions of state prosecution are assumed by the public prosecutor or one of his substitutes.

CHAPTER VI.—OF THE COURT OF CASSATION.

Arts. 77-82.—In the Court of Cassation there is a criminal chamber, which decides in all cases:—

1. Of suits for writs of error.
2. Of appeals for re-hearing.
3. Of appeals an account of security or from suspicion of prejudice in the court.
4. Of questions regarding competency.

Its decisions must be made by a bench of at least five judges. The function of State prosecutor in the Court of Cassation are undertaken by an official of its own appointment or one of his substitutes.

CHAPTER VII.—OF THE HIGH COURT.

This is the competent court for all crimes detailed in Book II., Chapter 1 and 2 of the Penal Code [against the Emperor, and Imperial family, and against the security of the State]. It is also competent to deal with all criminal charges against members of the Imperial family and officials of the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd classes (*Chokuninkwan*) which involve a penalty of imprisonment on the guilty.

The High Court assembles on call of an Imperial decree, resulting from an application of the Minister of Justice, which shall also designate the matters to be adjudicated and the place of session. It consists of a President and six colleagues appointed annually by Imperial decree from members of the Senate and the Court of Cassation (also 2 supplementary judges appointed in the same way).

The functions of the examining justice in this Court of State are fulfilled by one or more members of the Criminal Chamber of the Court of Cassation, chosen for that purpose, the functions of State prosecutor are to be performed by the procureur-general of the Court of Cassation or one of his substitutes.

There is no appeal from the decision of the High Court, excepting in the following three cases:—

1. Appeal against judgment for contumacy.
2. Complaints regarding points of civil law (*requête civile*). See Art. 436).
3. Petition for rehearing (*Révision* Art. 339).

In these three cases, however, the High Court itself must decide. The process on the whole is similar to the ordinary process.

BOOK III.—OF INQUIRY INTO OFFENCES; OF THE PROSECUTION AND PRELIMINARY EXAMINATIONS OF THE SAME.

CHAPTER I.—OF INQUIRY INTO OFFENCES.

Art. 92.—The State prosecutor is required to investigate all intimations that are sent to him, regarding offences which it is his duty to prosecute, and also to follow up any traces of such acts as may come to his knowledge, so as to bring about the discovery of unknown offenders, &c.

SECTION I.—CHARGES AND DENUNCIATIONS.

Art. 93-99.—Any person aggrieved by a crime or delict may institute a charge for the same before the examining magistrate, the public prosecutor, or any official of the judicial police, of either the place where the deed was committed or where the accused resides. The complainant may appear as civil party.

Art. 96. Describes the official duty of the authorities and officials, in regard to the giving of information concerning offences which come to their knowledge.

Art. 99.—Allows the injured party, who has instituted penal proceedings, the right to withdraw the same at any time; the same right is accorded to the complainant; in this case, however, they are responsible for costs (Art. 16).

SECTION II.

Art. 100-106.—Treats of cases of discovery in the act, and is similar to the French law.

CHAPTER II.—PROSECUTION OF OFFENCES.

SECTION I.—FUNCTIONS OF THE STATE PROSECUTOR.

Art. 107-109.—The demand for the instituting of a preliminary examination is obligatory in case of a crime, optional in case of a delict, inadmissible in case of a contravention.

The right of complaint by the civil party (Section II. Art. 110-112) is similar to that laid down in the regulations of the French Code.

Chapter III.—(Art. 113-117) regulates the preliminary examination. Excepting in cases of crime or of a "délit flagrant," the examining magistrate cannot, on pain of nullifying proceedings, undertake a preliminary examination without a requisition from the public prosecutor or the civil party.

Section I.—Contains the regulations concerning warrants for summons and arrest. (Art. 118-142).

A warrant for production is allowable only:

1. When the accused has no fixed residence.
2. If the judge suspects him of an intention to flee from justice, or fears he may destroy the proofs of his guilt.
3. If he fears that the accused may carry into execution acts begun or threatened. (Art. 121.)

Connected with the warrant for production is a species of arrest (*mandat de dépôt*), which, however, is conditioned on a previous hearing of the accused, and in any case is allowable only when the judge is of the opinion that the delict will entail imprisonment or some other severer penalty on the accused. After ten days the warrant for detention (*dépôt*) becomes a *mandat d'arrêt*. This requires sufficient substantiation of the charge by means of a presentation of a summary of criminalizing facts, and the letter of the law bearing on the point. Excepting in cases of solitary confinement (*mis au secret*) the accused may, in the presence of an official, receive visits from their relatives, connections, friends or advocate, so long as household regulations are observed. The person confined thus can receive letters, books, and such messages only after they have been read by the examining magistrate.

In every examination prison, a copy of both Criminal Codes must be placed at the disposal of the prisoner (Art. 142).

At any stage of the preliminary examination, the examining judge may, if he considers it neces-

sary for the obtaining of truthful testimony, either on the requisition of the State prosecutor or of his own official right, order that the accused, whether detained or arrested, may be relegated to solitary confinement (*sera mis au secret*). This "*mis au secret*" means complete isolation from all intercourse with the outer world; the prisoner, without the permission of the examining judge, being unable to receive or send letters, documents, valuables, or any other articles whatever. Food and medical assistance are brought to him only by persons specially designated for that purpose. The "*mis au secret*" cannot be fixed for a longer term than ten successive days, but the order for a term of ten days can from time to time be repeated. Within these ten days there must be at least two hearings of the accused (Art. 145).

Section III. (Art. 146-148) treats of evidence in the preliminary examination, and begins with the principle. The law deduces from the facts given no presumption of guilt whatever.

The confessions of the accused, the results of investigations, the testimony of third parties, the opinions of experts, and evidence of every sort, are left to the free valuation of the judges. The examining judge has to collect suitable testimony for the purpose of finding out the truth regarding the contentions of the parties (*réquisitions* of State prosecutors, *demandes* of the civil party or the accused).

Before any other act of examination, unless there is danger of delay, the judge must give the accused a hearing. (Section IV., Art. 149-157.) The extorting of a confession by threats or false allegations is strictly forbidden. The accused may demand a copy of the report of his examination. Confrontations with other accused persons or witnesses in order to settle questions of identity or complicity, or to facilitate the ascertaining of the truth, are allowable.

Section V. treats of verifications and seizure of incriminating articles (Art. 158-169). In the first place the duty of the examining judge to procure facts favourable to the accused is particularly insisted upon. For this purpose the dwellings of other persons besides the accused may be subjected to a search, if a reasonable suspicion exists that they contain articles, the possession or the inspection of which would be of importance in the examination. The accused may be personally present at the search of his premises or may be represented by a special attorney. The same holds good for all sorts of investigations into circumstantial evidence. The examining judge has to decide as to the propriety of personal attendance only in case of arrest or detention. The civil party may claim the same right of personal attendance (Art. 163).

Whenever the examining judge considers it important for the establishment of the truth, he may demand from post-office officials, telegraph officials, and other furthering agencies, all telegrams, letters, and other despatches which have been sent either to or from the accused.

Section VI. deals with the hearing of witnesses (Art. 170-190). The examining magistrate issues the necessary summons for witnesses designated by the State prosecutor, the civil party, or the accused. If, however, plaintiff or defendant nominate too many witnesses, the examining magistrate may limit himself to the summoning of five (in correctional cases) or ten (in criminal cases) witnesses, who are first in order of nomination or who seem in his opinion to be the best informed, reserving the right to call a greater number if thought necessary for the establishment of the truth. He may also *ex officio* summon as witness any person other than those designated by the interested parties (Art. 170).—If the witness is a soldier or an officer in the land or sea forces,

and at the time absent with his corps, the summons is served on him through his military superior, who shall either give him the necessary permission to appear before the Criminal Court, or in case of absolute hindrance on account of necessary service, shall request the judge to grant necessary delay, giving his reasons for the request.

If a witness refuses (without excuse) to appear after having received a summons, the examining magistrate on the requisition of the State prosecutor has to inflict upon him the penalty of a fine of from 2 to 10 yen, from which neither appeal nor protest is allowed. The witness may be summoned repeatedly on pain of a penalty and under threat of having a warrant issued for his production. If the witness still disregards the summons without proper excuse, the fine is doubled and the warrant for production is to be issued.

It is worthy of remark that under general questions the question of the "religion" of the witness is not mooted (Art. 179). The witness swears to "tell the whole truth and nothing but the truth, without hate, fear, or favour." The following persons are not eligible as witness.

1. The civil party.
2. The relatives and connections of the civil party and the accused.
3. Their guardians or their wards.
4. Their servants or employes.

These persons can give information though they cannot act as legal witnesses.

The same holds good for the following persons (that is, they are ineligible as witnesses, but are heard for *renseignement*):—

1. Persons under 16 years of age.
2. Imbeciles.
3. Deaf mutes.
4. Such as have in consequence of a penal sentence forfeited their civil rights or had them suspended.
5. Such as are charged with crime or are brought before the police court for a delict which entails major imprisonment.
6. Persons who have been charged with the same deed and have undergone the criminal examination, but on account of lack of evidence, have escaped prosecution.

If the witness appears, but refuses, without legal excuse, to give testimony or to take the oath of a witness, on the requisition of the State prosecutor he is to be condemned to the penalty of a fine (4 to 40 yen) as laid down in Art. 180 of the Penal Code.

The following are exempt from the fine:—physicians, apothecaries, midwives, advocates, counsel, attorneys, notaries, or ministers of religion of any denomination who refuse to give answer respecting facts—but only respecting those—which they declare that they are bound to conceal as official secrets.—If a witness belongs to the Imperial family or to officials of the 1st, 2nd, or 3rd classes (Chokunin-Kuan) his testimony is taken at his residence.

Section VII. Of Experts. (Art. 191-200.) Experts are summoned when the examining magistrate considers their assistance necessary for the ascertaining of the truth. Art. 192 allows the compulsory summoning of experts, but only on pain of fine, not of warrant of production. The oath of experts promises fulfilment of duty "in all sincerity." If the expert appears, but refuses to take the oath or perform the *expertise* required of him, he incurs the fine laid down in Art. 179 of the Penal Code (from 4 to 40 yen).

Persons who cannot be heard as witnesses (Art. 181-182) cannot be summoned as experts. An exception occurs only in case of danger from delay, or the impossibility of immediately obtaining other experts. It this case however

the result of the *expertise* and opinion of the expert will be considered merely as information.

Section VIII gives the regulations concerning the preliminary examination of the so-called *délit flagrant*, (Art. 201-209) in which, following the example of the French law, far-reaching powers are entrusted to the State prosecutor. In these cases the examining magistrate can *ex officio*, i.e. without awaiting a requisition from the State prosecutor, proceed with the examination. In such cases, the public action is held to have been begun by the first declaration of the facts of the case; further procedure depends on the requisition of the State prosecutor. On the other hand if the State prosecutor, becomes aware of a *délit flagrant* before the examining magistrate, without awaiting the action of the same, he may repair to the place of the offence and undertake the various preliminary examinations, after which he shall immediately send a report of the examinations with his requisitions to the examining magistrate. Witnesses and experts are however heard by the State prosecutor without oath. Authority, similar to that of the State prosecutor in these cases, is also given the officials of the judicial police, who cannot however issue warrants of detention or arrest.

Examinations undertaken by the State prosecutor or the officials of the judicial police may be repeated by the examining magistrate. On the other hand the State prosecutor after having heard the accused, whether he has issued a warrant of detention against him or not, may summon him immediately before the bar of the Police Court, if he considers a preliminary examination unnecessary.

Section IX treats of Bail (Art. 210-219). During the course of the preliminary examination, the examining magistrate, after having heard the propositions of the State prosecutor, on the demand of the inculpated person under arrest, may set him at liberty under an engagement to present himself whenever summoned. If the accused is "incapable" (without civil rights), his release on bail may be requested by relatives, connections, or legal representatives. The provisional release is always conditioned on security, the amount of which is to be fixed by the examining magistrate. Security can be furnished by either the accused or a third party, either in cash or through legal representatives who bind themselves to pay. In case of refusal to appear the security may be confiscated in whole or in part. On the requisition of the State prosecutor, the magistrate pronounces sentence of forfeiture of security; on the requisition of the State prosecutor the magistrate may order the return of the forfeited security, if he discontinues the action, refers it to the Police Court, or pronounces a sentence for a delict entailing the penalty of a fine.

The magistrate may also entrust the accused to the care of his relatives and connections in case his release is not requested.

Section X. treats of the closure of the examination (Art. 220-234). If the magistrate judges himself to be incompetent, or the continuation of the examination to be useless, he sends the papers to the State prosecutor requesting his action in the matter, who must send in his requisitions within three days as well as return the papers. The State prosecutor may demand a supplementary examination. In any case the closure of the examination must depend on the judge's decision. If the judge finds that the offence lies beyond his competence, he declares his incompetence. The magistrate decrees the discontinuation of the proceedings, and the release of the accused:—1. If proofs of the offence are insufficient. 2. If the deed proceeded against does not constitute a delict. 3. If the time for prescription has been fulfilled.

4. If a legal sentence has already been pronounced for the same cause. 5. If an amnesty has been granted. 6. If there is cause for absolute exemption from penalty. If the offence be a contravention, the case will be transferred to the Police Court; if a delict, to the correctional police court; if a crime, the magistrate gives his decision to transfer the case to the Criminal Court, which decision carries with it the detention of the accused. If the case be referred to the Criminal Court or to the correctional police court for a delict involving imprisonment, and the accused cannot be found, the State prosecutor or the civil party may demand from the civil court provisional sequestration of his property until he is arrested.

Chapter IV. treats of Appeal in Preliminary Examinations (Art. 234-261). From beginning to end of the examination, the right of protest is accorded to both State prosecutor and the accused: 1. Against a decision of the judge rejecting an objection against his competency. 2. Against the issue of an illegal warrant of arrest, or the non-issue of a legal one. 3. Against the granting or illegal refusing of release on bail. 4. Against any other decision by which he exceeds his powers (*excès de pouvoir*).—In the last case only the civil party also has the right to appeal. In case of such appeal decision is given in the higher court by a bench of at least three judges.

The code contains special regulations as to legal objections against examining magistrates. Objections are valid in the following cases:— 1. Relationship or alliance between the judge or his wife on the one hand and the accused, the civil party, or their wives on the other. 2. Guardianship of the judge over the accused or the civil party. 3. If the judge or his wife has accepted gifts from the accused or his connections, or a proposition regarding such gifts, even when these gifts contain no evidence of being for the purpose of bribery (Art. 237). The objection must first be laid before the magistrate concerned, and will be brought before the Court only in case of refusal on his part. Every judge is bound, in case of the existence of any of the above causes for objection, to declare his incompetence. An objection against the State prosecutor by the parties to the suit is inadmissible.

The State prosecutor has always the right to appeal against a decision of an examining magistrate closing an examination, the Civil party has this right only in case of excess of magisterial powers, and the accused, in this latter case or an account of incompetence of either the judge or the court entertaining the action, if the judge decides that the case must be laid before the Criminal Court or the correctional Police Court. The higher court, acting as a Council-Chamber, must decide such cases of appeal, and the validity of their decision may be called in question by any of the parties concerned. An accused person, who has been released from a prosecution by means of a legal decision of the examining magistrate, cannot be prosecuted again for the same offence even from a new legal stand-point, unless new, and previously unknown, evidence be forthcoming.

ASIATIC SOCIETY OF JAPAN.

A General Meeting of the Asiatic Society of Japan was held at the Chamber of Commerce, Tsukiji, Tōkiyō, on Wednesday, November 14th, the Vice-President for Tōkiyō in the Chair.

The minutes of the last Yokohama Meeting, having been published in both the daily and weekly editions of the *Japan Mail*, were taken as read.

The election was announced, as Members of Council, of Mr. Naibu Kanda, instead of Mr.

Hattori, who had declined to serve, and of Mr. H. Gribble, instead of the late Dr. Geerts.

It was also announced that Dr. C. G. Knott and Mr. James Green had been elected members of the Society.

The Rev. W. DENING then read his paper on "Modern Translation into Sinico-Japanese."

The Paper commenced with a short account of the various treatises presented to the Society in past years, in which special notice was taken of the fact that writers on literary subjects had chosen the ancient rather than the modern world as a field of investigation. The causes that led to this were then touched on; and the writer proceeded to show that there was a special interest attached to the study of modern Sinico-Japanese; in that the books that were written in it contained the ideas and theories that were to govern a future generation. It was pointed out that the standard works of the day were almost exclusively translations or compilations; these translations were producing great changes in the language of the country, as well as instructing the people in other ways.

The author of the paper then proceeded to state his views on translation in general, defining what he conceived to be the true ideal to be aimed at. Whilst of opinion that there were occasions in which literal translation might be necessary, he maintained that the power, beauty, and expression of our best works, could not be fully reproduced unless a free translation was resorted to. Dr. Legge's translations of the Chinese classics were referred to as defective in this respect, though they were most excellent in every other. The delegates' version of the Chinese New Testament was spoken of as the best translation that had been produced in this part of the world. Quotations from it were given, special attention being drawn to Ephes. IV., 15-16, and Heb. IV., 12, as typical passages that showed the conciseness and elegance of the style of the whole book.

The author of the Paper maintained that there was no thought too refined or too deep to be expressed in Chinese, as he said would be shown by the examples, which formed a part of the Paper. It was pointed out, however, that some of our best poetical works were, owing to their historical allusions, linguistic peculiarities, and highly figurative nature, quite untranslatable. The works which most easily yield themselves to translation were of a scientific, historical, or philosophical nature.

The necessary qualifications for carrying on the higher class translation were specified. The practice of employing teachers who know English and are able to translate better than their employers was strongly deprecated. The Paper contained twenty-seven examples of translation, with criticisms and explanatory remarks of various kinds.

The CHAIRMAN, in thanking the author for his Paper, took occasion to express his concurrence in most of the views Mr. Dening had advocated, and he drew attention to the superiority of Sinico-Japanese over pure Japanese as a vehicle of thought and expression.

Various remarks having been made and opinions expressed by the Rev. E. R. Miller, the Rev. G. W. Knox, Dr. Divers, and the Rev. A. D. Gring, and the author of the Paper having briefly replied;

The CHAIRMAN, in conclusion, wished to draw the attention of all persons interested in this question to a simple fact which is sometimes in danger of being forgotten. That fact was that the decision concerning the style of language to be used in Japan rests with the Japanese, not with foreigners, and that the decision of the Japanese has made itself heard with no unflattering sound. In their translations of European books on every subject, Sinico-Japanese is the language used, and it is also, with the modifications necessary to colloquial speech, that used by all persons of education in discussing any grave subject. Neither is it that the Japanese have, as it were, wilfully and without a fair trial of various styles, thus chosen one and rejected the others. In the last century there was an attempt made by a brilliant band of scholars to resuscitate the pure native tongue. This attempt, though it has left some ornamental literature whose charms of style within certain narrow limits delight the student of language, failed utterly as a practical movement. Were it not, therefore, presumption, as well as waste of time, for outsiders to espouse a cause which even the native talent of

a Mabuchi and a Motoori failed to make successful? Should we not, at any rate for the present, learn Japanese as it is, and use for our translations that style which all Japanese workers in every branch have simultaneously adopted? In questions of diction, at least, every nation must be allowed to be its own best judge.

The Meeting was then adjourned.

CORRESPONDENCE.

[Our readers must distinctly understand that we are in no sense responsible for the sentiments or opinion of our Correspondents, for the accuracy of their assertions, or for the deductions they may choose to draw therefrom.]

ON BEHALF OF SERGEANT JAMES.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—Having read of the difficulties and dangers which beset the few foreign members of the Yokohama Police Force, in the discharge of their labors; and feeling that, in cases where they are subjected to unusual peril, they are entitled to more direct manifestations of sympathy than they are accustomed to receive, I beg to suggest that a substantial evidence of appreciation would not be misapplied at a time when any one of them should suffer a serious injury. I believe that the courage and devotion to duty of these officers are universally admitted. It is not likely that those qualities would be impaired by a more effective general recognition than is commonly awarded them. The hardships of Sergeant James afford an opportunity for bringing the subject forward in a practical way. If not contrary to the rules of his service, I trust it may be found possible to collect for his acceptance an amount of money which, though it cannot heal his wounds, will perhaps help to deaden their smart. I send herewith a sum which I ask you to include with that which I hope will be contributed for this reasonable purpose. And if any other foreign attaché of the police force should similarly come to grief hereafter, I shall always be ready and glad to offer a like amount for his benefit.

I am, yours very truly,

H.

Tokio, November 22nd, 1883.

IMPROVEMENT OF THE POLITICAL SITUATION.

(Translated from the *Fiyu Shimbun*.)

The essential elements that constitute an oligarchical government; the elements which are indispensable to keep the bone and blood of an oligarchy together, are three in number, to wit, fear, secrecy, and severance (the origin of faith and allegiance). These three qualities proceed from the same source. Fear produces secrecy and *visa versa*. Fear induces reverence, and in a word they are the cause and effect of one another and work in harmony; when secrecy is employed things assume larger proportions than they really are. In the same ratio does fear induce reverence. This state of affairs can only exist in uncivilized communities. It is evident, therefore, that the oligarchical form of government is only suitable for uncivilized people. What caused this fear, secrecy, and reverence? The reply is that when this world was wrapped in a state of ignorance, men lacked the ability to investigate the natural phenomena by which they were surrounded and were constantly subjected to external influences which they could not explain. The sight of the ocean for instance over-awed them, and they had no courage to try and navigate it. The solemn grandeur of the mountains deterred men from exploiting them. Earthquakes, lightning, and anything else that was visible or audible, created consternation in their minds. They have stood appalled at the sudden opening of ominous clouds and the violence of the waves. All these they have attributed to supernatural agencies. In short, ignorance produces fear and reverence. In these times battle and pillage were rife, and men were glad to have a day's rest from the strife. The man who excelled in physical and intellectual

power commanded the respect of all, and as an inevitable sequence they become subject to him.

This is the foundation of our present form of government. Under these circumstances, those in authority avail themselves of the reverence of the people and thereby contrive to forward their own selfish designs. Those who resist them are either punished or killed. The people, therefore, to propitiate them make presents of rare articles, and similar observances are traceable to the homage exacted by the strong from the weak and from the common herd to the chief of a tribe. Amongst barbarous tribes, division of labour being unknown, the chief supplied them with clothes and provisions and held intercourse with his subjects on intimate terms. At that time they had not given him the name of "supreme being." According to the *Nippon Shoki*, Susano-o-naru Mikoto, on his way to Idzumo, met an old woman carrying a little girl who was weeping. The Mikoto asked her who she was, and she replied, "I am Kumotsu-Kami." The same authority records an instance in which a fisherman being interrogated by Jimmu Tenno whilst on the sea, replied that he was Kunitsu-Kami. It is apparent, therefore, that in remote ages ordinary people adopted the title of *Kami*, and that it was not used as a designation of supreme beings only. As time advanced, the division of labour became more expressed and the relations between the ruler and the people became more unequal. Now the chief does not converse intimately with his subjects. In the old times there was no record kept of the births and deaths of chiefs, they were only handed down verbally; hence the superstition arose that the chief was descended from a supreme being. This superstition induced unmerciful rulers to oppress the weak and inspire them with fear. It is recorded that barbarians, fearing wild beasts, and snakes deified them to avert their anger. Buckle, in one of his essays, says:—"The gods of the barbarians are not the deities of good, but of evil." This is true. That men regard an enlightened ruler as a god, and pay reverence to him, is but an association of ideas. It is only possible to command fear and reverence after persecuting your fellow creatures. The man who persecutes commands reverence. The oligarchical system was established through the influence of external objects brought to bear on the human mind. Buckle again says:—"In Asia, the vast size of the mountains, rivers, and geographical phenomena, inspired the human mind with awe, increased the imaginative powers, and made men ascribe all things with which human power could not cope, to the work of spirits. Thus the advance of civilization was checked and things remained in a dormant condition. On the other hand, the geographical features of European countries not being so pronounced as in Asia, the sense of fear did not arise. Hence the development of intellect and the present civilization of European countries." The fact that Asiatics as a body are submissive and docile and do not know what freedom is, is attributable to the pernicious effects of external influences. In Japan we do not find the vast oceans or lofty mountains that one sees in Europe, yet the people are content with oligarchical oppression. The cause of this is to be found in Buddhism and Confucianism. They have fostered false ideas and prevented the development of the human intellect. The description of a hell, the doctrines of filial piety, allegiance, and retaliation for offences committed, have largely contributed toward the ignorance of the people. This is greatly to be regretted. Buddhism was introduced into Japan and superseded Shintoism. While the former spoke of future punishment and promised pardon for all who believed in its doctrines, the latter, superficial as it was, spoke only of present calamities and confined itself to forms and ceremonies. The new religion was at the time more attractive to the populace, who embraced it eagerly. Confucianism came in at the same time as Buddhism and became very popular. The former encouraged submission to superiors and the latter a spirit of quiescence. They both advanced the interests of the oligarchical institution. In ancient as well as modern times, rulers have oppressed the people in the name of religion. These two religions Buddhism and Confucianism created a great number of royalists. The same may be said of Spain and Italy, where Christianity, having attained to great power, influenced a large

number of royalists. Till quite recently there was no steam or telegraphic communication, or postal service, in this country, so the oligarchy was able to maintain its power. Now it cannot any longer continue to fight against the progress of society. Since foreign intercourse was inaugurated in the era of Kayei, all the latest European and American inventions have been introduced. Amongst these, we may mention steamships, railways, telegraphs, the postal service, the press, military organization, law, sciences, and arts. So far as external appearances are concerned, our civilization is complete. Secrecy is no longer a power. We have lectures, and the tide of liberalism runs everywhere. The oligarchy is about to be destroyed. European history bears testimony to the possibility of such an event. The French revolution served as a warning to the supporters of oligarchy, and at present among the nations of Europe only the Russians and Turks have this form of government. It is evident that an oligarchical form of government is against the dictates of common sense, so long as it promotes only the selfish designs of those interested in it. A famous French writer said that "an oligarchical Government stops progress, disturbs the peace of the nation, and is unjust. People are not bound to obey its laws or orders." He further argues "that as it is maintained by physical force, its people must likewise use force to protect their rights, their freedom, etc. Thus this form of government is condemned, and all political institutions under it are objects of national hatred." Our beloved Sovereign, in his graciousness, has promised to establish a national assembly in the 23rd year of Meiji (1890). His Ministers, in accordance with his wishes, are trying to abolish the oligarchical form of government, as the promotion of steam and electric communication, and the establishment of schools in the rural districts show. It now only remains for the Japanese people to assist them in the consummation of their object, viz., the abolition of the oligarchical government.

THE LOSS OF THE "KIWORO MARU."

MARINE COURT OF INQUIRY.

A Marine Court of Inquiry was held yesterday, before G. Ramsay, Esq. (President) Lieutenant James, R.N., and A. F. Macnab, Esq., into the circumstances of the loss of the Mitsu Bishi Mail steamer *Kiworo Maru*, Captain Withers, ordinarily plying between Yokohama and Yokkaichi.

After reading Section X. of the regulations for officers serving on board vessels of foreign construction in Japanese employ, and the terms of the agreement embodied in the form of a letter applying for engagement from the Company, the President read the following letter from Captain Withers, which was acknowledged by that gentleman, reporting the loss of the *Kiworo*, and addressed to the Directors of the Mitsu Bishi Steamship Company. The certificates of the master and the first officer were deposited in Court. The extra-first officer and chief and second engineers stated that they had lost their certificates at the wreck.

Kajiga Hana, October 16th, 1883.

To the Directors of the Mitsu Bishi Mail Steamship Company, Head Office, Tokio.

DEAR SIRS.—An opportunity now offers me to report the sad fate of your vessel *Kiworo Maru* so lately under my command. I will commence with giving the position of ship at 4 a.m., on the 13th instant, she then being in lat. 33° 39' N. and long. 136° 27' E., heading by magnetic compass W.S.W. Up to this time we had a fresh gale from the Eastward, with passing rain squalls and high Easterly sea, ship running with top-sail and fore-trysail. Midnight the reading of barometer was 30.11 and at 4 a.m. 29.88, and in consequence of its falling and weather looking threatening to the Southward, took in the top-sail and fore-trysail and hauled ship's head out half a point. At about 4.30 a.m. a sudden burst of wind from the S.S.W. struck the ship with terrific force throwing her over on her broadside into the trough of the sea, and although the helm was put hard down and engine worked to the utmost speed the ship lay powerless at the mercy of the storm drifting to leeward unmanageable at an almost inconceivable speed. At daybreak saw land and breakers, and at 6.30 ship struck on a sand-bank on outer bar of Otomashi-gawa. At this time the ship was heading direct

for the land, put on all possible speed to engine and with the help of sea which was breaking clean over the ship, got into the entrance of the river all the time ship gliding and being forced over the bottom: let go both anchors and stopped engine, shortly after 7 a.m. ship commenced to drift out towards the breakers (already gone through) put engines at highest possible speed until the sea breaking on board put the fires out. We then drifted broadside on the beach with head to the Westward ship falling over on her port side and bilging. Got lines on shore and landed everybody except two Japanese passengers (missing). We have engaged coolies, and with the crew have saved some cargo and wreckage, ship fast breaking up with continued bad weather.

The weather is now fine and if it continues will be able to save, I hope, more cargo.

(Signed) GEO. WITHERS (late Commander steamship *Kiworo Maru*).

(Signed) O. OLSEN (late Chief-officer steamship *Kiworo Maru*).

(Signed) YOSUKE KAYA (Superintendent Chief-officer steamship *Kiworo Maru*).

(Signed) YOZABURO KITANO (2nd Officer steamship *Kiworo Maru*).

Captain George Withers, after being cautioned to speak the truth, was first examined. He said:—My certificate is numbered 114 from the Japanese Government, given on account of my holding a master's certificate from the English Board of Trade. I recognize as a correct copy the document (above given) of my letter to the Directors of the Mitsu Bishi Mail Steamship Company reporting the loss of the *Kiworo*. The Chart, before me, has been on board about six months. The log-book, before me, is the ship's. The fair log was written up by the mate on shore the day after the loss of the vessel. It is comparatively clean because it was kept in the driest place that we could find in the ship. My room and the mate's were the driest part of the vessel. The deviation table was entered in the log from the date that was commenced. The vessel has not been swung in my time to ascertain the deviation. At every available opportunity I have checked my ship's position by taking the bearings of Fujiyama. At my suggestion, the mate frequently took observations for azimuths and amplitudes. I do not think they were entered in the log. I got the true bearings of Fujiyama from the charts. The deviation table as given are by Captain Francke, whom I relieved, and whose observations I found correct. I never used a night order book on the coast. The officers were Messrs. Olsen, chief officer, Kaya, supernumerary chief officer, Kitano Tozaburo, second officer, and the engineers. Mr. Olsen has been with me about a year; Mr. Kaya and the second officer about six and eight months each. I left Yokohama at 6 a.m. on the 12th. There was a light wind and the weather was cloudy. We passed Rock Island at 1.46 p.m. with a strong N.E. wind and drizzling rain. We then steered West by the bridge compass, not magnetic. The corrected course would have been about W. by S. We had three compasses on board, but our bridge-compass we considered the standard. I steered west until I arrived off Onisaki, bearing N.W. magnetic, at 4.46 p.m. on the 12th of October. I then altered that course to W. by S., still by the bridge-compass—error about ten degrees. So the magnetic course would have been about a degree short of W.S.W. The chief mate was on watch at the time, and I ordered him to take a bearing, which he did. This was about 4 a.m. [Witness described the state of the weather at this time and continued.] She was in the trough of the sea for about two hours working to her utmost speed. I put the helm well up, and kept it so for about a quarter of an hour. The topsail yard was traced hard. Finding the ship would not fall off, I put the helm down. This had no effect as far as I could discern. The ship was going full speed ahead, and the compasses were vibrating terribly. I had no chance of club-hauling, as the position was so dangerous. I do not think it would have been possible to box-haul the ship. We cannot control the elements. I could not have attempted to put tarpaulins or anything else in the fore-rigging. The sea was too heavy for anyone to execute orders. I was knocked about, and so were all the men on deck. I kept the engines going full speed because I thought it the best thing to do. A heavy sea was bursting on us from the eastward. The

ship was trending about west. The compasses were useless. I cannot state the pressure of steam carried. The average pressure was about twenty-two. The speed was not reduced during the passage up to the time of the vessel striking. I made no allowance for the deflection for the Kiro Shiwo. An easterly wind, in my experience, decreases the velocity of the Japanese gulf stream. I have never noticed that stream setting in a directly opposite direction to its easterly course. Between the 13th and 14th of October I did not estimate that I had any current. At Yokohama I took in about forty tons of general cargo—no iron. The vessel was stranded by God's elements, rush of waters. I think the ship was taken charge of by a tidal wave—washed in and washed out. I cannot account for the disaster in any other way. About seven o'clock we were thrown into the Otonashi river. I let go the starboard anchor, having to cut away the lashings and then let go the port anchor, having stopped the engines. I ordered the engineer to go full-speed ahead. I don't know what pressure of steam we had. No lives were lost. Daylight was about six o'clock or 6.15. The breakers when first seen were from one to two miles off. I saw the land and broken water simultaneously. About half an hour then elapsed before the ship struck. The vessel was going full speed all the time, but never headed towards the land. She fell off when she got into broken water. I suppose she struck ashore because she was down three feet by the stern. About a quarter of an hour after we got into the river the vessel drifted toward the bar. She was then heading about north-west. I went full speed ahead, and had what was left of the fore-trysail and fore-staysail set in order to endeavor to "keep her there." In spite of our going full speed ahead she parted the starboard anchor. Letting go the port anchor I got clear of a rock where all would have been lost. Thence the vessel drifted and stranded, like a plank from a water-mill, a mile below the rock on the beach. From 4 a.m. she drifted at a dreadful speed, about five knots an hour, perhaps on a North-west course. It is beyond my power to say exactly. The engines were powerless. Supposing no accident had happened I should have given the vessel nine miles speed and made a northerly course. I estimate the drift, at least, at four miles an hour, dead to leeward. (During a long examination nothing further could be elicited from the witness than that his ship was thrown ashore by an extraordinary convulsion). During an ordinary gale the ship would have drifted eight miles in the two hours. Looking at the new dead reckoning position on the chart at 6 a.m., I cannot account for the vessel being so close into the land. I noticed everything. I do not think it possible that the patent log could have been in error as much as one mile an hour. I have never known it so. I have no record of the last time I got the deviation; but I am positive the compasses are correct. My allowance for the set of the sea was of no account because of the current. After passing Omaisaki, I laid down for a few minutes; but was frequently on deck, up till a quarter to four, when I took entire charge of the ship. The barometer was then 29.88.

Canute Olsen, late Chief-officer of the *Kworio Maru*, holding a first-mate's certificate, No. 61, said:—I kept the watch from 4 to 8, morning and afternoon. The weather on the 12th of October was squally, with a strong Easterly wind. The speed by patent log was 9.2/4 miles. The log was fixed three feet inside the port quarter. This log was not checked by the hand-log on this voyage. I kept the ship's log (produced). It was submitted to the master at intervals of three or four days. It was written up at the place of the wreck, three or four days afterward. The deviation table was written when the book was commenced. Observations were taken by me whenever the weather was clear, and recorded in a small book kept by myself, that is now in Yokohama. My observations agreed with the deviation table. At 4.46 p.m. on the 12th Omaisaki was bearing N.W., about 10 or 12 miles, by my judgment. We shaped a W. by S. course by bridge compass—error 10 degrees W. We went magnetic W.S.W. westerly. The captain set the course. I steadiest the ship. The point made for was South of Ooshima. Leaving Yokohama the trim was three feet by the stern—forward 10.6, aft

13.6. I was not looking for Toyama Light. The captain's night orders to me were to look after the ship, and report dangers. The course was not altered during my watch. I think I was the first to see the land, before it was reported to n.e. This was at daybreak, and I only saw the top of the land. The wind was S.S.W., hurricane force, drizzling rain. I could see about a mile. The breakers were first seen about 6 o'clock, the ship heading for the land at no speed whatever. The engines were not stopped: they were going full speed. The ship had no head-way. The helm was twice shifted to bring the ship to the wind. The sea was the same as the wind—southward and westerly, confused—the westerly highest. The means employed to bring the ship round were helm down and engines full speed; but the ship would not come up. The foresail could not be set, as the ship was under water forward. I went aloft to cut the topsail away and heard the captain say he would try to wear the ship. If the helm had been put hard awether and the fore-topsail braced hard back, the engines going full speed, the vessel would not have come round; nor would she with engines going full speed astern, tarpaulins in the rigging and men forward. My only suggestion to the captain when the vessel was going ashore was to cut the lashings of the anchors. The engines had not been reversed at all, to my knowledge. Anchors were ready to let go before we drifted over the bar. They were not cock-billed. We had to cock-bill and let go at the same time. There was too much sea to let go the anchors as we were drifting to the shore. We had nine deck hands, and four quarter-masters. The average speed of the *Kworio* was 8 1/2 miles per hour. I do not think the ship was underlogged on her passage. I saw the chart at 4 a.m., and think the position marked at that time was correct. From 4.30 to 6 a.m. the ship must have drifted dead to leeward about six or seven miles. I cannot account for the ship being so close into the land at 6 a.m., except by some unknown cause. I did not think a typhoon was nearing us. I did not look at the barometer at 4 a.m. The second mate told me its height. It had fallen 0.34 since I left the deck before. I supposed the fall meant easterly wind and rain—more for rain.

Kaya Kosuke, supernumerary first officer, said:—I hold a first officer's certificate, dated in August this year. I have been on board the *Kworio* for about three months, and kept the watch from 8 to 12. At midnight on the 12th it was cloudy, blowing hard from the east, and the sea was high. I relieved the chief officer who gave me the course, and orders about the sails, and to call the Captain if the weather changed. Course by standard compass on the bridge was W. by S.: Error ten degrees westerly: magnetic course W.S.W. I kept the course as ordered, and the vessel was steered the course at a speed of about ten knots by patent log. Topsail and fore-trysail were set. I took trysail in at half-past eight. The master was then in his room. He came on deck during my watch. I was relieved by the second officer. The weather was the same at midnight. I came on deck again just before daylight because the ship was labouring heavily. I saw land soon after, about daylight, at a distance of, perhaps, three or four miles. The morning was very dark. Soon I saw breakers. The ship was rolling heavily side on to the sea. It was not possible to set the fore-staysail. About twenty minutes elapsed from the time I saw the breakers till the ship struck. The engines were going full speed the whole time. The *Kworio* entered the Otonasi-gawa at seven o'clock, or thereabouts. Two anchors were down. The port cable was all paid out and parted. The starboard was nearly all paid out. The out-rush of water from the river was very strong: it carried away the cable. We steamed against it but could not stem it. It carried us out over the bar.

To Captain Withers—I remember your coming up in the middle watch, and asking if I could see Mitoya. I said I was looking for it, and went aloft. You were on deck then. I saw nothing. The entries of the barometer reading are made by the second mate for that watch. The weather was clear and not so bad as it had been before.

At noon the court adjourned till 1.15 p.m. On resuming Mr. Kitano Tozaburo was called. He said—I was second mate of the *Kworio Maru* at the time of the wreck. I hold a second mate's

temporary certificate, which I have held for about two years. I have been about six months on board the *Kworio*. I kept the watches from 12 to 4. On the 12th the weather was dark, a hard wind blowing. Trysail and fore-top-sail were set. (Witness here corroborated the evidence of the preceding witnesses as to course and sail set.) I know that the error of the compass was 10 degrees West. We steered S.W. by W. to the end of my watch. My orders were to call the captain if there was any change in the wind. I looked frequently at the bridge-compass to see the ship had kept her course. At 4 the weather was dark and rainy. I could see two or three *cho*. I do not know what time I came on deck after being relieved. The chief officer called me. When I got on deck they were taking in the trysail. I saw land about four or four and a half miles distant on the starboard bow, but saw no breakers. I do not know the time when I noticed that the ship was drifting on shore. I cannot estimate the rush of the river: it was great. The speed at the time, from the log, was ten knots per hour. I did not look at the barometer. I have never taken an azimuth or amplitude on board the *Kworio*.

To Captain Withers—The entry in the log of barometer reading is in my handwriting, 29.88 at 4 p.m. I recorded the reading at every hour.

Yamada Jinjiro—I have a certificate, No. 13, as First Engineer under rule three of the Regulations. I have been in the *Kworio* since September 1882. There are three engineers on board. The chief's watch is from 4 to 8, 2nd 8 to 12, 3rd 12 to 4. On the 12th the pressure of steam was 20 lbs., revolutions 73 or 74. I estimate the speed of the ship on the twelfth, with the wind, at about ten knots. The weather was windy and the sea rough. At 4 on the 13th the wind had changed, but was strong. From 4.40 to 6 the speed was about ten knots. I was not on deck. After the change of wind the vessel was rolling very much. The speed was not reduced since we left Yokohama—not even when the bad weather commenced. At half-past six or a little before seven the speed was reduced. That was at the mouth of the river—where exactly I cannot say as I was below. A little after seven the engines were moved again, and kept going for twenty or thirty minutes—pressure 21 lbs., and going full speed. The engines were stopped by order telegraphed from the deck. The ship was then aground. I left the engine-room shortly before eight. The engine-room clock had stopped. The ship bumped exceedingly. The engines had begun to race at half-past one the previous day. I relieved the pressure from time to time. The pitch of the propeller is about 12. In ordinary weather the revolutions to make 9 knots are 75 or 76 per minute.

At this point the Court decided to call no further evidence, but addressed a few questions to Captain Withers.

Q. When you were drifting so helplessly toward the shore why did you not stop the engine?—A. A few points of wind would have taken her off the shore. Stopping the engines would have made her less controllable.

Q. At full speed ahead what headway, not leeward, did the ship make?—A. None, if any at all.

Q. Had the engines any effect upon the ship?—A. No, until she got within the outer line of breakers, when I did my utmost to bring the ship within the lagoon at the entrance to the river where I let go my anchor.

Q. During the time you were standing by the ship, did you make any observation as to the rise and fall of the river?—A. In still water there is a rise and fall of about six feet. That I ascertained while bathing.

Q. How do you account for the ship being carried in and out?—A. By an influx and reflux of water: some mysterious freak of nature that I cannot understand.

Q. Why did you not let go both anchors when the ship was being driven towards the shore?—A. Because to do so would have cut the ship down to the water's edge and imperilled the life of everyone on board.

Captain Withers, continuing his statement, said that he had been supplied with a copy of the regulations. There might be something therein ordering that the ship's speed should be logged every two hours. He kept a private memorandum-book, in addition to his supervision of the ship's log.

The Court reserved judgment, stating that it would inform Captain Withers and his officers in due time before it was delivered.

SATURDAY, December 1st, 1883.

The Court assembled this morning at 11 a.m. for the purpose of delivering the following decision, which was read by Captain Ramsay, the President.

The *Kworio Maru* was a composite screw steamer of 811 gross, and 617 net tons, built at Glasgow in 1868, by Messrs. C. Connell & Co., her length being 191.3 ft., breadth 29.1 ft., depth 15.2 ft. She was of 100 nominal horse power, owned by the Mitsu Bishi Mail Steamship Company of Tokyo, and commanded by Mr. Geo. Withers, who held a Master's Certificate of Competency, of the First Grade, No. 114.

The vessel sailed from Yokohama at 6 a.m. on the 12th of October last, bound to Kobe. She passed inside Mikotomo, and at 4.46 p.m. Omaye-saki bore N.W. distance 10 to 12 miles, wind being East, a fresh breeze with drizzling rain; speed of ship being 9.6 knots per hour.

From Omaye-saki a W.S.W. Magnetic course was shaped by Bridge Compass to pass 4 miles South of Ooshima: this course, and speed of 9.6, were maintained till 4.30 a.m. on the 13th, the vessel carrying all possible sail.

Between midnight and 4 a.m. the barometer fell from 30.11 to 29.81, with strong East and E.S.E. winds, when all sail was taken in, the weather being dirty, and having a most threatening appearance to the Southward.

At 4.30 a.m. the ship had run 110 miles on a W.S.W. magnetic course, according to the log, from the time Omaye-saki bore N.W. distant 10 to 12 miles, when suddenly the wind shifted to the S.S.W. in a hard squall, and continued to blow with hurricane force, and by the evidence, rendered the vessel unmanageable; and the ship was blown bodily to leeward though the engines were going full speed ahead. The evidence states she had no headway, but was drifting at a rate of 3 to 4 miles an hour. Endeavours were made to get the vessel round on the starboard tack, by keeping the helm hard alee, and by cutting the remnants of the fore-topsail away. Finding then she would not come near the wind, the helm was put hard aweather, in the hope of wearing her, but without success.

About daylight land was sighted right ahead, distant about 1½ miles. Shortly after, breakers were seen, the ship apparently drifting helplessly towards them, with the engines going full speed ahead. About 6.30 a.m. the vessel struck on a sandbank, or the outer bar of a river, over which she was carried by the force of the sea and speed of the engines into the Otonashi Gawa; there both anchors were let go, engines stopped, cable of port bower veered to bare end, and starboard bower veered to 30 fathoms; but within a few minutes, a heavy freshet parted the port cable. Notwithstanding the engines were going full speed ahead, she dragged her starboard anchor, which was at once shipped, to avoid a rock, towards which the ship was driving; and the vessel was carried out to seaward again, and finally wrecked on the coast, without loss of life.

At 6 a.m., when the ship was discovered to be so close into the land, she should have been by the master's dead reckoning about 15 miles ahead of and 4 miles to the Northward of his assumed position. This discrepancy may arise from two reasons. Firstly:—a current set the vessel to the W.N.W. Secondly:—Underlogging—in both cases at a rate of one knot per hour. The speed recorded is that shown by the registering log, but the First officer and Chief engineer, considered her speed at 10 knots per hour. It is possible that the following high sea would account for the additional knot per hour, and this addition would not be registered by the log, nor perceivable by the eye.

If the error of the ship's position is attributable to the first reason, the Master cannot be held responsible.

If the error of the ship's position is due to the 2nd reason, the Master is to blame, as he, by his long experience, should have made an allowance for the set of the sea.

We are of opinion that it was a combination of the two reasons as given above, which placed the

ship so close to the land at daylight on the 13th of October, viz:—1st, The Kuro Siwodeflected to the northward; 2nd, Underlogging.

After sighting the land and breakers so close aboard at daylight on the 13th of October, the time for action was limited, yet we are of opinion that the Master might have tried other measures, for keeping his vessel off the shore. (1) By going full speed astern, helm a-starboard, with some head sail set, or men in the fore rigging. (2) By cutting away his foremast, and using it for a drag to bring her head to wind. (3) By letting go both anchors when he found she was drifting so helplessly towards the shore. (4) By at least stopping the engines, which were kept moving full speed ahead, in a vain attempt to get the vessel head to wind.

The vessel, once inside the Bar, every effort was made to keep her there, but the heavy rush of water to seaward, rendered it impossible.

JUDGMENT.

We are of opinion that the master is to blame for not endeavouring to keep the vessel off the shore by either of the means enumerated above.

But taking into consideration that at daylight the weather was so exceptionally bad, and the time for taking active measures for the safety of the ship from being wrecked was extremely short, we are of opinion that the exigencies of the case will be met by suspending the Master's certificate, No. 114, for a period of three months from the date of judgment.

GEO. RAMSAY, President.

THOS. H. JAMES, Assessor.

A. F. MACNAB, Assessor.

I hereby approve of this decision, and direct that it be carried out accordingly.

SAIGO TSUKUMICHI,

Minister of the Agricultural and Commercial Department.

Marine Office, Tokio, December 1st, 1883.

The certificates of the other officers were returned to them, and the Court rose.

CHRIST-CHURCH.

A meeting, as advertised, was held yesterday afternoon, in the Chamber of Commerce Rooms, to consider the advisability of maintaining a Church and Clergyman here, of the Established Church of England. There were present Mr. Russell Robertson (Chairman), Messrs. Tom Thomas, Murray, Whittall, Durant, Kirkwood, Griffin, James, Wilson, Walter, Fraser, Cope, Wilkin, Dallas, E. B. Watson, A. J. Watson, and others.

Mr. RUSSELL ROBERTSON, having been voted to the chair, explained the object of the meeting, which was to consider whether the seat-holders and those interested in Christ Church were prepared to maintain that establishment for another year. There was a debt of \$600 on the establishment.

Mr. KIRKWOOD alluded to the clergyman's salary, which would have to be provided for. He understood that the present incumbent's engagement expired in February, and that he was willing to remain for three months beyond that time.

The CHAIRMAN said that the Chaplain had consented to remain in Yokohama for three months from February next if his parishioners desired it.

Mr. BREARLEY suggested that the seat-holders should give a guarantee on their pew-rents for the debt of the Church and the Chaplain's salary. He deprecated the closure of the Church.

Mr. FRASER concurred with Mr. Brearley, but spoke of the burden falling constantly upon a limited number of the community.

After some general remarks had passed, the CHAIRMAN said that the treasurer, Mr. Whittall, was leaving the country, and it was only just that he should be reimbursed the \$600 that he had advanced. The question was, where was the money to come from?

Mr. GRIFFIN asked whether the income of the Church met the expenditure. The reply being in the negative; he remarked that the \$175 which had to be provided monthly for the chaplain's salary stared us in the face.

Mr. WHITTALL said that that pittance was little

enough, and that no competent clergyman could be procured for a less stipend.

Mr. F. EASTLAKE alluded to the numerous subscriptions that had of late been had in Yokohama, mentioning them in detail, and wondered that, in such circumstances, there should be any difficulty in defraying a debt of \$600 owing by the members of Christ Church. \$20,000 had been subscribed for the Theatre.

Several suggestions were made as to the best means of raising funds, Mr. Kirkwood remarking upon the difference of Churches, and that the Church of England could not appeal to the general public. Mr. Cope proposed concerts, and quoted the precedents of former years. The discussion became very desultory, and divers suggestions were made—Mr. Eastlake proposing a list to be handed round, and Mr. Cope a reduction in pew-rents. Mr. E. B. Watson suggested that an appeal be made to the junior members of the community, as the burden had heretofore fallen on a few shoulders, that were not always, in the present state of affairs, well able to bear it. Mr. Whittall said that some time ago the junior members had subscribed handsomely. He did not seem to be in favor of a new appeal to their generosity, and his feeling was apparently shared by the majority of the meeting.

Mr. THOMAS emphatically and at some length held that it was a disgrace that the Church should be embarrassed for a debt of \$600, a feeling that was heartily endorsed by the other members; but, as the Chairman remarked, nothing practical was suggested. In plain terms no one seemed to be willing or able to subscribe the money required to guarantee it; and there seemed, at this stage, a likelihood that the meeting would rise without coming to any decision at all—a negative result which Mr. Wilkin, for one, warmly deprecated.

The CHAIRMAN explained that the present indebtedness of \$600 was in face of \$900 collected only a few months ago. He called the attention of the gentlemen present to the actual seriousness of the financial situation. The monthly expenditure for salaries, repairs, interest, and sundries is \$170, which is too great a tax in present circumstances, although in other small far Eastern foreign communities, such as Kobe and Shanghai and so on, the Church establishments were maintained without apparent difficulty. To Mr. Thomas he explained that the mortgage on the church was \$1,500.

After further desultory discussion, a motion was formulated by Mr. THOMAS, and seconded by Mr. BREARLEY. It is to the effect:—

That a guarantee fund be started to pay off the present Church Debt of \$600.

This motion was lost.

Mr. F. EASTLAKE suggested a series of entertainments, Mr. Cope organ recitals, and then a long and varied discussion ensued.

Mr. FRASER then proposed, and Mr. GRIFFIN seconded,

That a guarantee fund be begun in this room to see matters through to the end of the year.

The committee would thus, said Mr. Fraser, be able to bring in a budget in January next, shewing the prospects for 1884; and further action could then be taken. Messrs. Thomas, Brearley, Wilson, Griffin, Wilkin, Owston, Kirkwood, Melhush, Whittall, Mollison, and Fraser expressed their willingness to put down their names to start a list of guarantors. Messrs. Eastlake, Thomas, and Fraser were understood to promise to help the Church Committee in canvassing seat-holders and others for additional support.

The meeting then adjourned.

NOTIFICATION NO. 33 OF THE COUNCIL OF STATE.

To Departments, Boards, Senates, Cities, and Prefectures:—

It is hereby notified that *gendarmerie* will be established in Osaka.

(N.B.—A company of the metropolitan *gendarmerie* will be despatched.)

SANJO SANEYOSHI,
Prime Minister.

November 30th, 1883.

LATEST TELEGRAMS.

[REUTER "SPECIAL" TO "JAPAN MAIL."]

London, November 22nd.

FRANCE AND CHINA.

The Chinese Government has sent a vigorous note to the Powers, reasserting the suzerainty of Annam, and throwing the responsibility upon France in case of war being declared.

London, November 26th.

It is currently reported here that negotiations are now proceeding between the English and French Governments with a view to British mediation on the Franco-China question.

THE CHINA SQUADRON.

Orders have been given to reinforce the British Squadron on the China Station.

London, November 27th.

FRANCE AND CHINA.

The Committee of the French Chambers have approved the vote of credit for Tonquin.

The Minister of War has stated that 6,000 troops were ready to leave for Tonquin at any moment.

[FROM THE "SAIGON INDEPENDENT."]

Paris, 29th October.

FRENCH POLICY IN TONQUIN.

In the Chamber the Extreme Left will interpellate the Government on its Tonquin policy.

1st November.

After the interpellation on the affairs in Tonquin, the Chamber passed a vote of confidence by a majority of 180.

Paris, 5th November.

NEW ADMIRAL FOR THE FRENCH SQUADRON IN CHINA.

Admiral Lespes replaces Admiral Meyer in command of the division in China waters.

Paris, 12th November.

MUNICIPAL REFORM IN FRANCE.

The Chamber has adopted the Municipal Reform Bill.

GERMANY AND SPAIN.

The Crown Prince of Germany, has made a journey to Madrid, which has produced a great sensation.

[FROM THE "HONGKONG DAILY PRESS."]

London, 16th November.

RUSSIA AND BULGARIA.

The difficulty between Bulgaria and Russia has been arranged. The Bulgarian Minister of War is to be a Prussian, who is not to interfere with internal affairs.

Manila, 17th November.

THE TYPHOON AT MANILA.

The announced typhoon inclined to the West before it reached Manila. It will enter the China Sea to-day through 12 and 14 latitude.

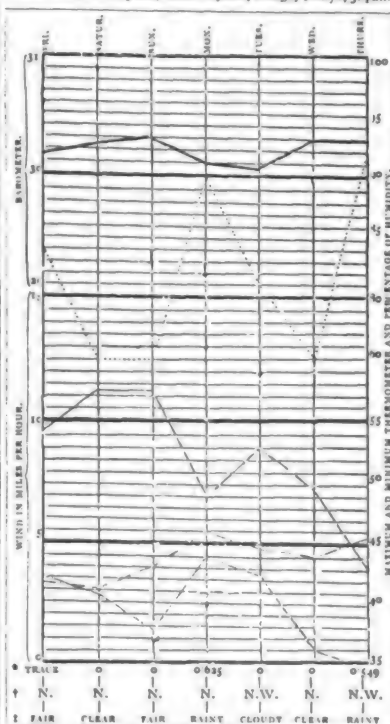
SUNDAY CHURCH SERVICES.

Christ Church : 11 a.m. and 5.30 p.m.
Union Church : 11 a.m. and 8 p.m.
Roman Catholic Church : 8 and 9.30 a.m.
English Church, No. 12, Sakaicho, Shiba, Tokijo : 11 a.m.

METEOROLOGICAL REPORT.

FOR WEEK BEGINNING FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 23RD, 1883.

Observatory of Daigaku, Moto-Fujicho, Hongô, Tokijo, Japan.



REMARKS.

Heavy line represents barometer.

Light continuous line—maximum and minimum thermometers.

—represents velocity of wind.

—represents percentage of humidity.

The barometer is reduced to the freezing point and to the level of the sea.

* Rain in inches. † Direction of Wind. ‡ Weather.

Maximum velocity of wind 10.6 miles per hour on Monday at 4 p.m.

The highest reading of the barometer for the week was 30.369 inches on Wednesday at 11 p.m., and the lowest was 30.003 inches on Tuesday at 2 p.m.

The highest temperature for the week was 57.2 both on Saturday and Sunday, and the lowest was 34.6 on Tuesday. The maximum and minimum for the corresponding week of last year were 49.9 and 37.8 respectively.

The total amount of rain for the week was 1.175 inches, against 0.415 inches for the corresponding week of last year.

MAIL STEAMERS.

THE NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From Shanghai, } per M. B. Co. Thursday, Dec. 6th.
Nagasaki, &
Kobe }
From Hongkong, per P. & O. Co. Friday, Dec. 7th.†

* Left Shanghai on November 29th. † Korea left Hongkong on November 29th. The France (with English mail) left Hongkong on November 23rd.

THE NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For Hongkong, per K. U. Co. Sunday, Dec. 2nd.
For Kobe, per P. M. Co. Tuesday, Dec. 3rd.
For Shanghai, }
Kobe, and } per M. B. Co. Wednesday, Dec. 5th.
Nagasaki }

The arrival and departure of mails by the Occidental and Oriental, the Pacific Mail, and the Peninsular and Oriental Companies, are approximate only.

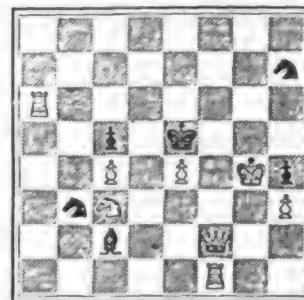
YOKOSUKA STEAMERS.

The Yokosuka steamers leave the English Hatoba daily at 8.15 and 10.45 a.m., and 12.30, 3.00, and 4.15 p.m.; and leave Yokosuka at 7.00 and 9.45 a.m., 12.15 m., and 2.00 and 4.00 p.m.

CHESS.

By Mr. F. HEALEY, from the Chess Players' Chronicle.

BLACK.



WHITE.

White to play and mate in 3 moves.

Solution to Chess Problem of 24th November, by W. B. MASON, Nagasaki.

White.

- 1.—B. to K. B. 6.
- 2.—R. to Q. B. 4.
- 3.—B. to K. 6, mate.

Black.

- 1.—K. takes Kt.
- 2.—K. takes R.
- 3.—K. to Q. 3.

3.—R. to Q. 4, mate.

Correct solution received from "TESA."

NOTES FROM JAPANESE PAPERS.

Horse races will take place at the Mita Gardens to-day. The Mikado will honor the sports with his presence.

The *Fuso* and *Kongo* are cruising in the vicinity of Imari Bay.

The trial of Messrs. Kono and Aigawa, who are charged with libelling Mr. Mishima, Prefect of Fukushima, on the occasion of the trial at the Supreme Criminal Court, was opened on the 29th ultimo. The presiding judge is Mr. Ito, and the prosecutor Mr. Kikuchi. The evidence of the prosecution depends upon the offensive expressions alleged to have been uttered by the defendants during their late trial. The examination proceeded but for a short time, when the defendant's counsel made a motion asking for an adjournment till next day on several technical grounds. The motion was granted and the trial recommences to-day.—*Fiyu Shimbun*.

The construction of the Nakasendo railway will be commenced in January next and is expected to be completed in the 21st year of Meiji (1888).—*Choya Shimbun*.

It is reported that a Korean capitalist, by name Li Ken Yei, who went to the interior of Korea accompanied by a Japanese mining expert, was attacked by a band of highwaymen and robbed. The miner was beaten nearly to death, but, fortunately, he recovered owing to good medical treatment, but mining operations had to be postponed. The mine lies in Keishu, and covers, according to Mr. Li, a considerable area. It is said to be a rich metallic deposit consisting of three beds. It was already dug to the depth of 30 *jo* and the deeper it is excavated the better appears to be the quality of the metal. It is expected that when worked with European machinery the out-turn will be increased.

At 8 p.m. on the 25th ultimo a train was overturned on the Kobe-Osaka line when approaching the Sumiyoshi station. No one was injured.—*Fiji Shimpô*.

According to the latest census returns, there are 499 families of *Kwasoku* or *ex-Daimyo*. Of these, 412 live in Tokijo, 61 in Kiyoto, and 26 in different provinces.—*Nichi Nichi Shimbu*.

LATEST SHIPPING.

FREIGHTS.

There is no new feature to be reported in the Freight Market, everything remains dull as stated last. The following steamers are circulated for New York, with early despatch, via China ports:—Steamships *Mosser*, *Venice*, *Benarty*, and *Benledi*.

ARRIVALS.

Kumamoto Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,240, Drummond, 24th November,—Hongkong via Kobe, General.—Mitsui Bishi M. S.S. Co.
Oceanic, British steamer, 2,350, Davison, 24th November,—Hongkong 17th November, Mails and General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.
Ada, British schooner, 55, Hardy, 26th November,—Miako 16th November, General.—Captain.
Kengi Maru, Japanese steamer, 236, Masuda, 26th November,—Yokkaichi 22nd November, General.—Kowyekisha.
Niigata Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,097, Hubbard, 26th November,—Hakodate, General.—Mitsui Bishi M. S.S. Co.
Seirio Maru, Japanese steamer, 454, Tamura, 26th November,—Yokkaichi 23rd November, General.—Mitsui Bishi M. S.S. Co.
Zambesi, British steamer, 1,540, L. H. Moule, 26th November,—Hongkong 16th Nov. via Nagasaki and Kobe, General.—P. & O. S. N. Co.
Kiyokawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 62, Imado, 26th November,—Shimidzu 25th November, General.—Seiriussha.
Kosuge Maru, Japanese steamer, 751, Araoka, 26th November,—Hakodate, General.—Kiyodo Unyu Kwaisha.
Zunkai Maru, Japanese steamer, 113, Asaka, 26th November,—Handa 25th November, General.—Seiriussha.
Hiogo Maru, Japanese steamer, 896, R. N. Walker, 27th November,—Kobe 25th November, General.—Mitsui Bishi M. S.S. Co.
City of Tokio, American steamer, 3,128, Dearborn, 27th November,—San Francisco 7th November, Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.
Kowyeki Maru, Japanese steamer, 63, Omura, 27th November,—Yokkaichi 26th November, General.—Kowyekisha.
Seikai Maru, Japanese steamer, 102, Nonaka, 27th November,—Handa 25th November, General.—Seiriussha.
Taganoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 448, Matsumoto, 27th November,—Yokkaichi 25th November, General.—Mitsui Bishi M. S.S. Co.
Tanisai, French steamer, 1,750, Vaquier, 28th November,—Hongkong 19th November, Mails and General.—Messageries Maritimes Co.
Hercules, American ship, 1,206, E. Lincoln, 29th November,—New York 5th June and Batavia 2nd October, 47,000 cases Kerosene.—Smith, Baker & Co.
Hiroshima Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,862, J. Wynn, 29th November,—Shanghai and ports, Mails and General.—Mitsui Bishi M. S.S. Co.
Radnorshire, British steamer, 1,154, S. Rickard, 29th November,—London via Hongkong, General.—Adamson, Bell & Co.
Shidauoka Maru, Japanese steamer, 334, Nakai, 29th November,—Shimidzu 27th November, General.—Seiriussha.
Kamtchatka, Russian steamer, 703, Ingman, 30th November,—Kobe 28th November, General.—Mitsui Bishi M. S.S. Co.
Seirio Maru, Japanese steamer, 459, Tamura, 30th November,—Yokkaichi 27th November, General.—Mitsui Bishi M. S.S. Co.
Hakodate Maru, Japanese steamer, 104, Inouye, 30th November,—Yokkaichi, General.—Kiyodo Unyu Kwaisha.

DEPARTURES.

Seisho Maru, Japanese steamer, 210, Ikoda, 24th November,—Kobe, General.—Seiriussha.

Shima Maru, Japanese steamer, 230, Okuma, 24th November,—Hakodate, General.—Kiyodo Unyu Kwaisha.
Horai Maru, Japanese steamer, 407, Tokuda, 25th November,—Korea via Kobe, General.—Mitsui Bishi M. S.S. Co.
Shidauoka Maru, Japanese steamer, 334, Nakai, 25th November,—Shimidzu, General.—Seiriussha.
Kamtchatka, Russian steamer, 782, Ingman, 26th November,—Kobe, General.—Mitsui Bishi M. S.S. Co.
Evangeline, British schooner, 301, S. A. Bell, 27th November,—Kobe, Lumber.—E. C. Kirby & Co.
Oceanic, British steamer, 2,350, Davison, 27th November,—San Francisco, Mails and General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.
Kengi Maru, Japanese steamer, 236, Masuda, 26th November,—Yokkaichi, General.—Kowyekisha.
Toyoshima Maru, Japanese steamer, 946, Thomas, 25th November,—Hakodate, General.—Mitsui Bishi M. S.S. Co.
Uke Maru, Japanese steamer, 131, Nakamura, 26th November,—Hakodate, General.—Kiyodo Unyu Kwaisha.
Yechigo Maru, Japanese steamer, 790, MacFarlane, 26th November,—Kobe, General.—Kiyodo Unyu Kwaisha.
Kumamoto Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,290, Drummond, 27th November,—Hongkong via Kobe and Nagasaki, Mails and General.—Mitsui Bishi M. S.S. Co.
Niigata Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,096, Hubbard, 27th November,—Kobe, Mails and General.—Mitsui Bishi M. S.S. Co.
Hiogo Maru, Japanese steamer, 896, R. N. Walker, 28th November,—Hakodate, Mails and General.—Mitsui Bishi M. S.S. Co.
Kiyokawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 62, Imado, 28th November,—Shimidzu, General.—Seiriussha.
Taganoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 448, Matsumoto, 28th November,—Yokkaichi, General.—Mitsui Bishi M. S.S. Co.
Seikai Maru, Japanese steamer, 102, Narita, 29th November,—Toba, General.—Seiriussha.
Clarissa B. Carver, American ship, 1,106, L. Dow, 29th November,—Hongkong, Kerosene.—China and Japan Trading Co.
Ise Maru, Japanese steamer, 748, J. Efford, 29th November,—Kobe, Mails and General.—Kiyodo Unyu Kwaisha.
Kairio Maru, Japanese steamer, 370, Amano, 29th November,—Yokkaichi, General.—Seiriussha.
Nagoya Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,900, Wilson Walker, 29th November,—Shanghai and ports, Mails and General.—Mitsui Bishi M. S.S. Co.
City of Tokio, American steamer, 3,128, Dearborn, 30th November,—Hongkong, Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.
Kowyeki Maru, Japanese steamer, 63, Omura, 30th November,—Yokkaichi, General.—Kowyekisha.
Seirio Maru, Japanese steamer, 454, Tamura, 30th November,—Yokkaichi, General.—Mitsui Bishi M. S.S. Co.
Volta (6), French gunboat, Captain Fournier, 30th November,—Hongkong.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per Japanese steamer *Kumamoto Maru*, from Hongkong via Kobe:—Messrs. Richardson, Pierre, Voleke, Kosuge, Hamano, Yasugi, Satake, Yamamoto, and Chimoto in cabin; and 63 Japanese in steerage.

Per British steamer *Oceanic*, from Hongkong:—Mrs. W. H. Marsh, Miss Thornton, and Lieut. Richard Rush, U.S.N., in cabin; and 2 Chinese in steerage. For San Francisco:—Rev. S. M. and Mrs. Merrill, Captain E. Thebaud, Messrs. Krohn, and Tong Foh in cabin; and 370 Chinese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Seirio Maru*, from Yokkaichi:—98 Japanese.

Per Japanese steamer *Niigata Maru*, from Hakodate:—Mr. and Mrs. Murakami, Messrs. H. Gosch, Nakajima, Uchi, Mogami, Chiba, Nagao, Watori, and Sakata in cabin; and 231 Japanese in steerage.

Per British steamer *Zambesi*, from Hongkong via Nagasaki and Kobe:—Dr. Dodd, Messrs. H. H. Hunt, A. C. Read, and J. Wilson in cabin; and 9 Chinese and 30 Japanese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Hiogo Maru*, from Kobe:—68 Japanese.

Per American steamer *City of Tokio*, from San Francisco:—H. E. Sanya, Mr. and Mrs. Russell Robertson, Rev. F. R. and Mrs. Graves, Mrs. W. N. Lovatt and child, Miss E. F. Swinney, Miss M. A. Whitman, Messrs. S. N. Nickerson, Eustace A. Smith, Gustave Reddell, A. R. Vogel, G. A. K. Honey, W. Turnbull, Jun., D. B. Fearing, and J. Morimura in cabin; and 10 Europeans in steerage. For Hongkong:—Mrs. E. Laurence, Miss A. Fabar, Messrs. H. N. Palmer, and C. de Pemmyrac in cabin; and 1,220 Chinese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Kowyeki Maru*, from Yokkaichi:—2 Japanese.

Per Japanese steamer *Seikai Maru*, from Handa:—11 Japanese.

Per French steamer *Tanisai*, from Hongkong:—Mr. Miesse in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Hiroshima Maru*, from Shanghai and ports:—H. E. Inouye, Mr. and Mrs. Lowe, Mr. and Mrs. Matsudaira, Messrs. Drummond, Okamoto, Namura, Yoshizawa, Fujita, K. Inouye, Katayama, Kawasaki, Kojima, Shimone, and Ichijo in cabin; and 5 seamen, 2 Chinese, and 175 Japanese in steerage.

DEPARTED.

Per British steamer *Oceanic*, for San Francisco:—Rev. S. M. and Mrs. Merrill, Captain E. Thebaud, and Ting Toh in cabin; and 6 Europeans, and 366 Chinese in steerage. For New York:—Lieut. Commander Hitchcock, U.S.N., Mrs. Hitchcock and daughter, Messrs. H. Kerr, H. J. Hunt, and S. Uragawa in cabin. For London:—Captain E. Jones, Messrs. Montague Lévy, and C. G. Sinclair in cabin. For Liverpool:—Mr. G. A. Campbell in cabin. For Paris:—Messrs. A. Andreossi and B. Imbert in cabin. For Bremen:—Mr. W. Krohn in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Nagoya Maru*, for Shanghai and ports:—Governor Watanabe, General T. B. Van Buren, Rev. F. R. and Mrs. Green, Mr. and Mrs. Nakai, Mrs. Otaike and child, Mr. and Mrs. Shioto, Mr. and Mrs. Nishioka, Mrs. Lovatt and child, Mrs. Schreiber, Miss E. F. Swinney, Miss A. MacKenzie, Miss MacKenzie, Rev. H. Stout, Rev. S. H. Cobb, Captain Byrne, Messrs. G. W. Penney, Nakamura, O. Kumbara, Hatake, Fukukawa, Mori, Kinashi, Takagi, Ito, Hatake, and Yokoyama in cabin.

Per American steamer *City of Tokio*, for Hongkong:—Mrs. E. Laurence, Miss A. Fabar, Messrs. H. N. Palmer, C. de Pemmyrac in cabin; and 1,220 Chinese in steerage.

CARGOES.

Per British steamer *Zambesi*, from Hongkong via Nagasaki and Kobe:—Through cargo, 1,578 packages; Local cargo, 2,365 packages; Cattle, 30 head.

Per British steamer *Oceanic*, for San Francisco:—

| | TEA. | NEW | OTHER | TOTAL |
|----------------|----------------|-----------|--------|-----------|
| | FRANCISCO. | LORE. | LORE. | |
| Hongkong | 627 | 315 | 307 | 1,249 |
| Shanghai | 453 | 299 | 2,503 | 3,255 |
| Nagasaki | — | — | 850 | 850 |
| Hueo | — | 630 | 3,404 | 4,034 |
| Yokohama | 3,029 | 77 | 2,152 | 5,258 |
| Total | 4,109 | 1,330 | 9,216 | 14,655 |
| | SILK. | | | |
| | SAN FRANCISCO. | NEW YORK. | OTHER. | TOTAL. |
| Hongkong | 125 | 401 | — | 526 |
| Shanghai | — | 202 | — | 202 |
| Yokohama | — | 855 | — | 855 |
| Total | 125 | 1,458 | — | 1,583 |
| Silk-worm eggs | — | — | — | 330 cases |

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

With no improvement to note in our Market since last week, we append usual quotations which are, however, but nominal values in the absence of any operations to guide prices.

COTTON YARNS.

| | PER PICUL. |
|----------------------------------|------------------|
| No. 16 to 24, Common to Medium - | \$25.00 to 28.50 |
| No. 16 to 24, Good to Best - | 29.25 to 30.00 |
| Honley, No. 20, Good to Best - | 25.25 to 28.50 |
| No. 28 to 32, Common to Medium - | 30.50 to 31.50 |
| No. 28 to 32, Good to Best - | 32.00 to 35.00 |
| No. 38 to 42 - | 33.00 to 37.50 |

COTTON PIECE GOODS.

| | PER PICUL. |
|------------------------------------------------|----------------|
| Grey Shirtings—8½ lb, 38 to 39 inches - | \$1.70 to 2.15 |
| Grey Shirtings—9 lb, 38 to 45 inches - | 1.85 to 2.35 |
| T. Cloth—7 lb, 24 yards, 32 inches - | 1.40 to 1.45 |
| Indigo Shirting—12 yards, 44 inches - | 1.50 to 1.65 |
| Prints—Assorted, 24 yards, 30 inches - | 1.10 to 2.40 |
| Cotton—Italians and Sateens Black, 32 inches - | 0.07 to 0.09 |
| Turkey Reds—2 to 2½ lb, 24 yards, 30 inches - | 1.15 to 1.40 |
| Turkey Reds—2½ to 3 lb, 24 yards, 30 inches - | 1.30 to 1.60 |
| Turkey Reds—3½ lb, 24 yards, 30 inches - | 1.70 to 1.82½ |
| Velvets—Black, 35 yards, 22 inches - | 5.90 to 6.75 |
| Victoria Lawns, 12 yards, 42-3 inches - | 0.60 to 0.70 |
| Taffetas, 12 yards, 43 inches - | 1.75 to 2.05 |

WOOLLENS.

| | PER PICUL. |
|----------------------------------------------------|----------------|
| Plain Orleans, 40-42 yards, 32 inches - | \$3.60 to 5.25 |
| Figured Orleans, 39-41 yards, 31 inches - | 3.25 to 4.00 |
| Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches - | 0.18 to 0.23 |
| Mousseline de Laine—Crape, 24 yards, 31 inches - | 0.15 to 0.16½ |
| Mousseline de Laine—Itajime, 24 yards, 31 inches - | 0.18 to 0.23 |
| Mousseline de Laine—Yuzen, 24 yards, 31 inches - | 0.30 to 0.37½ |
| Cloths—Pilots, 54 to 56 inches - | 0.30 to 0.40 |
| Cloths—Presidents, 54 to 56 inches - | 0.40 to 0.50 |
| Cloths—Union, 54 to 56 inches - | 0.30 to 0.55 |
| Blankets—Scarlet and Green, 6 to 5½ lb per lb - | 0.35 to 0.40 |

IRON.

| | PER PICUL. |
|---------------------------------|----------------|
| Flat Bars, ½ inch - | \$2.50 to 2.90 |
| Flat Bars, ¾ inch - | 2.80 to 3.00 |
| Round and square up to ½ inch - | 2.80 to 3.00 |
| Nailrod, assorted - | 2.35 to 2.60 |
| Nailrod, small size - | 2.35 to 3.15 |

KEROSENE.

Sales during the past week have amounted to 22,000 cases, and deliveries to 16,000 cases Oil. The Market is a shade firmer for Devoo and Comet, but Stella brand is only saleable at the low rates. The *Clarissa B. Carter* has taken her cargo down to Hongkong, but the *Heracles* has arrived, and will probably discharge her 47,000 cases here.

| | PER CASE. |
|----------|-----------|
| Devoo - | \$1.68 |
| Comet - | 1.65 |
| Stella - | 1.48 |

SUGAR.

With a limited enquiry, transactions are necessarily on a small scale, holders firmly demanding the following rates:—

| | PER PICUL. |
|-----------------|----------------|
| White, No. 1 - | \$8.00 to 8.35 |
| White, No. 2 - | 6.75 to 7.00 |
| White, No. 3 - | 6.10 to 6.50 |
| White, No. 4 - | 5.80 to 6.00 |
| White, No. 5 - | 4.60 to 4.75 |
| Brown Formosa - | 4.25 to 4.30 |

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

Our last was issued 24th instant, since which date business has continued on much the same basis as then reported, and Settlements for the six days reach 700 piculs. As was expected, the *Oceanic* took a good quantity, her cargo of 855 bales bringing the total Export up to 18,546 bales, against 13,412 bales to date last season. Direct shipments to New York by the *Oceanic* were 313 bales, making the Export to the United States total 6,192 bales, against 4,333 bales at same time last year. No sooner had the American mail gone than buying—especially of Filatures—again set in with renewed vigour, and Stocks are still further reduced. The total Stock of all kinds in Yokohama is estimated to be 4,200 piculs. Prices on the whole are without much quotable change,

the tendency for most descriptions being rather firmer.

Hanks.—Purchases have been light, holders trying to establish a slight advance, which, buyers having pretty well supplied their present wants, refuse to pay. With *kinsatsu* tending downwards and a Stock of nearly 2,300 piculs, it will be difficult to force prices up unless the tone of telegraphic advices should improve. Among the reported Settlements we note Shinshu, fair to good, \$450; Uyeda, \$450; Yechigo, \$440; Maibash, \$425; and Hachioji, \$415.

Filatures.—The bulk of the trade has been done in these kinds and Re-reels. Prices are without any quotable change, but may be considered fairly easy at the figures given below. Stocks, of good Silks especially, are reduced, and anything above a fair No. 1 in 14/16 deniers commands its price. The current demand has again run upon No. 2 kinds. Among the transactions are chronicled a small lot of Oshu filature Nihonmatsu at \$625; Tenriusha, \$595; ordinary No. 1 Shinshu sorts, \$580; seconds, \$560; Koshu, \$550.

Re-reels.—A fair amount of business has been done in these, and several parcels are reported to have gone forward on native account by last American steamer. Five Girl chop has been taken at about \$567½ for a large parcel. Medium Shinshu at \$550 have, however, been most in demand. Bushu, \$530; Kawaichi, \$525.

Kakeda.—Rather more doing in these on basis of "Sano Musume" \$595, \$565, and \$525, for firsts, seconds, and thirds respectively. "Niwateri" have been done at \$520; Common, \$500; Inferior, \$480.

Oshu.—After the large purchases reported last week there has been a lull in this Market. One parcel of Sendai has changed hands at \$465, and another of better quality brought \$485. A few Hamatsuki at \$420 make up the balance.

QUOTATIONS.

| | |
|-----------------------------------|--------------|
| Hanks—No. 1 - | \$480 to 490 |
| Hanks—No. 2 (Shinshu) - | 475 to 480 |
| Hanks—No. 2 (Joshu) - | 465 to 470 |
| Hanks—No. 2½ (Shinshu) - | 455 to 465 |
| Hanks—No. 2½ (Joshu) - | 440 to 450 |
| Hanks—No. 3 - | 420 to 430 |
| Hanks—No. 3½ - | 400 to 410 |
| Filatures—Extra - | 610 to 620 |
| Filatures—No. 1, 10/13 deniers - | 590 to 600 |
| Filatures—No. 1, 14/16 deniers - | 575 to 595 |
| Filatures—No. 1½, 14/17 deniers - | 570 to 580 |
| Filatures—No. 2, 10/15 deniers - | 560 to 570 |
| Filatures—No. 2, 14/18 deniers - | 560 to 570 |
| Filatures—No. 3, 12/20 deniers - | 540 to 550 |
| Re-reels—No. 1, 14/16 deniers - | 570 to 580 |
| Re-reels—No. 1½, 14/17 deniers - | 555 to 565 |
| Re-reels—No. 2, 14/18 deniers - | 540 to 550 |
| Re-reels—No. 3, 14/20 deniers - | 520 to 530 |
| Kakedas—Extra - | 595 |
| Kakedas—No. 1 - | 565 to 575 |
| Kakedas—No. 2 - | 530 to 540 |
| Kakedas—No. 3 - | 500 to 510 |
| Oshu Sendai—No. 2½ - | 460 to 470 |
| Hamatsuki—No. 1, 2 - | 455 to 465 |
| Hamatsuki—No. 3, 4 - | 400 to 420 |
| Sodai—No. 2½ - | 400 to 410 |

Export Tables Raw Silk to 30th Nov. 1883:—

| | SEASON 1882-83. | 1883-83. | 1881-82. |
|--------------------|-----------------|----------|----------|
| | BILES. | BILES. | BILES. |
| France and Italy - | 10,749 | 7,016 | 3,349 |
| America - | 6,192 | 4,333 | 2,347 |
| England - | 1,605 | 2,063 | 1,793 |
| Total - | 18,546 | 13,412 | 7,494 |

WASTE SILK.

After the large transactions noted in our last, business has much fallen off, buyers apparently are busy inspecting and sorting their previous purchases. Arrivals are but moderate and Stocks are creeping up a little; still the assortment is not very extensive, more than half the total Stock on offer consisting of Medium to Low Kibiso, including Neri. Prices, except for the last-mentioned kinds, are no lower; indeed some special requirements in high-class Wastes are hard to fill at our top quotations.

Pierced Cocoons.—Nothing done in these; there is a Stock of about 150 piculs, Common, in the Market and further quantities are reported to exist up country. Some of these are said to be of better quality, but until they appear but little can be said of them.

Noshi-ito.—About 100 piculs have found buyers, all being of Joshu province and ranging from \$78 to \$83. In addition to this there has been a small

purchase of Koshu filature at \$125. Stocks of *Noshi* generally are reduced to 300 piculs, and good qualities are scarce.

Kibiso.—Filature kinds are in request but are scarce; with larger arrivals and rather lower prices, business would ensue. We notice purchases in Shinshu filature at \$115. Koshu and Yechiu \$110 to \$105. In Hanks Kibiso there has not been much doing. A parcel of Shinshu, Common at \$40, also some Oshu Sendai at \$86 to \$80, have found purchasers. Nothing done in Neri.

Mawatta.—No transactions this week. Stock is estimated at 260 piculs with prices unchanged.

QUOTATIONS.

| | |
|----------------------------------|-------------|
| Pierced Cocoons—Medium to Fair - | \$90 to 100 |
| Noshi-ito—Filature, Best - | 150 |
| Noshi-ito—Filature, Good - | 130 |
| Noshi-ito—Filature, Medium - | 110 |
| Noshi-ito—Oshu, Good to Best - | 140 to 145 |
| Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Best - | 110 |
| Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Good - | 100 |
| Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Medium - | 90 |
| Noshi-ito—Joshu, Best - | 100 |
| Noshi-ito—Joshu, Good - | 85 |
| Noshi-ito—Joshu, Ordinary - | 75 |
| Kibiso—Filature, Best selected - | 115 to 120 |
| Kibiso—Filature, Seconds - | 110 to 105 |
| Kibiso—Oshu, Good - | 95 |
| Kibiso—Shinshu, Best - | 75 |
| Kibiso—Shinshu, Seconds - | 50 up |
| Kibiso—Joshu, Fair to Common - | 50 to 30 |
| Kibiso—Hachioji, Medium to Low - | 20 to 15 |
| Kibiso—Neri, Good to Common - | 20 to 12½ |
| Mawatta—Good to Best - | 175 to 185 |

Exchange.—In spite of arrivals of specie, news of higher rates ruling in China has tended to harden quotations here; and the tendency is against shippers. Credits are firm at:—London 4 m/s, 3/9½; New York 30 d/s, 91½; 60 d/s, 92; Paris 6 m/s, fcs. 4.82. *Kinsatsu* fluctuate a little according to the business passing in Exports and may be quoted 112 to 113 per \$100.

TEA.

The animation which characterised our Tea Market when last reviewed, ceased on that date. Since then only a small business of 710 piculs, principally of Medium and Good Medium sorts, have to be reported at the undemoted quotations. Receipts during the week aggregate but 1,070 piculs, making a total of 139,612 piculs since the opening of the season, against 156,287 piculs in 1882. The cargo from this port of the O. & O. steamship *Oceanic* despatched on the 27th ultimo, comprising 246,549 lbs.:—For New York, 855 lbs.; for Chicago, 21,973 lbs.; for California, 109,379 lbs.; and for Canada, 114,342 lbs. The steamship *Canton* which sailed on the 21st, also took 279,048 lbs., viz.:—For New York, 123,308 lbs.; and for Canada, 155,740 lbs. At the close the Market is quiet and nothing doing.

QUOTATIONS.

| | |
|---------------|--------------|
| Common - | \$10 & under |
| Good Common - | 12 to 14 |
| Medium - | 16 to 18 |
| Good Medium - | 19 to 21 |
| Fine - | 24 & up'ds |

EXCHANGE.

Rates have again advanced. Transactions consist principally of Private Paper, there being no demand for Bank. Silver remains unchanged at 50½ d. per ounce.

| | |
|-------------------------------------------|----------|
| Sterling—Bank Bills on demand - | 3/8½ |
| Sterling—Bank 4 months' sight - | 3/9½ |
| Sterling—Private 4 months' sight - | 3/9½ |
| Sterling—Private 6 months' sight - | 3/9½ |
| On Paris—Bank sight - | 4/70 |
| On Paris—Private 6 months' sight - | 4/82½ |
| On Hongkong—Bank sight - | 1/0 0/d. |
| On Hongkong—Private 10 days' sight - | 1/0 0/d. |
| On Shanghai—Bank sight - | 73 |
| On Shanghai—Private 10 days' sight - | 73½ |
| On New York—Bank Bills on demand - | 90½ |
| On New York—Private 30 days' sight - | 91½ |
| On San Francisco—Bank Bills on demand - | 90½ |
| On San Francisco—Private 30 days' sight - | 91½ |

KINSATSU QUOTATIONS.

The following table shows the rate of the day, and the fluctuation during the past week:—

| | |
|----------------------------|------|
| Monday, November 26th - | 111 |
| Tuesday, November 27th - | 112 |
| Wednesday, November 28th - | 112½ |
| Thursday, November 29th - | 112½ |
| Friday, November 30th - | 111½ |
| Saturday, December 1st - | 110½ |

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YOKOHAMA, DECEMBER 8TH, 1883.

[\$24 PER ANNUM.]

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The Japan Weekly Mail.

"FAIS CE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL," must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith. It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, DECEMBER 8TH, 1883.

DEATH.

At No. 51, on December 2nd, Captain EDWARD PIERCE, late of the schooner *Pringle*.

On Advent Sunday morning at the Parsonage, BRENDA, infant daughter of the Rev. E. Champneys Irvine.

WEEKLY NOTES.

REUTER, true to his well established character, has not failed to supply us with an apparently important piece of news in the form of a veritable enigma. He loves to puzzle the public, and is not without opportunities to indulge the propensity. On the night of the 6th instant he sent us a message to the effect that "France, Russia, and the United States had agreed to co-operate, and that the English and German Governments would either remain neutral or act as protectors of China." Nothing could will be more perplexing. For though it is possible to conceive the contingency of Russia throwing in her lot with France against China, the entry of the United States into such a coalition seems scarcely credible. If, on the other hand, we attach to "co-operation" the only reasonable

interpretation, namely consensus with a view to a conference and the discovery of an amicable exit for France and China from their difficulties, then that England and Germany should stand aloof appears inexplicable. There is, however, another way of reading the telegram, though it is a way that refuses to adapt itself wholly to the terms of the message. In the event of war between France and China—an event which we do not yet regard as imminent, but which is certainly too possible to render preparation unnecessary—the position of the foreign residents in the Middle Kingdom, will become exceedingly precarious. Through the open ports not only will China be able to procure supplies of arms and ammunition, but so long as these ports are unmolested, her foreign trade will continue with little interruption, and the revenue she derives from it will still be available. To blockade these important commercial emporia would be to wound her in a very vital part, and France might be expected to make the attempt at an early stage of military operations. But its consequences could scarcely fail to involve complications of a most serious nature, and, further, to expose the foreign residents to dangers against which all ought to make common cause. It is the plain duty of the great Powers to be prepared for this contingency, and to determine among themselves, beforehand, to what lengths they will carry concerted measures for the protection of their nationals, that is to say, of neutrals in China. Such a question bristles with difficulties that might refuse to be adjusted at the moment of action unless the method of adjustment were determined in advance. We are inclined, then, to think that European Governments have perceived the wisdom of providing against this contingency, and that Reuter's Message of Thursday alludes to diplomatic preliminaries probably now in progress. The only trouble about this reading of the telegram is the grouping of the Powers. For the United States ought certainly to be on the side of Germany and England. Russia might, and probably would, object to the policy of guaranteeing the protection of neutrals resident in an Eastern Empire at war with a Western State. But America's policy ought to be of a different nature, and we are of opinion that what Reuter meant to tell us is something to the following effect:—France and Russia have agreed that the former's action, in the event of a war with China, shall be quite unfettered, but the Governments of Germany, the United States and England are in favour of jointly guaranteeing

the protection of neutrals resident in China." For the present, however, all this must remain a matter of conjecture.

H.B.M.'s SUPREME COURT for China and Japan has confirmed, in every point, the finding of H.B.M.'s Court for Japan in the case of Hiroshima v. Blakeway. Our readers will remember that Blakeway, acting as agent for Schnell, sold the wreck of the M.M. steamship *Nii* without knowing that it had already been given by Schnell to Hiroshima. The latter subsequently brought suit against the buyer, a Japanese, in the Japanese Courts; but, since the deed of sale bore the Consular stamp and was in all respects valid as a document, the Courts declined to set it aside. Hiroshima's only recourse was, therefore, against Blakeway. She cited him before the British Court and obtained a judgment for 1,000 yen. Great sympathy was felt for Blakeway, inasmuch as he had evidently acted *bona fide* in Schnell's interests, and had, moreover, made every reasonable effort, subsequently, to repair his inadvertent error. After the judgment, a sum of 500 yen was tendered by way of compromise, and this being refused, it was determined to appeal the case to Shanghai. On what equitable grounds this action was taken we have never been able to discover. The main point involved was, whether the plaintiff's failure in the Japanese Courts against a Japanese barred her action in an English Court against an Englishman. The Japanese defendant had purchased from the Englishman, with all due observance of legal form, and in all good faith, a certain chattel, the property of Hiroshima. The whole fault lay with the seller, and as it was not within the competence of the Japanese Courts to adjudicate upon that fault: the alternatives were, either that the purchaser should forfeit his lawful acquisition and the price he had given for it, which would have been manifestly unfair; or that Hiroshima's property should be alienated without her assent, which would have been a novel principle; or that the alienator should be obliged by his own laws to make restitution, which is not an uncommon variety of justice. Except to determine the amount of Hiroshima's just claim, one is puzzled to understand what Blakeway can have expected to gain by allowing the matter to be taken into the British Court at all. But that, after a decision had been given in that Court, the further delay and expense of an appeal should have been incurred because the plaintiff refused to accept half the sum awarded to her, is an issue

which will not redound much to the credit of British justice in Japanese eyes. We should like to know by how much the net proceeds of the sale of the steamship *Niil* will eventually help to swell the bulk of Hiroshima's worldly wealth.

ONE of our Yokohama vernacular contemporaries publishes a statement to the effect that, in negotiating a treaty of commerce with Korea, Sir Harry Parkes insists upon the free introduction of opium into the country. Not many persons will be found to believe this. Sir Harry Parkes has never been credited with any very strong anti-opium sentiments. He is understood to think, like some other distinguished Englishmen, that China's objection to the importation of the foreign drug does not deserve serious consideration until she proves her sincerity by taking some steps to stop the growth of the poppy in her own territories. But, between this and an attempt to insist upon including opium in the list of legal imports into a country where its use is as yet unknown, there is a vast difference. We cannot suppose for a moment that Sir Harry has adopted such a policy. What does seem possible, however, is that he may have suggested the justice and expediency of imposing the same restrictions on the import of the Chinese, as of the foreign, drug. It would plainly be both useless and unfair to exclude opium imported by English traders while admitting that imported by Chinese, and so far as we know there is no provision against the latter in Korea. We should be glad to know the *Mainichi Shimbun's* authority for the action it attributes to Her Majesty's Minister. Sir Harry Parkes is not the exponent of a very liberal policy; but, among the many arbitrary acts that have been laid to his charge, there is none which furnishes a precedent for the course now attributed to him.

THE *New York Herald* contains the following:—

Mr. Von Möllendorff, vice-president of the Korean Foreign Office, in a letter dated at Seoul, July 14, proposes an international exhibition in the Korean capital. The letter has been communicated to the Department of State at Washington and copies have been forwarded to the Chamber of Commerce in this city. Mr. Von Möllendorff says:—

"With a view of developing the commercial and industrial resources of the Kingdom of Corea, and in order to facilitate trade, it is proposed to establish at Seoul (the capital) a museum in which, among other things, will be exposed samples and models of articles of foreign export, such as machinery, mining, and agricultural implements, geological instruments, and the varied material of every description likely to prove of interest and benefit to a population of 12,000,000 souls emerging from a most primitive state.

"These articles will be catalogued in English and Chinese, and have attached the names of contributing or manufacturing firms. The merchants and manufacturers of the United States of America are invited to contribute to this museum. All articles should be addressed to the care of H. Suethlage, Esq., Shanghai, China, and all communications, catalogues, and price lists, should be sent direct to me at Seoul. The Korean government should have the privilege of purchasing these articles at the prices named on the invoices. It is hoped by this system to develop a trade to mutual advantage; and as any orders which may be the outgrowth of it can be sent by us direct to manufacturers, the aid of middlemen will not be needed, and American firms having no representative in the East will be largely benefited thereby."

To ordinary readers Mr. Von Möllendorff's proposal does not sound very like an "International

Exhibition," though a store in Korea containing American goods would certainly be an "exhibition" and might possibly be called "international." We confess that, if we are asked to record our impression of this scheme without reserve, we should feel obliged to describe it as a device for establishing a very large agency in the hands of gentlemen who shall be nameless. The "interest and benefit" of the "twelve million souls emerging from a most primitive state" are excellent aims, and the privilege promised to the Korean Government—the privilege of buying the exhibits at invoiced prices—is most valuable, but on the whole the "interest and benefit" do not appear to be all on one side, and the privilege of selling the exhibits is not without good points.

ONE of the inconveniences entailed by the spasmodic nature of telegraphic intelligence is that we are kept in a state of perpetual excitement and uncertainty. By the wires there are conveyed to us facts of special salience only, and when the ordinary means of communication subsequently bring us the less remarkable details, we are apt to confuse the proper sequence of events and to imagine that things are actually happening in the order their recorders temporarily give them. This is notably the case with regard to Tonquinese news. A fortnight ago the telegraph told us that China had issued a manifesto announcing her resolve to regard any French advance upon Bac-ninh as a declaration of war. This sounded serious enough, but by no means hopeless. It did not follow that the French forces would attack Bac-ninh. Quite the contrary, indeed. For though they might be strong enough to garrison a dozen places in Tonquin, and at the same time carry on a series of skirmishes with a band of so-called pirates, they were certainly not strong enough to engage in an open struggle with the armies China could easily march to the banks of the Red River. Thus, the stout attitude taken by the Cabinet at Peking seemed rather favorable than unfavorable to the prospects of peace, since there had always been grave danger in the propinquity of the Chinese and French forces while the former were sympathizing with, and secretly helping, the enemies of the latter, and the latter under no acknowledged restraint with regard to the former; whereas the French would now have excellent reason, as well, perhaps, as positive orders, to avoid any collision until the arrival of large reinforcements guaranteed them against losing all the positions they had so hardly won. In fact, after China's manifesto, the only wise course for Admiral Courbet's little army to pursue would be to hold their own, and do nothing calculated to invite risks they could not possibly hope to control. But while the public was thus arguing, and gradually overcoming the uneasiness caused by the telegraphic intelligence, there followed mail news that preparations for the attack of Bac-ninh were in active progress. Immediately, people inferred that China's ultimatum had been disregarded, and that Admiral Courbet was

about to proceed with the occupation of the disputed territory, whatever complications might ensue. But it is to be observed that these supposed designs of advancing against the Chinese positions were not subsequent, but prior, to the issue of China's manifesto. We are not yet in possession of any definite intelligence as to the effect produced upon France's counsels by that manifesto. Its date was November the 20th; and on December the 1st, the Committee of the Chamber of Deputies issued their report on the Tonquin affair, recommending an amicable settlement with China. So far, then, from considering the prospects darker than they were, and despite the despondent utterances of several of our Chinese contemporaries, we are disposed to see much hope in the position. We believe that French good sense only waited to reassert itself until Chinese policy assumed a really unequivocal shape. There is now so little substantial difference between the claims of the two Powers, that except from sheer love of fighting they have no cause to engage in a war involving not alone heavy sacrifices for both, but also complications whose extent it is difficult to gauge. That France should continue to prepare reinforcements means nothing. In any case she must send out more men, unless China definitely undertakes the responsibility of pacifying the country. The Black Flags seem to be as active as they ever were. Twice—the 12th and 17th of November—they attacked Hai-duong. On the first occasion, the French garrison was not strong enough to leave the citadel. The Black Flags, therefore, had it all their own way. They pillaged and burned the town to their hearts' content. On the second occasion, they assaulted the citadel itself, and though they were ultimately repulsed owing to the fortunate arrival of a gunboat, the garrison lost 28 out of its total of 150 men. Hai-duong lies on the Taibigne River, which, it will be remembered, forms a part of the limits China proposes for French occupation, and which at the same time constitutes the water-way between Haiphong and Hanoi. Obviously, therefore, the footing obtained by the French troops in the upper portion of the Red River delta is of a very precarious nature, and they are much too wise to imperil it still further by prematurely engaging in an open struggle with the Chinese forces.

A NOT less important feature than even China's resolute manifesto, is the publication of the decree said to have been secretly issued in the name of the Emperor of the Middle Kingdom appointing the Chief of the Black Flags, Liu Jung-fu, to be Commander-in-Chief in Tonquin, and instructing the Governor of Yunnan to coöperate with him. That some step of this nature was taken long ago by China, we never had any doubt. It was easy to see that on the successful resistance of the Black Flags depended her best chance of persuading France to be content with smaller results than those originally contemplated. To keep the foreign invaders at bay without openly crossing

swords with them, until they should consent to negotiate on a reasonable basis, was a wise and legitimate policy from China's point of view. She could not afford to neglect such aids as the Black Flags, and in secretly assisting them, she acted as any Western Power would have acted in her place. We speak entirely apart from her title to interfere at all in Tonquin. That is another question altogether. But, so soon as it appears that the leader of the Black Flags, himself a Chinaman, holds a commission from the Government at Peking, that Government becomes directly responsible for his conduct *vis-à-vis* the French. In short, if the decree referred to above was really issued, it transforms the Black Flags from fugitive rebels into loyal Chinese subjects fighting on China's behalf and with China's authority. But was the decree ever issued in the form reported, or, if issued, does not its secret nature enable China to evade its consequences, should she be so minded? The limits of diplomatic subterfuge are wide. Unless we are much mistaken it will prove a very difficult task to saddle China with any responsibility that can be avoided by equivocation or point-blank denial. It is one thing for a foreign newspaper to publish what purports to be a decree issued by the ruler of the Middle Kingdom; another, and a very different, thing for a foreign Government to obtain conclusive proof of that decree's genuineness. If France wishes to push matters to extremities, she may renew her charges against the Peking Cabinet on the strength of this new rumour, or fact, whichever it be, but the chief significance of the thing in our eyes is that it furnishes additional evidence of China's resolve to maintain her position. There is no mistaking that resolve now; and, since France's persistence in mistaking it has been the chief obstacle to an amicable settlement, good may after all result from this rare indiscretion on the part of the Chinese officials.

NOTES.

THERE is some distinction in belonging to an island whose suzerainty is disputed by two empires, but the privilege is not without perils also. A correspondent of the *North China Daily News*, writing from Ningpo, says that the local authorities have in custody ten Riukiuan who were picked up at sea by a Chinese junk four months ago. The Riukiuan originally belonged to a partly of fifteen, but five of their number had been drowned, or killed by want and exposure, and the survivors were rescued after drifting about for 18 days in a water-logged boat. They were landed at Changhai, where they have been kept in custody since July, the Cheshien of Ningpo maintaining that they are Chinese, not Japanese, subjects. The contention is wanting in relevancy. To whichever empire the shipwrecked men owe allegiance, it is certain that their homes are in the Riukiu Islands, where, as the unfortunate cast-aways tearfully explain, they all have wives and families anxiously awaiting their return. What the Chinese hope to effect by detaining them at

Ningpo we are at a loss to conceive, unless there is a distinct desire to reopen the old trouble. Japan, presumably, will require the men's release, and if China replies by alleging her right to deal with them after the arbitrary methods practiced towards her own subjects, there is no telling where the complication may end. It is to be hoped, however, that the statesmen of the Middle Kingdom are too prudent to adopt such a clumsy and unwarrantable method of reasserting a half-forgotten claim.

THE letter and telegram published below afford an interesting evidence of the community of sympathy that is constantly growing up between Japan and the Western world. A calamity even more terrible than that which has evoked this munificent expression of fellow-feeling, is still fresh in the memory of the present generation, and may perhaps have had some share in inspiring Prince Arisugawa's initiative. But however this may be, such an act of mercy is most pleasant to record. It will help to remind the people of Italy, and through them Europeans generally, that in seeking admission to the comity of nations, Japan is not more anxious to reap the benefits of equality than she is willing to discharge the duties of fellowship.

FOREIGN OFFICE, TOKIO,
Nov. 26, 1883.

MY DEAR MR. LANCIARREZ.—The deep sympathy entertained by His Majesty the Emperor and the Government of Japan for the sufferers at Ischia, induced His Imperial Highness Prince Arisugawa to undertake the pleasant duty of giving expression to the feeling by the collection of a fund in aid of those who were rendered destitute by the terrible calamity.

The subscription list has been closed, and as it was believed that any aid which might be tendered should be made available without delay, in order to give it the full measure of benefit, Mr. Asano has, I am happy to state, been instructed by telegraph, as per enclosure, to pay at once the sum of 10,000 francs, that being the amount contributed by the Imperial Family and Japanese officers.

I am, Dear Sir,
Your obedient Servant,

(Signed) INOUE KAORU.

ASANO, Japanese Minister, Rome.

Pay out of funds in hand to Minister for Foreign Affairs the sum of 10,000 francs, as contribution from the Imperial Family and Japanese Officers, under the initiative movement taken by H.I.H. Prince Arisugawa in aid of the sufferers at Ischia, for whom deep sympathy is felt. Particulars and remittance by mail.

(Signed) INOUE.

A LARGE audience assembled in Union Church on Friday, 30th ultimo, on the occasion of a public temperance meeting, held under the auspices of the Alpha and Neptune Lodges of Good Templars. Captain J. S. Skerrett, of the U. S. flagship *Richmond*, took the chair, and called the meeting to order at a few minutes past 8 o'clock. After prayer by the Rev. W. C. Davisson, the Chairman stated that the meeting had been called for the purpose of considering what could be done to restrain the sale of intoxicating liquors in Yokohama. He spoke of the recognized evils flowing from the present unrestricted sale of all manner of poisonous stuff, and expressed his hearty sympathy with any movement which tended to lessen such evils. He then introduced the Rev. Mr. Correll, of Tokyo, who occupied some forty minutes in discussing the general question of total absti-

nence, the history of the temperance movement, and the special merits of the Independent Order of Good Templars. Several songs and a reading were followed by the closing speech of the evening, delivered by Chaplain Crawford, of the *Richmond*. His speech had the merit of being short. He discussed the responsibility of communities for the evils existing in their midst, and appealed to those present to forward the cause of temperance and good order by personal example and effort, and the employment of all possible means for the suppression of the traffic in poisons, carried on in that section of the city popularly known as "Blood Town." A vote of thanks was extended to the Trustees of Union Church for the use of the building, and the meeting closed with an ode and benediction. The evening's entertainment was certainly enjoyable; but, judged from the stand-point of the object announced in the advertisement, it was not a success. It was expected that some organization would be attempted, but no movement in that direction was made, and no suggestions offered as to the means by which the desired reforms might be brought about. It is a disgrace to our community that no restriction whatever should be placed upon the sale of liquors by irresponsible parties, and we wish that something could be done to prevent the daily scenes of violence and disorder in our streets, which bear such sorrowful testimony to the freedom with which bad rum is dispensed to any one who has the money to buy it.

WE have long ceased to conjecture the sources whence some of the vernacular journals derive their information. That they should err in their attempts to follow the course of foreign events, is not wonderful; but the airy fancies they suffer themselves seriously to record concerning matters which the most trifling exercise of care and intelligence would enable them to verify, imply a scanty sense of the importance they attach to journalistic responsibilities. "Rumour is a pipe blown by surmises, jealousies, conjectures," but chiefly, we fear by jealousies in the case of those Opposition sheets which would fain persuade their readers that a sudden predilection for public works is in danger of undoing all the good accomplished by the careful economy of the past two years. Recently one of these writers told us, in the columns of the *Hochi Shimbun*, that it was in official contemplation to raise an internal loan of twenty-five million *yen* for the purpose of building railways. The rate of interest in Japan at present is so high that such a measure seems as ill-advised as it would certainly prove inconvenient in its consequences. But in considering the action of Japanese financiers, allowance must be made for a factor lying somewhat beyond the domain of ordinary political economy. We mean their almost romantic repugnance to a foreign loan. There is a feeling abroad that the treatment this country receives at the hands of Western nations is not of a nature to warrant it in contracting any new liabilities towards them. From time to

time, of recent years, the foreign public has been stirred to a mood of careless protest, and occasionally of unsympathetic ridicule, by Japanese complaints that Japan is not regarded as an independent State. Yet it is beyond all question that she has not yet accomplished a measure of independence sufficient to satisfy the aspirations of a high-spirited people. Some of the most important privileges of independence are still denied to her, and their denial prevents the removal of barriers which belong to the days when her idea of independence was isolation. The whole nation, or at any rate the whole body of the upper classes, is animated by a desire to recover these privileges, and connected with that desire is a somewhat impractical reluctance to figure before the world in any dependent rôle, even though solid pecuniary advantage be in immediate prospect. Recognising, as every moderately careful observer must recognise, the existence of this mood, we do not find it impossible to believe that the apparent necessity of building railways and providing other facilities of transport might, at any moment, invest the idea of an internal loan with fictitious attractions. But there is a wide interval between any project of this nature, and the scheme attributed three days ago to the Minister of Finance, namely, the re-issue of twenty-five millions of *Kinsatsu*. By steadily reducing the bulk of the paper in circulation and refraining from all speculative attempts to temporarily remedy the results of inflation, the Government has at last reduced depreciation to a manageable condition. Nobody believes, we doubt whether even the *Hochi Shimbun* itself believes, that the smallest idea is entertained of sacrificing these results to a gain problematical under any circumstances, and wholly out of proportion to the evils its pursuit by such means would entail. The country has suffered quite enough by currency fluctuations. It has lost not ten or twenty millions but ten or twenty times as much, through the want of a stable medium of exchange, and it has not even yet begun to emerge from the commercial depression which has accompanied every nation's return to sound money. Were the Government again to invite the disasters of inflation for the sake of building a few miles of railway, it would amply deserve the discredit which the Radical organs unjustly seek to fix upon it by anticipation.

It would appear that the use of tobacco is by no means growing less. An anti-tobacco society recently formed at Paris, has published a pamphlet showing that during the first half of the present year the quantity of the leaf sold throughout France exceeded the quantity sold during the corresponding period of 1882 by nearly a million pounds, and that the additional cost to the French people was four and a half millions of francs. The enormous sums expended by Western peoples upon alcohol and tobacco deserve greater attention than they generally receive. Few persons know, or hearing would be disposed to believe, that during the past twelve years the inhabitants of the United Kingdom

have spent one hundred and thirty-four millions sterling annually upon liquor, and that the money thus squandered is increasing in a much more rapid ratio than the population. In connection with this subject we cannot do better than reproduce an interesting letter which appeared recently in the columns of the *Manchester Guardian*:-

Taking the three years ending 1852 and comparing them with the three years ending 1882, I find our trade to our principal colonies has developed as follows:-

| | Three years ending 1852. | Three years ending 1882. |
|------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| India..... | £ 20,748,117 | £ 88,754,448 |
| Australia..... | £ 9,431,814 | £ 28,308,806 |
| Canada..... | £ 10,114,132 | £ 25,819,453 |
| Cape of Good Hope..... | £ 2,612,876 | £ 21,198,314 |
| Total..... | £ 43,107,339 | £ 174,061,021 |

From the above figures it will be seen that during the last three years the aggregate trade of our four principal colonies was more than four times as much as thirty years ago.

The following table gives the value of our aggregate exports to all parts of the world, including our colonies, neutral markets, and other countries. I give the figures for each year:-

| | 1850..... | 1851..... | 1852..... | 1880..... | 1881..... | 1882..... |
|------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| | £ 271,367,885 | £ 274,448,722 | £ 278,176,854 | £ 323,060,446 | £ 334,022,878 | £ 341,497,162 |
| Total..... | £ 271,367,885 | £ 274,448,722 | £ 278,176,854 | £ 323,060,446 | £ 334,022,878 | £ 341,497,162 |

The above table shows that the total of our foreign trade is more than three times as great as thirty years ago, and that if we deduct the figures relating to our colonies it will still leave our trade with other countries nearly three times as great as thirty years ago. During the last few months, and indeed for a year or two, trade has been depressed. Is this due to a falling off in our foreign trade? What are the facts? Our total exports for the three years ending 1879 amounted to £ 583,773,737, whilst for the three years ending 1882 they reached £ 603,550,286, being an increase for the three years of £ 115,271,549, or 19·7 per cent.

This brings us to the question which most immediately concerns Manchester—the cotton trade. The Board of Trade returns show that our total exports of cotton goods for the three years ending 1852 were 4,425,601,644 yards, whilst for the three years ending 1882 the amount reached 13,621,307,000 yards, or above three times as much as thirty years ago. But what about recent years? Has not the cotton trade lately declined? The following table, giving our exports of cotton goods for the three years ending 1882 as compared with the three years ending 1879, will show the facts:-

| | 1879..... | 1880..... | 1881..... | 1882..... |
|------------|----------------|----------------|---------------|---------------|
| Yards..... | 3,537,808,850 | 3,618,661,300 | 3,724,448,800 | 4,494,445,000 |
| Total..... | 11,881,134,950 | 12,821,309,000 | | |

Exhibiting an increase of 21 per cent. in our cotton trade during the last three years, and being one-fifth more exports than were ever sent abroad during any three years in the history of the cotton trade. If we take the eight months ending August of the present year, I find we exported 3,042,902,600 yards of cotton cloth, as against 2,861,179,000 for the same eight months in 1882.

Taking the aggregate of the trade of the world, both imports and exports, with its population of 1,400,000,000, I find that in 1880 (the last returns published) it reached in value to £ 2,935,767,000; and of this amount the share which our little island, with its population of 35,000,000, got was £ 634,239,000, or above one-fifth of the whole, and yet our people are in distress and poverty for want of trade.

Here let me refer to one or two facts relating to our poverty. In 1852, with a foreign trade of £ 78,000,000, we paid in actual relief of the poor in England and Wales £ 4,807,685; whilst in 1882, with wages from 30 to 80 per cent. higher and a foreign trade of £ 241,000,000, we paid £ 8,232,472, being an increase of 68 per cent. in money paid for actual relief, whilst our population had only increased 43 per cent. From the 42d report of the Registrar-General (see page 27) I find that of the total deaths in the year 1879, one out of every fifteen occurred in a union workhouse; and in the city of London, the wealthiest city in the world and the capital of this Christian country, one person out of every nine who died, died in the workhouse. I could multiply these facts to a great extent, but your space will not allow. As Dr. Pankhurst says, "There is a mass of misery in this country," and every Christian man and patriot ought to hang down his head in grief and shame. The question is, whence comes it, and what is the remedy for it? We have an enormous foreign trade, wages are comparatively high, food is cheap, and money, the machinery by which trade is carried on, is plentiful and cheap. We have thus all the conditions for good trade, and yet it is depressed; and we are burdened with a pauperism and misery that is distressing to contemplate. Under such circumstances our distress and poverty can only arise from our dissipation and from the waste of our resources. During the twelve years ending 1852 our drink bill averaged £ 72,000,000 yearly, whereas during the last twelve years it has averaged £ 134,000,000, or, with an increase of 43 per cent. in our population, we have had an increase of 88 per cent. in our drinking. In the Anti-Corn Law agitation Mr. Bright and others used to picture the happy condition of our homes when the prosperity which would follow Free Trade should dawn upon us; the people were very much inclined to bid good-bye to poverty

and the workhouse, and yet, whilst in 1852 we had 106,000 paupers in workhouses in England and Wales, in 1882 we had 190,000, or 70 per cent. more, and yet our trade has been developed and our wealth augmented to a degree unparalleled in the world's history. But, surrounded as the people have been by the temptations of the liquor shop, the money which should have blessed them and stimulated our home trade has been spent in intemperance, and so has cursed and impoverished and often ruined them; and what with our enormous expenditure upon drink, with the burdens of crime, pauperism, vagrancy, lunacy, disease, and the other resulting evils added thereto, the purchasing fund which should have enriched our home trade has been impoverished. With £ 134,000,000, or £ 4 per head, spent in drink, and about £ 14,000,000, or 1s. per head, spent in cotton goods, how could it be otherwise? And yet Dr. Pankhurst, bewailing our pauperism, seeing 30,000 people in distress in the district where he is speaking, travels to India, to our other colonies, and to the neutral markets of the world for his remedy. He is concerned to get our goods upon the back of the Hindoos, but why not also clothe the poor children in St. Michael's Ward? Why go moaning and pining about more foreign trade when we have such an enormous proportion of the world's trade now, and when we do so little for ourselves at home? Let the causes at home that destroy our trade, that desolate our homes, that impoverish and reduce our people to misery and death to ruin, be dealt with, and then there will neither be 30,000 nor 300 persons in distress either in St. Michael's Ward or any other ward in Manchester. And when the people of Manchester, whose votes he is seeking, ask him to support such a change in the law as will give them the right to protect themselves from this dire evil, Dr. Pankhurst says:—"No; you shall not have the right of self-protection; you must bear the burdens, suffer the evils, pay the taxes, and endure all the misery and woe that the traffic may entail upon you; but I reject your claim to self-protection. You can give your votes to me (Dr. Pankhurst), and I, who am the champion of 'Government for the people and by the people,' will get the law altered so as to send down to Manchester a judge—a lawyer like myself—and you the 400,000 citizens of Manchester, must go cap in hand and state your grievances to this great man, and no doubt he will take them into his serious consideration." Such is the proposal offered to Manchester by a man who needs no suffrages on the plea that he is a Liberal.

One word more. The people of Manchester have been represented by a Conservative, Mr. Birley, who sought to conserve what was good and get rid of what was evil; when he always voted with Sir Wilfrid Lawson. What Mr. Houldsworth's Conservatism is I have not been able to discover, only that it is different to Mr. Birley's. But I would submit that no man is worthy of the suffrages of the people of Manchester who denies them the right to protect themselves from that which the present Prime Minister declared "entails upon the country greater evils than the combined evils of war, pestilence, and famine."

I am, &c.,
WILLIAM HORLE,
Claremont, Bury, September 27, 1883.

It has never been practically demonstrated that to bid a man lay down his arms is a successful method of persuading him to keep the peace. That the Emperor of Germany and the great Chancellor entertain any such wild scheme with regard to Europe, we cannot persuade ourselves to believe. Every patriotic statesman must bitterly regret the retrograde tendency civilization has developed during the past thirteen years. Since Prussia began her wonderful career of victory, Europe has been obliged to keep some three millions of men constantly under arms, and to spend annually over a thousand million dollars on their maintenance. Philosophers cry out bitterly against such a terrible waste of energy and capital, but their voices awaken no practical echo anywhere. It seems to be universally confessed that national existence depends upon military strength, and that international morality would be a dead letter were not its precepts supported by force. It is not in the nature of such a mental aberration to produce immediately apparent effects. Men that live beyond their means, so far from betraying any symptoms of embarrassment, convey to the general public the impression of ease and affluence. Nevertheless indications of their unsound condition are never wholly wanting. Such an indication in Europe's case is the tide of emigration which of late years has steadily drained the vital force of the great military nations,

and rendered them daily less competent to endure their self-imposed burthens. Few countries in the Old World are sufficiently wealthy to maintain an immense army and at the same time to ameliorate the lot of their agricultural classes. Germany by attempting the dual task has lost a vast number of her bread-winners, and Italy is beginning to suffer seriously from the same cause. It is but poor consolation to these countries to know that in the world of humanity and physics alike there is no such thing as waste; to see that what Europe loses America gains, and that the United States, untrammelled by the load which older nations carry, and receiving, yearly, enormous increments of vitality at Europe's expense, must soon surpass any hitherto conceived programme of prosperity and civilization. This prospect, comfortable to philosophers, cannot have many charms for a statesman of Prince Bismarck's absorbing patriotism, and we can well conceive that the dream of his old age is to leave his country permanently great by freeing it from burthens not less potent to impede its growth in the future than they were necessary to initiate that growth in the past. But he will never seek to attain this end by pursuing the chimera of universal disarmament. Whatever were the strength of a league issuing such a mandate, its announcement must inevitably be the signal for an universal war. Except the exhaustion of a series of battles there is no process that can persuade the nations to divest themselves of armour whose very weight betrays the depth of the distrust that induced them to don it. The venerable Emperor of Germany and his wonderful coadjutor are too wise, too patriotic and above all too humane to entertain such a scheme. There is, however, another and a sounder method of achieving the desired result. The permanence of European peace may be secured by environing it with a force against which no nation can hope to struggle and live. An union of strong States such as that which Germany is gradually gathering about her, might be powerful enough to impose its veto upon every attempt to disturb the peace of Europe, and at the same time sufficiently representative of the general interest to accept the rôle of arbiter in all international quarrels. To have been the contrivers of such an union would entitle the Emperor and Prince Bismarck to a far higher place in the history of civilization than the eminence to which their great achievements have already raised them. Germany can add nothing to her laurels as a conqueror, but her successes have fitted her for the performance of such a rôle as seldom falls within the compass of a nation's ability. We have too much faith in her destiny to suspect her greatest statesman of a scheme so evil and impracticable as that attributed to Prince Bismarck by the prophets of the London press.

Among the claims for injuries to British trade that will have to be settled when the French have concluded their operations in Madagascar, is one from a Mauritius merchant who has sent to Lord Granville an estimate of damage done

to his sugar plantation near Tamatave by the attack of the French on that place. He estimates the damage to this year's and the two succeeding crops at £60,000, and, if his mill has been destroyed, £40,000 additional. Shippers of goods to Madagascar by the *Tamar Castle* are also forwarding to the Foreign Office claims for damages on account of their goods not being allowed to be landed. Further claims by British subjects at other points, such as at Temoarifo and Majunga, will also be forwarded so soon as their extent can be ascertained.

THE Théâtre de la Renaissance of Paris is very attentive to the dramatic critics. The manager has provided for their use a special and luxuriously furnished writing-room, where, before or after the performances or in the intervals between the acts, these gentlemen can at their ease indite their criticisms. A lackey, gorgeously arrayed, is likewise in attendance, ready at any moment to drive to the editorial offices with the copy, the theatre paying his travelling expenses. In this otherwise admirable arrangement there is, however, one slight drawback. The lackey, we understand, has strict orders to open every envelope, examine the contents, and "accidentally" mislay every unfavourable critique.—*Whitehall Review*.

As will be seen, by the telegram published in another column, Vice-Admiral Sir William Montagu Dowell, K.C.B., at present senior officer in Command of the Channel Squadron, has been appointed to succeed Vice-Admiral George Ommanney Willes, C.B., in the command of Her Majesty's Squadron in China waters. Sir William Montagu Dowell became Vice-Admiral in January, 1880.

In various rice-growing countries attention has frequently been drawn to inexplicable distinctions between different sorts of rice. Mr. Colquhoun found that the rice on the Tali side of the Bakal lake can only be kept one year, whilst that on the eastern side can be kept free from decay for many years.

THE remarks made by the *Tokyo Trade Journal* (*Bukka Shimpō*) with regard to the export of wheat, show that public attention in Japan is turning to a subject of very great importance. Independent of the fact noted by the *Bukka Shimpō*—that the introduction of kerosene, by diminishing the demand for vegetable oil, has rendered available for the cultivation of grain considerable tracts hitherto devoted to the culture of rape—we have also to remember that extensive districts of arable land lie wholly waste because they are unfit for rice planting, or too inaccessible to invite labour in any form. Since the Restoration the area of the Japanese rice-fields has been increased in a ratio larger than the increase of population, but the process of reclamation cannot fail to be temporarily checked, like all other industries, by the recent rapid appreciation of *Kinsatsu*. Capital invested in wet fields, under existing circumstances, returns a disproportionately small percentage, and this pro-

spect will be one of the last to improve, because the consumption of rice, and therefore, to some extent, its market value, depend upon the general prosperity of the country. It is tolerably certain that the crop this season is considerably in excess of the national requirements, and that the disposition of the agricultural classes in the immediate future will be to contract rather than extend their operations. Seldom does it happen that an exceptionally fine rice harvest is accompanied by an ample yield of other cereals, but such is the case this year, so that Japan finds herself in the predicament of possessing more food than she wants. This would be a matter of sincere congratulation were foreign markets ready to receive her surplus stocks, but unfortunately the varieties of grain she can offer to Western nations are in very limited demand there, and the principal effect of her bountiful harvest will be to depreciate the value of its products. It is at such a time as this that farmers can be most readily taught to comprehend the advantages of not confining their operations to grain for home consumption. There can be no doubt that, like America and Russia, Japan could derive large profits by exporting wheat, and that millions of acres of land now lying idle might be thus converted into a source of constant wealth. It may be that there is little hope in this direction until greatly increased transport facilities are provided in the interior, but the subject deserves more consideration than it has hitherto received. One of the necessities imposed upon Japan by her altered conditions of existence, is that she should adapt herself to the requirements of her foreign trade. At present her efforts may be said to be confined to tea and silk, while her agricultural classes, who represent the great bulk of the nation, remain always dependent upon the home markets. Here, too, we may mention another question which will soon demand attention. Yielding to the representations of the farmers, the Government has notified its willingness to receive a portion of the taxes in kind, at a rate ten per cent. less than the market price, after deducting expenses of inspection and some other unavoidable charges. The proposal does not appear very favorable at first sight, but it has to be remembered that in many cases the sale of rice is quite impossible except at a ruinous sacrifice. In places where the local demand is small and facilities for transport do not exist, the farmer, confronted by the necessity of paying a certain sum in taxes within a certain time, often finds himself absolutely without resource. The banks will have nothing to do with rice as security, and money lenders, when not equally reluctant, demand prohibitive rates of interest. It may very well happen, therefore, that the Minister of Finance will ere long find himself possessed of inconveniently large stores of the staple. True the Notification referred to above reserves to the authorities a discretionary power as to quantity, but it is obvious that to afford any sensible relief the measure must have a more or less extensive operation. What then, in that event, will the Government do with the

rice? Direct export to Europe, when conducted under official auspices, is a hazardous speculation, and recent experiences are not of a nature to recommend export through foreign agents on Government account. Yet, in expert hands and with economical management, there is certainly a profit to be realized on such transactions. It seems to us that the wisest course to pursue under the circumstances is a very simple one, namely, publicly to invite tenders from Japanese and foreigners alike. The Minister of Finance need not bind himself to accept any tender, and he could choose his own place for delivering the rice. With regard to the latter point, however, it is difficult to discover valid reasons why the grain should not be delivered at any port in Japan. The prospects of profitable export might be seriously impaired by imposing conditions in this respect. By adopting this plan of inviting tenders the Government would, in all probability, obtain better terms than it could procure directly in the European markets; it would avoid the risks and delays inseparable from the methods hitherto employed; its returns would be immediate, and for the most part, if not altogether in specie; and finally, it would not incur the suspicions invariably excited by official trading. We do not pretend to think that the gain would be all on the Government's side. On the contrary, one of the considerations in favour of the measure is that it might afford an outlet for local foreign energies now paralyzed by lack of opportunity. But we do not suspect the present Government of a desire to exclude foreigners from legitimate competition, especially when to indulge such a propensity would be plainly opposed to the pecuniary interests of the State.

M. ROCHEFORT, the libeller of the King of Italy, is a veritable firebrand. His general occupation is to stir up dust and his particular aim seems to be another trial of strength between France and Germany. The retirement of General Thibaudin from the Ministry of War has furnished a theme upon which this refined journalist discants in his most polished style. His article in the *Intransigeant*, under the picturesque heading "Ferry, the Uhlán," contains things worthy to be quoted:—"It were useless to observe that the man of straw by whom General Thibaudin is to be replaced, will strip our frontiers, at the orders of his chief, in order to scatter our troops in the swamps of Tonquin. He will not haggle over reinforcements or give himself much concern whether or no he has the authorization of the Chamber to send over there an army of fifty thousand soldiers. The blood of our people and the resources of our finance were guarded by Thibaudin only. Now that he is gone, the dance of the dollars is about to commence." Supplementing a statement that the President of the Council is an accomplice of Germany, this passage is worthy of the great hand that penned it. M. Rochefort, however, is not the loudest of the *siffleurs*. He is surpassed by M. Laisant, who writes thus in the *République Radicale*:—"General Thibaudin

has just resigned. *They* have beaten him. Who are the 'they'? M. Ferry and his band; that is to say, William (of Prussia): that is to say Alphonse (of Prussia and Spain): that is to say everyone that hates the Republic; everything that hates France. This shameless Ferry, when he called on General Thibaudin to ask him to resign, was so far lost to all consciousness of politeness and modesty as to say, 'these late complications would not have occurred had you followed our policy.' 'So far as policy is concerned,' bruesquely retorted the honest soldier, 'I know but one line; it is the straight line, and at the same time the patriotic line.' The Minister of War goes out of office as he went in, head erect, a loyal Republican who has done his duty. Let us hope for our country's sake that his retirement will not be long." Another Parisian journal, the *Lanterne*, under the caption of "The Ministry of National Humiliation," says:—"The Ferry Ministry humiliated itself before Germany, after the article in the *North German Gazette*, by disavowing the French press. The Ferry Ministry humiliated itself before England in the matters of the Missionary Shaw and the Suez Canal. The Ferry Ministry humiliated itself before King Alphonse, Colonel of Uhlans, by making M. Grévy receive him at the railway. The Ferry Ministry humiliated itself before Spain by expelling General Thibaudin from the Cabinet. The Ferry Ministry is the Ministry of national humiliation." Even harder things than these are written of the Prime Minister, but Paris seems to trouble itself very little about the outcry. The Radicals have a bad cause, and as is generally the case with men labouring under that disadvantage, in default of argument they are driven to invective. Even Yokohama journalists could scarcely teach them anything of this trade.

JUTE culture has been attempted in Mississippi and has met with success so far as concerns the growth of the plant, but to make it profitable it is necessary to have some cheap way of separating the pulp from the bark. A bonus has been offered for the invention of a machine to be used for that purpose, and several machines will be tested on the 27th of November, under the auspices of the Cotton Planters' Association. Vicksburg and New Orleans papers report several preliminary tests of decorticators, as these machines are called, and it is thought that when the formal test is made, it will show that the jute problem has been solved. California, which has two jute manufactories, is even more interested than Mississippi in this matter. There is now a prospect that before long thousands of acres of our tule lands will be turned into jute fields.—*Alla*.

A FEW months ago, rumour said that the Eastern mails would no longer be despatched by the Brindisi route, but by Marseilles, as of old. The news was subsequently denied, then confirmed, and ultimately the cholera put an end to the possibility. We read now in the *Sémaphore*, of Marseilles, a journal which ought to be well

informed, that the original route by France would have been already resumed if the French postal administration had shown a little more desire to co-operate with the English. It may be concluded from this that the change in question was actually contemplated and only prevented by a hitch on the French side. In effect, the advantage, in point of time, possessed by the Brindisi route, is no longer of serious importance, since all business sufficiently urgent to be affected by a delay of two or three days is transacted by telegraph. What we have really to desire is that the American route should become more accessible. For homeward-bound letters it achieves a saving of a clear fortnight, and for the outward-bound mails it would be equally advantageous were the connections more trustworthy. That a little trouble is not taken to make them so, betrays a decided want of enterprise somewhere.

THE awards by the Committee of the late Fisheries Exhibition have been made and published in a supplement to the *Gazette*. A bronze medal has been awarded to Japan for a Collection of Cured Fish, &c., also for an Exhibit of Smoked Salmon; and diplomas to the Japanese Government for Specimens of Medicinal Oil, and to the Chinese Commission for Collective Exhibit in Natural History Section, and to Mr. Teh Ah Kew for specimens of Freehand Drawings.

THE last volume of the "Proceedings of the Institution of Civil Engineers" contains a paper by Mr. B. F. Wright on the subject of the Yanagase tunnel. This tunnel is situated on the Tsuruga-Nagahama railway. It pierces a hill 800 feet high from formation level; has a length of 67 chains, and a gradient throughout of 1 in 40. It was commenced in June, 1880. "The material," says Mr. Wright, "at first was soft decomposed granite, gravel and detached boulders, through which progress was made at the rate of 3 or 4 lineal feet per day for about 100 yards; nearly all the remainder of the stuff to be excavated consisted of hard Trappean rock, with veins of water and clay. The ventilation became defective, and the air vitiated to such an extent that miners' lamps would not burn, and the only means of boring the hard rock for dynamite charges was by hammer and chisel. An ordinary fan worked by a water-wheel, the wind being conducted to the headings by tin pipes, was tried, but found not to give sufficient ventilation. The work in the headings was therefore suspended in August, 1882, until a new air-compressor, driven by a turbine designed for the purpose, was completed. The original designs for both turbine and compressor were made by Mr. E. G. Holtham, late Principal Engineer of the Southern section of the Imperial Government Railways of Japan. The details and working drawings were got out in the drawing-office of the locomotive department under the supervision of the author (Mr. Wright); and the whole of the work, patterns, castings, and forgings, were made and fitted in the Kobe locomotive-works

by native workmen under the supervision of a European foreman and the author. No European artisan was engaged on any part of the work." The writer then proceeds to give some details of the turbine and compressor, and concludes by saying:—"It is not the author's intention to claim anything original or novel in the designs of the turbine or compressor; but to record the fact that the whole work has been made and erected by, and is now in entire charge of, men who eleven years ago had not seen a railway or machinery used for making one. The line was surveyed by Japanese engineers, and all the works were under their superintendence; and with the exception of the tunnel, the railway has been completed." We often hear the question asked, "What is the outcome of all the scientific training which the rising generation of Japanese has received, at so much expense, of recent years? The answer is to be found in facts such as those recorded by Mr. Wright, to which we may now add the evidence of the Tokiyo-Kumagai line built from first to last by Japanese without any foreign assistance whatsoever.

THERE is at present in the press a work entitled "*Frankreichs Kriegsbereitschaft*" (France's readiness for war), written by a Prussian officer of high rank who was present during the recent manoeuvres of the French army. The European public seems to attach much importance to the conclusions of the author as an expert, and the newspapers refer to them with evident interest. Epitomized, the writer's opinions amount to this:—That so far as the active army of France is concerned, her forces exceed those of Germany by a hundred thousand men and 582 field-pieces, but that, as a set off, the superiority in point of cavalry is largely with Germany. Again, while the French reserve numbers only 96,000 men, that of Germany numbers 246,000, with 444 field-pieces and 63 squadrons of cavalry. We may remark here that this question of cavalry has more than a mere arithmetical significance. Only to accurate students of Germany's recent wars is it known has much of her success was due to the splendid organization of her cavalry and its perfect performance of outpost and vidette duties. Without these aids an army is like an insect which has lost its feelers. Incidents that ought to be within certain control pass into the chapter of accidents: The writer of the above pamphlet, after making these numerical comparisons, proceeds to claim another "incontestable advantage" for the German army, namely, that the incessant changes of the Minister of War in France have prevented her troops from attaining that degree of unity and cohesion which is among the highest qualities of the German army. Whether this very interesting branch of his subject is fully discussed by the author, the *Gazette de Cologne*, whose reference to the *Frankreichs Kriegsbereitschaft* is before us, does not say. But there can be no doubt that the achievements of the German troops in 1870 and 1871 were due, in a great measure, to these very qualities of unity and cohesion, and to the fric-

tionless interactions of her whole military system: More than ten years have passed since these stirring events occurred, yet the world has not yet decided to whom the credit chiefly belongs, so perfect was the co-operation of all, and so insensible the intervals that separated the various orders of responsibility. The German army never seemed to depend upon individual inspiration for the means to counteract each new move of its opponents. Like a machine perfectly adapted to fulfil all its functions, little apparent exercise of skill was required for its control. It has been said that all Prince Bismarck's astuteness and General Von Boon's skill in organizing, disciplining, and mobilizing his battalions, would have been fruitless had not Germany possessed in Von Moltke, a strategist capable of using this vast mechanism effectively. But whatever portion of the praise may belong to these great men severally, it is to the completely harmonious working of their talents that the German Empire owes its fame, if not its very existence. It has been said that the wheels of destiny revolve on unnoticed pivots. The American war might have ended differently if Charles Dana, now editor of the *New York Sun*, had not persuaded President Lincoln to frank Grant's requisitions, and the story of the Franco-German war might have had another sequel had not France's strength been crippled and paralyzed by causes comparatively insignificant. It is not possible that those causes have survived such a lesson, but it is very possible that their counterpart may exist in the kaleidoscopic mutability of French ministries under the Republic.

WE extract the following from the *Geographical Society's Proceedings* about the late Admiral Sir Richard Collinson's career. Admiral Collinson was the first practical surveyer of the waters of the China coast:—

Admiral Sir Richard Collinson was the third son of the Rev. John Collinson, rector of Gateshead, and afterwards of Boldon, both in the county of Durham; and was born in the year 1811. When he was twelve years old he was put into the Royal Navy, by a sudden and unexpected, but as it turned out a happy, accident; for he was a born sailor, and had, as a school-boy, shown the pluck and determination which is the characteristic of that profession. Early in his naval career he took to the scientific line, beginning as a midshipman in 1828, with Captain Forster in the *Chanticleer*, on a voyage of scientific surveying round the coast of South America, in the course of which a careful examination was made of the levels of the Isthmus of Panama. In 1834 he was with Captain H. Austin, in the *Medea*, one of the first war-ships in which steam was employed. Next, as a lieutenant, he was appointed one of the surveying officers of the *Sulphur*, under Captain Beechey, again on the coast of Central America.

By this time he had established a name in the Hydrographic Office of the Admiralty, whose then able superintendent, Captain Beaufort, was from that time till his death, a sincere admirer and firm friend of Richard Collinson. Captain Beaufort's good opinion of him led to his being selected, on the outbreak of the first Chinese War in 1841, to act as surveying officer to the fleet. This duty, which was a somewhat novel one, was, in the hands of Lieutenant Collinson, raised into an important branch of the war enterprise; he had a small vessel given him, the *Bentinch*, and in consort with his old shipmate and great friend, Captain Henry Kellett, who happened to arrive in China at that time from a surveying expedition on the American coast, these two acted as the pilots to the fleet in the harbours and rivers into which the expedition had necessarily to penetrate. The course of the war compelled the fleet to enter more than one large river, and

among these was notably the great river of China, the Yang-tze-kiang, now no doubt well known to all the seafaring world, but then an *aqua incognita* absolutely; and not only were its waters unknown to them, but they were in ignorance of the preparations of defence made by the Chinese. In advancing up this river Captain Kellett and Lieutenant Collinson had to keep ahead of the fleet in the harbours and rivers buoying out the channel day by day; by their help the war-ships successfully reached nearly 300 miles from the mouth. Operations like these required a ready scientific skill, as well as coolness and courage, and involved an amount of personal labour requiring great activity, endurance, and zeal. In them Lieutenant Collinson showed such capability in the more warlike as well as in the scientific branches of his profession, that Admiral Parker, the naval commander of the expedition, took him greatly into his confidence, and intrusted him with various important duties, and valued his opinion greatly. The result on the whole was that Lieutenant Collinson came out of the war a post-captain and a C.B.

On the conclusion of the Chinese War there arose a desire to have the coast of China surveyed to enable merchant ships to take advantage of the openings gained by the war into the various new ports in that country. The duty was handed over to Captain Collinson in the *Plover* (as the *Bentinch* was renamed), and with him was associated his friend, Lieutenant Bate, in a small schooner called the *Young Hebe*. These two little vessels for three years worked along the Chinese coast, from Chusan to Hongkong, including the Island of Formosa, and produced the charts which are still the guides for the extensive sea traffic now frequenting those seas.

THE sovereign of Oman, usually called the Imam of Muscat, is besieged in his capital by an insurrectionary force under command of his brother, and a British man-of-war is kindly helping the sovereign by shelling the camp of the besiegers. England's interest in seeing that the shores of the Persian Gulf remain in the hands of her friends is so actively displayed that it is a natural inference that she regards the control of the route to India through the Euphrates Valley as of the first importance. A railroad will soon connect Bagdad with a port on the Mediterranean, and England will then not be solely dependent on the Suez Canal for a highway. So long as the great valley of the Euphrates and the Tigris—the seat of some of the greatest empires of antiquity—remains in possession of the Turks, England is satisfied; but if the Russians attempt to execute their threat of taking possession, the English will feel the necessity of being beforehand with them. Much has been said about the importance to England of the possession of Egypt, but Egypt lies less directly on the road to India and is less important than Mesopotamia.—*Alta*.

IN existing conditions between Europe and Asiatic powers a memorandum addressed so long ago as January, 1869, by Lord Clarendon to Sir Rutherford Alcock may be found to possess some points which are not only instructive but interesting. The ultra-Occidentally-inspired English Press of the East has taken occasion, not infrequently, to gird at every diplomatic, military, and naval official of foreign powers that will not assume advantage of any petty row to display the might of Western, and especially British, influence in these latitudes. It is never supposed that an admiral who knows not his duty would not retain his command; or that a ripe diplomatist is acting on dictates of experience and knowledge, supplemented by frequent instructions from home and explana-

tions that the telegraph may render almost instantaneous. China and Japan were not quite so near to England when the Foreign Minister in London sent to his representative in China these instructions:—

I have to instruct you to explain to Her Majesty's Consuls that the special purposes for which her Majesty's ships-of-war are stationed in the ports of China, and employed on the coast, are to protect the floating commerce of British subjects against piratical attacks in Chinese waters, to support Her Majesty's Consuls in maintaining order and discipline among the crews of British vessels in the respective ports, and, in cases of great emergency, to protect the lives and properties of British subjects if placed in peril by wanton attacks directed against them, on the part of local authorities or by an uncontrolled popular movement. As regards this last point, Her Majesty's Consuls must constantly bear in mind that the interference of naval force, either in their representation or on the part of naval officers acting on their own estimation of facts before them, will alone receive the subsequent approval of Her Majesty's Government, when it is clearly shown that without such interference the lives and properties of British subjects would, in all probability, have been sacrificed; and even in such a case Her Majesty's Government will expect to learn that the alternative of receiving them on board ship, and so extricating them from threatened danger, was not available. Beyond this, the circumstances of the case must be of a very peculiar nature which would be held by Her Majesty's Government to justify a recourse to force. Her Majesty's Government cannot leave with Her Majesty's Consuls or naval officers to determine for themselves what redress or reparation for wrong done to British subjects is due, or by what means it should be enforced. They cannot allow them to determine whether coercion is to be applied by blockade, by reprisals, by landing armed parties, or by acts of even a more hostile character. All such proceedings bear, more or less, the character of acts of war, and Her Majesty's Government cannot delegate to Her Majesty's servants in foreign countries, the power of involving their own country in war. My despatches, to which I have referred, will have enabled you to point out in unmistakable terms to Her Majesty's Consuls, the course they are to pursue when an emergency calling for immediate action, as the sole means of protecting British life and property, has passed away. They must appeal to Her Majesty's Minister at Peking to obtain redress through the action of the Central Government; and he, on his part, if he fails to obtain it, will submit the case for the judgment of Her Majesty's Government, with whom alone it rests to decide as to the course to be thereupon pursued. I shall furnish the Board of Admiralty with a copy of this despatch, in order that they may send corresponding instructions to the Admiral in the Chinese Seas. I have only to add that all Her Majesty's agents in China have been instructed to act in the spirit and with the objects which I have thus explained to you, generally caution British subjects to pay due respect, not only to the laws of the Empire, but, as far as may be, to the usages and feelings of the Chinese people.

No appropriation made by the last Legislature (says the *Alla*) was more judicious than that for the establishment of a silk filature and the encouragement of the silk interests of the State in a general way. This is an industry for which the climate of California gives promise of success, and yet it is not one of the industries that take root and grow spontaneously. So long as twelve or fifteen years ago private persons, filled with enthusiasm, went into the silk experiment, but discouraged by their non-success, soon abandoned it. It is something that needs combined action and the stimulus of official encouragement. Forty years ago there was a silk-growing excitement in the Eastern States, and mulberry trees were planted and worms introduced from Maine to Georgia. The experiment went just as far as former experiments have gone in California—to the production of a few cocoons—and there it stopped. Probably the time had not then arrived for the successful introduction of the silk industry into the United

States. But since then the domestic manufactures of silk have grown to such importance that the value of the raw silk imported annually is more than twelve million dollars, and what is more important, American ingenuity has devised machinery for reeling silk which gives a living chance of reducing the hand-labor required to an extent that makes competition with the Oriental countries not impossible. The success of the silk industry of California means a vast addition to the wealth and productive capacity of the State.

THE *Straits Times* assumes that the conference of delegates from all the Australian Colonies (including Fiji) that was to assemble in Sydney, New South Wales, on the last day of November was to consider several questions of inter-colonial interest, chiefly, the annexation of New Guinea, Federation, Postal Matters, and the Reduction of Cable Rates to Europe. Mr. W. Grigor Taylor, the General Manager of the Eastern Extension Telegraph Co. at Singapore, left that port for Sydney on the 12th of November to represent his Company in any transactions on the last-named subject.

CONSTANT complaints are made, with or without reason, of pocket-picking occurring at the Shimbashi Railway Station. The *Mainichi Shimbun* reports the case of one passenger having been recently robbed at the terminus of a pocket-book containing forty-eight yen.

THE English Journal *Land*, doubtless having in mind recent investments by some of its countrymen, remarks: "All the indications at present, however, point to America as the future land of enormous estates; and such as yet is the cheapness of land in the States that a million acres there is a hundred thousand here." If the people of the United States are true to themselves they will disappoint this prophecy, by taking such measures as will prevent the rise of great landed estates. The easiest way of doing so would be by legislative regulation of the descent of that species of property. If it is attempted to arbitrarily prohibit the acquisition by one person of more than a certain number of acres of land, such a law will generally be evaded; but if it is enacted that estates above a certain size shall be divided among the heirs upon the death of the owner, such a law will be enforced, because every heir who would be benefited by the operation of the law would lend his assistance to secure its enforcement.—*Alla*.

We are requested to publish the following letter has been addressed by His Italian Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires in Tokiyo to the Italian Consul in Yokohama:—

SIR,—I have received the note which you did me the honor to address me, under date the 19th instant, forwarding the accounts of the theatrical representation given in Yokohama on the 12th of this month for the benefit of the sufferers by the catastrophe in Ischia, as well as a cheque for francs 2,214.94 (\$471.18), being the net proceeds of the representation. This amount represents the sums realized by the sale of tickets, and two generous donations, one of \$50 made by the Russian Minister, M. Dawydoff, the other of \$30 made by

Mr. Nakamura, formerly Japanese Chargé d'Affaires at Rome. I have lost no time in forwarding the cheque by the English mail to His Excellency the Minister of Foreign Affairs in Rome.

It would give me the greatest satisfaction to tender my thanks personally to all those who contributed to the success of the representation so as to render it worthy of its philanthropic purpose, but the task is beyond my power and I am compelled unwillingly to abandon it.

I must, however, refer specially to those with whom the idea of the representation and its initiative originated, as well as to the ladies and gentlemen who took parts in the piece and in the vocal concert. In the case of the ladies above all, it is to me a matter of much regret that etiquette and their well known modesty forbade me to mention their names. They are, however, well known in Yokohama and may always be found among the promoters of every charitable work.

At the same time, in order not to be ungrateful, I must make an exception in the case of certain persons whose names I desire to mention. I count upon their indulgence to pardon me. They are, first, Mr. Hegt, who was kind enough to lend the theatre for a comparatively trifling sum; second, the Messrs. Vinatti, who on this occasion, as indeed upon all occasions, did not spare their time and their talent in the preparation of the decorations; third, Mr. Kiel, who without a moment's hesitation placed at the disposition of the organizers of the representation the assistance of the amateur orchestra which he so ably directs; and finally Mr. Moss who supplied the stage furniture gratis, Mr. Farsari who undertook the sale of the tickets without remuneration, and Mr. Culty whose professional services were given on the same terms.

To all those who directly or indirectly assisted at the representation I tender here my most sincere thanks in the name of the sufferers in Ischia, in the name of the Government which I have the honor to represent, in the name of my nationals in Japan, and in my own name. In so doing I simply perform my duty, for I am persuaded that those who assisted at the representation find in the consciousness of having performed a generous act and relieved suffering, a recompense superior to any species of thanks.

And now, Mr. Consul, you who live in Yokohama and know the ways of the place, I beg and authorize you to publish, in whatever manner you deem proper, this expression of my thanks and of my gratitude.

With assurances, &c.,

The Italian Chargé d'Affaires.

(Signed)

E. MARTIN LANCIELE.

THE steamer *Fu-yew* which arrived in Shanghai from Hongkong on the 16th instant imported into the latter port a quantity of arms and ammunition to the order of the Chinese Government.

MR. U. CRISPINI, a gentleman whose name is well known in other regions of the Far East than this in connection with the concerts that he has given, has arrived in Yokohama, where he proposes presenting a series of musical entertainments. Further particulars will be announced in due course.

THE *China Mail* has been asked to state that the British Consul at Amoy helped, in a most marked way, the chief officer of the steamer *Selembria* in extinguishing the fire on board that vessel on the 5th of November. The overhauling of the steamer shows what a narrow escape she had.

THE Rajah of Jeypore travels in a kind of State that Solomon would hardly have assumed. We read in an Indian Exchange that this native prince "accompanied by three hundred *sannah* ladies, starts for Allahabad." To vary proceedings, he will return to Jeypore before the great Dewali festival, . . . "and again start for Allahabad with another batch of three hundred ladies from his *sannah*."

THE comet discovered on September the 2nd by Professor Brooks, in the State of New York, continues to approach the earth. Its brilliancy is now just double what it was when it was first perceived three months ago, and will continue to increase until in January we shall be able to discern the celestial visitor with the naked eye. At present it is only telescopically visible. Astronomers are at present occupied in the examination of another phenomenon also. There have appeared in the surface of the moon long, deep fissures, running parallel to the crater of Archimedes and in the direction of a chain of mountains designated "the Appenines" in lunar charts. As yet no theory has been propounded with regard to the nature of these fissures, but probably the great majority of European telescopes were directed towards them on the 11th of October, a night when the conditions for observing the phenomenon were expected to be specially favourable. Some further sensation was recently created in the scientific world by an announcement that there had again been detected on the surface of Jupiter a red spot, supposed to be a volcano, which appeared some time ago but disappeared last year. Professor Ricco, of Palermo, has, however, announced, as the result of a long series of observations, that the red spot no longer exists. It has been replaced by a white one recognised as having occupied the same position formerly.

THE *Petit Marseillais*, speaking on the authority of a letter addressed by a friend in Russia to a prominent member of the Russian Colony in the Phœnicia of Southern France, gives the following information:—The Ataman, General commanding the Cossacks of the Don, has received from the Russian Government a secret order which he has forwarded to the second "group," composed of twenty *polks* (Cossack regiments). The order involves placing these regiments immediately on a war footing, in view of a speedy mobilization and taking the field. The officers themselves are ignorant of the direction in which they will have to march; but people of all ranks are absolutely persuaded that a serious war is imminent; for they doubt not that a counterpart secret order has been forwarded to all the other "groups." The eventuality is all the more grave that this "group" of twenty Cossack *polks* is only the vanguard of one hundred or one hundred and fifty similar regiments already mobilized.

Last Saturday's issue of the *Maru Maru Chibun* has a small cartoon in derision of the recent disturbance at the Meiji Kwaido, where a number of students took occasion to make practical exhibition of their preference for modern Western materialism to the tenets of Christianity as expounded at the meeting by foreign and Japanese adherents of the Christian faith. Such a black curtain as one often sees shading the entrance to Japanese stores is in the left back-ground, with a wooden sign-board at the side inscribed with characters whose interpretation is, "Words pawned here!" On the

drapery a human face is caricatured with goggle eyes squinting, shapeless nostrils, and a mouth that might have been lent for the occasion by a gaping hippopotamus. The wrinkles in the forehead (at the top of the *noren* or curtain) convey, of course, a double meaning, to wit, the Japanese name of the screen itself, and the opposition so loudly evinced to the Western doctrine in the cries of No! No! which assailed the lecturers. In the right foreground are two figures probably intended to convey to an imaginative mind the idea of two foreign missionaries in attitudes inspired by terror at the grim countenance glaring at and menacing them. One of the figures has tripped and fallen to his knees, whence he is endeavoring to rise, having abandoned a tome labelled "Holy Bible." His "stove-pipe" hat is falling to the floor, and what may be supposed to be his coat is branded with a big cross. His companion retains his feet and hat; but is fleeing in fright, and yet unable to avert his gaze from the menacing apparition. The legend is to the effect:—"Wonderful that such *bakemono* ('monsters' or 'evolution') should exist in broad daylight. We are sorry to see it; but there is no help for it." And then the absconding Christian missionaries finish their adjuration with "Amen!"

WE hear that a sailing match has been made between two vessels belonging to this port, and that the race will probably come off about the beginning of the New Year. The vessels are Mr. Collyer's *Breeze*, and Mr. Hodnett's *Zephyr*, and the course is to be from Yokohama anchorage round the Island of Osima and back, a distance of about 115 miles. The *Zephyr* is having a new mainsail made for the occasion, and the *Breeze* has been altered to a fore-and-aft schooner, and given that the vessels are properly sailed the race should be an interesting one.

A TOKYO contemporary is in receipt of the following communication from Korea:—One, O-yung-jung, a Korean inspecting officer, who yearly visits the Northern districts of the Kingdom to inquire into the condition of provincial administration, has returned from a recent tour; and has memorialised his Government on the question of the frontier line between Korea and Russia, to the following effect:—"Tu-man-gang, and the region north of it for a distance of 700 *ri*, were originally absorbed by our Kingdom. It was then a desolate and cold region, apparently unadapted for cultivation. Forty years since, Russia was encroaching upon it. Last year, the Chinese Government opened negotiations with the Russian authorities at Vladivostok to recover the country overrun. But the Russians did not keep their promise to give it up, and they still continue to occupy it. It is now high time that steps should be taken to recover it. The only alternative left open to Korea, is either to address herself direct to Russia or through China. If the proper steps are not taken now, the Russian high-handed manner of dealing will be unchecked. There is no saying but that

Russia may seize the whole of the Korean district." The Korean Government is said to have received the memorial, but to have also determined to postpone consideration of the question till a more favorable time shall occur.

THE Mitsu Bishi mail steamship *Hiogo Maru*, Captain R. N. Walker, which arrived here yesterday from Hakodate, brought on sixteen castaway Chinese. These men were the crew of a junk which got into bad weather when making a voyage from Vladivostok to Olga Bay, and after suffering many hardships, during which one of their numbers succumbed, were ultimately picked up by a coasting steamer near Akita Bay and taken on to Hakodate. The passengers that were in the junk, 22 in number, were transferred at Hakodate to the German steamer *Ingo*, which vessel is under charter to the Mitsu Bishi Company, and taken back to Vladivostok.

THE *Owari Maru*, a new steamer for the Union Steam Navigation Company of Japan, has been built by Messrs. Henry Murray and Co., of Dumbarton. Her dimensions are as follows:—Length, 215 feet; breadth, 31 feet; and depth, 22 feet 6 inches. Her engines, which are of 120-horse power nominal, are constructed by Messrs. James Howden and Co.; the high and low pressure cylinders are respectively 27 inches and 54 inches, and the stroke is 36 inches. On her trial trip a speed of twelve knots per hour was obtained.

THE American ship *Loretta Fish*, which arrived on Tuesday from New York, brought the largest cargo ever delivered here by an American vessel, viz., 69,000 cases kerosene oil and 100 tons of general cargo. She came by way of Australia and experienced moderate weather till ten days ago off this coast, where adverse gales with unsettled weather were met and continued to port.

THE P. & O. steamship *Khiva* reports a delay of two hours at the entrance to Shimonoseki Straits through a snowstorm, and a detention at Kobe for three hours from a similar cause.

THE American ship *Hercules* sailed for Kobe last Tuesday evening with the whole of her original cargo of kerosene from New York.

THE steamship *Gordon Castle*, from Hongkong, reports having experienced strong north-east monsoon and very unsettled weather throughout the passage.

THE Mitsu Bishi Mail steamship *Genkai Maru*, Captain G. W. Conner, will be despatched from this for Shanghai, *via* ports, on Saturday, the 15th instant, instead of on the usual day.

THE Occidental and Oriental steamship *Arabic*, for this port, left San Francisco on the 1st December.

THE Russian brig *Sophie* is loading wheat for Amoy, having been chartered by Chinese.

THE SEIZURE OF THE "OTOME."

ON the 28th of October the Russian authorities at Wladivostock released the crew of the British schooner *Otome*, which vessel, as our readers will doubtless remember, was seized off Behring Island at the end of August. With regard to the circumstances alleged in justification of the seizure itself, we have already expressed an opinion which the subsequent course of events has not modified. The *Otome* was violating Russian laws in Russian territory when the steamer *Alexander* fell in with her, and her liability to the penalty prescribed by those laws scarcely admits of question. According to the written admission of the master himself, her crew killed a number of seals on Behring Island and were only prevented from carrying off the skins by the interference of armed natives. The contention that no seal-skins were found on board, with the exception of three obtained at sea, is, therefore, scarcely admissible. Even supposing that it were possible, by inspecting a parcel of skins, to distinguish between the various places where they were procured, the fact would remain that the *Otome* was confessedly engaged in sealing operations in Russian waters. When a man is caught in a pheasant preserve with a gun over his shoulder, and when the keepers of the preserve declare that they interrupted him in the act of slaughtering pheasants, it is difficult to see how he can escape being punished as a poacher merely because he has failed to carry off any game. Another plea advanced on behalf of the schooner was that the regulations under which she was seized had not been posted at the British Consulate in Yokohama, whence the *Otome* sailed. Were the question of publicity alone involved here, the argument might have some significance; for though the regulations were posted at the Russian Consulate and advertised in an English local journal, a British ship, after all, looks chiefly, if not entirely, to the British authorities for information of this nature. That no steps were taken by the Russian Consul at Yokohama to warn his English colleague of the risks to which British shipmasters are exposed in Russian waters, was at least inconsistent with the traditional courtesy of Russian officials. But, for the rest, it were plainly extravagant to require that Russian laws, applying only to Russian territory or to trespassers on it, should not be enforced against Englishmen until a preliminary notice has been conveyed through English officials. It is the duty of a man visiting a

foreign country to respect its laws and to furnish himself with such information as will enable him to respect them. If he fails to adopt this necessary precaution, he must accept the consequences.

So far, therefore, as the seizure of the schooner and her confiscation are concerned, we cannot see that her owners have anyone to blame but themselves. Their people were engaged in an illegal adventure, and unfortunately for themselves they were not sufficiently adroit to escape detection. The *Otome*, indeed, seems to have been singularly unfortunate as well as singularly confiding. Her voyage to Petropaulovsky, in obedience to the instructions of the master of the *Alexander*, was a curiously naïve proceeding, just as her subsequent encounter with the *Wladivostock*, by which steamer she was taken in tow, was a remarkably unlucky accident. According to the accounts which first reached us, the steamship *Wladivostock* went out expressly to look for the *Otome*, but it now appears that such was not the case. The former vessel was on her way to another port when she fell in with the *Otome*, and took effective measures to secure the schooner's visit to *Wladivostock*.

After this, the most liberal interpretation of the local authorities' legal competence could not have warranted more than the confiscation of the *Otome*. That was the utmost penalty prescribed by the regulations, as it was also, obviously, the utmost penalty which could properly be inflicted under the circumstances. But the authorities seem to have been quite unprepared for the conjuncture. The Admiral and the Governor alike declined to deal with the case, and nothing remained but reference to the Governor-General at Irkutsk. Pending that official's reply, the master and crew of the schooner were placed in close confinement and guarded by Cossacks. With what object they were thus detained it is difficult to conjecture, nor was any explanation whatsoever offered by their jailers. After seven weeks' imprisonment a strong protest was lodged by the master, but it does not appear to have evoked any answer. Meanwhile, the prisoners suffered considerable hardships. The sum of money allowed for their maintenance scarcely sufficed to purchase the commonest food, and was, moreover, seriously reduced in its passage through the hands of their Cossack guards. Against the latter's dishonesty the crew finally made such forcible resistance that the Cossacks were induced to mend their manners. But a much more serious trouble than temporary discomfort and rough

fare would have been detention at Wladivostock throughout the long winter, and it seemed more than probable that this would happen, as the middle of October brought no apparent prospect of release. In the interim, however, the British authorities had not been idle. Her Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires in Tokiyo had telegraphed to London particulars of the crew's unnecessary imprisonment, and Lord GRANVILLE seems to have lost no time in communicating with St. Petersburg. On the 28th of October, the prisoners were summoned before the local authorities, when there was read to them a document in Russian purporting to be a telegram from the Governor-General at Irkutsk. Its import was that the schooner *Otome*, having been captured hunting in Russian waters, with a large quantity of furs on board, and hunting in those waters being prohibited—a notification to that effect having been published in Japan—the vessel, cargo, and hunting appliances should be confiscated, while the master and crew should have their personal effects restored to them and be set free. Protests offered against this decision were met with a reply that the officials at Wladivostock were simply acting under instructions and could not enter into any discussion. The guard of Cossacks seems to have been then withdrawn, and the crew of the *Otome* found themselves in Eastern Siberia, deprived of their vessel without any form of trial and possessing no means of leaving the country. Their application for food, shelter, and assistance to reach Japan was not entertained, and at first it seemed as though they would have fared better in confinement. Ultimately, however, the Japanese portion of the crew obtained relief and a passage to Yokohama from the commercial agent of their country at Wladivostock, while the Europeans, by selling their effects, got together a sufficient sum to reach Nagasaki.

The action of the Russian authorities subsequent to the capture of the *Otome* is open to a charge of grave injustice. Some semblance of warrant might be found for the imprisonment of the crew had they been ultimately brought to trial. But it is difficult to imagine that any intention of this nature ever existed. No civilized system of administration prescribes the preliminary imprisonment of defendants in a suit whose issue involves nothing more than the confiscation of certain chattels. The owners of the *Otome* might have been trusted to watch their own interests, and not to allow the case against them to go by default. Apart, too, from this vexatious detention

of British and Japanese subjects, the confiscation of the schooner by a mere mandate of the Governor-General was a needlessly arbitrary proceeding. However remote the possibility of defending her action appeared, some opportunity to make the attempt ought certainly to have been provided. The reputation of Russian justice will not gain by the story of these proceedings.

THE NEW PATENT LAW.

One of the most important legislative results of the past session of Parliament is the "Patents, Designs, and Trade Marks Act," which, as will be seen from its title, deals in a single statute with three kindred subjects. At the present juncture these matters are especially worthy of attention in Japan, since the absence from the Japanese statute-book of satisfactory laws relating to them has long been a grievance both with foreigners and Japanese; and while the former have, by individual applications and through the formal representations of their Ministers, brought the question prominently before the notice of the responsible officials of the Government, the latter have, it is understood, commenced steps to supplement the acknowledged defect. It may be hoped that, in preparing drafts on these subjects, the labours of Experts, Commissioners, and Legislators during the past thirty years in England, this last result of accumulated experience, may be utilized as they deserve.

Important as the Act of last session will no doubt prove to be, it does not profess to achieve any radical change of system; though, as we shall have occasion to point out later on, it contains one provision admittedly of prime importance—and, as we believe, invoking a radically new principle—we refer to the provision for Compulsory Licences—which at the least effects a profound theoretical modification of the conditions on which Patent rights have hitherto been held. But the fundamental principle of Patent Law, the encouragement of invention by affording State protection to the inventor, remains unshaken. The question of Patents or No-patents, that is Rewards or No-rewards, which used to form the battle-ground of Commissions, is no longer regarded as an open one: the No-patents school is said to be dead and buried, and any discussion of its views to be academic only and not one for practical legislators—in England at any rate.

The Act before us, which is not only an amending but a consolidating statute, deals, as we have seen, with the three allied subjects of Patents for Inventions, Designs, and Trade Marks. Recent legislation, recognizing their affinity, had already grouped these three subjects together so far as to place the working of the Acts on the two latter under the superintendence of Commissioners of Patents. The Acts relating to each of these branches are now consolidated, and all three brought into the compass of a single statute; and a single

office is created in name as well as in fact. The branch of the subject placed at the head of this article is as much as we can deal with at present.

In moving the second reading of the Bill in the House of Commons in April, the President of the Board of Trade said that "the Bill proceeded upon the assumption that an inventor was a person to be encouraged and not repressed." This sentence gives the key-note of the measure. The cry of reformers in this field of economic legislation has ever been for the "simplification" of the Patent Laws: and the history of the past thirty years has been a record of efforts towards simplification in procedure, and cheapness—the older laws having hedged about the grant of letters patent with such a multiplicity of forms and set up such a barrier of prohibitory fees, as effectually, if not intentionally, to "repress" rather than to "encourage" the inventor. The Act of 1852 inaugurated a great reform: that of 1883 carries it further without diverging widely from the same lines of policy. Mr. CHAMBERLAIN, in the speech above referred to, stated the objects of reform—granted the good of Patent Laws at all—to be four-fold:—(1) Adequate protection to the inventor without undue monopoly: (2) A scale of costs low enough to bring the advantages of the law within reach of all: (3) That the protection afforded to the inventor should be real and effectual: and (4) that litigation, where necessary, should be cheap and efficient. Let us see how the law as it now stands seeks to attain these objects. The first head is fundamental and implicitly contains all the rest, which are indeed but necessary corollaries. To afford adequate protection to the inventor without undue monopoly is the one great aim of all Patent Laws. To strike that balance, effect that compromise between protecting the interests of the inventor for the sake of encouraging invention and safe-guarding the public against exclusion from the enjoyment of useful inventions by an undue monopoly in the inventor—these are the problems that always have and always must beset the question, and which have appeared to many so irresolvable as to lead them to suggest cutting the knot by abolishing Patent Laws altogether. That expedient not being at present, as we have said, practically open, the method of reform has been confined to trimming the balance: and the present Act proceeds for the most part on this principle. It leaves the much-vexed question of the term where it found it, at fourteen years: fifteen is the period in most countries, we believe; so that something like this time seems to be fixed by a consensus of experience as the appropriate term within which an inventor should be able to reap the reward of his industry or genius. But the position of the inventor in this respect is improved, firstly by the omission of any clause curtailing the term to the period still unexpired of any foreign patent for the same invention of earlier date, as under the former Act: and secondly by the conditions on which extension of the term may be obtained—a more rational and elastic rule being laid down for the guidance of

the Committee of Council in deciding upon applications for extension, in place of the uniform considerations to which alone that tribunal, having once for all laid down a rule for its own judicial guidance, had, as a matter of precedent, habitually had regard.

The other provisions of the Act, which aim directly and solely at the encouragement and protection of the inventor, appear for the most part well calculated to promote their object. Procedure is most materially simplified by the abolition of numbers of forms and stages hitherto requisite in obtaining a Patent. The number of personal applications at the office for instance is reduced from seven to two. A clause in the Act prohibiting the unauthorized assumption of the Royal Arms, which before explanation caused some comment, appears to be aimed, like many others, at the Patent Agents. It is said that, by the display of the Royal Arms, the sharks of this profession decoy the unwary, who are thus led to believe that they are doing business with a Government official, all the time that they are in reality running up a bill of costs in a Patent Agent's back-room. We can speak from personal observation of the colourable titles, in every sense calculated to mislead, such as "Office for Inventions" and the like, on the doors of Patent Agents' offices in the same street as the real Patent Office.

The modifications of the fees do not at first sight appear so important as they really are, inasmuch as the total amount of reduction is only twenty-one pounds, from £175 to £154, an almost insignificant sum compared with the drop from £300 to £175 effected by the Act of 1852. But it is in the reduction of the amount of the initial payments and postponement of the dates at which the instalments become payable that the true value of the concession lies. An inventor can now obtain protection for the first four years of his patent for the sum of four pounds. The first years are obviously the critical ones: a heavy initial fee is prohibitory to the poor inventor, or to one the practical ability of whose invention on a paying scale is more than usually doubtful. On the other hand, the heavy subsequent payments are not deterrent; for in the interval the inventor will have had time to decide whether it is worth his while to incur the further expense or to let his patent drop. It is not the useful, but the useless, inventions that are weeded out by the system of instalments. Under the previous scale it was calculated that the second payment killed two-thirds of the patents taken out, and the third, nineteen per cent. of the remainder, leaving only eleven per cent. of the original total surviving for the full term. It is objected, and we think rightly, that the fees are still too high. Mr. ANDERSON, who had a Bill of his own on the subject before the House, pointed out that the United States Government grants a Patent for seventeen years for the equivalent of seven pounds sterling. The Treasury however could not see its way to any greater reduction at the present time. The fees have always been regarded as a legitimate source of re-

venue. Nevertheless, we trust the time may come when the example of America may be followed, at any rate, more closely than at present.

Towards the cheapness and efficiency of litigation the Act perhaps does not go a great way. The provisions for the appointment of specially qualified assessors to assist the Courts are regarded by different persons, whose experience should enable them to judge, and on different grounds, as not likely to prove more valuable in the future than such powers as were already possessed by the Courts for the same end have proved in the past. This branch of the subject is necessarily technical and scarcely of a nature to be dealt with here. It may be remarked, however, in passing, that, among many objections specified, the provisions as to opposition to Patents are singled out as "most objectionable," and as likely to press heavily on the poorer classes of inventors, in the Report of the Patent Laws Committee of the British Association presented to that body at its annual gathering in September. It should be mentioned that, of the two other Bills which disputed the attention of Parliament with that introduced by the Government, one embodied the views of the Society of Arts: and we believe we are correct in stating that the advocates of this rival scheme made their opinion felt on the Committee referred to. Any comparison, however, of the merits of the different bills would lead us beyond the scope of our present purpose, which is to afford our readers some idea of the law as it is, and not as it might have been.

Among other amendments now introduced into the law in favour of the inventor, that one which provides that a Patent shall bind the Crown deserves especial notice. As the law stood, the Crown, being the granter of Patents, was not bound by them—an arrangement obviously of serious detriment to the interests of the Patentee. The Commission which sat in 1865 reported in favour of use by the Crown without licenses, but conditionally upon the payment of adequate remuneration. Subsequent opinion has gone beyond this, and the new Act declares (section 27) that "a Patent shall have to all intents the like effect against Her Majesty the Queen, her heirs and successors, as it has against a subject." But in the interest of the public service there is a proviso empowering officers of the Government or their agents, at any time after the application for a Patent has been made, to use the invention for the services of the Crown, on terms to be agreed upon before or after the use, or, in default of agreement, on terms to be settled by the Treasury after hearing all parties interested. The latter part of this proviso retaining the decision in the hands of the Treasury has naturally been the subject of much criticism. There is, further, provision for the voluntary assignment to the Secretary of State for War of the benefit of any invention or patent relating to instruments or munitions of war; and elaborate measures are provided for keeping such inventions secret.

On the other side of the question—on the side of securing the interests of the public by refusing the inventor an undue monopoly—two principal provisions of the law as it now stands declared or amended may be mentioned. In the famous Statute of JAMES the FIRST, known as the "Statute of Monopolies" there are expressly excepted, from the general abolition of unlawful monopolies thereby effected, Letters Patent and Grants of Privileges for Fourteen Years for the sole making or working "of any manner of new manufactures within this Realm to the true and first inventor and inventors of such manufactures, which others at the time of making such Letters Patent and Grant shall not use." This section, which is not only the constitutional authority for Patents, but is adopted both in the Act of 1852 and in the present Act, as affording the legal definition of Inventions, has always been judicially interpreted as including the introduction into the realm of anything not previously known within it, though the introducer be not the true and first "inventor" in the ordinary sense of that term. But it has always been open to an alien to obtain a Patent, and the right is expressly declared by the present Act: and the law in recent times, having regard to the facilities of modern communication, has not favoured the introducer of other men's inventions. The House of Commons Committee that sat in 1871 and 1872 recommended that letters patent should not be valid for an invention that had been in use in a foreign country, unless a patent for the same should have been granted in such country, and unless such letters patent should have been granted in this country to the original inventor, his assignee, or authorized agent." The Act does not embody this recommendation. But the holding of a patent by others than actual inventors is made less likely—a provision as much in the interests of the public as of inventors—by the facilities for obtaining revocation of a patent by any person who alleges that he, or any person through whom he claims, was the true inventor, and allowing private persons as well as the Attorney-General, the official representative of the public, to petition for the revocation of a patent upon the allegation that they have publicly manufactured, used, or sold within the realm anything claimed by the patentee as his invention. As to the grant of Patents for anything not properly the subject of a Patent, the Statute of Monopolies itself affords sufficient protection by its prohibition of the grant of monopoly-privileges detrimental to the public interest; and Letters Patent for Inventions have always contained a proviso (continued in the form given by the schedule to the present Act) for revocation by the Crown itself, if, amongst other things, the grant be made to appear at any time during the term of it "contrary to law, or prejudicial or inconvenient to our subjects in general."

But the greatest advance, as it appears to us, made by the new Act is in the provision it contains for the compulsory granting of licenses. Hitherto a Patentee might refuse to others the grant of a licence to work his

invention, and, though unable to supply the public demand, keep the working of it in his own hands exclusively; or not work it at all. In the first case he was prejudicially exercising an undue monopoly: in the second, by holding what has come to be known as a "Dog-in-the-manger Patent," he is preventing the use of what is *ex hypothesi* an improvement. The motives for this latter line of conduct are not apparent on the surface, but that it serves an end of trade competition is shown by the fact of its being sometimes pursued. The real danger of it, however, lies in a special direction. Allowing, as our law does, a foreigner to take out a patent in England, it is evident that, by refusing licenses to work it there, it lies in his power, when the improvement introduced is sufficiently great, to kill the industry concerned in England and monopolize the business in his own country. This has actually happened, notably in the case of the manufacture of artificial colours connected with coal products, the whole of which has gone to Germany: and if the inventor of the hot-blast-furnace, also a German, had in like manner refused licenses, almost the whole of our iron industry might have been destroyed! In the face of dangers so stupendous it is surprising that the law should have been allowed to remain as it was so long. Yet the Commission of 1865 reported against Compulsory Licenses, and there was considerable conflict of opinion among the witnesses before the Select Committee of the House of Commons which reported in 1872. Most witnesses, however, even those opposed to the system generally, admitted its necessity in the case of foreigners and for certain exceptional processes—such as BESSEMER'S; and the Committee reported in favour of the system. The chief difficulty seems to have been felt in regard to settling the amount of the royalties to be paid by the licencees to the patentee when the grant of the licence is not a matter of contract between them. Under the Act this is left to be settled by the Board of Trade. We may as well transcribe the section in full. It is the twenty-second section of the Act, and runs as follows:—

If on the petition of any person interested it is proved to the Board of Trade that by reason of the default of a patentee to grant licences on reasonable terms—

- (a) The patent is not being worked in the United Kingdom; or,
- (b) The reasonable requirements of the public with respect to the invention cannot be supplied; or,
- (c) Any person is prevented from working or using to the best advantage an invention of which he is possessed;

The Board may order the patentee to grant licences on such terms as to the amount of royalties, security for payment, or otherwise, as the Board, having regard to the nature of the invention and the circumstances of the case, may deem just, and any such order may be enforced by mandamus.

With the principle of this provision we entirely agree. Our readers may purchase remember an article which appeared in our columns about twelve months ago in which a somewhat novel suggestion was put forward in regard to legislation on the subject of Patents for Inventions. Briefly,

the proposition there made was the adoption of a system of Royalties pure and simple: that the inventor should be rewarded, not by a monopoly, which he might or might not allow others to share with him and always upon his own terms, but by the right to Royalties, fixed by a tribunal appointed by the State, for the use of his invention by all who obtained State-licences for the purpose. The principle now recognized by our law is the one underlying that proposition; and the plan of granting a patent that no longer confers a monopoly, but a monopoly *minus* the obligation to share it with others, is a distinct approximation to the scheme suggested in these columns, and marks a very long step towards the final disappearance from our Patent Laws of all trace of the monopoly system out of which they arose. Starting, as Japan does, with a *tabula rasa* on this point, it will be a pity if her legislators think it necessary to enmesh themselves in the toils wrought for us and others by historical accident, from which our own laws are just struggling to shake themselves free.

HIGHER EDUCATION IN JAPAN.

During the first seven years of its existence the students at the Imperial Engineering College in Tokiyo were under the care of a numerous and highly qualified staff of foreign professors. In two respects the institution was exceptionally fortunate. Its welfare was specially watched over by a Japanese Minister of earnest character and considerable influence, and its principal happened to be a gentleman who to great administrative ability added a fixity of purpose that over-rode difficulties and made light of opposition. These advantages, combined with a happy choice of professors and instructors, were naturally attended with success. The students attained a truly admirable standard of efficiency; the discipline of the College left nothing to be desired, and the laboratories, museums, halls, and class-rooms became one of the sights of the capital. The foreign public, notably the British section, had reason to be proud of such an institution; the Japanese could point to it complacently as an evidence of the value they set by Western science, and its staff had the satisfaction of seeing grow up under their care material that could not fail to do them credit. When, therefore, a sudden and sweeping reduction of the foreign professorial body was announced in 1880, the news was received with regret. No one, indeed, had any reason to expect that the place would be exempted from the general action of Japanese policy. To dispense with foreign aids so soon as they could be replaced by competent Japanese substitutes, was always a recognised object of the Government. But there is an intelligible reluctance on the part of the public to see these experiments applied to an institution so successful that any change seems suggestive of retrogression, and this was eminently the case with the Kōbu Daigaku. There were doubts, too, more than

doubts, whether the vacancies could be adequately filled. For though the contingency had been foreseen, and though steps had been taken to provide against it, these steps necessarily required time for their completion, and the time was not yet ripe. Graduates of the College, who had gone abroad to finish their studies, and who on their return would be available as instructors, were still absent, and without them the difficulty appeared insuperable. Into the exact methods employed to overcome it, we need not enter here. Enough has been said to show that a special interest attaches to the history of the College during the past three years, and to explain our reason for referring to it at present.

The Calendar for the current year is now before us. It is a tolerably bulky volume of nearly two hundred pages, though as compared with its predecessors, its dimensions are sensibly diminished. We may remark, too, *en passant*, that its fashion of compilation is considerably improved—a more systematic arrangement of the body of General Regulations; the addition of a *coup d'œil* time-table; the reduction of the syllabus of subjects to literary unity; a more complete nomenclature, and greater perspicuity in the methods of recording the marks obtained by the students, being among the most conspicuous changes. Turning to the list of officers, we find that the staff of Professors and instructors numbers twenty-eight, of whom six only are European. The principle adopted has evidently been to retain foreign assistance, as far as practicable, in the technical subjects, and to entrust the instruction in the general course to Japanese. The consequences of this division will be intelligible when we say that during the first two years of residence at the College the training of the students is carried on entirely by the Japanese staff, except in the subjects of the English language and chemistry. This means that to Japanese professors is delegated the duty of teaching the principles of geometrical drawing and its application to engineering and architectural drawing; mathematics, including the higher branches of algebra and trigonometry as well as the elements of analytical geometry and conic sections; and the elements of natural philosophy. A general supervision in this course is exercised by the European staff, but the actual instruction is given entirely by the Japanese. At the conclusion of the general course a final examination is held, by the results of which is determined the students' general fitness to enter on the work of the technical course. The standard of proficiency is high, the minimum passing marks being forty per cent. of those obtained by the best student over all the five subjects of the course, and twenty-five per cent. of his marks in any one subject. This method of taking the marks of the best student as the unit of comparison is open to objection. For while it preserves a desirable relation between the achievements of the students in each year, and thus eliminates a certain class of possible accidents, it also introduces an exceedingly variable factor, namely, the

ability of a particular individual. It may happen, and has actually happened at English public examinations, that the record of some one year is marked by an altogether exceptional display of talent on the part of a candidate, between whom and his competitors an immense interval is found to exist. To take such a candidate's attainments as a general test would be obviously unjust. Turning to the results of the last examination held at the Engineering College for second-year students, we find that the first man obtained 425.2 marks out of a possible 500, so that the minimum for passing became 182, or more than 36 per cent.—a higher standard than is generally required of students in the West. It is only fair to say, however, that up to the present the working of this system does not appear to have been attended by any inconvenience. Having passed successfully into his third year, the student spends the next two years of his curriculum attending one of the technical courses. Subject to the exigencies of the public service, he is at liberty to select his subject from among the following, viz., Civil Engineering, Mechanical Engineering, Naval Architecture, Telegraphy, Architecture, Applied Chemistry, Mining and Metallurgy. In each of these branches he receives a portion of his training from the foreign staff, but the general instruction is given by the Japanese. Of the results achieved we are enabled to form a tolerable estimate from the examination papers. Here are a few selections taken at random from those set by the Japanese staff.

Second year students were required to answer such questions as the following:—

Find the intersection of a cone and cylinder, as given, and construct their developments. Show the calculations necessary for the developments.

Find the shadow cast upon the two planes of projection by a cone as in given position.

Draw the square prism with hexagonal cap upon it, as shown. Find the shadow of the cap upon the prism, and also the shadow of the cap and prism upon the planes of projection.

If a plane mirror be equally inclined to each of the three co-ordinate planes, and l, m, n be the direction-cosines of a ray incident on it, show that those of the reflected ray will be $\frac{1}{2}(2m+2n-l)$, $\frac{1}{2}(2n+2l-m)$, and $\frac{1}{2}(2l+2m-n)$.

Find the equation of a plane in the form

$$lx + my + nz = p$$

where p is the perpendicular from the origin upon the plane, and l, m, n its direction-cosines.

Enunciate and prove the triangle of forces.

Describe the Morse system of electric telegraph.

Compare the advantages and disadvantages of different kinds of telescopes. For what purpose is each specially fitted?

Prove that the path of a projectile (in a vacuum) is a parabola. Find its focus and latus rectum.

State clearly the principle of the Conservation of Energy. By applying the principle, find the mechanical advantage of the single movable pulley with strings not parallel, and that of the bent lever.

Give a table of the compounds of phosphorus, arsenic, and antimony with oxygen; with chlorine; and with hydrogen and oxygen.

What are the chief components of the best Bohemian glass; of common window glass; and of flint glass?

Of the questions proposed to fourth year students by the Japanese examiners the following will serve as examples:—

Write a short report for the improvement of the

street between Shinbashi and Nihonbashi, illustrating your designs by sketches.

What improvements would you recommend to be made on the works for the water supply of Tokiyo?

Under what circumstances is "weir and lock navigation" used in rivers? Describe the precautions that are necessary in the location and construction of a weir for such a purpose.

Make sketches of the turning tools generally used for pattern making and show the way in which such tools are employed. Give sketches of a centering square, backstay, and boring collar.

Prove that the velocity of efflux from a small orifice in the bottom of a large reservoir is $\sqrt{2gh}$, and thence find the formula for the theoretical discharge from a rectangular orifice in the side of a reservoir.

Compare the advantages and disadvantages of turbines and ordinary vertical water-wheels.

Describe different methods of arranging the casts in an elliptical stern.

Show how the stability of a ship may be calculated for a given angle of inclination.

It will be at once evident from these questions that the professorial part taken by the Japanese staff is very important, and from what we have been able to learn, their efficiency and zeal are beyond question. Fifteen of that staff are graduates of the College, so that in the ten years of its existence, the institution may be said to have educated its own instructors. This result, highly satisfactory from a general point of view, is also attended by a special advantage. Not only are the young professors familiar with the ways of the place and its appliances, but they also know, and are known by, their foreign colleagues, a circumstance which cannot fail to prevent friction and to discourage superficial or dishonest methods. Altogether it will be safe to conclude that the College has suffered little, if anything, by the changes effected in 1880. Ample time has now elapsed to exhibit their full effect, yet the standard of proficiency attained by the students continues to progress in a ratio not less rapid than was the case under the original regime.

This progress is an exceedingly interesting feature of Japanese education. The limited space at our disposal here does not permit a detailed comparison of past and present results, but those who desire to pursue the subject more carefully, will find that, judged by the tests successfully endured, a steadily increasing degree of proficiency is plainly discernible. To take an example. A few years ago the mathematical examination papers of the second year students in the Engineering College did not embrace problems demanding a wider range of reading than TODHUNTER'S manuals for beginners. The same papers now contain questions in the higher branches of algebra, analytical trigonometry, co-ordinate geometry of three dimensions and the calculus. An assimilation of knowledge even at the rate indicated in the former case was comparable with any general results achieved in the West, but there really appears to be no visible limit to the Japanese student's industry and versatility. He seems to study with an object very different from the mere desire of accomplishing a set task. What that object is, may easily be discovered, in part at least, by those who have observed the feverish earnestness this nation displays to recover the ground lost

during its centuries of isolation. Such a purpose is seldom associated with the unconcern of boyhood, and the association being so strange, we need not be surprised that its results are equally out of the common.

It would be wrong to dismiss this part of the subject without a word on the often-discussed topic—physical exercise. A glance at the syllabus of the Engineering College shows that there is required of the students a monotony of daily toil only possible to men with whom the love of work has become a passion. EMERSON says that the first requisite in a gentleman is to be a good animal, and the high-pressure life of these latter years is beginning to demonstrate how much subtle wisdom is embodied in that light phrase. "Nature," as HERBERT SPENCER observed a year ago, in his speech in New York, "quietly suppresses those who disrespectfully treat one of her highest products, the 'vile body,' and leaves the world to be peopled by those who are not so foolish." We have often thought that the example of the country she chiefly respects and admires, exercises more or less influence on Japan in this respect, and that added to her own anxiety to be quickly wise, there is something of the wonderful intemperance in work which we are accustomed to regard as an American characteristic. However this may be, there can be no doubt that the tendency of the Japanese student to-day is to transform the means into the end, to forget—we quote again HERBERT SPENCER'S words—that "it is as irrational to pursue industry to the exclusion of the complete living it subserves, as it is for the miser to accumulate money and make no use of it." We observe that among the rules of the Engineering College there now stands one specially directed against this excess of mental application, namely:—"Any student who has failed to put in two-thirds of his attendances at the Recreation Ground, and to take due part in the exercises and games, is disqualified from receiving a prize in any of the classes in the College." But when we see that one of the most promising students the institution ever possessed is lying in Aoyama Cemetery, killed by brain fever; that another, of equally brilliant parts, has lost the use of his right hand, and that many others betray symptoms of that premature collapse which stress of work inevitably entails, we feel that something more is needed than any advice the foreign staff may offer or any rules they may enact.

CODE OF CRIMINAL PROCEDURE.

BOOK IV.

Book IV. contains the regulations for the Adjudication of Offences (*Du jugement des infractions*). Chapter I. presents a number of general principles applicable to the treatment of all kinds of offences (Art. 262-320). First of all publicity is insisted upon on pain of nullifying proceedings. Exceptions are made only in cases where public order demands secrecy, or publicity would offend modesty or good morals. The accused must appear un-

fettered; he has the right to secure the help of an advocate, whom he may choose from among the lawyers recognized by the Court, or with permission of the Court he may select any other person. If the accused does not appear at the time set for trial, in case the offence be a delict involving imprisonment or severer penalties, the trial may be proceeded with in his absence, only when it is certain that the summons to appear or at least the decision ordering the closure of the preliminary examination, has been put into his hand. The accused if absent, cannot avail himself of the assistance of an advocate.

The President has police control of the sessions, he must take all measures necessary for the maintenance of order. Expressions of applause or disapprobation are punished by immediate expulsion from the audience room; delicts committed during a session are punished *incontinenti* or in the next following session: crimes, however, are remanded to the examining magistrate to deal with according to the regular procedure.

The Court can pass sentence only on those offences with which the accused has been charged. At the same time it can deal with offences connected with the principal charge which first come to light by means of the trial, and may even order a supplementary examination for this purpose.

Protest against the judge in the trial is allowable on the same grounds as in the case of the examining magistrate. Moreover objection against the judge is valid, if he has acted as examining magistrate, or has had to do with the preceding action or decision in another Court. The protest against a judge is admissible at any time before the final decision.—All evidence pro and con admissible in the examination is admissible also at the trial (Art. 283). On the demand of either party the president can order the reading of the reports of the examination relating to the facts of the case, or other cogate documents. All the declarations of the same are accorded the same degree of credibility as the statements of witnesses for and against. The officials of the judicial police, who have taken the minutes, can, either by the parties or *ex officio*, be summoned to act as witnesses; the examining magistrate, only *ex officio* or with permission of the Court, and then only to explain the meaning of minutes taken by himself.—The witnesses heard in the examination can be summoned again, if this cannot be done, or the witness fail to appear, whenever it seems necessary for the explanation of contradictions, the declarations made in the examination may be produced and read in the trial.

Witnesses and accused can be examined only by the president. Colleagues and State prosecutor may ask questions with the permission of the president. The civil party and the accused can demand through the president the asking of such questions as they deem necessary for elucidation.

A witness who has been summoned and without excuse fails to appear, on the requisition of the State prosecutor, may at once in the same session be sentenced to the penalty of a fine of from 50 *sen* to 1 *yen* 95 *sen* in simple police cases, or 2 to 10 *yen* in case of a delict or crime, against which there is no appeal. If he does not appear after receiving a second summons, the fine is doubled, and a warrant for production may be issued against the recalcitrant witness.

After the hearing of evidence has been completed, first the State prosecutor, then the civil party, and finally the accused or his advocate has the right to plead. No one is allowed to interrupt the speaker while pleading his case.

If the State prosecutor abstains from carrying through the public action, the Court is nevertheless obliged to come to some decision in the case.—The persons responsible in civil law can intervene at any state of a case, even during the hearing of an appeal, and on requisition of the civil party may be called into Court.

In case of a condemnatory sentence the reasons for the same must be given both in respect to the facts of the case and the points of law, and the proofs brought forward must be given; the same holds good in case of a sentence staying proceedings.—Sentence of acquittal must state that the charge is not proven, stating the material and legal reasons therefor. The Court passes sentence at the same time on the civil phase of the suit if it deems the matter sufficiently elucidated.

Chapter II. gives the special regulations for the adjudication of contraventions (Art. 321-346). The Police Court entertains an action either when the State prosecutor summons a culprit, or an examining magistrate remands an accused person, or when a higher court sends down a case. The accused may appear by proxy through an attorney, in which case his statement will be allowed only when reduced to writing by himself. If the accused fail to appear, on the requisition of the State prosecutor or the civil party, sentence for contumacy will be passed, against which an appeal may be made within three days. If the offence seems to involve correctional or criminal penalties, the Court must declare its incompetence. An appeal against the decision of a Police Court is admissible before a correctional Police Court, and will be proceeded with according to the forms of a correctional action. All the parties have the right to sue for writ of error against a decision of the correctional Police Court in cases of appeal.

Chapter III.—Of the adjudication of delicts. (Art. 347-371). The Correctional Police Court entertains an action:—

1. When on the requisition of the State prosecutor the accused is directly summoned by the clerk.
2. When a case is remanded to the same, whether by the examining magistrate, the Council-chamber of the Correctional tribunal, or the decision of a higher Court. If the delict in question involves a penalty of only a fine, the accused may be represented by an attorney. The same right of acting through representatives is accorded the civil party and the parties responsible in civil law.

As to the course of the trial itself, there is no appreciable deviation from the modern procedure of the continent (Europe). This is particularly the case with the taking of evidence and the order of pleadings of the parties, where the regulations of the French *Code d'instruction criminelle* are almost exactly followed. In the same way also large discretionary powers are given the court (not the president) "for the establishment of the truth."—The verdict of the correctional tribunal (also similar to the regulations referring to the same matter in the French *Code d'instruction criminelle*) may be contested by an appeal before the court of appeals. In case of appeal, suit for writ of error is admissible.

The adjudication of crimes is attended with somewhat stricter formalities (Chap. IV. Art. 372-409.)

The indictment must contain a full and careful presentation of the facts of the case and all the legal points involved. In other respects it follows closely the decision for remanding the

case, and can neither introduce other facts nor accuse other persons than those indicated therein.

Disconnected felonies may be presented in special indictments and separately adjudicated. An advocate will be officially provided for the accused if he has failed to choose one for himself. His presence during the trial is compulsory on pain of invalidating the proceedings. Unconditional freedom of intercourse is allowed between the accused and his advocate from the time of the legal reference of the case (Art. 382). The list of witnesses called by the prosecution must be shown the defendant, and those of the defendant to the State prosecutor. If these announcements are not made within the time legally fixed therefor, the witnesses can be heard only as "persons giving information."—The opening of the session is public but in the absence of the accused. The regular trial begins with a thorough hearing of the accused. In case of contradiction between his statements in court and his previous declarations, the accused is simply asked to explain. After the hearing of all the witnesses, the accused has perfect freedom of reply in explanation. After the conclusion of the taking of evidence the pleadings of the parties follow in regular order (State Prosecutor, Civil Party, accused or his advocate, the persons responsible in civil law).

If new crimes or delicts come to light in the course of the trial, which have no connection with the offences contained in the indictment, and the State prosecutor demand prosecution therefor, the Court is to order one of the members of the Tribunal of the First Instance to proceed with the examination, and then in another audience of the same or following session to adjudicate both offences (the original and the additional).—Suit for writ of error is open to all parties against the verdict of a Criminal Court. A verdict is given in the absence of the defendant only after a thorough examination of all witnesses pro and con, and all forms of erroneous procedure have been guarded against. Suit for writ of error is allowed only to the State prosecutor (excepting in civil matters); the accused has the right to protest (opposition) against a verdict of guilty—and this until the penalty is prescribed—if this is admitted a new trial is proceeded with according to the ordinary formalities of adjudication.

Book V. deals with the Jurisdiction of the Court of Cassation, and Chapter I. of the same treats of suits for writs of error (Art. 410-438). Chapter II. treats of the revision of penal procedure (Du pouvoir en revision, Art. 439-447), and Chapter III. of contests regarding competence (Des reglements de juges, Art. 449-450). Chapter IV. of reference for reasons of public security or on account of "suspicion légitime" (Art. 451-458).

In the chapter on writs for error the following points are worthy of notice:—Suit for writ of error is admissible against the decisions of examining magistrates and the verdicts of adjudicating courts in the following eleven cases:—

1. If a protest has been rejected in opposition to regulations laid down in the law.
2. If the court has been irregularly constituted.
3. If the judges, who have adjudicated the principal action, or to whom the case has been remanded, were incompetent, or if, on the contrary, competent judges have declared themselves incompetent.
4. If the forms prescribed by the law on pain of nullification have not been observed, or if the prescribed rules in

the interest of the defence have not been followed, even when the law does not threaten nullification, provided only that the accused has protested against the illegality.

5. If public action has been wrongly declared admissible or inadmissible.
6. If the State prosecutor has failed to make requisitions where required by the law.
7. If, during the trial, the judge has failed to decide regarding a requisition of one of the parties, or has ruled on points not raised, with the exception of those cases where the law allows the judge *ex officio* to give a decision.
8. If the trial has not taken place in public, when the hearing with closed doors has not been duly ordered, and the decision has not been made public.
9. If no grounds of fact and of law are given for the sentence of the court, or if these grounds contain a contradiction.
10. If there has been an error in the application of the law.
11. If the court has exceeded its powers (*excès de pouvoir* Art. 410).

Acquittal or abandonment of the prosecution can never be contested by suits for writs of error, on account of non-observance of prescribed regulations in favour of the defence, or on account of incompetence arising from considerations of the place of the deed.

The civil party, the accused, the persons responsible in civil law can sue for writ of error against a decision regarding a point in civil law in the preliminary or principal hearing, if one of the cases mentioned in Art. 410 occurs. The defendant (in suit for writ of error) can also, in any stage of the proceedings up to the final decision of the Court of Cassation, lodge a counter-appeal. The same right is accorded the State prosecutor in the Court of Cassation.

Appellant and defendant may employ advocates. In criminal cases the condemned, who has not chosen an advocate will be officially provided with one. The president of the Court of Cassation appoints a reporter, the action begins with the reading of the report of the same, whereupon the parties to the appeal are heard pro and con.

If the Court of Cassation finds the appeal valid, the whole judgment is nullified, and as a rule the case is remanded to another Court. If, however, judgment is nullified on account of improper application of the law, or erroneous application of the law relating to the validity of public action, the Court of Cassation itself passes judgment without reference to another Court. If the informalities, whether in the examination or in the adjudication, have had no effect upon the action, the Court of Cassation simply nullifies the same without remanding the case. If the verdict against which appeal is lodged is founded upon a number of offences, and the appeal is merely directed against the procedure or the sentence referring to parts of the charge, it is optional with the Court of Cassation to nullify a part only of the contested verdicts.

The Court to which a case is remanded is bound to maintain the legal ruling of the Court of Cassation which led to the decision of reference. A new appeal is admissible against the verdict of the second adjudication.

The State prosecutor of the Court of Cassation can at any stage of a case, either *ex officio* or on the requisition of the Minister of Justice, lodge an appeal for writ of error for the preservation of the law, this, however, is limited to verdicts and decisions in which acts are punished upon which the law does not inflict a penalty, or are punished

with a heavier penalty than the law demands. This suit for reversal, admissible even in case of a legally final verdict, operates practically in favour of the condemned.

Chapter II. treats of revision (Art. 439-447) for which appeals are admissible only in favour of the accused against final verdicts (criminal or correctional). The admissibility of re-hearing goes beyond the well-known cases of the *Code d'instruction criminelle* and the French law of 29 June, 1867.

1. If any one has been condemned for homicide, and sufficient evidence be subsequently found that the person is still alive whose supposed death led to the condemnation.
2. If two or more persons have been condemned for the same offence by different verdicts, without complicity of the same.
3. If subsequently an *alibi* can be proved in favour of the condemned.
4. If it can be proved that the verdict resulted from perjury, bribery, or any other punishable act whatever of any third party.
5. Or if the verdict was effected by a falsified document (Art. 439).

The requisition for re-hearing in favour of the accused can be made by the State prosecutor or the condemned; after his death by his relatives. The re-hearing can be demanded at any time, even after the infliction of the penalty.

Chapter III. treats of appeals regarding competence which are entertained by the Court of Cassation (Art. 448-450). Five judges of the Court of Cassation acting as Council give the final decision and designate the competent court. The grounds for reference of a case to another jurisdiction (Chapter V. Art. 451-458) may be found in the number or peculiarity of the accused, the excitement of local passion, or other "circumstances graves," so soon as the suspicion seems well founded that disturbance or perversion of justice is likely to arise. The Court of Cassation decides as Council Chamber without necessarily hearing the parties. The suspicion of partiality in the judges may also give rise to reference to another court of the same rank.

The last Book of the Code (VI.) treats of the execution of sentences, rehabilitation, and pardon.—The permission of the Minister of Justice must be obtained before a sentence of death can be executed, all other legal verdicts must be executed immediately after the final decision. Doubts as to the meaning of the verdict and the execution of the same when raised by the condemned must be decided by the Court which passed the sentence in dispute.—Art. 467 and 468 contains essentially a reproduction of forms of procedure of the French *Code d'instruction criminelle* (Chapter VI. Art. 518-520) for the treatment of condemned persons who have escaped and have been re-captured. The same is true of the procedure for rehabilitation. (Art. 470-476, *Code d'instruction*. Art. 619-634.) Petitions for pardon may be presented to the Minister of Justice by the State prosecutor or the principal of a penal institution. The Minister of Justice presents a report with his own opinion to the Emperor. The Minister of Justice can also initiate a petition for pardon. Petition for pardon suspends the execution of no penalty but that of death.

REPORT OF THE COMMISSIONER OF THE IMPERIAL MINT.

The official report of the Osaka Mint for the fiscal year ending on the 30th of June last has been published. It consists of communications addressed by Mr. Endo, the commissioner, to the Minister of Finance. The report is the ninth issued by the Commissioner; the thirteenth report of the Imperial Mint. In the tables we observe several items of interest. Altogether 21,699.13 Troy ounces of gold were imported into the Mint during the year. Among these were, in Troy ounces, 23.99, English gold; 1.05, American; and 0.53 Japanese worn coins. Twenty thousand and a half ounces nearly of gold of standard fineness (900) was accepted for coinage, only 584 of which came from the Government, private Japanese contributing all the remainder. Of silver 3,214,097 million were imported, principally in bars from San Francisco (1,565,650 oz.) Old *ichi-bu gin* figures to the amount of 30 oz.; Japanese worn coins to that of 833 oz. American silver coins, 93; English, 66; Mexican dollars, 893. Next to the San Francisco bars are, in point of bigness of value, the following bullion, given in their order as tabulated, and in Troy ounces:—Silver bullion of unknown fineness, 243,888.24; silver bullion of known fineness, 532,593.09; refined silver bullion of known fineness, 457,483.92; shoes of sycee, 412,555.51. The amount of silver of standard fineness (900) accepted for coinage was, also in Troy ounces:—Imperial Government, 1,020,475.26; Japanese, 836,588.42; Foreigners, 1,624,315.01; Total, 3,481,378.69.

Of copper bullion imported into the Mint during the year there was in aivoirdupois pounds:—Japanese tile copper, 1,665,932.00; Refined copper ingots from old bronze guns, 63,709.00; Sei-dokai-sha refined copper ingots, 94,186.00; Total, 1,822,827.00.

A comparative table shows that seventeen thousand Troy ounces, less than last year, of gold was received; the decrease of silver was 132,519 oz.; the increase of copper, 356,349 lbs. aivoirdupois. 85,914 five-yen gold pieces were struck or about half the number minted last year. Silver yen were struck to the number and value of 4,479,844—or 1,184,856 more than last year. More than a million's worth of copper tokens were struck—a considerable increase on last year. Of one rin-coins, so handy to the populace, nearly 131 millions have been struck. The total value of the mintage this year was yen 6,078,351, against yen 5,229,181 last year, representing an increase of yen 849,170.

The values of the coinage issued from the Mint since its inauguration are, gold yen, 54,704,927; silver yen, 45,011,821; copper yen, 9,184,496; or a grand total approaching closely to one hundred and nine million dollars.

Some alterations have been made in the method of receiving bullion and the quality that may be received, for coinage, as was notified in this paper some months ago. We read also that, during the year under review, 112 ingots of refined gold, value yen 1,158,484 were made for the Imperial Government. Mr. Endo says, further, that his Department has been more busily engaged than during any previous year, the manufacture and repairs of various instruments, &c., for the Mint requirements having greatly increased. But the experience of former years and improved practice have enabled them to be made skilfully and quickly, without the necessity of increasing the number of workmen. The following instruments have been made or repaired by request:—Repair of 9 surveying instru-

ments for the Railway Department; manufacture of 2 scale pans for the Kioto Company; and of 5 stencil plates for the Treasury Department. The foreign officials employed are, still, Mr. Gowland, F.C.S., Chemist, Assayer, &c., and Mr. MacLagan, M.I.M.E., Engineer.

The total receipts and expenditure of the Mint for the financial year and those from its commencement up to the end of last financial year are as follows:—Receipts.—For the financial year, yen 874,148.261; from the commencement of the Mint up to the end of last financial year, yen 9,978,375.323; total, yen 10,852,523.584. Expenditure. For this financial year, yen 411,541.480; from the commencement of the Mint up to the end of last financial year, yen 5,187,237.033; total, yen 5,598,778.513.

The process of refining silver bullion which contains only a small portion of gold is thus described. The metal is first granulated, and then dissolved in sulphuric acid. The solution of sulphate of silver thus made is ladled out or decanted as much as possible, leaving the residue—mixture of sulphate of silver and sulphate of copper with much gold—behind. The residue is remelted and granulated, forming what is termed re-granulated metal. When silver bullion containing little gold is so dissolved the residue of gold is in the finest powder mixed with the other precipitates and cannot be collected. Should, however, it be again melted, granulated, and dissolved in sulphuric acid, the gold consists of larger grains and can be easily collected.

The amount of bullion refined this year, compared with that of last, shows an increase of 25,976.57 oz. of pure gold, and 201,436.94 oz. of pure silver; in both cases the increase is owing to much of the bullion imported last year having been refined during this. By the substitution of iron for copper refining pots the average fineness of refined silver has reached the high figure of 997 per mil.

During the year the amount of sulphuric acid manufactured has decreased half that of last year, chiefly owing to the fact that trade generally has been depressed throughout the country, and the trades in which sulphuric acid is used have also felt the depression. Sulphuric acid has also been sold by the Osaka Sulphuric Acid Company at very low rates, and there has been a diminished demand from abroad. Of the whole consumption within the Mint, the Refinery has been supplied with 92,500 lbs. sulphuric acid, which shows the increase of 6,292 lbs. over that of last year. The consumption of brown sulphuric acid has been 159,690 lbs. more than that of last year, as it was used in the Soda Works. The consumption of chamber sulphuric acid has also increased by 32,958 lbs., having been used in making sulphate of iron. Of the acid sold at home the largest amounts were taken by Tokiyo and Osaka. This, however, may not have been all consumed in these two localities only; as the acid which was bought in these localities may have been sold for use elsewhere. As the China market for acid has continued very inactive the amount of the acid exported has considerably decreased, as shown.

At the end of Mr. Endo's report we read of a curious phenomenon. In melting the bullion from Sado Mine, an unusual occurrence was observed. About two minutes after it was first melted, a large quantity of gas escaped, scattering about particles of both gold and silver, which adhered to the outside of the furnace and crucible. The difficulty was overcome by melting subsequent importations of the metal under charcoal.

The appendix contains the report of the Mint Surveyor and the usual notes of the assays—the Japanese coinage holding its own for purity with the mintage of all the civilized countries of the world.

TRANSLATIONS FROM NATIVE JOURNALS.

THE TRADERS' AND MANUFACTURERS' ASSOCIATION.

(Translated from the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*.)

The above association was definitely established on the 20th ult. on which occasion the opening ceremony took place. As already mentioned in these columns, Mr. Yoshikawa Akimasa, Governor of Tokiyo, called a meeting of the principals and managers of the various tradal and manufacturing guilds in the City, and explained to them the necessity of establishing an association of traders and manufacturers in the capital. All the firms represented at the above meeting eagerly responded to the call to carry out the proposal. Each association is to be represented by one officer. The site of the Association offices is in the late Chamber of Commerce. On the occasion of the inaugural meeting, official circles were well represented in the persons of H.E. Matsukata, General Saigo, Mr. Kabayama, Governor Yoshikawa, and other officials of high position. The election of officers was at once proceeded with and the question of expenditure was then discussed. Following close upon the preliminary business, a formal meeting was opened which was taken part in by General Saigo, the Minister for Agriculture and Commerce, and Governor Yoshikawa, and others, and our readers are already acquainted with the nature of the proceedings which have been published in these columns.

We have before had occasion to point out the pressing necessity for establishing a Traders' and Manufacturers' Association in Tokiyo, and it was the knowledge of this want, no doubt, that evoked the enthusiastic speeches of the Governor. It is hardly necessary to enter upon the details of the discussion again. The guilds recognized the importance of this subject, and spared no effort to organize the Sho-ko-kwai. In a word, every merchant and manufacturer participated, and thereby invested the body with important functions. It only remains for us to congratulate its members upon the election of right men as officers in right places. Mr. Shibusawa Yeichi has been appointed President, and Mr. Masuda Ko, Vice-President; and the Directors consist of Masuda Kotoku, Komuro Shimpu, and Umeura Seiichi. The ability and integrity of these gentlemen stand in high estimation with the mercantile community. The first mentioned two gentlemen both occupied the Chair of the late Chamber of Commerce for considerable periods. Messrs. Masuda Kotoku and Komuro Shimpu have also filled the office of director and carried out their duties to the satisfaction of everyone. Mr. Umemura held the onerous post of secretary, and discharged his duties in such a satisfactory manner as to elicit the highest encomiums. Thus, equipped with able officers, than whom none better can be found, the Sho-ko-kwai will not fail to promote the interests of traders and manufacturers, and its success will ultimately be intimately connected with the prosperity or decline of the commerce and manufactures of this country. The gravest responsibility rests upon the association and demands great exertions on the part of all its members. The representative body of merchants in Tokiyo that preceded the present one, was the Chamber of Commerce. In the beginning, this institu-

tion furthered the interests of the mercantile community to some extent, and soon after it was established had a similar effect in all the provinces. Owing, however, to several reasons, upon which it is not necessary now to enter, the public began to look upon the Chamber invidiously, and the members found themselves compelled to retire. This fact the Governor impressed upon those present at the inauguration of the Sho-ko-kwai. Mr. Shibusawa, noticing the reference in replying, said that he was not prepared to assure the promoters of the certain success of the association, as he thought that, while undertakings that were supported by those who were not directly concerned in them were liable to collapse, speaking generally, in this instance their supporters will be directly interested in the movement, consequently they will not be likely to enter upon it in a half-hearted way, or give it up without a sustained effort. He quoted the failure of the late Chamber of Commerce in support of his assertion. The causes which contributed towards the collapse of that institution were numerous, and may be said to admit of manifold interpretations. In fact, the Tokiyo Chamber of Commerce was by many regarded as a private association established by a few influential citizens, and that its members subscribed towards its maintenance simply on account of the friendship existing between themselves and the promoters. As a matter of fact, they derived no benefit whatever from remaining members of the Chamber either in the form of business or in social intercourse, and were obliged to spend time in discussion of matters which did not concern them in the slightest degree. In time they felt the strain upon their purse-strings, and, what was worse still, were often compelled involuntarily to divulge their tradal operations, which became inseparable from the investigation of some commercial matters. These are some of the causes which led to the close of the Tokiyo Chamber of Commerce, and by its example it becomes evident that organizations supported by persons not directly concerned in them are more or less liable to collapse. The Governor has fully pointed out this fact, but as the Sho-ko-kwai is organized on a thoroughly different system to the late Chamber of Commerce, and as its patrons and supporters are men of enlightened views consistent with the order of things existing in this the era of *Meiji*, the new institution ought to flourish. It is therefore to be sincerely hoped that the members will guard against the failure which it is possible may overtake them should they spare earnest effort in connection with it, and it must be borne in mind that indirect interest is the promotor of direct interest.

THE EXPORT OF WHEAT.

(Translated from the *Bukka Shimpō*.)

The public is well aware that Japan's export of wheat to China has of late years largely increased in response to the demand. Last year the export of wheat and barley together was estimated at 3,961,755 *kin*, valued at *yen* 54,576. This year wheat alone was exported between January and September to the quantity of 2,437,120 *kin* and value of *yen* 355,008. The exact quantity exported during the months of October and November last, cannot as yet be ascertained owing to the absence of the Customs returns. Yet, according to the *Official Gazette* the direct shipment by Japanese is reported as having reached the value of *yen* 10,966. Therefore, the export during the said months

must have been large. That these exports are augmenting gradually, is a fact which must be looked upon with satisfaction. Whether the increase is temporary or permanent, we regret that we cannot as yet say. According to intimations from Hongkong and Shanghai, the wheat crops in the southern parts of China were severely damaged by the heavy rains of last year and fell considerably short of the average. In consequence, the demand in Hongkong and Amoy, where wheat is consumed to a large extent, had to be supplied from the North and Japan. This being the case, the alarming falling off in the export of sea-weed and other marine products, is made up by the augmentation in the export of wheat—a fact which may be considered satisfactory in view of the decline in other branches of trade. Of late, the farmers have been compelled to abandon the cultivation of rape in consequence of the introduction of kerosene, which has superseded the use of vegetable-oil. This, taken together with the fall in the value of silver, rice, and other commodities, has had the effect of encouraging the cultivation of wheat, which has commanded a high price throughout the year. The average price of it used to be 3 *to* 1 *sho* per 1 *yan*, while it is now quoted at 2 *to* 1 *sho*. The crops in the provinces of Owari and Mikawa show an increase of 20 per cent. This cannot, however, be sold until after next year. Supposing, then, the demand in China has ceased owing to the late abundant crops there, the farmers will experience inconvenience, as probably the market will be overstocked and prices will fall. The only means to save them from great disappointment is to export the surplus to England where, according to recent advices, the best wheat fetches 42s. per quarter: medium 40s. and common 38s. After freight, commission, and other charges have been deducted from the above, there will be left a profit of at least \$3. Should such transactions be effected they would be a great boon to the farmers. Meanwhile, we will try to furnish agriculturalists with all information likely to conduce to their benefit.

THE RELATIONS BETWEEN JAPAN AND CHINA.

(Translated from the *Mainichi Shimbun*.)

The Chinese Empire is one of the countries that has the closest relations with us, both commercially and politically. India was overrun by England and Holland two or three centuries ago, but Japan did not suffer in the slightest degree. Australia shared the same fate with India in the 17th century, yet Japan escaped from any serious consequences. This was simply on account of the distance that separated us from those countries. Had, however, China then succumbed to the fate of India or Australia, Japan would not have been exempted from the calamity, although navigation was not in its present state of advancement two or three centuries ago. Geographically, China is not far from Japan, and there exists but a slight difference in the manners and popular sentiments of Japanese and Chinese. Whatever we like, they admire, and thus our marine products are yearly exported to China to a large extent. According to the latest statistical reports, China ranks next to America and England in the foreign commerce of this country. The exports to, and imports from, China amount to more than ten million *yen* per annum, and there is every sign of the commerce growing larger and larger yearly, while there is no

token of any decline. It is evident, therefore, that Japan and China are most closely connected both commercially and politically.

Considering the course of events since the Restoration, we find that matters have frequently been of such a nature as not only to risk the severance of our Chinese relations, but sometimes even to assume a threatening aspect. Look upon the Formosa, Riukiu, and Korean affairs, and especially the Soul outrage. The latest trouble is the opium affair at Nagasaki. These all tend to foster ill-feeling between the two countries. Misunderstandings mostly arise from mutual ignorance. China's grievances are often baseless; and even admitting that she was justified in her action respecting the Formosa and Riukiu affairs, there is no reason why she should continue to be peevish, since we had a claim that was stronger and more reasonable than hers.

The Meiji Government, to its great credit, has broken up the isolation of Korea. Although when we enter upon a detailed discussion of its policy toward the peninsular kingdom, we might find some points upon which we cannot all agree, yet it is plain that our Government has laboured only to promote the welfare of Korea. Should her officers develop any skill in diplomacy, they will not fail to recognize that Japan was the tutor and not the enemy of Korea. We might well feel proud of this in the face of every country in the world. But unfortunately for a good understanding between China and Japan, the events that have occurred are mostly of such a nature as to be displeasing to the Chinese Government. Ever since Japanese commenced trading in Korea, Chinese trade with that country has declined. Korea habitually opposes China's demands under the pretext of acting under Japanese inspiration. Finally, the trade regulations recently enacted between Japan and Korea have displeased the Celestial officials. As we have previously indicated, Chinese authorities, by discarding the request of Korea, mean this:—"It is no wonder that Japan treats your country (Korea) with an air of haughtiness, and busies herself about the independence or otherwise of your nation, for, absurd as it is, your country regards the Middle Kingdom inimically, and fears Japan, but not China." This clearly shows that Korea in her dealings with China has put forth the name of Japan. China, therefore, is jealous. It is reported that, when the British and German Ministers informed Li Hung-chung of their intention to ratify the treaty with Korea independent of China's assistance, the Viceroy appeared displeased. England and Germany are about to model their treaties on that between Japan and Korea. General Foote is reported to have given an expressive opinion on the validity and advantage of the Korean-Japan Treaty. Thus, it appears that Japan has unintentionally evoked the suspicion and ill-feeling of China. We have contributed toward abolishing China's suzerainty over Korea, and the former does not like to see Korea an independent country because Korea's independence must benefit the intercourse between her and Japan. Hence the ill-feeling on the part of China.

With regard to the opium affair, we have tried to glean every particular, but having no access to the investigation now proceeding, we are obliged to accept what has leaked out. Our Government insists that the Japanese police were justified in entering the houses of Chinese residents and arresting inmates while opium smoking, an offence which is treated here differently to all others. There have been previous instances of opium-smokers being arrested by the Japanese police. It

is unreasonable that the Chinese should raise an objection on the present occasion, while they have remained silent previously. Their Consul accuses the Government of violation of the treaty. Although we cannot vouch for the accuracy of this particular report, it is plain that the Chinese Government is dissatisfied with our treatment of its subjects. During the last twelve years—the period that has elapsed since free intercourse was inaugurated between China and Japan—four unpleasant events, we repeat, have occurred; and the Chinese Government has abandoned itself to causeless suspicion and an insolent demeanour. It is with great regret that we note a strain upon the relations between China and Japan.

IN H.B.M. COURT FOR JAPAN.

Before N. J. HANNEN Esq., Judge.—Tuesday, 4th December, 1883.

J. E. CARTER v. J. J. GRAY AND J. J. GRAY
v. J. E. CARTER.

Mr. Carter claimed the sum of \$400.00 for services alleged to have been rendered during the construction of the schooner *Penelope*; and Mr. Gray, entered a counter claim for loss sustained through Mr. Carter's negligence.

Mr. Carter stated that, in October last year, Mr. Gray, being desirous to go into the otter-hunting business, made a proposition to him, that if he would join with him he would supply the money and build a schooner like the one Mr. Cook had built the year before, and after several days' talking with Mr. Cook it was agreed to build a vessel for \$6,000, Mr. Gray telling him that he (Carter) had no money and wanted to make some, and Gray had money and wanted to make more. This was the second time that Gray had asked him to go into the business, the first time being when the yacht *Breeze* was sold, which he refused to have anything to do with, as he was making money by his pilotage business. He drew up a contract for the construction of the vessel and submitted it to Gray and Cook. With some slight alterations, putting in his name as supervisor of the work, the contract was agreed to and left with Mr. Cook to get clean copies made. The contract was to have been signed on the 1st November, but was not signed at that time owing to some difficulty with the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank. Mr. Cook commenced the vessel and from that time plaintiff was constantly in attendance. The contract was signed about the 9th November. He was in attendance till the 30th November at which time the keel was laid, stern post in position, and the frame work partly up. An opportunity offered for him to pilot a vessel to Hakodate, to which Mr. Gray gave his consent, and instructed him to enquire into the business in the north while he was there. On his return Mr. Gray did not complain that his absence had caused any inconvenience. He returned on the 1st January, and found the vessel but slightly advanced. Gray expressed his opinion that Mr. Cook was giving more attention to this vessel than he had ever done before. After his return from Hakodate he was constantly in attendance at the yard, and procured money from a friend to enable Mr. Gray to pay the second instalment. He was in company with Mr. Gray till the vessel was finished and passed by Captain MacDonald. His name was put on the papers as master when the registry was applied for at H.B.M. Consulate. About the middle of April he got the vessel under weigh by the aid of coolies paid by him and sailed

the vessel from opposite the boat-house to the English hatoba so as to be ready to take in stores. By this time Mr. Gray allowed himself to be led away by the chief hunter, and treated him (Carter) with the utmost contempt, telling him that he was nervous, because he remonstrated against carrying an American and a Russian ensign on board a British vessel, and he (Gray) either could not or would not explain their use. On the 7th April, Mr. Gray asked him if he would give up charge of the vessel till she was ready for sea; this he consented to, and on the 18th April Mr. Gray informed him that he had engaged another master for the *Penelope*.

To Mr. Gray—Carter said he was engaged in piloting which was profitable. He, Carter, had no license. He did not apply for any employment while the ship was being built, except by Mr. Gray's advice, when he saw Mr. Whittall about that gentleman's steamer. Witness did not know when he applied. The conversation between himself and Mr. Gray took place in the coal yard. Could not say whether it was before or after he went to Hakodate.

Carter said he had applied for the command of the yacht *Marchesa* by Mr. Gray's advice. He had never been otter or seal hunting. There was nothing for him to learn about fitting out a vessel for this business: it only required the experience of a master. He (Carter) had been employed in the Mitsu Bishi Company, whose service he left to take charge of another vessel with the consent of the Agent in Kobe. The Mitsu Bishi Company had not paid him. He had given notice to the Agent in Kobe that he was going to leave the service. Gray gave his consent to his (Carter's) going to Hakodate, being glad that he (Carter) should make a few dollars. On his return from Hakodate he reported that the weather had been so severe he did not go ashore. He received \$125 for going to Hakodate. He was away on three occasions during the construction of the *Penelope*. He took three ships down the Bay as pilot, for which services he received \$80 in all. He was away one day in each ship. He generally left at night and returned by boat to Uraga and thence to Yokokama, the return journey taking about four hours. Witness was two days on the *Paul Revere*: on the others only a few hours. He was not absent on any other occasion, and had nothing to do with the *Helena*. He went on a picnic in her to Shinagawa, with Mr. Gray's permission, and was away from 3 o'clock one afternoon and the whole of the next day. She touched off the Forts. When he (Carter) left the *Penelope* the contractor had finished with her. He did not know whether she had been turned over. It was in April that he left the *Penelope*. The last payment was made on 28th March, 1883. When witness left he did not leave anybody in charge. The vessel was in a perfectly safe position. He had never assumed command of her. On the 9th April he was ordered to go on board but refused, as Gray would not give him any money. The register of the schooner was applied for in the beginning of April. Witness had not spoken about an advance previous to this, as it was the usual thing to have an advance. After the vessel was ready for sea he wrote to Mr. Gray (letter and answer produced) on 7th April. Mr. White did not offer him \$300 to enable him to go away. He was doing a good business up to the time of the commencement of the building of the schooner. After his return from Hakodate, Gray asked him not to do any more piloting but to stick by the schooner, which he did. When he took any ships down the Bay he was only absent for a few

hours. He got ashore from the *Paul Revere* in a fishing boat and landed at Uraga. There is no agreement in force that he should have a fourth share of the schooner, he having given up his share. He (Carter) had never asked Gray's permission to give up his share (agreement handed in). Had never made any inquiries as to what the catch had been. He would only have been too glad to have gone in the schooner; but it was impossible for him to leave Yokohama without money, which Mr. Gray refused to advance. When money was offered to Mr. Gray to make the advance, Gray said he would not "have Carter on board at any price."

John Carroll, shipbuilder, stated that he signed the contract to build the *Penelope* (contract handed in) Mr. Cook being only the manager of the yard. He did not know who drafted the contract. The contract states that Mr. Carter was to supervise the building. Mr. Carter was present when all the payments were made, but had nothing to do with the building of the vessel. Witness remembered a letter being written to Mr. Gray stating that there would be some delay in delivering the vessel, as Carter required several additions to be made. Mr. Gray did not refer witness to Carter; on all occasions witness referred Mr. Gray to Mr. Cook who was building the ship. He did not know how many times Carter had been in the yard: Carter was present at the launch, and also when the ship's bottom was painted at Benten. He had never threatened to turn Carter out of the yard for being too officious.

To His Honour—A foreman's pay would be about \$5.00 a day, and the foreman would not attend to any other duties.

To Mr. Gray—Witness said that Mr. Cook superintended the building of the vessel. He was in the yard at work every day during her construction. Witness did the iron work, after taking his measurements from Mr. Cook. Witness never received any instructions from Carter, and did not remember seeing Carter every day, but thought he should have seen him had he been in the yard.

To Mr. Carter—You were there to watch Mr. Gray's interests, not mine.

At noon the Court adjourned until 2 p.m.

On the resuming at 2 p.m.,

Captain W. MacDonald, Lloyd's Surveyor, stated that he had surveyed the schooner *Penelope* after her launch. He had informed Mr. Carter of the proper form in which to make an application for the register. He thought Carter was present when he surveyed the ship. Witness found the vessel a few tons larger than the *Ada*. He looked upon Carter as in charge of the schooner, but knew nothing of the arrangements between Gray and Carter.

To Mr. Gray—He had measured one other vessel in Mr. Cook's yard. He was only there once to measure the *Penelope*; but took final measurements after she was floated.

J. J. Gray said that on the 9th of November last year he contracted with Mr. Cook to build a boat for him to engage in the otter hunting business in the north, with the approbation of Mr. Carter, who undertook to superintend the construction, fitting-out, and provisioning of the schooner and to take charge of her as master. Witness was then engaged in the coal business of Gray & Co. as managing partner. Carter left Yokohama about the end of November without witness's consent, and did not return until January this year. In the meantime witness had sold his business, knowing that some one must look after the schooner, and

that the vessel had to leave at a certain time of the year, and knowing also that Mr. Carter's business as a pilot might take him away when he was required to look after the schooner. It was for this reason, Carter's absence, that witness had sold his business, whereby he had sustained a loss.

To the Court—He had heard that Mr. Carter was going north, but did not speak to him on the subject as Carter had not informed him of any such intention. It was on account of Carter leaving that he sold the business. Through friendship for Carter he did not at first object to his absence, thinking he might not be away for more than a fortnight. He was away a month.

Mr. Gray continued—Several conversations had taken place between him and Carter about the vessel leaving early. At last, seeing that Carter was interesting himself more about other vessels than the *Penelope*, he asked him to go on board and look after the stores, etc., for the schooner (letter put in). Carter not complying with this request, witness had to engage another Captain, which caused a delay of thirteen days in the vessel's departure, and caused him damage, because his vessel, arriving late on the hunting-ground, others got otters where she failed. One craft got six otters, valued at about \$1,000. Her name was the *Stella*. Witness had boarded her and saw the skins.

To Mr. Carter—I have been head steward on a vessel. I know that you (Carter) had others to provide for besides yourself. I did not offer you money to buy things for the ship, but told you to buy them and charge them to me. When you asked me to buy two water tanks from the *Raffael*, I did not say "there was plenty of time." I desired you to buy a sextant and chronometer from Mr. Collyer for \$50.00, but you said they were not to be purchased at the price. When I asked you to spend all your spare time with the head-hunter you did not refuse. You attended only one auction with me; looking for stuff for the schooner, and had been with me to shipchandler's stores to explain what was wanted; you gave me a list of ship chandlery things which were required but it was almost useless. Together we made out the list of things to be ordered from England. I did not send the ship down the bay and follow it at night to evade your summons. Mr. Green went as a passenger on the trip. He paid for his passage but not in money. I did not sell the coal business to raise money for the schooner. I applied at H.B.M. Consulate after she was built to know whether I could sign as master; not during her construction. I was the owner and thought that, as the vessel was under 100 tons, I could sign as master and get a second master, knowing that this has often been done before, and that unqualified persons had sailed out of this port as masters in vessels under 100 tons. I did not apply, but merely asked the question. This was in April when I thought Mr. Carter was throwing me over. It was by my desire that Mr. Carter's name was inserted in the builder's contract. I did not know what a master's duties were, but thought the master should have checked the stores. I advanced \$50 to the master who went with me. He came from an American ship, but held an English master's certificate, and was examined by Captain MacDonald. I have not been in the business long enough to know certainly, but have heard that, as a rule, the masters of such vessels as the *Penelope* do not have an advance. Captain Miner is the present captain of the *Penelope*, since Captain Pierce's death. The ship was finished about contract time. I had several times complained to Mr.

Carter about his negligence, and had even asked him to hand over the ship to me as he was delaying her departure.

F. E. White deposed that during the construction of the *Penelope* he often visited the yard, and had seen Mr. Carter there, and knew about the contract. He found out that Mr. Carter was not going as master after the vessel was launched. He heard of it from both parties. On one occasion he made an offer to Mr. Gray to give Mr. Carter monetary assistance to enable him to leave Yokohama. Witness went on board the *Penelope* and asked Mr. Gray's permission for Carter to go to Shinagawa, to which Mr. Gray consented. During Mr. Carter's absence at Hakodate witness did not hear Mr. Gray complain. He understood that Carter had Gray's consent to go.

To Mr. Gray, F. E. White said—I have no fixed hours of duty at the Consulate, and have plenty of time to go round to Mr. Cook's yard after 4 o'clock. I think that the workmen are employed till 5 o'clock in winter and 6 o'clock in the summer. I often saw Mr. Carter round there, and think I have seen the contract for the vessel. It was Mr. Carter who showed me the contract, and asked my advice about it. I offered Mr. Gray money to give to Carter so as to enable him to go in the schooner. I did this as a mutual friend. The *Helena* sailed for the north about the 14th or 15th April, about a week before the *Penelope*. I asked Mr. Gray's consent for Mr. Carter to go to Shinagawa. This was on board the *Penelope*. There was no money in the question. Carter simply went as a friend. The *Helena* was going to Tokiyo to dock. At that time she had just been bought. She had been north one season before. When the contract was signed Mr. Gray was managing a coal business, which was a satisfactory and remunerative one. Mr. Gray and I were partners in the business.

H. Cook said he recognized the contract to build the *Penelope*. He superintended the building and rigging of her. He had no assistance, and did not want any. Mr. Carter did not give him any assistance, and gave him no instructions so that she might pass Lloyd's. Witness would have objected to receiving instructions from Carter. Carter came there from time to time, and walked in and out of the yard. After the ship was in the Bay he asked Mr. Carter to come on board one Sunday, but Carter said it was blowing too hard. Mr. Carter had then not been on board for some time so as she was nearly fitted witness had asked him to come and look at her. After notice had been sent that she was finished, Mr. Carter made out a list of things to be done to her but these he refused to do, as they ought to have been mentioned before when the men were still at work on her. It was Mr. Gray who sent me the list. Mr. Carter did not assist me in the construction of the vessel. I have built most of the other schooners here, and never had any assistance from the owners. My vessels have always passed Captain MacDonald. The owner arranges with Captain MacDonald.

To Mr. Carter—The contract was drafted by Mr. Carter and altered by me. It is exactly the same as the *Ada*'s. I put the skylight on myself, and had some words about it at Benten. I fitted up the cabin as I always do. I sent the draft of the sails to Hongkong, as was understood before the contract for the boat was made, this was at Mr. Carter's suggestion. Mr. Carter did not see the draft before the sails were made. I superintended the building of a boat for the P.M. S. Company and bought all the wood. My salary was \$150 a month,

The Japanese did not give me any commission. I did not put in all my time to superintend the building. In summer the men work from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m.; in winter from 6.45 a.m. to 5 p.m. I and Mr. Carter have not been on very good terms for some time. I do not know whether Mr. Carter was on board when I bent the sails.

To Mr. Gray—Mr. Carter seldom came on board. I prefer a hardwood (*keyaki*) keel made in two pieces to an Oregon soft wood keel in one piece. The boat with the hard-wood keel would class the higher.

S. Cocker said he was second hunter on the *Penelope*, and was engaged in February or March. He went on board nearly every day, when the vessel was in the Bay. He only saw Mr. Carter once, when he said something about the sails. Witness was anxious to get away, knowing that the first vessels up there had the best chance for others. Has been in the business for two years. Thought Mr. Gray tried to push on and get away; but there were others who did not seem to hurry. Did not think Mr. Carter assisted at all to get her away. Witness was on a twelfth lay. When they got north the *Stella* had got six others. If they had got away earlier, no doubt they would have got some.

To Mr. Carter—Witness had an advance of \$150. He was anxious to get away. The vessels that left later did not do so well as the *Penelope*. He did not remember whether it was when the sails were bent or when the flooring was put down that Mr. Carter came on board. It was not by witness's advice that Mr. Gray did not take Mr. Carter. He did not know by whose advice it was.

J. S. Teller said in July or August last Mr. Carter distinctly told him that he should hold to his fourth share. This was before she returned. He also said that if she made a catch he should make a very good thing of it. Mr. Blackstone was also present. The conversation was held in the Spring Valley Brewery.

A deposition made by Mr. E. Miner before his departure was then read. It was corroborative of the statements of Mr. Gray and his witnesses.

Mr. Gray said he would leave the matter in His Honour's hands. He thought he had proved that he had been put to great inconvenience and expense. It was a venture he had undertaken with Captain Carter and through the failure of that person to fulfil his contract, he (Gray) had had to go north himself and act as third on board.

Mr. Carter said that he had done his best in Mr. Gray's interest and had been most anxious to go; but Mr. Gray would not provide him with funds. He had lost \$422.00 during the building of the schooner by having to give up his business.

Judgment reserved.

IN H.B.M.'S SUPREME COURT FOR CHINA, AND JAPAN.

Before Sir R. T. RENNIE, Chief Justice, and R. A. MOWAT, Esq., Assistant Judge.

HIROSE SIMA V. GEORGE BLAKEWAY.

APPEAL CASE.—JUDGMENT.

The main point involved in this appeal is whether the defendant can successfully plead in bar to the present action, brought for the wrongful sale by him of the plaintiff's property, a judgment delivered in the Japanese Courts in a suit brought by the plaintiff against the person to whom the defendant had sold the property in question. We concur with the learned Judge of the Court below in holding that he

cannot do so, and that no estoppel arises in such a case, on the simple ground that the defendant was neither a party nor privy to the proceedings in the Japanese Courts. Another point made for the appellant is that as the act in question was not shown to be a tort according to the law of Japan (in the waters of which country the property was), it cannot be treated as a tort in an English Court. Again we agree with the learned Judge in holding that, in the absence of any evidence to the contrary, it was to be presumed that the unauthorised sale of another's property is a tort according to the law of Japan. On the question of fact, which is the only remaining matter urged by the appellant, we see no reason to differ from the finding of the Court below. The appeal will therefore be dismissed with costs.—*N. C. Daily News.*

THE PRIEST AND THE DUCK.

AN ANNAMITE LEGEND.

Adapted from the French of "Viator," in *La France* :—

Generally speaking, the Annamites are votaries of the religion of Buddha, which in that country is called "Phat;" but they do not practise it scrupulously; and it can only be said of them that they are Buddhists in name. The religion of the multitude consists in worship of the dead and the adoration of protecting genii. The eminently distinguishing point of this people is a gross superstition. In Annam is to be found a number of people who, side by side with the ordinary divinities, worship tigers, crocodiles, and other animals which strike terror into the vulgar mind. On the other hand, there are many who make divinities of the beings from whom they hope to receive benefits. The Annamites, who have borrowed from the Chinese their laws and literature, have also taken from that people its religion and its superstitious rites. The Annamite Pantheon is inhabited by Chinese deities, some of a superior, others of an inferior, grade, and to categorize them would require a complete volume.

But outside these "official" gods, each individual may choose private ones which become the titular protectors of the house and the family. These domestic deities, answering to the *penates* and *lares* of the Romans, are not invariably the objects of the adoration of their entertainers; if, for example they do not always comply with imperious requests. Then the worshipper behaves as the pagan, in La Fontaine's fable, behaved toward his wooden idol.

The ruler of Annam has, like ordinary householders, his *penates*, whom he can promote by one degree when they have fulfilled his wishes, or knock to pieces when they are recalcitrant or deaf to his prayers. Nevertheless it sometimes happens, as Mr. Chaigneaux, the author of the *Souvenirs of Huc* says, that, "when the punishment has been inflicted, the punisher begins to feel uneasy; and the fear of the god's vengeance quickly succeeds to anger. The idol is reinstated on its altar, with many requests for pardon; and peace is made with it, if meanwhile one does not intend to risk everything and to choose another divinity which will attend better to its business."

As regards the literati, mandarins, and others of high standing, they follow the doctrine of Confucius, the apostle of wisdom, who prescribes the cult of the Supreme Being, and veneration of parents as well as of ancestors; but, as in his precepts,

which are rather moral than religious, the followers of the Confucian sect do not disdain to have recourse to the prayers of the "bonzes," or Buddhist priests, in order that the latter should intercede, in their behalf, with the divinity, and procure for them admission into the halls of the blessed, these bonzes profess that man has many souls. One of these, say they, on leaving the body departs to Hades. Another transmigrates into another mortal frame where it undergoes a period of penance. If we may believe them, the priests of Buddha have power to withdraw from hell the soul of one of the damned and place it in a more favorable domicile; but it must not be disguised that this change is difficult, the road to Paradise being dangerous to approach, lined by fearful precipices and haunted by atrocious monsters. Free-thinkers do not believe, as one may well comprehend, all these yarns. They make game of the power that the Bonzes attribute to themselves, especially when these whose priests, flesh is so frail, venture to expound the precepts of their religion.

So far so well: the Buddhist creed prescribes abstinence, and interdicts the use of meat by the priests. They must eat salt-fish with rice and fermented vegetables. Yet, some of the Buddhist priests, finding that this régime is too "thin," are faithless to their "Phat" divinity; and it is one of their infractions of the general rule that has originated the following story :—

A certain countryman had a duck for which he had conceived a romantic affection. This kind of affection is by no means uncommon. Did not "Cham," our amusing and much lamented caricaturist, possess a duck, which he was very fond of? The author of a biography of Cham, just now in course of publication in the *Figaro*, relates that the son of the Count of Noah when he had just commenced his career, fell in love with a duck which was about to be killed and spitted for his degustation. The caricaturist arrived in time to save the quacker from the cook's claws. If we can believe Perichon, one is always bound to any animal that one has preserved from sudden death. This was the case with Cham, who was then, as it happens, moving from a lower to an upper story. He made his duck follow him as a dog would: talked to it like a friend, and, being unable to give the palmed pond to swim in, left it his basin for bathing and native purposes. Unhappily good things do not last; and the time came when Cham lost his duck for ever.

This digression brings us by a devious route to the story of the Annamite Priest and his duck. An Annamite peasant lost his duck, possibly not in the way that "Cham," the noted French caricaturist, did, but quite as effectually. The Annam duck was fat and plump; and for these virtues it had been ogled and ardently coveted by a bonze, who lived in the house adjoining that of the peasant proprietor. But how could the priest obtain possession of the desirable fowl? The ecclesiastic, after deeply cogitating, one fine afternoon stole like a thief into the premises of his neighbor; and there prostrated himself before the barnyard brute which was taking a quiet afternoon's siesta, as ducks do, cosily balanced on one leg. Just imagine the astonishment of the duck when it woke! It had never been so honored before. Many animals, as we have said, are deified in Annam; but they are generally savage beasts—tigers, crocodiles, and so forth—creatures, in fact, from which man has something to fear. Ducks had never previously been so highly beatified! And then, for a person so venerable, so high-placed, as a bonze, to offer such homage to a duck! It was certainly the first time that such a thing had happened in Annam. The honest truth is that the duck was somewhat distrustful of so exemplary an act of adoration. It believed that some snare was laid for the inveiglement of its youth and inexperience, and therefore it scuttled away as quickly as its short legs and heavy obesity would allow.

The owner of the bird had observed this remarkable scene from afar. Approaching the worshipper he asked :—

"How is it, oh! honorable representative of Buddha, that you prostrate yourself before that unclean fowl?"

"Hush!" replied the friar, mysteriously, "a hu-

man soul has passed into the body of that bird, and the soul, list you!" is that of my father! You, with your mundane eyes, did not perceive it; but I, with vision more acute, knew it at once. Hence, man! my veneration for that waddling biped; from which, be assured, on the word of a Bonze, that nothing in the world shall tear me!"

Much touched by this address, the clown, despite the love that he had for his bird, agreed to dispose of it to the Buddhist priest, who carried the duck away in spite of its resistance and complaints.

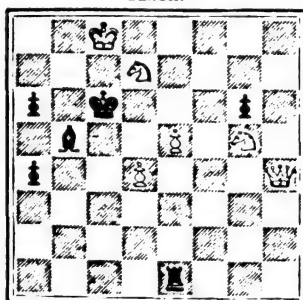
A few days later chance took the clown to the Monastery. Crossing the court-yard, he trod on a heap of plumage, in which he imagined he recognized the feathery spoils of his favorite. His curiosity being aroused by this supposed discovery, he marched straight to the cell of the priest, whom he found devouring the last leg of the duck, with every appearance of gastronomic appreciation. Although His Reverence was put a little out of countenance by the unlooked for apparition of the defunct and devoured animal's former owner, he quickly recovered his equanimity, and spoke thus:—

"Just as you see me, I am achieving a painful duty. Dear and estimable neighbour, you may not believe, but truth is truth! From the body of that duck, which you were kind enough to give me, and into which my father took the trouble to enter, (strange fancy of his, eh?), I have expelled the soul. Truly it had too unworthy a tenement! By dint of praying I succeeded; but what was I to do with the remaining shell? Throw it to the beasts and birds of prey? That would have been a horrid profanation! My evident duty was to cause all the carcase to disappear, but without any offence to an adored memory. Well, I had to take the whole charge upon myself," (here the worthy priest heaved a stomachic sigh), "and, as you may see, I am just finishing my lugubrious task!"

Who was put to shame? The clown, certainly! who swore, rather too late like the crow in the fable, that he would not be caught again!

CHESS.

By V. N. PORTILLA.
(From the Westminster Papers.)
BLACK.



WHITE.

White to play and mate in 3 moves.
Solution to Chess Problem of 1st December,
by Mr. F. HEALEY.

- | | |
|---------------------------|--------------------|
| White. | Black. |
| 1.—R. to Q. B. sq. | 1.—B. to Q. 8, ch. |
| 2.—R. takes B. | 2.—Anything. |
| 3.—Q. mates. | |
| | if 1.—B. to Q. 6. |
| 2.—Q. to K. B. 4, ch. | 2.—K. to Q. 5. |
| 3.—Kt. to Q. Kt. 5, mate. | |
| | if 1.—B. takes P. |
| 2.—Q. to K. B. 4, ch. | 2.—K. to Q. 5. |
| 3.—Q. takes B. mate. | |

Correct solution received from "TESA."

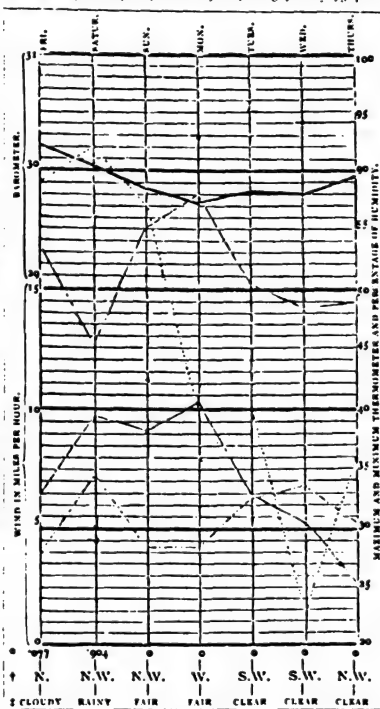
SUNDAY CHURCH SERVICES.

Christ Church : 11 a.m. and 5.30 p.m.
Union Church : 11 a.m. and 8 p.m.
Roman Catholic Church : 8 and 9.30 a.m.
English Church, No. 12, Sakaicho, Shiba, Tokijo :
11 a.m.

METEOROLOGICAL REPORT.

FOR WEEK BEGINNING FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 30TH, 1883.

Observatory of Daigaku, Moto-Fujicho, Hongh, Tokijo, Japan.



REMARKS.
Heavy line represents barometer.
Light continuous line—maximum and minimum thermometers.
— represents velocity of wind.
— represents percentage of humidity.
The barometer is reduced to the freezing point and to the level of the sea.
* Rain in Inches. † Direction of Wind. ‡ Weather.
Maximum velocity of wind 23.0 miles per hour on Thursday at 5 p.m.
The highest reading of the barometer for the week was 30.25 inches on Friday at 11 p.m., and the lowest was 29.806 inches on Monday at 2 p.m.
The highest temperature for the week was 57.9 on Monday, and the lowest was 35.3 on Thursday. The maximum and minimum for the corresponding week of last year were 65.0 and 31.0 respectively.
The total amount of rain for the week was .981 inches, against .000 inches for the corresponding week of last year.

TIME TABLES.

YOKOHAMA-TOKIO RAILWAY.

The Trains LEAVE YOKOHAMA Station at 7.30, 8.45, 9.30, 10.15, and 11.30 a.m., and 1.00, 2.30, 4.00, 5.00, 6.15, 8.00, 9.15, and 10.30 p.m.

The Trains LEAVE TOKIO (Shinbashi) at 7.30, 8.45, 10.00, 10.45, and 11.30 a.m., and 1.00, 2.30, 4.00, 5.00, 6.15, 8.00, 9.15, and 10.30 p.m.

Those marked with (†) run through without stopping at Tsurumi, Kawasaki, and Omori Stations. Those with (‡) are the same as above with the exception of stopping at Kawasaki Station.

UYENO-KUMAGAI RAILWAY.

The Trains leave UYENO at 7 and 11.30 a.m. and 4 p.m., and HONJO at 6.30 and 11 a.m. and 3.30 p.m.

The Fares are:—Special-class (Separate Compartment), yen 2.35; First-class, yen 1.40; Third-class, sen 70.

YOKOSUKA STEAMERS.

The Yokosuka steamers leave the English Hatoba daily at 8.15 and 10.45 a.m., and 12.30, 3.00, and 4.15 p.m.; and leave Yokosuka at 7.00 and 9.45 a.m., 12.15 m., and 2.00 and 4.00 p.m.

LATEST TELEGRAMS.

[REUTER "SPECIAL" TO "JAPAN MAIL."]

London, December 1st.

FRANCE AND CHINA.

The Committee of the Chamber of Deputies have issued their report on the Tonquin Affair, and recommend an amicable settlement with China. Meanwhile, however, the necessary preparations with regard to reinforcements are to be continued.

London, December 5th.

THE FRANCO-CHINA QUESTION.

It is announced that France, Russia, and the United States have agreed to co-operate, and that the English and German Governments will either remain neutral or act as protectors of China.

[REUTER'S TELEGRAMS.]

London, 21st November.

THE NEW ADMIRAL FOR THE CHINA STATION.

Admiral Dowell succeeds Admiral Willes as Commander-in-Chief of the British Squadron in China and Japan.

THE WAR IN THE SOUDAN.

The hill tribes have attacked near Squakim an Egyptian reinforcement for the army in the Soudan; 486 were killed.

London, November 24th.

Hicks Pasha's army in the Soudan has been destroyed.

Of the whole number of Hicks Pasha's army of 10,500 men, only one escaped.

The order for the evacuation of Egypt has been countermanded, pending the development of events.

London, November 28th.

FRANCE AND MADAGASCAR.

Negotiations are at a standstill between the Government at Tamatave and the French, the latter insisting upon their previous demands.

MAIL STEAMERS.

THE NEXT MAIL IS DUE

| | | |
|----------------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------|
| From Europe, | via Hongkong, per M. M. Co. | Monday, Dec. 10th.* |
| From Hongkong, per P. M. Co. | | Monday, Dec. 10th.† |
| From America ... per P. M. Co. | | Thursday, Dec. 13th.‡ |
| From Shanghai, } per M. B. Co. | | Thursday, Dec. 17th.§ |
| Nagasaki, & Kobe ... | | |
| From America ... per O. & O. Co. | | Friday, Dec. 21st. |

* Marseilles (with French mail) left Hongkong on December 3rd.
† City of Rio de Janeiro left Hongkong on December 3rd.
‡ City of Peking left San Francisco on November 22nd.
§ Left Shanghai on December 5th.
|| Arabic left San Francisco on December 1st.

THE NEXT MAIL LEAVES

| | | |
|-------------------------------|-----------------|-----------------------|
| For Kobe ... | per M. B. Co. | Saturday, Dec. 8th. |
| For Hakodate ... | per M. B. Co. | Monday, Dec. 10th. |
| For America ... | per P. M. Co. | Wednesday, Dec. 12th. |
| For Europe, via Hongkong ... | per P. & O. Co. | Saturday, Dec. 5th. |
| For Shanghai, } per M. B. Co. | | Saturday, Dec. 15th. |
| Kobe, and Nagasaki ... | | |

The arrival and departure of mails by the Occidental and Oriental, the Pacific Mail, and the Peninsular and Oriental Companies, are approximate only.

LATEST SHIPPING.

FREIGHTS.

No improvement can be reported in freights at the ports of Japan, and this condition of affairs is in sympathy with the China ports and Hongkong. The Russian brig *Sophie* has been taken up during the week by Chinese, and is loading wheat for Amoy. The berth for New York, via Suez Canal, is occupied by the *Benvenue*, *Benlarig*, and *Mosser*.

ARRIVALS.

Takasago Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,229, C. Young, 1st November, Hakodate, 28th and Oginohama 30th November, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Niigata Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,096, Hubbard, 3rd December, Kobe 1st December, Mails and General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Taganoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 454, Matsumoto, 3rd December, Yokkaichi 28th November, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Lady Bowen, British bark, 890, L. Rodd, 3rd December, Newcastle, N.S.W. 4th October, Coals.—Order.

Seirio Maru, Japanese steamer, 454, Tamura, 3rd December, Yokkaichi 30th November, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Venice, British steamer, 1,270, G. Ainslie, 3rd December, Hongkong 23rd November, Mails and General.—Smith, Baker & Co.

Yetchin Maru, Japanese steamer, 784, Burgoyne, 4th December, Yokkaichi, General.—Kiyodo Unyu Kwaisha.

Gordon Castle, British steamer, 1,320, W. Waring, 4th December, Hongkong 27th November, General.—Adamson, Bell & Co.

Loretta Fish, American ship, 1,847, H. A. Hyler, 4th December, New York 8th June, Kerosene and General.—China and Japan Trading Co.

Mosser, British steamer, 1,384, Longley, 4th December, London, 4th October and Hongkong 27th November, General.—Smith, Baker & Co.

Ise Maru, Japanese steamer, 748, J. J. Efford, 5th December, Kobe 3rd December, General.—Kiyodo Unyu Kwaisha.

Taganoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 428, Matsumoto, 5th December, Yokkaichi, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Kamtschatka, Russian steamer, 748, Ingman 6th December, Kobe 3rd December, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Genkai Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,914, G. W. Conner, 6th December, Shanghai and ports, Mails and General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Toyoshima Maru, Japanese steamer, 946, Thomas, 6th December, Hachinohe 6th December, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Benlarig, British steamer, 1,481, John H. Clark, 7th December, Hongkong 30th November, General.—Mourilyan, Heimann & Co.

Higo Maru, Japanese steamer, 806, R. N. Walker, 7th December, Hakodate 4th and Oginohama 6th December, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Khiva, British steamer, 2,609, P. Harris, 8th December, Hongkong 29th November via Nagasaki and Kobe, General.—P. & O. S. N. Co.

DEPARTURES.

Zambesi, British steamer, 1,540, L. H. Moule, 1st December, Hongkong via Kobe and Nagasaki, Mails and General.—P. & O. S. N. Co.

Kamtschatka, Russian steamer, 703, Ingman, 2nd December, Kobe, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Kosuge Maru, Japanese steamer, 751, Kawaoka, 2nd December, Hakodate, General.—Kiyodo Unyu Kwaisha.

Takasago Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,229, C. Young, 3rd December, Kobe, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Haddon Hall, British ship, 1,496, W. R. Leighton, 4th December, Kobe, General.—C. Illies & Co.

Richmond (14), U.S. flagship, Captain J. S. Skerrett, 4th December, Kobe.

Shinagawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,169, J. E. Kilgour, 4th December, Kobe, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Niigata Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,097, Hubbard, 5th December, Hakodate, Mails and General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Gordon Castle, British steamer, 1,320, W. Waring, 5th December, New York via ports, General.—Adamson, Bell & Co.

Hercules, American ship, 1,206, S. Lincoln, 5th December, Kobe, Original cargo.—Smith, Baker & Co.

Hiroshima Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,862, J. Wynn, 5th December, Shanghai and ports, Mails and General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Penelope, British schooner, 85, Miner, 5th December, Cruise.—J. Gray.

Radnorshire, British steamer, 1,154, S. Rickards, 5th December, London via ports, General.—Adamson, Bell & Co.

Venice, British steamer, 1,270, G. Ainslie, 5th December, New York via ports, General.—Smith, Baker & Co.

Taganoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 454, Matsumoto, 6th December, Yokkaichi, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Gembu Maru, Japanese steamer, 748, F. J. Brown, 7th December, Hakodate, General.—Kiyodo Unyu Kwaisha.

Kamtschatka, Russian steamer, 748, Ingman, 7th December, Kobe, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

Tanais, French steamer, 1,750, Vaquier, 8th December, Hongkong, Mails and General.—Messageries Maritimes Co.

Toyoshima Maru, Japanese steamer, 579, Thomas, 8th December, Oginohama, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S.S. Co.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per Japanese steamer *Takasago Maru*, from Hakodate via Oginohama:—Messrs. Stoddart, Kodado, and 9 Japanese in cabin; and 133 Japanese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Niigata Maru*, from Kobe: Messrs. Shida, T. W. Hellyer, Bensaburo, Hachirobey, Shinzana, Kime, and Usui in cabin; and 76 Japanese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Ise Maru*, from Kobe:—Governor Morioka and 46 Japanese.

Per Japanese steamer *Genkai Maru*, from Shanghai and ports:—Mr. and Mrs. Bissett, Mr. and Mrs. A. R. P. Collaço and infant, Captain Davison, Messrs. A. J. Lines, Goward, Greppi, J. Falk, R. Trevelick, D. J. Falk, J. F. Twombly, Hasegawa, Mori, Kobayashi, Takagi, Tamaye, Mizuno, Suzuki, Matsumoto, and Mifune in cabin; and Mrs. Collaço's amah, J. Bruno, J. L. Thompson, Mr. Goward's servant, 1 Chinese, and 194 Japanese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Higo Maru*, from Hakodate via Oginohama:—Rev. C. B. Poate, Messrs. Hamilton, Bland, and 15 Japanese in cabin; and 173 Japanese and 16 ship-wrecked Chinese in steerage.

Per British steamer *Khiva*, from Hongkong via Nagasaki and Kobe:—Mrs. Wheeler, 2 children, and amah, Mr. C. Vercoe and servant, Messrs. C. P'Anson, Williams, and Wong Lung Choon in cabin; and 1 European and 16 Japanese in steerage.

DEPARTED.

Per British steamer *Zambesi*, for Hongkong via Kobe and Nagasaki:—Mr. and Mrs. Lowder, Mrs. Hubbard, Miss C. A. Benneson, Miss A. M. White, Dr. Van der Heyde and servant, Lieutenant Bayly, R.N., Staff-surgeon Ellis, R.N., Messrs. T. F. Harrison, R.N., J. B. McIntyre, Drummond, A. S. Bush, W. Hewatson, and Wong Yoke Shin and servant in cabin; and 2 Europeans, 11 Chinese and 19 Japanese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Hiroshima Maru*, for Shanghai and ports:—Bishop Williams, Rev. N. H. and Demorest, Mr. and Mrs. Hara, Mrs. O'Neil and son, Messrs. F. Hellyer, J. A. Thompson, F. A. Singleton, F. W. Playfair, Gotsugi, Date, Okamoto, S. Kawasaki, U. Kawasaki, Kanowo, Yamagata, Kimura, Morimura, Okura, Date, Wakai, and Shibata in cabin.

Per French steamer *Tanais*, for Hongkong:—Messrs. Richard Rush and H. Okudaira in cabin.

CARGOES.

Per British steamer *Zambesi*, for Hongkong via Kobe and Nagasaki:—Silk for France, 1,209 bales; for London, 35 bales; for Italy, 28 bales; Total, 1,272 bales.

Per Japanese steamer *Ise Maru*, from Kobe:—Treasure, \$28,000.

Per Japanese steamer *Genkai Maru*, from Shanghai and ports:—Treasure, \$176,000.00; yss 102,520.31.

Per British steamer *Khiva*, from Hongkong via Nagasaki and Kobe:—Twist, 1,078 bales; Yarn, 306 bales; Sugar, 507 bags; Cattle, 40 head; Sundries, 818 packages.

Per French steamer *Tanais*, for Hongkong:—Silk, for France, 694 bales; for England, 200 bales; for Switzerland, 4 bales; Total, 898 bales.

REPORTS.

The Japanese steamer *Takasago Maru*, Captain C. Young, reports having left Hakodate on the 28th November, at 6 a.m. and arrived at Oginohama on the 29th, at 6.15 a.m.; left that port on the 30th, at 6.16 a.m. and arrived at Yokohama on the 1st December, at 9 a.m.; and experienced northerly wind and fine weather throughout the passage.

The Japanese steamer *Shinagawa Maru*, Captain Kilgour, reports having experienced thick rainy weather with fresh N.E. wind throughout.

The Japanese steamer *Niigata Maru*, Captain John C. Hubbard, reports leaving Kobe on the 1st December, at 5 p.m. with fresh northerly wind and dark threatening swell to Hinoimasaki; thence to port moderate N.W. winds and fine. Arrived at Yokohama on the 3rd inst., at 6 a.m.

The Japanese steamer *Ise Maru*, Captain J. J. Efford, reports leaving Kobe on the 3rd December, at 4.30 p.m. with strong W.N. gale and high sea throughout the passage. Arrived at Yokohama on the 5th December, at 3 a.m.

The Japanese steamer *Toyoshima Maru*, Captain Thomas, reports leaving Hachinohe on the 4th December, at 7.30 a.m. with strong winds from W. to W.S.W. and clear weather throughout the passage. On the 5th December at 5.45 p.m. passed a steamer off Inuboye bound northward. On the 6th, at 10.10 a.m., passed a man-of-war steering southward.

The British steamer *Benlarig*, Captain John H. Clark, from Hongkong, reports having experienced fresh N.E. monsoon with unsettled weather till nearing coast of Japan where strong N.W. and W.N.W. winds set in which continued to port; after all she made the passage under seven days from Hongkong, which is good for this season of the year.

The Japanese steamer *Higo Maru*, Captain R. N. Walker, reports leaving Hakodate on the 4th December, at 8 a.m. with strong N.W. winds with snow squalls to Oginohama where arrived on the 5th, at 8 a.m. and left on the 6th, at 6 p.m.; thence to port N. and N.W. winds with clear weather.

The British steamer *Khiva*, Captain P. Harris, reports leaving Hongkong on the 29th November, at noon with fresh N.E. monsoon to Ocksen; thick rainy weather off Turnabout, thence to Nagasaki moderate to strong gale with high seas. Delayed two hours at the entrance of Simonoeki Straits by snow squalls, strong westerly winds and snow in the Suwo Nada, and fine weather for the rest of the way to Kobe. Delayed three hours at Kobe by falling snow; down the Kii Channel fresh N.W. winds and fine, thence to Yokohama fresh and moderate winds from the westward and very fine weather. On the 6th December, at 2.30 p.m. passed steamship *Zambesi* in the Iyo Nada.

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

During the past few days some little demand has arisen for Imports, and though buyers offer but low prices, there is some indication of an improvement on the utter stagnation which has been ruling.

COTTON YARNS.

| | | |
|----------------------------------|------------|------------------|
| Nos. 16 to 24, Common to Medium- | PER PICUL. | \$25.00 to 28.50 |
| Nos. 16 to 24, Good to Best - | - | 29.25 to 30.00 |
| Bomlay, No. 20, Good to Best - | - | 25.25 to 28.50 |
| Nos. 28 to 32, Common to Medium- | - | 30.50 to 31.50 |
| Nos. 28 to 32, Good to Best - | - | 32.00 to 35.00 |
| Nos. 38 to 42 - | - | 35.00 to 37.50 |

COTTON PIECE GOODS.

| | | |
|-----------------------------------------------|------------|----------------|
| Grey Shirtings—8½, 35½ to 39 inches | PER PICUL. | \$1.70 to 2.15 |
| Grey Shirtings—9½, 35½ to 45 inches | - | 1.85 to 2.35 |
| T. Cloth—7½, 24 yards, 32 inches | - | 1.40 to 1.45 |
| Indigo Shirting—12 yards, 44 inches | - | 1.50 to 1.65 |
| Prints—Assorted, 24 yards, 30 inches | - | 1.10 to 1.40 |
| Cottons—Italians and Sateens Black, 32 inches | PER YARD. | 0.07 to 0.09 |
| Turkey Reds—2 to 2½, 24 yards, 30 inches | PER PICUL. | 1.15 to 1.40 |
| Turkey Reds—2½ to 2½, 24 yards, 30 inches | - | 1.30 to 1.60 |
| Turkey Reds—3½, 24 yards, 30 inches | - | 1.70 to 1.82½ |
| Velvets—Black, 35 yards, 22 inches | - | 5.90 to 6.75 |
| Victoria Lawns, 12 yards, 42-3 inches | - | 0.60 to 0.70 |
| Taffetas, 12 yards, 43 inches | - | 1.75 to 2.05 |

WOOLLENS.

| | | |
|--------------------------------------------------|------------|----------------|
| Plain Orleans, 40-42 yards, 32 inches | PER PICUL. | \$3.60 to 5.25 |
| Figured Orleans, 29-31 yards, 31 inches | - | 3.25 to 4.00 |
| Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches | - | 0.18 to 0.25 |
| Mousseline de Laine—Crape, 24 yards, 31 inches | - | 0.15 to 0.16½ |
| Mousseline de Laine—Itajime, 24 yards, 31 inches | - | 0.18½ to 0.25 |
| Mousseline de Laine—Yuzen, 24 yards, 31 inches | - | 0.30 to 0.37½ |
| Cloths—Pikots, 54 @ 56 inches | - | 0.30 to 0.40 |
| Cloths—Presidents, 54 @ 56 inches | - | 0.40 to 0.50 |
| Cloths—Union, 54 @ 56 inches | - | 0.30 to 0.55 |
| Blankets—Scarlet and Green, 6 to 5½, per lb | - | 0.35 to 0.40 |

IRON.

| | | |
|-------------------------------|------------|----------------|
| Flat Bars, ½ inch | PER PICUL. | \$3.50 to 2.90 |
| Flat Bars, 1 inch | - | 3.80 to 3.00 |
| Round and square up to 1 inch | - | 3.80 to 3.00 |
| Nailrod, assorted | - | 2.35 to 2.60 |
| Nailrod, small size | - | 2.85 to 3.15 |

KEROSENE.

Salce have amounted to 41,000 cases and deliveries to 16,000 cases. The Market is now firm at quotations with a tendency to higher rates. The *Hercules* has been sent on to Kobe with her original cargo, but the *Loretta Fish* has arrived with 69,000 cases and is still in harbour.

| | | |
|--------|-----------|--------|
| Devoe | PER CASE. | \$1.68 |
| Comet | - | 1.65 |
| Stella | - | 1.48 |

SUGAR.

The trade is at a standstill, and the prices given below are purely nominal.

| | | |
|----------------|------------|----------------|
| White, No. 1 - | PER PICUL. | \$8.00 to 8.35 |
| White, No. 2 - | - | 6.75 to 7.00 |
| White, No. 3 - | - | 6.30 to 6.50 |
| White, No. 4 - | - | 5.80 to 6.00 |
| White, No. 5 - | - | 4.60 to 4.75 |
| Brown Formosa | - | 4.25 to 4.30 |

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

Our last was issued on the 30th November, since when business in this staple has somewhat fallen off: Settlements for the week under review being estimated at 600 piculs, including about 180 piculs taken by a prominent Japanese shipper, presumably for Export direct. The *Zambesi* (which vessel did not finally get away till the afternoon of the 2nd instant) took the large quantity of 1,272 bales, nearly all for France. The Export to the Continent of Europe now shows an excess of nearly 5,000 bales over that to same date last year, the exact figures reading 11,986, against 7,053 as per table at foot.

These last few days, on the strength of telegrams reporting a slight rise in European Markets, holders have made a determined attempt to raise prices. Buyers, however, are wary, and but little business results on the new basis. We advance some quotations a little, but most of them must be considered more or less nominal, especially for Hank sorts. Stocks are slightly increased (say

4,300 piculs). Rejections have been fairly plentiful, and arrivals come in rather more freely than they did a week ago.

Hanks.—There has really been very little done in this class, rejections nearly equalling Settlements. The increased pretensions of sellers have apparently stopped business for the time being. The Stock of Hank sorts is now 2,400 piculs, and the news from Europe does not apparently warrant buyers in paying the advance asked. Among the reported Settlements we notice a small lot Best Shinshu, \$500; Good Shinshu, \$170; Annaka, \$460; Tomiyoka, \$485; Hachioji, \$120. These prices show a nominal advance of about \$10: probably in some cases the final weighing would be made at something under the recorded figures.

Filatures.—Business in these has been fairly brisk. Holders have tried for an advance and helped by the purchase on Japanese account, as noted above, have succeeded in making things decidedly firmer. Best qualities both in fine and coarse thread are scarce. Quotations especially for anything above Medium must be advanced \$5 to \$10. A small parcel "Rokosha," all firsts, is held for \$620. Good No. 1, fine size, have been done at \$605. In coarse descriptions we notice Oshu, \$585; Shinshu, \$580; Hida, \$570; Mino, \$540.

Re-reels.—Not much passing in these. A parcel of Five Girl (Maibash) has been taken into godown at \$570 and Bushu sorts at \$550. Some low Shinshu also at \$530 to \$520.

Kakada.—Rather more enquiry for these at about former prices. Again the better kinds are neglected, nothing being registered over \$540. The bulk of the transactions have taken place in sorts costing between \$520 and \$500.

Oshu.—These have been quiet, some little doing but without any advance in rates. One good parcel Sendai brought \$495, and common Hamatsuki has been done at \$420 to \$380, according to quality. Nagahama \$360.

QUOTATIONS.

| | | |
|----------------------------------|---|--------------|
| Hanks—No. 1 - | - | \$400 to 500 |
| Hanks—No. 2 (Shinshu) - | - | 485 to 490 |
| Hanks—No. 2 (Joshu) - | - | 470 to 480 |
| Hanks—No. 2½ (Shinshu) - | - | 460 to 470 |
| Hanks—No. 2½ (Joshu) - | - | 450 to 460 |
| Hanks—No. 3 - | - | 430 to 440 |
| Hanks—No. 3½ - | - | 410 to 430 |
| Filatures—Extra - | - | 615 to 625 |
| Filatures—No. 1, 10/13 deniers - | - | 595 to 605 |
| Filatures—No. 1, 14/16 deniers - | - | 590 to 600 |
| Filatures—No. 1, 14/17 deniers - | - | 575 to 585 |
| Filatures—No. 2, 10/15 deniers - | - | 570 to 580 |
| Filatures—No. 2, 14/18 deniers - | - | 565 to 575 |
| Filatures—No. 3, 14/20 deniers - | - | 540 to 550 |
| Re-reels—No. 1, 14/16 deniers - | - | 575 to 585 |
| Re-reels—No. 1, 14/17 deniers - | - | 560 to 570 |
| Re-reels—No. 2, 14/18 deniers - | - | 540 to 550 |
| Re-reels—No. 3, 14/20 deniers - | - | 530 to 530 |
| Kakadas—Extra - | - | 595 to 575 |
| Kakadas—No. 1 - | - | 530 to 540 |
| Kakadas—No. 2 - | - | 500 to 510 |
| Kakadas—No. 3 - | - | 460 to 470 |
| Oshu Sendai—No. 2½ - | - | 455 to 465 |
| Hamatsuki—No. 1, 2 - | - | 400 to 420 |
| Sodai—No. 2½ - | - | 400 to 410 |

P.S.—At closing, the Market for *Filatures* and *Re-reels* is very strong, holders having quite an exaggerated notion of what is due to them. All classes are for the moment held at an advance of about \$10 on the above quotations. It remains to be seen if buyers will be justified in paying the high prices now demanded. In other sorts no change.

Export Tables Raw Silk to 7th Dec. 1883:—

| | SEMI-MO 1883-84. | 1882-83. | 1881-82. |
|------------------|------------------|----------|----------|
| | Bales. | Bales. | Bales. |
| France and Italy | 11,986 | 7,053 | 3,354 |
| America | 6,192 | 4,783 | 2,347 |
| England | 1,640 | 2,318 | 1,798 |
| Total | 19,818 | 14,154 | 7,499 |

WASTE SILK.

During the period under review there has not been a large business done. Buyers try hard for lower prices, but sellers resist as sturdily as they can, especially on good to best descriptions. Stock of all kinds is only 1,500 piculs, chiefly low undesirable sorts, and purchases in these grades might be made on easier terms. Recent purchases are being freely shipped by each mail steamer, and this clearance should open the way for fresh business; at the moment there seems but little demand except for some classes of which the available Stock is very scanty.

Pierced Cocoons.—No transactions reported in these with the exception of a small parcel Good Medium at \$90. The Stock in Yokohama remains nearly stationary at or about 150 piculs, but further arrivals from the country are said to be close at hand.

Noshi-ito.—Although Stocks have slightly increased, still holders are very firm, and for anything above "Ordinary" can as a rule obtain what they ask. The business noted last week in *Joshu* still goes on at rather higher prices. In *Filatures* some small arrivals have been taken up on basis of quotations given below. Shinshu and Hachioji, good to best, have been taken in small quantities at \$105. A fair-sized parcel, Common *Joshu*, has found a buyer at \$50.

Kibiso.—*Filature* sorts are still wanted at a little under quotations, but good reliable quality is hard to find. Several small parcels have found buyers at from \$115 to \$105. In Ordinary *Kibiso* there has been something done, sorts between \$50 and \$20 being most enquired for. In *Neri* a small purchase Medium to Fair at \$15.

Mawatta.—Nothing done. Stock is now 270 piculs; but with no offer to test the Market.

QUOTATIONS.

| | | |
|-------------------------------------------|---|-------------|
| Pierced Cocoons—Medium to Fair - | - | \$90 to 100 |
| Noshi-ito— <i>Filature</i> , Best - | - | 150 |
| Noshi-ito— <i>Filature</i> , Good - | - | 130 |
| Noshi-ito— <i>Filature</i> , Medium - | - | 110 |
| Noshi-ito— <i>Oshu</i> , Good to Best - | - | 140 to 145 |
| Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Best - | - | 110 |
| Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Good - | - | 100 |
| Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Medium - | - | 90 |
| Noshi-ito— <i>Joshu</i> , Best - | - | 100 |
| Noshi-ito— <i>Joshu</i> , Good - | - | 8½ |
| Noshi-ito— <i>Joshu</i> , Ordinary - | - | 75 |
| Kibiso— <i>Filature</i> , Best selected - | - | 115 to 120 |
| Kibiso— <i>Filature</i> , Seconds - | - | 110 to 105 |
| Kibiso— <i>Oshu</i> , Good - | - | 95 |
| Kibiso—Shinshu, Best - | - | 75 |
| Kibiso—Shinshu, Seconds - | - | 50 up |
| Kibiso— <i>Joshu</i> , Fair to Common - | - | 50 to 30 |
| Kibiso—Hachioji, Medium to Low - | - | 20 to 15 |
| Kibiso— <i>Neri</i> , Good to Common - | - | 20 to 15 |
| Mawatta—Good to Best - | - | 175 to 185 |

Exchange.—The firmness reported in China, coupled with news from home that silver was a shade better, has kept rates fairly steady here; especially for London paper. On the other hand "francs" and "U.S. Gold" have been done a little under last week's quotations. Current rates may be called:—London 4 m/s, 3/9½; New York 30 d/s, 91; 60 d/s, 91½; Paris 6 m/s, fcs. 4.81. *Kinsatsu* have been fairly steady at about 112 to 113 per \$100.

TEA.

With the exception of two days in the past week when the Settlements of each day only reached 20 piculs, transactions during that interval show indifference on the part of buyers. The total Settlements since our last Market Report are 850 piculs, consisting of the following grades:—Good Common 85, Medium 150, Good Medium 170, Fine 285, and Finest 130 piculs. Prices have remained steady as previously reported. The British steamers *Venice* and *Gordon Castle* sailed for New York via usual ports on the 5th instant, the former took about 2,300 packages and the latter 175 packages Tea. Weights will be given in our next issue.

QUOTATIONS.

| | | |
|---------------|---|--------------|
| Common - | - | \$10 & under |
| Good Common - | - | 12 to 14 |
| Medium - | - | 16 to 18 |
| Good Medium - | - | 19 to 21 |
| Fine - | - | 24 & up d/s |

EXCHANGE.

Rates have remained fairly steady during the week, but only a moderate business in Private Paper has been transacted: there is little or no demand for Bank Bills.

| | | |
|-------------------------------------------|---|------------|
| Sterling—Bank Bills on demand - | - | 3/8½ |
| Sterling—Bank 4 months' sight - | - | 3/9 |
| Sterling—Private 4 months' sight - | - | 3/9½ |
| Sterling—Private 6 months' sight - | - | 3/9½ |
| On Paris—Bank sight - | - | 4/21 |
| On Paris—Private 6 months' sight - | - | 4/22½ |
| On Hongkong—Bank sight - | - | 1/0 0 dis. |
| On Hongkong—Private 10 days' sight - | - | 1/0 0 dis. |
| On Shanghai—Bank sight - | - | 7½ |
| On Shanghai—Private 10 days' sight - | - | 7½ |
| On New York—Bank Bills on demand - | - | 90½ |
| On New York—Private 30 days' sight - | - | 91½ |
| On San Francisco—Bank Bills on demand - | - | 90½ |
| On San Francisco—Private 30 days' sight - | - | 91½ |

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No. 33, Vol. I.]

YOKOHAMA, DECEMBER 15TH, 1883.

[£24 PER ANNUM.]

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The Japan Weekly Mail.

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NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL," must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith. It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, DECEMBER 15TH, 1883.

DEATH.

At Yokohama, on December 8th, 1883, EDWARD CHARLES KIRBY, aged 48.

At the German Hospital, on the 9th inst., CHARLES WILLIAM STONE, a Native of New York, U.S.A., in his 49th year. New York papers please copy.

WEEKLY NOTES.

THE volume which was presented to the French Chambers by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs at the end of October was not a Yellow Book, as the telegrams said, but an official *résumé* of the operations in Tonquin and Annam, and of the negotiations between the Cabinets at Peking and Paris. The document opens thus:—"During the separation of the Chambers public attention has not ceased to follow, with an ever increasing interest, the successive incidents of our action in Cochín-China. Some prejudices even have been aroused in consequence of the contradictory information of which our relations with China have been made the object in the press. We have felt ourselves called upon to satisfy the legitimate curiosity of the country by publishing, without delay, all the news officially

transmitted to us with regard to the movements of our expeditionary corps. With regard to the pending negotiations, we have tried to find among the diplomatic communications the elements of a publication which would enable the public to follow their development. But at Paris, as in China, the exchange of views took place most frequently at interviews of which no minutes were kept; while, on the other hand, the despatches and telegrams referring to them, are, for the most part, of such a nature that extracts only could be given. It has therefore been found necessary to abandon the project of publishing a Yellow Book, since it would only have given an incomplete, and consequently inexact, idea of the *pourparlers*. In order to supply this deficiency as much as possible, and to furnish you with explanations which you are in a position to require, we have decided to place before you the detailed course of the events which have occurred in Annam, and of the communications exchanged between the representatives of France and China." This preamble is followed by a history of the military operations, among which the taking of Hué and the treaty signed there are mentioned. Of the treaty itself only a brief analysis is given, with the following observation:—"The text reached Paris only a few days ago. The clauses it contains are numerous, and have concern with subjects of a very diverse nature. The Government has examined them with care in order to determine whether it will be proper to submit the treaty to Parliament in its present form, or whether it will not be useful to obtain certain modifications beforehand." Then follows a brief account of the negotiations carried on by M. Tricou at Shanghai, which, after various interchanges, were resumed at Paris.

On the 18th of August the Marquis Tseng demanded:—"First: That France undertake nothing against the political position of the Kingdom of Annam or annex any of that State's territory with the exception of the six Southern provinces which she annexed or occupied in 1862 and 1867. Second: That the ties of vassalage which unite Annam to China remain as they formerly were. Third: That the territory and the towns actually occupied by the French forces in Tonquin be evacuated, and that certain towns, to be subsequently fixed by agreement, be opened to foreign commerce, with Consulates established there on conditions similar to those which regulate the foreign commerce in the ports of China. Fourth: That the Red

River be opened to foreign commerce as far as Thouang Ho-Kwan, situated on the left bank, opposite the town of Sontai, and that that town be considered, provisionally, as the extreme point to which foreign vessels may penetrate, and as a place of exchange for the products of the province of Yunnan and the localities on the banks of the river below it. Fifth: That China undertake to employ the influence conferred by her position to facilitate the commerce of the Red River and to avoid the necessity of using force against the Black Flags. Sixth: That every new convention between France and Annam be made the subject of an understanding with China."

In a memorandum dated September 15th, M. Challemel-Lacour formulated the following propositions:—"First: That the French Government undertake not to occupy any point or take any action within the region bounded on the north by the Chinese frontier and on the south by a line to be hereafter determined, setting out from a point on the coast between the 21st and 22nd degrees of latitude and ending at the Red River above Laokai. That the Chinese Government, on its side, undertake not to occupy any point or take any action within the same region. That the administration continue to be exercised within that zone by Annamite functionaries, and that no fortresses be erected there. If armed bands come there to seek an asylum, or if they cause there disorders incompatible with the security of the neighbouring territories, the French and Chinese Governments, either conjointly or separately, shall be entitled to send thither a military force, after having agreed mutually on the object and the extent of its operations. This force to be withdrawn so soon as it shall have obtained the object for which it is sent. Second: That the town of Man-hoa, on the Red River in the province of Yunnan, be opened to foreign commerce, on the same conditions as the other towns or ports in the Chinese Empire where foreign commerce is already permitted."

On the 16th of October, the Marquis Tseng informed M. Challemel-Lacour that his Government did not consider the French proposals compatible with either the interests of China or her suzerain rights over Annam, and indicated, as a new basis of negotiations:—"Failing an arrangement which will preserve the political *statu quo* of the Kingdom of Annam, as it existed before 1873, and the entire indepen-

dence of the King of Annam *vis-à-vis* every foreign power, the Emperor of China, his suzerain, alone excepted, any arrangement which will not leave to the Imperial Government the entire and exclusive right of action on the Red River can only appear inadmissible. Of the two solutions here suggested, China would prefer the former; for, being entirely free from aggressive intentions, she would regret to find herself compelled to encroach upon the territory of her vassal after having respected it for two centuries. Reduced to the impossibility of avoiding an occupation which would safeguard its rights and interests, the Imperial Cabinet would be ready, but only in that event, to discuss the proposition of the French Government concerning the establishment of a neutral zone, but a neutral zone between Kouang-Bing-Kouan, the southern frontier of Tonquin, and the 20th degree of latitude. It would be equally disposed to make propositions which would meet the requirements of commerce by opening the Red River to the flags of all nations that have treaties with China. So far as places of commerce develop, negotiations can be entered into with the Imperial Government with the object of coming to an understanding about points farther up the river. But that Government cannot, for the present, agree to open either the town of Man-hoa, or even that of Laokai, to foreign commerce."

The Minister of Foreign Affairs concludes his *exposé* by the following remarks on the pretensions of China and the *ensemble* of the situation:—"This time no uncertainty is possible. It is the abandonment of our treaties and the evacuation of Tonquin that China demands of us, reserving to herself the right of occupying all the north of Annam. At this price she might, perhaps, be disposed to shut her eyes upon our establishment in the southern provinces. Such is the state of affairs. The indications contained in the first part of this *exposé* establish the fact that, during the past five months, our expeditionary corps in Tonquin has been engaged in dealing with the exigencies of the situation. The difficulties with which it has found itself concerned, and the resistance it has encountered, have been, it is true, more serious than the information procurable at the outset could have led us to anticipate. But with the means of action which our troops will soon find at their disposition, we make no doubt that they will promptly terminate the work they have so valiantly commenced. As for the diplomatic negotiations, you will now be able to judge the direction they have taken. From the first day we have let it be clearly understood that though it was not possible for us to treat with China about Annamite affairs, we were nevertheless disposed to enter into negotiations upon every point which has relation to the neighbourhood of the two countries, to study even an arrange-

ment of frontier which would furnish all necessary guarantees. Our disposition in these respects has not changed. It does not appear that the same can be said of the Court at Peking, judging by the successive propositions which its representatives have put forth. None the less we continue disposed to pursue with China *pourparlers* in the most amicable spirit, hoping that the events accomplished will lead to a juster estimate of the situation, above all when she shall have become assured that the moderate but firm policy of the Government of the Republic, has not ceased to have the approbation of the Chambers, and consequently of the country."

It will be seen from the above that before the end of October China had virtually abandoned her pretensions as suzerain of Annam, and signified her willingness to a compromise which should include the leaving of a neutral zone between her frontiers and the provinces occupied by France. Thus the only questions to be decided were the limits of that zone—about which there was a considerable divergence of opinion—and the extent of the privileges to be secured to foreign trade. With regard to the latter, the French went beyond anything that could ever have been contemplated in previous negotiations or treaties with Annam: M. Challemeil-Lacour demanded that the Red River should be opened not only up to the Chinese frontier, but as far as Man-hoa, a town situated some twenty miles within that frontier. And this while he was informing the Chambers that his object had always been "to study an arrangement of frontier which would furnish all necessary guarantees."

The circumstances of the French forces in Tonquin were now somewhat embarrassing. To advance against Sontai, and proceed with the main object of the campaign—viz., the opening of the Red River—would have been to expose their line of communications to a flank attack from the direction of Bac-ninh. Indeed, from a military point of view, nothing could have been more unfavourable than the position. The general direction of the Red River is nearly at right angles to the two roads leading from the delta to the province of Canton, so that to advance by the river would be to pass along the Chinese front, and leave every point of a rapidly lengthening line of communications open to direct attack. True this inconvenience was in a measure lessened by the imperfect nature of the communications in northern Tonquin. The road from Hanoi to Bac-ninh is an embankment a few feet wide, worn away in many places by floods, and nowhere able, it is said, to support the weight of field artillery. Such a route practically prohibits any vigorous advance whether by French or Chinese troops. Thus, as we explained in a previous issue, the French commander, not yet prepared to attack Bac-ninh, and not daring to expose his flank to an attack from it, adopted the expedient of constructing a *tête-du-pont* at the point where the

road from that place crosses the Red River at Hanoi. This operation, described by the *Saigon Independent* as a preliminary to marching against Bac-ninh, really signified exactly the opposite intention. It meant that Admiral Courbet, before pushing on against Sontai, desired to set up a shield between himself and Bac-ninh.

Bac-ninh itself, of which we have lately heard so much, is by no means a place of remarkable strength. It is a quadrilateral fort with bastions of the Vauban type, and though armed with Krupp guns, its capability of resisting attack is destroyed by the vicinity of some low eminences, from a quarter to half a mile distant, which offer an easy position for artillery and completely command the citadel. As for the town, it is a place of no importance, consisting only of five or six hundred thatched houses arranged round the fosse of the fortress. It would appear, however, that for many years Bac-ninh has been garrisoned by the Canton militia, whose business has been to guard the district against the Black and Yellow Flags. Whether this occupation, undertaken originally at the entreaty of the King of Annam, is regarded by China as equivalent to possession, it is certain that from the time French aggressive designs upon Tonquin became evident, imperial troops were gradually moved down to Bac-ninh until at the beginning of November, it was believed to possess a garrison of twenty thousand men, well armed, and led, if rumour may be credited, by Germans. Everything, indeed, seemed to indicate resolve on China's part to make a determined stand at this point. On the other hand, the policy of the French Government was to carry on the occupation of Tonquin with the utmost vigour, so as to bring China into a more amenable frame of mind. With this view, on the 3rd of November,—the day after a special discussion of the Cabinet Council—orders were forwarded to Admiral Courbet to "push operations on in order to make the Chinese Government show what course it meant to pursue." Admiral Courbet responded by undertaking a reconnaissance in force in the direction of Bac-ninh. The nature of the defences and of the roads seem, however, to have convinced him that a successful attack was not within the compass of the means at his disposal. He postponed further operations, assigning, as a reason for delay, the necessity of waiting until the rice crop was gathered, and the roads, still sodden from the inundations, had become sufficiently firm for the passage of artillery. It was announced, however, that the attack would be undertaken by a column of 3,000 men during the first week in December. This news was dated November the 7th, and on the 10th of that month the Peking Government issued, as we know, a manifesto to all the Powers, declaring, in so many words, that a French advance against Bac-ninh would be considered a declaration of war. The Ministry at Paris had now attained its desired object. China had shown her hand unmistakably. Fresh

negotiations were accordingly commenced at Paris, but on the 11th instant the situation seems to have been still so difficult that we find Mr. Ferry announcing the impossibility of further postponing operations against Bac-ninh. "A definite basis of agreement was still wanting," whatever that many mean. On the same day the Chamber of Deputies passed a vote of confidence in the Ministry—a vote which sounds more warlike than anything we have heard yet. It is plain that the *denouement* is not far distant, though to those who have followed the course of the negotiations, the issues seem to be too narrow to involve an appeal to the sword.

THE Marquis Tseng says he "regards M. Tricou as a sort of political Jesuit, who thinks that almost anything he may say or do in the interest of his country is right." The reason of this outburst of Celestial indignation is remarkable. In the House of Deputies on October 30th, M. Ferry read a telegraphic despatch from M. Tricou announcing that Li Hung-chang had disavowed the policy pursued by the Marquis Tseng upon the Tonquin question and that the Chinese Government desired him, M. Tricou, to remain in China. The sensation produced by this announcement was considerable. The London journals refused at once to credit M. Tricou's despatch, and pointed out that the Viceroy of Chili had no authority to make any such statement. But in Paris everyone was elated, and, in the words of a telegram, "statesmen of all parties and newspapers of all shades were convinced that Li Hung-chang had apologized." The Marquis Tseng laughed at the notion. "M. Tricou knew," he said, "that the French Cabinet wanted such a telegram, and so he sent it. It was altogether impossible that Li Hung-chang should have made such remarks as those which M. Tricou attributed to him." And the Marquis was right. Three days afterwards, the T'sung-li Yamèn telegraphed to Paris "expressing the utmost astonishment of the Chinese Government at the statement contained in the despatch of M. Tricou to Prime Minister Ferry that Li Hung-chang did not agree with the course pursued by the Marquis Tseng in the Tonquin matter." The despatch continued:—"Both the Government of China and Li Hung-chang deny having expressed the slightest desire that M. Tricou should remain in China as the French agent, and testify their unqualified approval of the manner in which Marquis Tseng has carried out his instructions from his government on the Tonquin question." It is further stated that an important despatch to the same effect was forwarded subsequently from Peking, and that among other things the Chinese Government "expressed its surprise that the French Cabinet received M. Tricou's telegram without question as to the correctness of its statements, and used it publicly in the Chamber of Deputies." A French representative in China being thus directly accused of resorting to dishonest devices, M. Ferry allowed himself

to be betrayed into the somewhat undignified course of resorting to a palpable *tu-quoque*. He declared that the only weapons of Chinese statesmen are "brag and falsehood."

On Thursday evening General and Madame Oyama entertained a large party of Japanese and foreign guests at the Rokumei-kwan. The building was brilliantly illuminated by electricity, which added not a little to the success of the evening. The occasion of the party was to celebrate the recent marriage of the host and hostess, but additional interest was imparted to the event by the approaching departure of General Oyama, who proceeds to Europe on official business. It is rumoured that the portfolio of War will be taken by General Saigo during General Oyama's absence.

CONSIDERABLE changes have taken place in the Cabinet, some of them significant of retirement from executive positions. This is notably the case with His Excellency General Yamada, who exchanges the important office of Minister of Home Affairs for the virtual seclusion of the Department of Justice. His Excellency Inouye, accompanied by Madame Inouye and Madame Katsu Inouye, has left Tokijo with the intention of remaining absent for about six weeks, during which time the duties of Minister of Foreign Affairs will be undertaken by His Excellency Ito. General Kabayama, who hitherto held the office of Inspector General of Police, has been promoted to the position of Vice-Minister of the Navy.

NOTES.

It is sometimes useful, though seldom pleasant, to hear what our neighbours have to say about us. Since England began to execute her scheme of creating in Egypt all the mechanism of a civilized administration, and herself occupying the country until the creation is accomplished, the last shred of popularity she possessed abroad has been rent away. Nobody has a good word for her. Even Italy is converted from an ally into a traducer, and Germany begins to find the *ex cathedra* lectures of the London press too outspoken to be agreeable. The bitterness of jealousy, if not of absolute dislike, betrayed in the utterances of continental nations against our countrymen was remarkably exemplified at the time of the cholera epidemic in Egypt. Even the prattle of giddy children is more rational than the wild accusations then preferred by the European press against the conduct of British officials in Cairo and Alexandria. Had the English Government's programme of Egyptian usurpation included a deliberate scheme for devastating the Continent by a deadly pestilence, harder terms could scarcely have been applied to our sanitary methods and their so called arbitrary infractions. This outcry was not allayed by the evident nonchalance of its objects. Thackeray has well said that the most exasperating phase of our insular character is a tacit assumption of superiority. An important evidence of that assumption is

indifference to abuse and ridicule. Our self-content is not a whit damped whatever showers of reprobation be poured upon our heads. We invariably refer the deluge to the same source—jealousy. Yet it is not easy to be quite so complacent when accusations of gross and systematic dishonesty are preferred against our Customs officers: when we are assured that fraudulent discrimination in favor of British importers is carried to such an extreme at the principal Custom-houses in Egypt as virtually to incapacitate merchants of other nationalities. Charges of this nature, though constantly formulated of late by the French and Italian press, remain quite unnoticed in England. Nobody seems to think them worth notice, still less of refutation. Perhaps it is in consequence of this indifference that the critics pass from abuse to sarcasm. For certainly the tone of their latest aspersion is decidedly sneering. The English appraisers, we are told, are singularly subtle persons; thoroughly versed in the art of levying toll on the vanity of importers. By way of illustration, a story is related of two traders, one British, the other French, who desired to pass through the Customs two precisely similar machines. On such articles an *ad valorem* duty is levied. The appraisers, proceeding to examine the English machine, found it a genuine specimen of Brummagem workmanship, and cried out against the penny-wise-pound-foolish policy of importing such unfavorable specimens of British mechanism. Coming to the French machine, however, they were equally loud in their applause, and pronounced it a really worthy example of honest, durable work. Finally, the latter was required to pay duty on ten thousand francs, the former on six thousand only, though of the two the English manufacture would command the higher price in the market. "Against such favoritism," says the Parisian journal from which we take this story, "what can the French merchant do? After all his import has been appraised at its real value. He has not a word to say. And so it is with all foreign goods. They are prohibited from competing with English by one species of discrimination or another." The notion of Englishmen abusing their own manufactures with the object of saving an impost of a few francs, is scarcely worthy of French intelligence, but it will doubtless serve its turn as well as any other of the wild accusations preferred against "*les Anglais en Egypte*."

SINCE Oscar Wilde's visit to America, a tour in the United States seems to have become one of the most attractive prospects that present themselves to distinguished Englishmen. Herbert Spencer went there at the close of last year, and as he happened to be suffering at the time from nervous prostration, he was full of sympathy for "the number of faces which told in strong lines of the burdens that had to be borne," and for "the large proportion of gray-haired men." Chief Justice Coleridge appears to be taking things much easier. His after-dinner speeches are not ornamented with sociological, biological,

or physiological reflections; and, among his afternoon amusements he includes strolling into a court in session, taking a seat on the bench and enjoying a quiet nap. The "apostle of culture," Mr. Mathew Arnold, is also "on hand," as the New York journals quaintly observe, and already the reporters are beginning to extract wonderful opinions from him, as for example, that Edwin Arnold's poem, "The Light of Asia," is unintelligible, and that he, Matthew, "wonders at its being so much read in America." A Brooklyn newspaper, commenting on this, recalls a story told of Lord Beaconsfield, who, having received from "his affectionate and grateful friend, Victoria" a beautiful copy of George Eliot's "Romola," laid the volume aside and used to say despairingly of it, "There is the book, but I can't read it. I have tried to do so, but I can't." These tales, however, will scarcely persuade the public to accredit such men as Matthew Arnold and Benjamin Disraeli with that puniest of moral propensities which "hates the excellence it cannot reach." It is expected that the United States will next be called on to welcome Algernon Swinburne, and a right hearty welcome they will doubtless afford the master of musical speech. Indeed, all the welcomes given to Englishmen in America are worthy of the givers. Henry Irving's case is no exception. The thanks he gave his audience at the Star Theatre on the night of October 29th, his first appearance in America, were very earnest:—

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN:—I am told you sometimes extend to an actor the privilege of tendering his acknowledgments of favors shown him. I wish it were in my power to thank you as I desire; but, beggar as I am, I am too poor in speech. The greatness of your welcome I believe to be typical of the greatness of your nation. Wherever I be, I shall always remember the reception you have given me this 29th of October. I thank you on behalf of my comrades, and I hope you will receive with like enthusiasm Miss Ellen Terry, who appears to-morrow evening. And so I trust we shall go on—

Our loves increasing as the days do grow.

Judging from the newspaper accounts of Irving's debut in America, the people of the United States were determined from the outset to applaud him. The great actor's declared intention is to present on the American stage, one by one, the characters in which he won his London reputation. He began with "The Bells" at the latter place, and he accordingly began with the same piece in New York. "His entrance as *Matthias*," we are told, "un-announced except by the quickening of the music, was electrical in its effects. The English actor stood before the audience, draped in fur, sprinkled with snow, with flushed face and flowing hair, a stalwart figure, unlike the ideas formed of him by many, but picturesque, dignified, and imposing. A salutation, cordial beyond any accorded a stranger on an American stage, proclaimed the general feeling. A storm of applause swept the house." This tribute to the reputation he brought with him was soon succeeded by no less hearty approbation of the great qualities he displayed; and at the end of the piece the verdict was that, though the man's mannerisms jarred upon his audience, and though his methods puzzled them, the power of his performance was beyond question. Un-

wittingly he has been the means of still further spoiling Mr. Oscar Wilde's prospects of posturing successfully a second time before the American public, for some clever observer—a lady of course—has discovered that Oscar's "tricks" have not even the merit of originality, but are accurate reproductions of Irving's ways. One of the leading London journals expressed a hope that American critics would give England an impartial judgment and a scientific analysis of the great actor's abilities. The wish was natural enough, for one can easily understand that the people of London feel towards Irving much as a man feels towards his own son, who has grown up under his eyes and on whose qualities he is no longer quite competent to pass a verdict. But those who know anything of American journalism could be sure beforehand that the English-reading public would learn more about Irving during the first fortnight of his performances in New York, than the London press had discovered during the previous ten years. That this is so the following extract from the correspondence columns of the *Brooklyn Herald* will show:—

Henry Irving is one of the most charming men I ever met. He has a delightful run of small talk which is amusing, but never becomes silly. He is a polished man of the world, and has made more friends in New York than any visitor we ever had from the British Isles. When he meets a man he shakes hands with him with a firm and hearty grip, and looks him straight in the eye, and he has none of the affected drawl or broad accent of the usual run of British visitors. Irving's picture has been pasted on soap boxes, paper boxes, card cases, and other novelties that have been imported from London during the last year, and his photographs have been displayed all over town so that his features are now as well known as those of Oscar Wilde. He is not a handsome man. It is a toss up between him and that ten thousand dollar beauty of the wild, wild West, Holman, except that the candidate for President has a mouth like a meat-cleaver, while Irving's mouth and teeth are the most attractive features of his face. Every afternoon the tragedian walks up and down Fifth Avenue, followed by a small brindle pup, and usually accompanied by a friend. People stare at him as though he were a being from another planet, and a great many bow instinctively to him. He has more invitations than he can possibly accept, and has not eaten at his hotel but once since his arrival. Breakfasts, luncheons, teas, and dinners are offered him all over town. He has some good American coach, evidently, for he accepts only the hospitalities of the very best people.

I supposed, and the mistake was natural enough in view of the many invitations Irving had received, that he was devoting all his time to enjoyment, and I should probably have continued in this impression had I not accidentally run against Mr. Bram Stoker yesterday on my way down town. Mr. Bram Stoker is the business manager of Mr. Irving's tour. He is a tall Englishman, with a red beard and pleasing manners. I asked him whom Irving was breakfasting with on that particular morning. And he smiled and said:—

"He is not going to breakfast till eleven o'clock, when he goes to Justice Shea's."

"Oh, then he isn't up yet."

"Well," said Mr. Stoker, with a smile, "come with me for a moment and see."

So we went through the lobby of the theatre, pushed the swinging doors open, and discovered on the stage at least sixty of Mr. Irving's actors and actresses in street attire and in full rehearsal for a scene in "Charles I.," which is to be produced on Tuesday night. They had already gone through one rehearsal of "The Bells" when I arrived. I have seen many drill masters on the stage, but I never saw a better one than Mr. Irving. He is as strict a disciplinarian as if he handled an army, instead of a troupe of actors, and his suggestions are followed out as though they were royal commands. The perfection of details in his performances is noticeable. Miss Terry was there on that morning, dressed in a long Newmarket coat which fitted her with an elasticity that was delightful. She was in a very happy mood and went frisking around, when not reciting her lines, like a child at play. She thumped the scenery with her knuckles, beat a tattoo upon the prompter's

table or tapped her toes against the tin of the footlights as she awaited her cue. The company has played both "The Bells" and "Charles I." hundreds and hundreds of times in London, but they rehearse them as if they were to be played for the first time on Monday night. One cannot wonder so much at Mr. Irving's success after seeing him at work.

Our news from China by the French mail does not indicate any change in the Franco-Chinese position. In Shanghai an impression seems to be growing that war is by no means inevitable. Bac-ninh has not been attacked, and public opinion seems to incline to the idea that even though it be attacked, the results will not be so terrible as China's manifesto led us to suppose. We cannot entirely endorse this forecast. Bac-ninh is garrisoned by a Chinese force, and should the French assault it, a state of war will actually exist between the two countries. Diplomacy has already shown itself so impotent to deal with existing difficulties that the addition of such a complication would probably paralyse it altogether. But we do not believe that Bac-ninh will be attacked, for the present at all events. There is such a thing as common prudence, and the French commanders, whatever confidence they may have in the bravery of their troops, will not expose a mere handful of men to an encounter with the vastly superior forces of China. So far as the Cabinet at Paris is concerned, its attitude does not appear to have been altered either by the receipt of China's manifesto or by the news of her secret decree to the Chief of the Black Flags. Either there is a set conviction of the Middle Kingdom's determination not to fight, or the path to a peaceful adjustment has become plainly discernible. The former hypothesis is scarcely tenable, and for our own part, we have little doubt that the latter is correct. Were it otherwise—were any prospect of War with China really imminent—we should long ago have received very different accounts of the preparations on foot in France and of the measures contemplated by the Minister of War. It cannot be denied that there are many serious and uncertain elements in the present aspect of affairs, but we see nothing to disturb the hopeful predictions which we have ventured, up to the present, to express.

Mr. ZAPP, who has officiated during his brief sojourn in Korea as Envoy Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary for H.I.G.M. at the Court of Seoul, has, we are informed, accommodated treaties that are mutually satisfactory to both contracting parties. The conventions were signed on the 26th of November, the same day as the British treaty, subscribed by Sir Harry Parkes, was signed. The treaties now arranged are much more favorable to foreign commerce than those drafted last year. The German and British Envoys left Korea for their respective posts almost simultaneously, and were received by the King of Korea before their departure from his capital.

The advantages of smokeless furnaces are too much insisted upon by modern hygienic scientists

to need additional emphasis. The difficulty of obtaining them remains to be solved; and any effort in that direction is a public benefit. We now read that the Medart Patent Pulley Company, St. Louis, have in operation at their new works a novel and economical smokeless furnace. It is self-feeding, and especially adapted to the use of fine or slack coal. The construction of the furnace is described in the *Age of Steel*. It has on either side a bunker or magazine into which the slack or broken coal is introduced. The bottoms of the bunkers are sharply inclined to correspond with the inclination of the grate bars of the furnace, and, by the working of outside machinery, form in connection with such bars, every now and then, two continuous and inclined planes, down which the coal moves from either bunker by force of gravity towards the centre of the furnace. To prevent the crowding of coal on the fire, the bottom of each bunker is provided with an inverted box, called a "stoker-box," which moves up at regular intervals to the side of the bunker next to the fire, cutting off the movement of the coal towards the grate bars of the furnace. This box is moved by machinery attached to the front end of the furnace, and, when drawn back forms, in connection with the inclined bottom of the bunker and the grate bars of the furnace, the plane down which the coal moves to the centre of the furnace. The furnace is arched over to prevent the flames and intense heat from coming in direct contact with the boiler. The air is admitted in front of the furnace, the supply being regulated by a damper, which passes up through a flue in the brick wall, then over the arch, and there takes up the heat from the brickwork, passes down through little openings, and gives to the fresh fuel on the coking plate its supply of air. It is hot enough itself to ignite any gases evolved; consequently immediate combustion takes place, and no smoke is made. By the time the coal reaches the grate, the bituminous part is consumed, and what remains is coke. This gets its needed supply of air through the grates. A very small engine is attached to the side of the furnace; and to this is attached a bar running across the front of the furnace. This bar is connected by links to arms which move the stoking apparatus and shake the grate bars. The clinker breaker at the centre or bottom part of the furnace is worked by a wrench from the outside. The company working the furnace estimate their economy in the value of fuel consumed at from 90 dols. to 150 dols. per month according to the quality of coal used.

THE month of November has the reputation of being the one in which the greatest number of suicides are committed, and according to statistics drawn up in various European countries, this seems to be really the case. As a reason for this, we believe, is generally given that fogs and other unfavourable weather have such great an influence in depressing a man's mind. We do not know whether this finds application in Shanghai, but we hear that two natives committed suicide and the third was just prevented in time

from making up the trio. Perhaps they had in their minds that to-day is the last of November, and so they thought to make use of the last chance. The first case of suicide committed to-day was that of a young Chinaman, who took his life by strangulation. He selected a rather peculiar place to bid farewell to this world, as his body was found hanging in one of the public W.C.'s at Sinza. The second case was that of a young Cantonese woman, living two doors from the Sailor's Rest, Hongkew. Our reporter visited the place about 11 a.m. The body was then lying on a Chinese opium couch; the deceased seemed to be of rather well-to-do circumstances, to judge by her dress and jewellery she had about her. Right over her head, fastened to one of the beams of the ceiling, was still hanging a short piece of a thin Chinese rope, by the aid of which she committed strangulation. As usually on such occasions, a great number of Chinese crowded the room; they said that the suicide was committed at about 9 a.m., and that there was no attempt made to revive her by calling the assistance of a doctor. Yet they have not forgotten to commence a large "joss pidgin." We hear that the act was committed whilst the woman was under the influence of a large dose of opium. The third case, which we had an opportunity of witnessing, was that of a most wretched-looking specimen of humanity. We noticed him climb the rail of the Garden Bridge, and after holding on for a moment to the electric wire post on the top of the bridge, he made, with a loud yell, a dive into the Creek. It was then nearly high tide. A native boat was near the scene, and as soon as the unfortunate man came to the surface, they got hold of him with their boat-hooks and pulled him half dead into their boat. They landed him at the steps of the Garden Bridge, where two native constables were waiting to convey him to the Police station.—*Shanghai Mercury*.

THE sketch of the Fisheries of Japan, by Mr. Okoshi, which we noticed in a recent issue as having been produced by that gentleman for publication in the series of special papers issued, with the *imprimatur* of the Commissioners, in connection with the International Fisheries Exhibition in London, was read by the author (a correspondent informs us) before a Meeting in the Conference-room at the Exhibition on the 23rd October. The Meeting was perhaps better attended than could have been anticipated on a day when the subject was so remote from having any practical application for the majority of those likely to attend the conferences, a series of which were held under the same auspices: and those present evidently, our correspondent says, followed the paper with lively interest and satisfaction. Apart from the merits of the paper itself, the circumstances made the occasion not a little remarkable. Mr. Sonoda, the Consul in London and Commissioner for Japan at the Exhibition, was appointed by his colleagues on the Commission to preside at the Meeting, and was supported on the platform by some of the other Commissioners and two or

three English gentlemen connected with Japan. The Japanese Minister and Madame Mori were unfortunately unable to be present; nor were there more than three or four persons, one a lady, of Japanese nationality in the room. But this made the peculiarity of the case perhaps all the more striking. Here was a Japanese gentleman at an English—or should we say International?—official gathering presided over by a Japanese chairman, reading a paper written by himself in the English language, before an English audience, in the English metropolis! It is no wonder that a scene so unique suggested matter for reflection to those present who knew—as who does not, in outline, at least?—what Japan was twenty years ago or less. One of the subsequent speakers, who caused some merriment by his manner of at once announcing himself as an Irishman—a fact which his auditors would have had no difficulty in divining ere long for themselves—turned the occasion to account, in following up the train of thought just alluded to, to compare the height of civilization manifested in Japan by the attention bestowed upon the sea-fisheries with the low economic development of his own "on-happy country" attested by the lamentable neglect there of nature's most abundant 'harvest of the sea,' lost for want of the gathering. Readers of our notice of Mr. Okoshi's paper will be interested to hear that his recommendation to infuse a little of Japanese culinary art into English fish-cookery was very warmly applauded by his audience. Mr. Sonoda, who not only acquitted himself honorably of his duties as president, but spoke at some considerable length with combined fluency and deliberation as if he had been accustomed to address English audiences in their own language all his life, deprecated the humble show made by his country at South Kensington, and excused his countrymen on the very legitimate ground of the more pressing calls of the National Fisheries exhibition held at the same time in Tokio. Our correspondent adds that the complimentary observations of the gentlemen who moved and seconded votes of thanks to the reader of the paper and the Chairman, were really as well-deserved as they were evidently sincerely made and cordially responded to by the Meeting.

REFERRING to "the famous signal," Mr. J. William Thompson writes, in reference to a statement relative to the late Admiral Pasco having "acted as Signal Lieutenant at Trafalgar," "will you allow me to say that, if the implication is that it was he who had to do with the well-known 'Every Man to do his Duty' signal, the paragraph is not quite correct? What actually happened before the action was this. The Admiral gave the order to telegraph to the whole fleet—'Nelson expects every man to do his duty.' This order was given, not to the Signaling Lieutenant of the *Victory* (who had been disabled, I believe), but to my grandfather, the late George Lewis Browne, who was then serving on board the flagship. My father has more than once heard him relate the inci-

dent which then occurred—the young Lieutenant's suggestion, half-hint, half request, that 'England' should be substituted, as that word was in the signal code-book, and could be run up at once; whereas 'Nelson' would require six sets of flags, displayed one after the other, and Nelson's prompt and hearty reply, 'Right, Browne; that's better! This officer was paid off, as were so many others, in consequence of the war being virtually ended as far as naval operations were concerned, by the victory of Trafalgar; and it was whilst he was practising as a barrister on the Western Circuit that he got his promotion as Commander. Long afterwards he was given post-rank. I have once or twice seen a curiously garbled version of this little bit of history, in which Nelson is made to have carefully adapted his words on this occasion to the requirements of writers of popular songs.'

THE *Hiege News* of the 10th instant contains an interesting article, in which the details of the visit of Sir Harry Parkes and Mr. Zappe to Sôul are recorded at some length. Treaties, which are described as very much more favorable than that of Commodore Shufeldt, were concluded on behalf of Great Britain and Germany, after negotiations lasting about a month, and the two Envoys were subsequently received in audience by the King, who is said to have treated them with affability. A banquet in European style brought together all the foreign diplomatists in Sôul on the 27th of November, and on the following day Sir Harry Parkes set out for China. According to the *Hiege News*, the tariff attached to the treaties fixes the duty on unmanufactured metals, cotton yarn, and other raw goods at 5 per cent, *ad valorem*; that on textile fabrics, as shirtings, piece-goods, &c., at 7½ per cent; while a few articles of luxury will pay 20 per cent. Tonnage dues are to be levied at the rate of 30 cents per ton, and the proceeds will be applied to harbour improvement and the erection of lighthouses. It is further stated that the privilege of travelling by passport in the interior for purposes of pleasure or business is conceded; that the foreign settlements are to be governed by municipal councils of the residents, and that land for building purposes may be acquired by foreigners within a circle of 3 miles radius round the settlements. If these conditions have really been obtained, the negotiators deserve to be congratulated from a selfish point of view. But how will it fare with Korea? Is she, whose people, little more than twelve months ago, were in open revolt against the pro-foreign party, and of whom it is said, even now, that but for the presence of Chinese troops the disturbances of 1882 would break out anew—is she to be responsible for the safety of foreigners travelling in the interior, and to pay heavy indemnities whenever they are insulted or ill-used? And what provision is to be made for the good order of these foreigners themselves? We do not know that even Germans and Englishmen can be trusted entirely beyond the reach of control, and we are very sure that neither the German

nor the English Government have a right to obtain for their subjects privileges which render them virtually independent of all laws. It is, however, premature to discuss these points yet. Neither Sir Harry Parkes nor Mr. Zappe is likely to have ignored the experiences furnished by the working of one-sided and imperfect treaties elsewhere. We prefer to expect that the treaties they have negotiated will not contain any of the crude provisions attributed to them by report.

If the vernacular press is correctly informed, the students of the Tokijo University who were recently rusticated, or expelled, are to be allowed to rejoin their classes. It is pleasant to find that the authorities have been able to see their way to this course. So far as the original infraction of the penalty is concerned, there was not much room for choice. A grave act of insubordination, amounting almost to a mutiny, had been perpetrated, and as the resolute attitude of the students rendered it impossible to discover the ringleaders, nothing remained but to punish the whole number. The alternative was to admit that discipline became paralysed so soon as a sufficiently numerous body of the students combined to defy it. But whether the grievance which lay at the root of the trouble was real or imaginary, there was something very admirable in the way the lads held together after the *Incuse*. Nothing could shake their determination to stand by one another, and after long and varied investigations, all hope of breaking up the combination had to be abandoned. Of course there is nothing to be said in extenuation of the original violence. Such methods are fatal to the validity of any cause. But the subsequent firmness of the students not only implied a settled conviction of the justice of their grievance, but also betrayed a quality of spirit with which one is constrained to sympathise. We are glad, therefore, that a way has been found to re-admit them to the University without any unwise sacrifice of discipline.

EVEN Sir John Pope Hennessy's most hostile critics must give him the credit of being consistent. So uniform is his policy that its nature can be predicted in any particular case with the greatest confidence. There is a story told of a Dutch seaman who, being employed to heave the lead, and finding his knowledge of English insufficient to interpret the marks grammatically, contented himself with crying out in a nautical monotone:—"You'd better keep away from 'e-e-re! You'd better keep away from 'e-e-re!" until at last the ship ran ashore, whereupon the Dutchman shouted triumphantly:—"Didn't I tole you so-o-o! Didn't I tole you so-o-o!" Sir John's critics remind us of this worthy but imperfectly educated mariner. They do not attempt any thorough analysis of his policy or essay to show whether it is radically bad or good. All they say is "keep it away. We'll have none of it;" and then, seeing it repeated elsewhere, they point with exultation to their own perspicuity, just as though the very

possibility of forecasting a man's conduct was sufficient to prove him a malefactor. In Hongkong Sir John's aim was to remove, as far as possible, the municipal and political disabilities under which the Chinese residents labour. The latter are British subjects, and it is a fundamental principle of British civilization that men who pay taxes ought to have a voice in their disposal. It is true that in attempting to rate the respective claims of the Chinese and English residents, many special circumstances have to be taken into consideration, but no one can deny that the equalization of those claims ought to be the final object of a just administration. It was Sir John Pope Hennessy's object, but unfortunately he seems to have pursued it with so little tact and so much precipitancy that his action tended rather to widen than to bridge the interval. In Mauritius also he finds a class of persons situated somewhat similarly to the Chinese in Hongkong, namely the Creoles, or Mauritians proper. The attitude of their new Governor is interpreted by this class as indicating a desire to "give Mauritius to the Mauritians," or, in other words, to give the Creoles political liberty and representative institutions. The prospect is welcomed by the Mauritius *Argus* in a strain of somewhat romantic eloquence, interspersed with protestations of fidelity and attachment to the *British Crown*, and containing, amongst other things, the following statements:—

The administration of Sir John Pope Hennessy, whatever may be its ultimate end, or whatever events may distinguish it later on, has offered in its first few months an unusual spectacle. If one recalls the prejudice entertained against Sir John by a large proportion of the public before his arrival, he cannot but feel astonished at the reversal of feeling which the present time displays. Sir John Pope Hennessy gains each day in popularity, and it may be said that already he has gained more confidence and esteem than most previous Governors possessed. Curious as this is, is it inexplicable? No. The prejudice which at first existed in Mauritius against our Governor was produced by allegations more or less false, by slanders, by reflections more or less malevolent on his character and his political tendencies, all of which were designedly scattered broadcast by those whom his policy had displeased in other places. The private letters of those who pretended to know, and articles in some of the journals of the colonies where he had been, represented him as of a despotic and irascible spirit, a man of revolutionary tendencies whose administration had everywhere resulted in disorder, and as taking particular pleasure in exciting political passions. He was even represented as possessing but little delicacy, and being in the habit of making assertions void of foundation in order to cover and justify his policy. A Hongkong journal went so far, we remember, as to bring against the late Governor of that Colony accusations of a very grave nature indeed. All this was reproduced, printed, and published in Mauritius. Hence the preconceived opinions of Mauritians with regard to their future Governor.

Sir John Pope Hennessy, if he read the Mauritius papers during the few months preceding his arrival, could not fail to see that his advent was awaited with something of defiance and apprehension. Perhaps he has had no explanation of how this came about. We will supply him with it to-day. This feeling was the work of those whom, here as elsewhere, he has held at a distance and whose insolence and oppression he has curbed. These persons endeavoured to prejudice the public against him and to create in advance a feeling hostile to the new administration.

The Creoles may, or may not, be fitted for the full application of the principle of equal rights. That is a question we have not the means of answering. But it is at all events plain that the reputation their present Governor brought with him did not help to smoothen his political path, and that his former opponents have no intention

of suffering him to leave his misfortunes behind him. The journal which, in Hongkong, showed itself his most inveterate enemy, now responds to the challenge of the *Argus* by renewing against him the charge of everywhere "exciting class or race prejudices." At first sight there is some difficulty in reconciling this charge with a programme which, if it aims at anything at all, aims at the removal of class and race distinctions. Yet the *Hongkong Daily Press* appeals strongly to our reason when it says that disaffection and hatred can be the only results of creating political aspirations which it is impossible to gratify. That seems to describe pretty accurately what Sir John did in Hongkong, and it may prove to be an accurate description of the task he has set about in Mauritius. But these wholesale prejudgments are not consistent with the common definition of fair play. Might it not be as well to wait and see whether Sir John's administration in his present government is really going to prove so mischievous? Our own candid opinion, as judges at a distance, is that a little writing like that of the *Hongkong Daily Press* is more potent to bring about the evils it predicts than several years of Sir John's policy.

THE home papers contain many comments on the New Rules of Procedure now in observance in the English Courts. The *Morning Post* remarks that the reforms are somewhat sweeping and drastic. To begin with, all existing rules on procedure, forming, as they did, an enormous mass of almost irreconcilable orders made from time to time to meet existing necessities, are swept away for ever. In their place a code is established which aims at completeness and uniformity. To say that it is perfect would be to make too bold a statement; to say that it is in all points clear and to be understood of the people would be flatly untrue; but we may fairly hope that the care and pains bestowed upon the production of this laborious undertaking, by so many learned minds, will not be thrown away, and that a substantial improvement will be found to have been effected. The framers of these orders have striven to ensure cheap law, speed, certainty, and the impossibility of abuse. How far they have succeeded experience alone can decide. That the reforms introduced will be viewed with favour on all hands is too much to expect; certain classes will lose heavily. The Bar will lose by the transfer of much Chancery work from Court into Chambers, and by the alterations in the practice of pleading. But, however much they may lose at first, we feel sure that the Bar will take a view of the situation worthy of so old and honourable a profession, and will recognise the fact that cheap law makes plenty of litigation, and that what is best for the nation is in the end best for the legal profession. The rules do not perhaps so seriously affect the interests of the solicitors as they do those of the Bar; we mean the interests of the representative class of respectable practitioners. To many of the lower class of attorneys who look on a client as a man

to be bled and not helped in his difficulties, the new reforms will deal a terrible, and, let us hope, a deadly blow. These are men who have too long disgraced an otherwise honourable and useful profession, and for their losses no one can have a moment's sympathy. On the whole, we are inclined to believe that when sufficient time has elapsed to enable the new rules to be thoroughly tested, they will be found to have contributed greatly to facilitate the administration of justice by the simplification of the complicated processes by which alone that desirable end has hitherto been attainable.

As years go by the number of so-called "aids to Japanese" multiply. A short time ago we had occasion to notice one which at least possessed the advantage of being amusing, and the merit of exhibiting its errors too palpably to mislead. Another is now before us; a very unpretentious little volume of seventeen tiny pages containing several spasmodic sentences and a few scanty vocabularies. It might have been an excellent affair in its way but for two misfortunes; the first, that it was compiled, apparently by, a gentleman from the province of Hizen; and the second, that it was printed by a Chinaman. The consequences of the former mishap are visible in every page. Thus *yo-bukuro* is written *Ziy-bukuro*; *asuko* becomes *asoko*, and, generally, all the *j* sounds are converted in *z*. The Chinese compositor, however, has left his traces still more indelibly on the work. Whether his fount of type was short of *i's*, or whether it possessed a superfluity of *u's* with a dieresis, he never fails to substitute *ä* for *ii*, the result being that we find *ima taihen isogashä* for *ima taihen isogashii*, and *nanno yoka häle miro*, for *nanno yoka häle miro*. Of course these errors will not prove seriously embarrassing to persons familiar with Japanese, but as the book does not appear to be compiled for finished linguists, it is not improved by such typographical eccentricities. The Chinese printer also displays some mental confusion as to the separation of words and syllables. We apprehend that among the foreign merchants, for whose assistance the volume is specially compiled, there may be found some to whom, even with the aid of a dictionary, such words, or agglomerations of words, as *nochini-kite*, *urade-aro*, *otakuye*, *otodokemshimashö*, and so forth, will present a hazy appearance. Still the book may be found not entirely useless. It is short enough to be corrected from cover to cover in about sixty minutes, and this is no small recommendation. We ought to add, too, that the author practically and openly prepares us to find his work defective, for at the very earliest opportunity he hastens to give us an example of his own and his printer's inaccuracy by writing the title of the volume "The Merchants Interpreter."

MR. THOMAS TYLOR, in an interesting article in *Time*, on earthquakes and their causes, devotes a few lines to an account of the seismic shocks which have occurred in the British islands. Some persons, he says, may possibly be inclined to

think that Great Britain has been altogether exempt from earthquakes. But such an opinion would certainly be mistaken. A writer in the *Quarterly Review* (January, 1869) gives 151 as having taken place from the tenth to the eighteenth centuries inclusive. In the twelfth and thirteenth centuries, if the accounts which have reached us are to be trusted, some remarkable earthquakes occurred. In 1158 the Thames is said to have been laid dry, so as to be passed on foot. And twenty-one years later, ground belonging to the Bishop of Durham, near Darlington, was elevated like a hill at nine in the morning, and so continued till sunset, when it sank, leaving a deep cavity. On other occasions buildings were damaged, and landslips more or less extensive are said to have occurred. On the 6th of April, 1580, at six in the evening, "London and all England were thrown into consternation. The great bell at Westminster sounded the alarm, and was followed by others; the students of the Temple started up from table, and rushed into the street, knives in hand; a part of the Temple Church fell, and stones dropped from St. Paul's. Two stones fell in Christ's Church, and crushed two persons—one to an immediate, the other to a lingering death; in rushing out of the church many persons were lamed, and there was a 'shower of chimneys' in the street." Fears were entertained of a repetition of the shock; and it was at this time that two wags are said to have amused themselves in the early morning, by waking the sleepy Londoners, announcing the hour, "Half-past four, and a dreadful earthquake." On February 8th, 1750, there was an earthquake in London, followed by one still more violent a month later. Moreover, a certain dragoon prophesied that, on the 4th of the following month, London and Westminster would be destroyed by an earthquake between twelve and one o'clock at night. On the night predicted of course no earthquake occurred, but affrighted multitudes filled the open places; and it was on this occasion that Mr. Whitefield preached at midnight in Hyde Park. Slight earth-tremors are still of frequent occurrence at the town of Comrie, in the centre of Perthshire.

In this context we observe that Mr. H. Cecil, of Bregner, Bournemouth, writes to *Nature* under date October-22:—"I perceived here on the morning of the 10th inst, just before the light was sufficient to show the hands of a watch, two distinct tremors of earthquake. A whatnot by my bedside trembled throughout, and a watch on its stand vibrated with a strong and regular pulsation. Nothing was passing at the time, and a heavy steam-roller has passed one morning since without affecting the whatnot or the watch."

THE mortal remains of Mr. E. C. Kirby were interred in the Bluff Cemetery yesterday morning. It is not too much to say that all the foreign residents who could possibly attend the funeral were present at Christ Church at the hour prescribed for the ceremony. The beautiful and impressive ritual of the Church of England was

read by the Reverend E. C. Irvine; and as the coffin was borne out of the church the "Dead March in Saul" was played. At the gate of the Churchyard a large procession formed, and followed the hearse which conveyed the body to its last resting-place, a tranquil dormitory, which Mr. Kirby first saw when it had perhaps but three or four occupants, but where he now finds a place among a thousand of his contemporaries. Our deceased fellow-citizen's enterprising and honorable career in Japan was too well-known during the twenty years of his residence to need from us other than the briefest comment. Honest, energetic, and laborious, he pushed his way ahead from small beginnings, not discouraged by obstacles, or flushed by success, or daunted by misfortune. Till within a few moments of his lamented death he was in full possession of all his faculties. No loss to the commercial and industrial foreign community of Japan is to be more regretted than that sustained by his premature demise.

THE attention of the Italian Government appears to have been strongly attracted by the constantly increasing tide of emigration which is shown to be setting Westward from the peninsula. The public had pretty well made up its mind as to the source whence the impetus of this movement was derived, but the Government deemed it wise to call upon the various prefects for an explanation, and, as might have been anticipated, these officials have replied that the general cause of the exodus is the difficulty of procuring a subsistence, and the particular cause, a low rate of wages. This analysis suggests a curious reflection—namely, that in the West of Europe, where everything resembling national seclusion ought to have disappeared long ago, and where the means of intercommunication are so perfect, there are two countries, France and Italy, separated by a chain of mountains only, in one of which the number of arms is too great for the work they have to do, while in the other, the work is too much for the number of arms. In France, the demand for labourers is so great that salaries have reached an unprecedented level, and the returns on capital being disproportionately small, enterprise languishes. In Italy, men are deserting their country and seeking beyond the sea the bread which an overstocked labour market refuses them, at home. Commenting upon this state of affairs, an Italian journal pertinently remarks that when two bodies of water, separated by a dyke, are at different levels, it is only necessary to remove the dyke and the two surfaces become one. The natural barrier between France and Italy can never be entirely removed, but railways and roads have long ago overcome the obstructions it offered to intercourse. The artificial barrier is the real trouble. So long as the present Customs regulations exist, the two countries are prevented from ministering to each others needs. Work is the germ of capital, and did the Italian workmen enjoy free access to France, they would create there a fixed capital incomparably greater than the floating capital they might carry away.

This practical illustration of the benefits of free trade is interesting, but after all similar illustrations are to be seen everywhere by those that take the trouble to look for them.

WHEN the news of the reception given to the King of Spain by some Parisian roughs reached America, the *Texas Siftings* came out with a characteristically irreverent cartoon. The picture contained three figures: one a statwart old man dressed in a species of nondescript uniform and holding out a fragment of coloured cloth on the end of a stick; the second, a very inane looking person seated in a swing and wearing a large crown; the third an enraged billy-goat, which with one irate eye fixed upon the old man's piece of cloth, was bucking the swing and its occupant sky high. Underneath this choice specimen of art was the following subscription:—*'Little Alfonso'*—"Hurrah for me! Just see how high I can swing myself when I try." The unintentional suggestion conveyed by this cartoon was, perhaps, the funniest part of the whole, for certainly nothing could be more absurd than to suppose that Prince Bismarck could have foreseen the results of the compliment paid to King Alfonso at Berlin. The world gives Prince Bismarck the credit of being a remarkably sagacious person, but it also gives the French the credit of being an eminently courteous people. Nothing more unlikely could have been predicted than that a Parisian crowd would deliberately insult the guest of their country. It is very certain that Prince Bismarck never anticipated such a conjuncture, and it is equally certain that had he anticipated it, he would have spared no pains to prevent it. Seldom, indeed, has a chapter of accidents so simple in themselves been attended by a sequel so strange. For it now turns out, if we may believe the *Gazette de Cologne*, that when the citizens of Paris hooted and shook their fists at a monarch who was supposed to have allied himself with their sometime foes, they had in reality no better cause to be angry than the King of Spain's innocent preference for yellow as compared with white. In Germany it is the custom to pay all royal visitors the compliment of making them honorary colonels of a cavalry regiment. When the compliment came to be paid to King Alfonso—a piece of etiquette in which Prince Bismarck does not appear to have been concerned either directly or indirectly—there were two regiments of Uhlans to choose from, and the uniforms of both were presented for the King's inspection. One had white facings; the other yellow. Alfonso preferred the latter, and it chanced to be that of a regiment stationed at the moment in Strasbourg. Had he chosen the white facings, Paris would have welcomed him gladly, and the Emperor William and Prince Bismarck would not have been guilty of a conspiracy to embroil France with her last natural ally in Europe. *Eheu! quam brevibus pereunt ingentia causis.*

A GENTLEMAN who travelled from Saigon to Ceylon in the M.M. steamer *Djemnah*, by which

General Bouet was a passenger, has written to the *Paris Dépêche* to say that, on the voyage, he had frequent occasions of conversing with the General, and that although the latter maintained an attitude of extreme reserve with regard to Tonquinese affairs, he was sufficiently communicative: to let it be known that the trouble between himself and Doctor Harmand was not a question of authority but of opinion. The General wished to take Sontai by assault, the Commissioner thought he could obtain the same results without bloodshed. Under these circumstances it was natural that the former should desire to be relieved of his command and sent to France to explain the situation to the Cabinet. This is credible, but it fails to account for the extraordinary system which virtually entrusts the conduct of a campaign to a civil official. Commissioner Harmand himself is now about to quit Tonquin, if, indeed, he has not already set out for France, so that one of the chief obstacles to French unanimity of action in Cochin-China will be removed.

AT the meeting of the Academy of Sciences in Paris on October the 1st, M. Faye read an interesting paper on the subject of slow movements of the soil. The author referred at some length to the researches of M. Arturo Issei, of Genoa, and displayed a hypsometric chart of the surface of the globe intended to illustrate the various conclusions of that scientist. He then went on to say that all the evidence hitherto collected goes to demonstrate the truth of his previously announced theory with regard to the law which governs the oscillations of the liquid mass in the centre of the globe and explains the seemingly bizarre irregularities of its surface. The chart showed large depressions in the regions occupied by the oceans—depressions which become daily more marked, while, on the other hand, the upheavals of the continents takes place with corresponding continuity. According to M. Faye, geologists do not sufficiently consider geodesic facts. The testimony of the latter shows that in the beginning, that is to say, when our globe was a burning mass in a state of semi-consistency, its figure represented, mathematically, an ellipsoid of revolution, and its ponderosity, in consequence of the flattening of the poles, was manifested with an intensity increasing regularly towards the equator. Since then, the surface of the earth has been sensibly modified. To assert that its depressions and elevations are insensible, is inaccurate. Depressions of 16 kilometres and elevations of corresponding dimensions, represent differences of level of thirty-two kilometres, and these are capable of altering the primitive mathematical figure. Nevertheless, geodesy bears witness that the earth has not ceased to have the figure of an ellipsoid of revolution, and that the distribution of the ponderosity has remained absolutely unchanged. To explain this M. Faye thinks there is only one admissible hypothesis. The portion of the surface of the earth which comes in contact with the depth of the ocean undergoes a cooling more intense than that to which the surface of the

continents is exposed. This cooling is caused by the icy currents from the poles. It is known that, if the temperature of the layers in contact with the air is sometimes from 15° to 20° , that of the lower layers falls and is constantly maintained somewhere in the neighbourhood of 0° . Thus while at a depth of 4,000 metres the submarine terrestrial crust has a very low temperature, the continental crust, at a corresponding depth, has a temperature of 150° , approximately. The consequence of this submarine cooling is a relatively rapid augmentation of the globe's solid crust. But in thickening, the crust contracts and becomes denser. This contraction exercises a pressure on the adjacent pasty or liquid mass, causing it to reflow towards the continental regions and produce there a constant upheaval. In fine, there is brought about a sort of see-saw movement, which tends constantly to deepen the ocean and to elevate the continents. In presence of these great phenomena, volcanoes appear as accidents of little importance. They are doubtless due to the infiltration of sea water, by capillary channels, into the burning or pasty matters of the interior. Upon contact with these matters the water accomplishes a veritable metamorphosis of the rocks in fusion: the silicates thus formed acquire powerfully explosive properties, and are capable of dislocating, and even of bursting, the solid crust unless they find an issue already open. Volcanoes, according to this theory, ought to be found near the edges of the continents, or in the sea, on the circumference of the shallows which correspond to submerged continents. M. Issel's chart, constructed from data purely geographical, confirms this theory in a striking manner.

A CANTON correspondent of the *China Mail* writes:—A laughable incident of the Canton Regatta was the closest struggle of all—that between Frenchmen from the *Lutin*, French man-of-war, and a crew from the Chinese gun vessel *Chen-to*. The *Juniata's* cutter (American) came in first; and although willing enough to take a licking from the generous hosts of the day, Frenchmen one and all would have died sooner than be beaten by the *Chen-to's* Chinamen. Eventually *la grande nation* came in winners by several lengths, but they had a very tough struggle for it. Speaking of the Canton Regatta, the way in which some of the *Juniata's* officers denied themselves all pleasures of the day to dispense hot punch and other refreshments at an improvised bar down below (the punch itself and the salad both exquisite, as only some initiated favoured few know how to compound them), will be long held in remembrance by all who partook of the hospitality so freely extended to all comers by the officers and crew of the U. S. steamer *Juniata* at the Canton Regatta of 1883.

THE Dean of Bangor, speaking at a meeting held to further the establishment of courses of instruction in practical cookery in the elementary schools, said that if we had his own way there would be much less tea-drinking among people

of all classes. Oatmeal and milk produced strong, hearty, good-natured men and women, whereas excessive tea-drinking created a generation of nervous, discontented people, who were for ever complaining of the existing order of the universe, scolding their neighbours, and sighing after the impossible. Good cooking would, he firmly believed, enable them to take far higher and more correct views of existence. In fact, he suspected that over much tea-drinking, by destroying the calmness of the nerves, was acting as a dangerous revolutionary force among us. Tea-drinking renewed three or four times a day made men and women feel weak, and the result was that the tea-kettle went before the gin bottle, and the physical and nervous weakness that had its origin in the bad cookery of an ignorant wife ended in ruin, intemperance, and disease.

THE *Hioo News* says that the farewell ball given by the foreign community of Kobe last evening to Mr. and Mrs. Aston, was certainly the most successful public entertainment which has taken place in Kobe during the whole period the port has been opened to foreigners. It must be very pleasing to Mr. Aston to receive such unequivocal evidence of the appreciation felt here for the manner in which he has discharged the duties of H.M.'s Consulate for more than three years past. Without desiring in anyway to depreciate the capacity of the present incumbent, we cannot help thinking that it must necessarily be some time before he can entirely fill the place which Mr. Aston's removal will leave void. There are so many questions constantly arising, more especially with the Japanese local authorities, that require personal knowledge of individuals and the exercise of special tact to arrange satisfactorily, that Mr. Aston's success while in Kobe must be regarded as altogether exceptional. Exaggeration is not at all unusual on these occasions, but it is no exaggeration to say that Mr. Aston bears with him the best and heartiest wishes of every member of the foreign community residing in this portion of Japan.

SOME interesting archaeological discoveries have just been made at Canterbury. In the course of the repair of the old city wall and buttresses still in existence beside the Dane John, a piece of Roman tessellated pavement was found imbedded in the structure. It is formed of small stone cubes, the tesserae, all white, being inlaid in a layer of fine salmon-coloured mortar, similar to the remains of a Roman villa recently found at Wingham and at the ancient church of St. Martin. Excavations within a short distance of the old city moat have resulted in from twenty to twenty-five skeletons being unearthed, together with Roman urns of fine red ware, a fragment of a highly-decorated bowl, bearing a raised image of a Roman soldier, with a shield on his left arm, coins, rings, bracelets, some curious flint implements, and rounded sling stones.

NATIVE race and religious distinctions are hard to eradicate in India, where, indeed, England

only keeps sway by the terror of her might. The *Indian Mirror* relates that, in the case of a late affray at Delhi, on the Eed, between Hindus and Mahomedans, in connection with the attempt of the latter to sacrifice cows in the city, the Magistrate has sentenced six Hindus to be imprisoned for one year each, and one Hindu for six months; two Mahomedans for one year each, and one for six months. The case of the ringleader, a Moulvi, was still pending at the time of the departure of the latest Indian mail.

THE British steamer *Iolani*, Captain Wallace, has been lost on the island of Tablas, which is situated in latitude $12\frac{1}{2}^{\circ}$ N., east of the island of Mindoro. The steamer is reported to be a total wreck. The *Iolani* was a new vessel of 981 tons. She arrived at Shanghai from Glasgow on the 30th of August, left Shanghai for Hongkong on the 3rd October, and thence for Iloilo on the 13th October. Her non-arrival at Manila from Iloilo, to complete her cargo, had caused some alarm, as she was supposed to be in the track of the typhoon which visited the south of Luzon on the 28th-29th October last.

A HINDU widow, writing to the *Kaiser-i-Hind*, of Bombay, says that it appears from statistics that there are twenty-one millions of widows in India, who are debarred by custom from entering into matrimonial bonds after the demise of their first husbands. If one widow out of a hundred were to give birth to a child every year, the total number of such children, which are generally not allowed to see the light of day, would amount to about two hundred thousand and upwards. The correspondent urges the paper to represent the grievance of these millions of widows to Her Majesty the Queen-Empress, with a view to bringing about such a social change in their community as to improve their status and thereby enable them to break the adamant shackles which keep them hard and fast to the cruel custom.

THE following changes have taken place in the Cabinet:—His Excellency Yamada, from the Home Office, to be Minister of Justice; His Excellency Oki, hitherto Minister of Justice, to be Minister of Education; His Excellency Yamagata, hitherto President of the Council of State, to be Minister of Home Affairs; and His Excellency Fukuoka, from the Department of Education, to be President of the Council of State.

THE *Monocacy* returned to Shanghai from Nagasaki on the 24th November after many months' absence. She will stay there during the winter, and is to be thoroughly overhauled in the meantime.

ACCORDING to the *Saigon Independant* of the 17th ultimo the French Government have informed M. Harmand that it is impossible he should leave for France at present.

DISTRUST AND PREJUDICE.

IT has always been considered a very remarkable literary feat that ADDISON, during quite a lengthy period, produced six articles a week for the pages of the *Spectator*. Few men are equally gifted, and we cannot be surprised that promiscuous attempts to follow the great essayist's example lead often to very lamentable results. One of these results is now before us in the columns of a Colonial contemporary. The subject is the action taken by the Japanese authorities in connection with the recent affray between the police and certain Chinese residents of Nagasaki, and the line of argument pursued is directly inspired by comments that have appeared from time to time in the local press of Yokohama. We err, indeed, in calling it a line of argument. It bears no resemblance to any effort of reason, and reminds us most of LOCKE'S celebrated dictum:—"To be rational is so glorious a thing, that two-legged creatures generally content themselves with the title." Take, for example, the following assertion:—"It is true that the Japanese Government proposes to appoint European and American judges to administer its codes; but this would be merely to perpetuate the imagined grievance in a different form. To formally confess herself incompetent to administer her own laws, and to bind herself to the employment of foreigners for that purpose, would be more humiliating to Japan than the present plan of simply granting extraterritoriality." It cannot be supposed that the writer of this took the trouble to consider why Japan offers to employ foreign judges. An utter neglect of reflection is the least fault that can be laid to his charge. For the proposal that in all cases where foreigners are concerned a majority of the judges on the bench shall be foreign, carries with it no admission whatsoever of Japanese judicial incompetence. It is simply a concession to foreign prejudice and mistrust. The constant contention of the advocates of extraterritoriality is that the impartiality of Japanese judges could not be trusted where the decision lay between foreign and Japanese interests. This objection the Government of Japan meets by offering to leave such decisions virtually in the hands of foreigners. They see clearly, as every thinking man must see, that it is not really a question of competence or integrity, but of race prejudice. Twenty years hence, however unimpeachable the records of this country's courts might be, the same difficulty would probably exist. There would still be the

same unworthy reluctance to admit that the sense of justice or fair-play can be a governing influence among Orientals. That conviction is wholly beyond the reach of logic or the testimony of negative experience. Therefore the Government offer to meet it boldly by a concession in itself almost conclusive of good faith.

For certainly the appointment of foreigners to the highest judicial positions in the land is not a measure which can be supposed to possess many attractions for Japan. Apart from the question of expense, a Government likes to keep these posts for its own nationals, and we have no reason to suppose that the Japanese are more cosmopolitan than other peoples in such matters. On the contrary, the general impression conveyed by their policy is that they desire nothing with greater earnestness than to be self-sufficing, and to dispense with extraneous aid altogether. When, therefore, they offer to place upon their bench twenty or twenty-five Western judges, simply in order that foreign law-breakers may have the privilege of being tried by men of their own race, they show an impartiality and freedom from prejudice which their critics would do well to imitate. The advocates of extraterritoriality, so far from appreciating this liberality, twist it into a confession of incompetence. They might as well assert that when a landlord builds a house after a certain plan to suit a tenant's caprice, his inability to construct it in any other fashion is established. Such a prostitution of reason to prejudice betrays a set reluctance to be trustful; a determination not to be convinced by everything. Men argue as though the Japanese Government, in seeking to recover jurisdiction over foreigners, were contriving some subtle scheme for their despoliation or expulsion. The very pursuit of such an object is called impractical and romantic, while in reality it deserves sympathy and approbation. To the opposition it encounters these uncomplimentary terms may be applied with much greater justice. For there is no reasonable proportion between the consequences of the change and the denunciations levelled against it. Judging by the latter, one would imagine the proposed partial abolition of extraterritoriality to be a measure calculated to affect the whole course of our daily existence, whereas in truth it could only concern the lawless and peace-disturbing fraction of the community—a very small fraction, let us hope. How many of us have ever been arraigned, or are ever likely to be arraigned, before a criminal tribunal? Certainly not one in a

thousand of the educated men who come here to accomplish the commercial purpose of the treaties. For the sake, then, of a handful of roughs, let them be liberty-men, loafers, publicans, or panders, the extension of this country's foreign intercourse is to be impeded, the prospects of foreign trade circumscribed, and the development of Japan's resources prevented. It is impossible to conceive anything more illogical or impractical. Japanese statesmen would fail to discharge the most elementary functions of Government did they consent to expose the whole empire to the inconveniences and anomalies of that heterogeneous medley of jurisdictions, which, even within the narrow limits of the open ports, have been proved so confusing and inefficient. In discussing this question, three important facts are persistently ignored. The first is that to which we have just alluded, namely, that the proposed change, so far as criminal jurisdiction is concerned, would only affect an exceedingly small section of the community; the second, that in civil cases half the jurisdiction is already in Japanese hands; and the third, that the foreign residents would still continue to enjoy the protection of their own Ministers and Consuls. The same machinery could always be set in motion to offer remonstrance or seek redress. Surely no very grievous wrongs need be apprehended under these circumstances, unless indeed foreign and native officials are objects of equal distrust. But in truth the question receives no dispassionate consideration. The place of reason and logic is usurped by sentiment and race prejudice. Many of the advocates of extraterritoriality cannot put into intelligible form the apprehensions they feel at the prospect of its partial abolition. Enough that they have a vague horror of everything Japanese, and a hazy notion that privileges must never be surrendered whatever inconveniences they entail. Their mood deserves some respect, as standing in a sort of distant relationship to the "Britons-never-will-be-slaves" phrensy; but it offers a grotesque contrast to the charges of distrust and race prejudice which they themselves so loudly prefer against the Japanese.

The ruling passion, be it what it will,
The ruling passion conquers Reason still.

The ruling passion here seems to be hot anger against the Japanese Government and a determination to lay to its charge all the misfortunes and disappointments of every-day life in Japan. To eyes blinded by that feeling Japanese official action invariably looks faulty. Thus it happens that journalists who know nothing whatsoever about the considerations which

induced the authorities to hold the investigations at Nagasaki with closed doors, do not hesitate to denounce the Court as "a species of modern Star-chamber" and to speak of "the apparent absence of any of the ordinary machinery of the law which is in force in other countries." Such writing betrays a wonderful recklessness of facts. The Japanese Government, having regard to the international excitement which rash and unwarrantable newspaper comment had excited, deemed it expedient to conduct the trial of the Nagasaki police in private. Such a course is within the discretion of every Government, and the expressions it has evoked from local writers are both impertinent and unjust. They do not prove that Japanese criminal procedure is defective or that the general administration of the law is below a civilized level, but simply that there are English journalists in China and Japan whose idea of honesty is to denounce everything they do not understand, and of fair-play to declare a man a murderer while he is awaiting trial. Extraterritoriality must be in a sadly decrepit condition when such logicians as these are its only props and stays.

NEUTRALS IN CHINA.

THE voluntary nature of international law is its principal defect. Different nations take different views of it and the same nation takes different views of it at different times.¹ What is chiefly wanted to make it efficient is an authoritative exponent of its principles. It is for this reason that many distinguished jurists urge the advisability of an international congress to prepare a code which shall receive universal recognition. Pending the compilation of such a code, the tendency of nations, when confronted by any important question touching their rights, is to take the law into their own hands. There is a possibility that the eventualities of the near future may bring home to us the inconveniences of this uncertainty. Should the Tonquin embargo result in war between France and China, the rights of neutrals settled in the

latter country or trading with it will be open to various interpretations, and unless the Governments of the Great Powers agree, beforehand, upon some concerted line of policy, complications of most serious import may ensue. We do not presume that this danger is unforeseen. Indeed, if the telegram received a few days ago is to be read as we suppose, Germany, the United States and Great Britain have already initiated a programme that will go far to allay the growing uneasiness.

In the meantime, however, it is worth while to consider the nature of the problems that present themselves. Generally, it may be said that the tendency of civilization is to respect neutral interests. In other words, neutral power has increased, of late years, more than war power, and the drift of international morality is constantly towards such alterations of the code of war as will favour neutral commerce. But before examining the rights of neutrals in the special contingency that concerns us here, we must first determine who are neutrals. Upon this point the latest dictum of international law is that the nationality of individuals in war depends, not on their origin or their naturalization, but upon their domicile. Anyone domiciled of free choice in a neutral country is a neutral, and anyone domiciled in an enemy's country is an enemy. Thus, too, a person having a house of commerce in the enemy's territory, although actually resident in a neutral country, may be treated as an enemy so far forth as that part of his business is concerned. Under this definition it is plain that all foreigners settled in China would become, *de jure*, enemies of France, in the event of a war between the latter and the Middle Kingdom. But there presents itself here an important modification; namely, that the foreign settlements are not Chinese territory in the strict sense of the word. They are places specially designated by treaty for commercial purposes, and those living within their limits are exempted, in many respects, from the exercise of Chinese sovereignty. Having regard to these facts and to the nature of the interests at stake, it can scarcely be doubted that the Great Powers would claim for the settlements of their nationals, and for the persons residing in those settlements, a neutral character.

Here we may observe, *en passant*, that this character would not necessarily attach to Frenchmen inhabiting such settlements. The doctrine of the English Courts, adopted by the American, and interpreted by WHEATON, is that a person having a house of commerce in a neutral country and

domiciled among the enemy, is not held to be a neutral. But as the principle obviously underlying this distinction is partiality towards the interests of captors, and as its admission might involve grave infractions of the desired neutrality, the Great Powers would probably refuse to recognise it, and China would be better advised than to insist.²

What rights, then, would attach to this neutral character? Briefly, the neutrals could insist that their settlements should be inviolate and untouched by the operations of war, and that the privileges they enjoy there should be uninvaded. This would, of course, carry with it exemption from blockade. It has always been recognised that blockade is illegal if it affects the passage or the stream of vessels destined for neutral soil. On the other hand, such exemption would certainly be inconsistent with the rule of impartiality which governs the practice of strict neutrality. China would be benefited at France's expense. To take an example. For the conduct of a campaign in Tonquin, Canton would be China's base of supplies, and nothing could cripple her operations more than its blockade. Yet blockade, if permitted, would destroy the foreign commerce of Canton, since the egress and ingress of neutral vessels would necessarily be prevented. Nay, more, blockade would imperil the safety of the foreign settlements, for access would equally be denied to the force necessary for their protection, or to the supplies required by that force if admitted. On the whole, while admitting that to interdict the blockade of ports where foreign settlements exist would be, in some degree, an infraction of France's belligerent rights, it is not less evident that blockade, if permitted, would completely violate the rights of the neutral residents.

Many curious and difficult problems present themselves with regard to the neutralization of the open ports, as for example, the admission of vessels of war of the belligerents; the rights of asylum, and so forth. But, where precedents to determine the main question are wanting, it would plainly be presumptuous to discuss these side issues. However the dispute between France and China may eventuate, it will not be wholly unproductive of good if it extracts from Germany, America, and England an authoritative definition of the rights of neutrals residing in Oriental countries.

And here a question naturally arises as to Japan's probable attitude towards this

(1) The relations of the United States and Great Britain have furnished some of the most remarkable examples of this variable principle. Thus, in 1862, some of the crew of the *Emily St. Pierre*, which had been captured by Federal ships, got possession of the vessel and carried her to Liverpool. The U.S. Government claimed her on the plea that the rescue was fraudulent and an act of violence towards a lawful cruiser. But the English Authorities rebutted the claim on the very same ground put forward by the American Government in reply to a similar demand made by Great Britain sixty-two years previously. The case of the *Trent* was still more remarkable. Great Britain, smarting under a supposed insult to her flag, advanced claims founded upon neutral rights which she had never before consented to recognise. The Washington Cabinet was thus enabled to concede England's demands in deference to the very principle for which the United States had always contended.

(2) The claim advanced by the French—namely, that the district they occupy in Shanghai is not a settlement, but a concession, i.e. French territory—might have inconvenient consequences in the event of war.

coalition of Great Powers. She, too, has subjects settled in China, and their interests are in this matter identical with those of their Western fellow-residents. We may conclude, therefore, that she will readily acquiesce in any project calculated to guarantee their commercial privileges. But it must be a project in no respect opposed to the dictates of that friendship which it is this country's constant desire to maintain with her neighbour. Although dissimilarity of national characteristics and an apparent, though we trust temporary, divergence of political paths postpone any prospect of close combination between the two empires, Japanese statesmen have by no means lost sight of that prospect, nor will its influence be small in the present case. Since, however, as we have briefly indicated above, the principles which are likely to be adopted by Germany, the United States and America for the protection of neutrals, can only tend to China's benefit, Japan may endorse them with a free conscience. At the time when war between Russia and the Middle Kingdom was not improbable, we pointed out that, having regard to the preponderance of Russian influence and the facility with which Russian power could be brought to bear upon Japan, the latter would be acting unwisely did she strain any points in favour of China, or make any sacrifices for the sake of maintaining that form of "strict neutrality" prescribed by modern canons. But these prudential considerations lose much of their force in the present case. Acting in concert with Germany, America, and England, and knowing that the consequences of their action cannot be inconvenient to China, the Government of Japan has not much cause for anxiety on any score.

A HONGKONG LIBEL CASE.

A curious trial has just been concluded before the Supreme Court in Hongkong. Mr. FRASER-SMITH, the proprietor of the *Hongkong Daily Telegraph*, was charged with "publishing a false and defamatory libel" on Mr. J. MCNEIL PRICE, the Surveyor-General of the Colony. The article on which the charge was based set out by criticising a custom which prevails in the Colonial Secretary's Office of confining the advertisements inviting public tenders for local works to "the semi-privacy" of the *Government Gazette*. The writer suggested "by the private interest of some person or persons," and after declaring that "the tongue of public report does not scruple to assert that these contracts are 'kept dark,' manipulated and arranged to suit

the devices of certain officials," concluded thus:—

We are quite sure that "the honourable the Surveyor-General" could (and would, if requested to do so) give His Excellency a deal of valuable information on this subject. Mr. PRICE is reported to be a determined opponent of the jobbery which is said to prevail so extensively amongst the subordinate members of the Surveyor-General's department. The subordinate members alluded to do not scruple to retaliate by asserting *sub rosa* that the honourable member likes to monopolise all "the good things" to his own cheek.

Perhaps the truest description applicable to this species of writing is that it is a mischievous attempt to scatter scandal broadcast. To casual readers, however, the reputation of the Surveyor-General does not seem to be specially assailed. The resultant impression is that considerable jobbery and corruption prevail among the subordinates of his department, but that he himself is opposed to these abuses. The law, however, takes no cognizance of libels uttered against a body of men. Unless Mr. PRICE had instituted proceedings in his own name, the obnoxious article must have remained unchallenged. Neither alternative was pleasant, and we can sympathise with any official confronted by the necessity of choosing between the two.

The defendant's plea was not guilty. He did not plead justification, yet his line of defence throughout was directed to prove the truth of the assertions embodied in the article complained of. The first witness he called was the Surveyor-General himself. This gentleman's evidence was somewhat unusual in character. He declared that he never read the *Hongkong Telegraph*, but that he knew he had been systematically slandered in its columns for months past. In proof of these systematic slanders and as evidence of malice, several articles from the *Telegraph* were quoted by the plaintiff's counsel. None of them, however, dated farther back than February the 5th, 1883, whereas on the 8th of January the Surveyor-General addressed to the acting Colonial Secretary the following letter:—

Public Works Department,
8th January, 1883.

SIR,—I have the honour to transmit you the enclosed copy of a letter from the editor of the *Hongkong Telegraph* in reply to a request from me that he should discontinue sending his paper to this office.

I find that the *Hongkong Telegraph* is supplied to me under the authority of C. S. O. 1,724 of 1881, and I have therefore to request you, if you think it necessary, to be good enough to countermand the order for the paper.

Apart from the fact that the subscription to this scurrilous paper is a waste of public money, I have grave objections to allowing it inside my office on the grounds of decency and decorum, and I cannot but think that some responsibility attaches to the Government for the pecuniary support which it renders month after month to a convicted criminal in his abandoned career.—I have, &c.,

(Sd.) J. M. PRICE, Surveyor-General.

When and how the contents of this letter came to the knowledge of the defendant, there was no evidence to show, but they were certainly known to him before the trial. Their effect upon his disposition towards the Surveyor-General is not difficult to imagine. No man likes to be called a "convicted criminal," or to be accused of pursuing an "abandoned career," and

we do not see that the latter term properly describes the profession of a journalist, any more than the former is justified by the fact that the editor of the *Telegraph* once spent two months in prison for exceeding the bounds of legal criticism in commenting on the abilities of an itinerant actor. It cannot, of course, be contended that the Surveyor-General's letter was justified by any criticisms to which his public career had previously been subjected in the columns of the *Telegraph*, or that the editor of that journal, even supposing the contents of the letter were immediately disclosed to him, had warrant for the crusade he seems to have instituted against Mr. PRICE. But in whatever relation of cause and effect these circumstances may stand to one another, it is only fair to note that the editor of the *Telegraph* did not enjoy a monopoly of intemperance.

The most inexplicable part of this incident, however, is the fact that a letter written to the Colonial Secretary by the Surveyor-General on such a subject should have become public property at all. Nothing could less conduce to the interests of the Colonial Government's service, or reflect more injuriously on the reputation of its officials, than that the contents of despatches passing between the various departments should be repeated to those about whom they are written. This surely is a much more legitimate subject for criticism than the very improbable abuses described by the *Hongkong Telegraph*.

After this the defendant called his brother, and elicited from him a number of strange statements. The witness explained that the obnoxious article was written in consequence of information supplied by Mr. EDWARD ROSE, foreman of the Hongkong Waterworks, who had said that his prospects in connection with the Tytam Waterworks would be better did not "Mr. PRICE like to keep all the good things to his own cheek." Further, that the same Mr. ROSE had once "called on him (the witness) and asked him to interest himself by the paper to get certain outstanding accounts, due to contractors to that Department, paid;" had proposed an arrangement by which the witness should have a percentage on the amount of the accounts, and had introduced him to two or three of the contractors; that in consequence of this a paragraph was inserted in the *Telegraph*, with the result that the claims were immediately settled; and that the reason assigned for the delay by Mr. ROSE and the contractors was that the latter "could not afford to give a gratuity to the man in charge of the pay department." One of these contractors was then called, but it appeared that he had completely lost his memory. The only thing he could be sure of was that when he got work he did it. He did not remember whether he had had any conversation with the previous witness; did not remember where he had complained to Mr. ROSE about not being paid for his contracts; did not remember whether he had been kept waiting for payment, and, in short, found his memory too short to be of any value whatsoever in a court of law.

This was bad enough, but worse was to follow. For when Mr. ROSE was called, he denied point blank and in the most unequivocal terms every one of the statements and acts attributed to him. The defendant did not hesitate to charge this witness with deliberate perjury, and applied for time to produce evidence in proof of the charge, but the Judge, very rightly as it seems to us, refused the application on the ground that Mr. R. FRASER-SMITH, not Mr. ROSE, was on trial. The case was therefore concluded without further evidence, and the Jury decided, by four votes to three, that the defendant was not guilty.

The impression produced by a perusal of this trial is most painful. So far as the alleged libel is concerned, there is not much to be said. The defendant himself denied that he had penned it, or that he was in the Colony at the time of its publication, but was careful to explain that this denial did not involve disavowal. On the contrary, he said that "he quite agreed with everything in the paragraph except the very injudicious reference to what Mr. ROSE had told his brother," that is to say, the sentence, "The subordinate members of the Surveyor-General's department do not scruple to retaliate by asserting, *sub rosa*, that the honorable member likes to monopolise all the good things to his own cheek." Under these circumstances the jury had only to consider whether the article was defamatory and whether the defendant was responsible for it. As to the latter point, although the testimony was pretty clear that Mr. R. FRASER-SMITH did not write the paragraph himself, his responsibility as editor and proprietor of the *Telegraph* was indisputable; while as to the former, we fail completely to see that any other definition is applicable to the article. But the ways of juries are inscrutable. Some explanation of the wonderful verdict returned by these seven gentlemen of Hongkong may perhaps be found in the bewildering latitude given to the defendant—latitude which enabled him to confuse the issue by introducing matter that had no logical connection with his plea. The Judge's charge, however, ought to have removed all difficulties of this nature. His Lordship virtually told the jury that a verdict of "not guilty" would amount to a declaration that the defendant, as a public writer, was entitled to criticise a public officer in such a way and on the strength of such evidence. Yet their verdict was "not guilty." It is to be hoped that this analysis of a journalist's privileges is confined to that section of public opinion represented by the four gentlemen who constituted the majority of the Hongkong special jury.

Still more unsatisfactory is the imputation thrown upon a branch of the Colonial Executive. It is very difficult to believe that all the evidence given by the defendant's brother was false; yet, either the greater part of it was a pure fabrication, or the foreman of the Hongkong Waterworks perjured himself. The total collapse of the Chinese contractor's memory was also an unfortunate event—especially unfortunate for the fair-fame of the Surveyor-

General's Department. An attempt was made to show that the practice adopted in giving out contracts is pernicious, since the acceptance or rejection of tenders rests finally with the Governor alone, but we imagine that the working of this system is not likely to inspire the English public with much uneasiness. Little, however, as any one will be disposed to credit the malpractices attributed to the subordinates of the Surveyor-General's Department, there is reason to hope that the charge of perjury preferred in open Court against the Foreman of the Hongkong Water-works will not remain unrefuted, and that the proceedings in rebuttal may bring forward some less suggestive witness than the oblivious contractor, Mr. LUM TAM CHI.

TRANSLATIONS FROM NATIVE JOURNALS.

THE BENEVOLENT SOCIETY.

(Translated from the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*.)

On the 7th instant, H.I.H. Komatsu-no-miya gave, as President of the above Society, an entertainment to the provincial Prefects now staying in the Capital. During the evening he addressed them as follows:—

Gentlemen—I feel the greatest pleasure in having invited you here to-day and being enabled to converse with you. That I have solicited your presence, is due to my desire to tender my hearty thanks for the services you rendered to the Benevolent Society during past years, and further to beseech renewed exertions to enlarge its operations. Its prospects are brilliant: its scope increases year after year: members and contributions are gradually augmenting. The object of the society is appreciated everywhere—a fact which shows the growth of public benevolence. Were it not for your exertions this result would not have been achieved. On this point, I desire to offer you my best thanks. As you are aware, our Society aims at rescuing human beings from suffering. We are anxious to establish communication with similar organizations in Europe and finally to join the Geneva Convention. In August last year, when war was imminent with Korea, we forwarded a petition to the Government asking for permission to despatch a detachment of nurses to the scene of operations in order to give assistance to enemy and friend alike, and thereby to repay a portion of the gratitude we owe to the nation. But fortunately for the welfare of both countries, the difficulty was settled without recourse to arms, and our services were not required. There is no telling, however, when this nation may be involved in a foreign war. We are therefore bound to extend the operation of this association and affiliate it to the Geneva alliance. Our work is very arduous, and speedy success cannot be looked for. But with mutual assistance and the earnest exertions of all the members, there should be no insurmountable difficulty. Her Imperial Majesty the Empress has been informed of the object of our organization, and has promised to contribute *yen* 300 yearly to its funds. Nothing should excite more hearty gratitude in our hearts than this gracious action of Her Majesty. Who would not be thereby urged to enlarge the sphere of the society. Simultaneously with the Imperial donation a sanitary ex-

hibition was established in Berlin under the auspices of the Empress Augusta. Our Government sent a commissioner thither. The two events have afforded us an opportunity of increasing the funds of the society and taking steps to join the Geneva Convention, our members having unanimously decided upon the proposal, and communicated with the Japanese commissioner in Berlin to investigate all the details connected with the treaty. Mr. Sano Tsunetami sent a letter to Mr. Siebold asking him to exert himself on behalf of the organization. Now, gentlemen, you are all men in a responsible position, being charged with the administration of the Government or enjoying high titles or social rank; and it is within your power to encourage good people in participation in our work. In Western countries, even the august Sovereigns themselves become members of philanthropic societies and their Ministers follow their example. During the wars between Russia and Turkey, and between Germany and France, the Empresses of the respective countries visited the hospitals and did everything in their power to allay the sufferings of the afflicted. That philanthropic societies do immense good to the countries that possess them, is demonstrated by such facts alone. Bearing this in mind, we sincerely hope that our society will do like good in this country and thereby accomplish the wish of Her Majesty. I earnestly request all gentlemen present to exert themselves on behalf of the association.

TRADE BETWEEN KOREA AND JAPAN.

(Translated from the *Fiji Shimpō*.)

On the 7th instant the Government issued Notification No. 40 to the effect that the trade between Japan and Korea should be conducted after the method of Western commerce in that country. It reads as follows:—"Notification No. 129, issued in October the 9th year of *Meiji* (1876), is revoked from the 1st of February of the 17th of *Meiji* (1884) and trade with Korea shall be carried on from that date, according to the rules under which foreign trade is conducted in Japan. Be it enacted, therefore, that Japanese vessels carrying on trade with Korea may load or discharge goods at the three ports of Idzughara, Tsushima, in Nagasaki Prefecture, Shimoseki, Nagato, Yamaguchi Prefecture, and Hakata, Chikuzen, in Fukuoka Prefecture, exclusively, besides at the five open ports. A fee of *yen* 1 will be levied upon any vessel of Japanese build on her departure, and a fee of *yen* 2 on her arrival.

By Imperial Order,

SANJO SAN'EYOSHI, Prime Minister.

MATSUKATA MASAYOSHI, Finance Minister.
7th December, 1883."

This Notification has a most important bearing upon the commerce between Japan and Korea. We shall, therefore, venture to express an opinion on the subject, hoping that our readers will afterwards enlighten us further. Our trade with Korea was originally in the hands of the Taishu merchants who raded to Pusan in the time of the Tokugawa régime and subsequently to the Restoration. In February of the ninth year of *Meiji* (1876), however, a treaty of friendship and commerce was concluded between the two nations; and subsequently the merchants of the Osaka and Kiushu districts went to Pusan in large numbers. Rapid communication by sea was then established. Thus the course of trade underwent a complete change.

In October of the said year, the Government enacted the following rules by Notification No. 129:—"It is hereby notified that henceforward the imports from, and exports to, Korea shall be entitled to the same privileges as domestic trade. When goods are exported the exporters shall apply to the Custom Houses at the treaty ports, or the ward office at any place where there is no Custom House, to have their invoices stamped, restoring the documents to the said offices, on the return of their vessels from Korea, with the signature of Japanese officers in Korea proving that the goods have been properly entered. Importers shall present, on arrival of the ships, invoices duly signed by Japanese officers to the Custom House or Ward offices before landing the goods."

Later on the ports of Wŏn-san and Inchŏn were opened to Japanese commerce, which since then rapidly augmented, now representing more than yen 4,000,000 per annum. Japanese residents in the treaty ports of Korea number more than 3,500. In fact, Korean trade has been of such a character as to increase the resources of Japan. Up to the present, Korean trade was conducted with the same privileges as internal commerce. It was not subject to any customs regulations. Japanese merchants could export goods from any port they liked and their ships could leave from and return to any part of the country. Vessels of Japanese build could go to Korea, so that steamers and sailing ships were not exclusively required. Even our fishing boats could go thither. No tax was imposed upon the exports and imports, nor was any kind of ship-duty levied. Indeed, there existed no difference whatever between this country's commerce with Korea and its domestic dealings. The system was nothing short of free trade. That Japanese who are regarded as devoid of courage to conduct foreign trade on foreign soil have embarked in transactions with Korea to the extent of more than yen 4,000,000 and have commerce which is worth more than yen 400,000 annually, is due to this liberal policy.

Human affairs are, however, exposed to frequent change. Korean trade affords the best example of this fact. Within hardly a hundred days, its aspect, changed by various forces from without and within, underwent a complete metamorphosis, as though a shower had suddenly fallen on a sultry summer day and chased away the tormenting heat. The Government issued the trade regulations recently enacted between this country and Korea on the 15th of October last. They were to come into operation in the beginning of November last, so that they must be now in full force. The portion of the rules that most affects Japanese traders in Korea is that which makes them pay tonnage dues of 125 *mon* (a little above *sen* 40) per ton for large vessels. When they are of a capacity below 500 tons, half of the said dues is payable; and for vessels of less than 50 tons, one quarter only. As regard the exports and imports, we find that, with the exception of coins, books, and agricultural and scientific instruments, duties of from five to thirty per cent. are leviable. This impost must have seriously interfered with the business of Japanese traders. Notification No. 40 now issued has imparted a purely foreign character to Korean trade. Although it does not mention the imposition of duty on imports from Korea, it is evident that such will be levied. Readers may remark that Korean trade is to be conducted after the method of Western commerce in so far as the rules of entry and clearance are concerned, but that no duty shall be imposed on imports from Korea. But we firmly believe that such cannot be the

case, as a little consideration of the practical state of affairs will show. Suppose Japanese merchants are not required to pay duty, while foreigners are required to pay it on imports from Korea, there would be a monopoly of Korean trade in the hands of Japanese, by whatever name it might be called. Such partiality cannot be assumed by this country. It is evident that future trade with Korea is to be conducted after the style of foreign commerce here. The Government appears to be aware of the difficulties which may overcome the Japanese traders, and consequently has authorized the ports of Idzuga-hara, Shimono-seki, and Hakata to be opened to Korean trade. Japanese ships loading and discharging in these ports are required to pay fees of one *yen* on the occasion of their departure for Korea, and two *yen* on their return. This measure will further encourage trade between Korea and Japan, yet it is not sufficient to save Japanese traders from the difficulties which may befall them after February next.

ORDINARY CRIMINAL COURT, TOKYO.

Before His Honor Iro, Judge.—THURSDAY,
November 29th, 1883.

Mr. Kikuchi, Assistant Public Prosecutor, prosecuted.

This case was for the prosecution of two of the Fukushima suspects, Kono and Aizawa, for libelling Mr. Mishima, ex-Governor of Fukushima-ken. It will be remembered that the two accused are under sentence to a period of imprisonment, having been already convicted of treason.

The Court sat at 11.20 a.m., when His Honour sent an intimation to the Counsel for the defence that it was time for him to attend. As he was engaged in a civil cause at the moment he did not appear, and the investigation proceeded without him. His Honour, according to the usual custom, made inquiry into the name, position, and age of the prisoners. Next the prosecutor explained to them the nature of the charge, which was chiefly based upon the manifesto distributed by them soon after their original proposals were opposed by the Governor, and upon the statement of Hanaka at the preliminary trial. (By this time, Mr. Urata Jihei, Counsel for the accused, had made his appearance in Court). His Honour addressed him as follows:—"I commenced the trial in your absence, as you did not respond to the intimation I sent you a short time ago.

Mr. Urata—I had no knowledge of the Court being opened to-day, until I arrived this morning in order to ask to copy the indictment. I have not yet finished transcribing it. Therefore, I am not ready to enter upon the defence; and I pray Your Honour to adjourn the hearing till to-morrow.

His Honour—I understand what you mean. Your assertion that you had no previous knowledge of the case being opened to-day might be rejected. Notice was duly issued, in conformity with established rules. But, as I do not desire to put you to inconvenience by depriving you of necessary information, I will adjourn the case till to-morrow.

FRIDAY, November 30th, 1883.

On the Court assembling this morning, His Honour directed the Clerk to read the depositions taken at the preliminary trial of Kono and Aizawa, if the accused desired those papers read.

Kono—I have not the least concern in the mani-

festo referred to in the statements. I was not consulted by anybody concerning its distribution; but the report that I intended to sacrifice Hanaka, one of my colleagues, demands further refutation at my hands. Information has reached me that the members of the Local Assembly of Fukushima, twenty-two men in all,—have been sentenced to penal servitude, and that all of them have appealed against the decision. I am thus obliged to state the facts of the case as plainly as possible. The publication of the manifesto was due to the corrupt administration of the Prefect, and to nothing else. Since Mr. Mishima was appointed Prefect of Fukushima, the local administration underwent a complete change, in utter contravention of the rules. He appointed a native of another prefecture to be chief district officer. In April last, when a special assembly was opened, he submitted many proposals for the consideration of the Assembly. They were all of such a nature as to anger the whole people of the prefecture, some eight hundred thousand souls, whom he held in great contempt. The Special Assembly was, however, closed by him after great difficulty. Following it, the Ordinary Assembly was opened. Again, the Prefect submitted intolerable proposals. The Speaker was ever at a loss to explain them, because of their being out of order. Dissensions were rendered rife, and the whole assembly was thrown into wild excitement. I, as Chairman of the meeting, did everything in my power to pacify the exasperated members. The majority of them, however, vetoed all the proposals. I came to the conclusion that the Prefect's arbitrary conduct was due to his ignorance of local customs and popular feeling; so I determined to inform him on these matters. Accordingly, I went to his house and asked to be allowed to see him on several occasions; but he refused to meet me on the pretexts of being sick, absent, too busy, and so forth. The public was eagerly waiting the result of the Assembly, and kept on impatiently writing to the local journals urging the immediate publication of the minutes, or calling upon the members to obtain information. The papers were suspended; and the reports could not be published. In consequence of this, it was agreed among the members to publish the minutes in pamphlet form. Aizawa was entrusted with the work, and went to a printing office to have the papers published. But the manager declined, owing, as he said, to lack of the necessary material. Then, another proposal was made, namely to publish them in another locality. This scheme also met with failure. Afterwards I did not know what became of the documents until I was informed that Hanaka had had them printed on his own responsibility. I remonstrated with him, remarking that his action was open to objection. The local Government was then employing many spies to find out what were my relations with Hanaka, but I did not concern myself about that as I had nothing to do with the matter. I was not implicated in it in the slightest degree. The members of the Local Assembly who are now imprisoned awaiting the decision on their appeal had also no hand in the publication of the report. The whole responsibility rests upon the shoulders of Hanaka. I beg merely to call the attention of Your Honour to the facts I have here mentioned.

On the Court resuming at 2 p.m.,

His Honour asked Aizawa, if he had anything to say.

Aizawa—I am willing to furnish further informations concerning the manifesto. Its proposed publication in pamphlet form was abandoned.

But Hanaka got it printed on his own responsibility. Nobody else was concerned in it. The cause of all the trouble was the arbitrary conduct of Mr. Mishima, who inaugurated every oppressive measure that one can imagine. He paid no heed to the resolutions of the Local Assembly, and proposed such works as tended to ruin the prefecture on account of their heavy cost. If he had carried out the proposals, however oppressive, with the sanction of the Local Assembly, his actions would not have been assailed by the people. But he completely ignored opinion and increased the expenditure of the Normal School, for which no proposal was submitted to the Assembly. He held its members in derision and contempt. On the 10th of April last a Special Assembly was convoked. On this occasion hostile discussions took place, and nothing could pacify the irritated members but the resignation of Mr. Mishima or the close of the Assembly. The latter alternative was resorted to. Shortly afterward, the Ordinary Assembly was called, when to the utter disgust of the members, the Speaker, who represented Mr. Mishima, failed to give satisfactory explanations on the proposals. Without proper knowledge of things, no one can enter upon the discussions. Accordingly, we solicited the attendance of the Prefect, who did not appear. About ten days were passed in this way, no business being done. The members were all angry, and opposed all proposals. I tried to quell their rage, and was assisted by Kono; but our efforts were of no avail. The Assembly Hall was then crowded by an immense number of spectators who clamored for the publication of the proceedings in pamphlet form. We communicated with the local newspaper office on the subject; but unfortunately, the journal having been suspended, the proprietors declined to undertake the job. Then the silk season commenced, and many of our colleagues were obliged to return to their homes to look after their magnaneries. The only members who remained in Fukushima, were Hanaka, Kariyado, and myself. In these circumstances, we were unable to publish any account of the proceedings. But to our surprise, Hanaka had had them printed in the form of a manifesto on his own account. I had no hand in the publication. The twenty-two members who are now imprisoned cannot be held responsible. I have, however, sent ten of the manifestoes to Kariyado, according to the request of Hanaka. This is all I wish to add to my deposition taken at the preliminary examination.

His Honour—Let us enter upon the discussion of the case.

Mr. Urata (Counsel for Kono)—I wish to know, first of all, whether the fact that the members of the Fukushima Assembly were imprisoned is to be taken as evidence, or whether the Prosecution has any other evidence.

His Honour—The Prosecutor has already explained the nature of the charge, and the depositions taken at the preliminary examination form the evidence. Any evidence that has not been produced in the Court is not allowed to be accepted.

Kono—The Prosecution bases our criminality on the manifesto. But it was published by Hanaka, and the twenty members of the Fukushima Assembly are not implicated in it. If the Prosecution asserts that they are implicated, it must adduce substantive evidence.

Prosecutor—Kono misunderstands me. I have never mentioned anything about the members of

the Fukushima Assembly. No evidence is, therefore, required.

Mr. Urata—Hanaka deposed in the preliminary examination that he had published the manifesto on his own responsibility. This clearly shows that no one else was implicated in it.

Prosecutor—The defendants assert that they were not implicated in it, and that there is nothing that shows their culpability. But the letter, bearing the name of Kono, is sufficient evidence that there existed such a mutual understanding or agreement between the parties. In criminal proceedings, we are not required to adduce counter-evidence every time as in civil cases, and it should be sufficient to furnish the Judge with one statement, so that he may form his opinion.

Mr. Urata—The letter in question was not written by Kono himself. That passed between Aizawa and Hanaka. Suppose there are three persons. A and C write between them that B is a thief. To take B for a thief at once on the mere strength of that testimony would be irrational. That the Prosecution should try to establish the implication of Kono by the letter alluded to, is exactly similar to this case and therefore illogical. If the statement of Hanaka is to be taken as evidence, it becomes an established fact that Hanaka is solely responsible for the distribution of the manifesto since he affirmed the fact. It is irrational for the prosecution to take the preliminary depositions as evidence. In fact, there is no testimony to show the implication of my clients in the matter.

Prosecutor—Different men have different opinions about evidence. Some may think that this testimony is not good, and others think it is good. I am fully convinced that the evidence in my hand is sufficient.

His Honour asked Kono if he had anything to say further.

Mr. Kono replied in the negative.

His Honour, calling upon Aizawa to speak, that accused said—The letter in question I sent to Kariyado with no other purpose than to encourage him in his political work. I do not see any reason why I should be punished.

Mr. Uyeno (Counsel for Aizawa)—In order to understand this case, it is necessary to comprehend what is meant by defamation of public functionaries. It is this: when a person fabricates any statement damaging the conduct of officers while they are entirely innocent, then the defamer is guilty of libel. Our Penal code has express provisions to this effect. Now the question arises, "Was Mr. Mishima's conduct entirely blameless or not?" I leave it to the Honorable Court to decide the question. As regards the manifesto, I find that it is a report compiled by an individual for private use and not for public circulation. It has no public-character at all. The man in question caused it to be printed in order to save the trouble of writing it. The depositions taken at the preliminary examination of Hanaka conclusively show that he is alone responsible for the matter. My client, Aizawa, had no hand in it. But if the prosecution assert that he is guilty, it must show cause. The letter upon which they base their argument, has nothing to do with this case, since its contents have no bearing whatever upon the alleged implication of the accused in the distribution of the manifesto. That Aizawa sent ten copies of the manifesto to Kariyado, is entirely his private affair. There is a wide difference between publishing a fabrication in newspapers which have public circulation and printing a report for

private use. There is nothing in this case that can prove the implication of the accused in the crime. I pray, therefore, that the Honorable Court will dismiss the case.

Prosecutor—The argument of Mr. Uyeno does not hold good in the present case. It is only applicable in discussing the adjudication of penalties. I will answer it when that subject comes under our consideration. That the accused had the same intention as Hanaka, is established by substantial evidence, such as that they distributed the manifesto among themselves.

His Honour asked all the parties if they had anything further to say.

All replied in the negative.

His Honour, having called upon the Prosecutor to consider the adjudication of penalties, that officer said—The accused should be punished according to Article 141 of the Criminal Code, which provides:—"Any offence, injury, or outrage, committed by gesture or words against a public officer in the exercise of his functions, or on account of his position or in his presence, shall be punished with imprisonment with hard labour for a period of from one month to one year, and a fine of from 5 to 50 yen—The penalties shall be the same, if the offence has not been committed in the presence of the functionary, but by means of the press or by public discourses." But as the accused are undergoing penal servitude, having been convicted of high treason in the Kōto-Ho-In, they are exempt from double punishment; because the law provides that, when crimes are simultaneously committed, the punishment shall be confined to the graver one.

Kono—As Mr. Uyeno pointed out, the manifesto was of a private character and contained no fabrication but mere truth. It cannot be held as implying any insult. In no way am I concerned in its publication, and I should be exempt from punishment.

Mr. Urata—It is beyond all doubt that Kono was not implicated in the affair, and even though he were implicated, he is not liable to be punished according to Article 141 of the Criminal Code. Public functionaries are liable to be assailed by people who have the right to expose injustice in high places. No one can be punished for checking the ill-doings of one man for the benefit of the whole community.

Aizawa—I contend that the manifesto contained nothing but the truth.

Mr. Uyeno—It is useless to prolong the case by going over the same ground, over and over again.

Prosecutor—The manifesto is of a public nature so long as it was printed to the number of more than one thousand with a view to general distribution.

Mr. Uyeno—Certainly, it is of a private character. Whether it was issued to the number of one thousand or more makes no difference. If it were fifty years ago, we should have looked upon the functionaries as different and higher than ourselves. But now that freedom pervades all society and everybody has the right to expose his wrongs, I fail to see how the accused could be punished, accordingly to Article 141 of the Criminal Code.

The Court rose at 4.30 p.m.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 3rd, 1883.

The Court delivered the following judgment:—
In the case of Kono Hironaka and Aizawa Neiken, the Court decides that the accused have acted in concert and distributed a manifesto purporting to contain a report of the proceedings

of the Local Assembly of Fukushima. It stated that since Mishima was appointed prefect of Fukushima, the local administration underwent a complete change; that he inaugurated every oppressive measure; and that by bribery was the only way to approach him. This statement is without any foundation; and the accused are liable to imprisonment for terms varying from one month to one year, and five to fifty yen fine. Nevertheless, as the accused are already imprisoned under conviction of high treason; and as the crime now proved against them is of less gravity than that for which they were previously convicted, no further sentence shall be pronounced upon them. This is in accord with Article 102 of the Criminal Code.

Ito Tsuji, Judge.
HARIMOTO KOKKI, Clerk of the Court.
—Choya Shimbun.

IN H.B.M. COURT FOR JAPAN.

Before N. J. HANWEN Esq., Judge.—Wednesday,
12th December, 1883.

J. E. CARTER V. J. J. GRAY AND J. J. GRAY V.
J. E. CARTER.

Mr. Carter claimed the sum of \$400.00 for services alleged to have been rendered during the construction of the schooner *Penelope*; and Mr. Gray, entered a counter claim for loss sustained through Mr. Carter's negligence.

JUDGMENT.

On the opening of the Court, His Honor decided in the above case, the evidence in which was concluded on the 4th instant. He said that in this cross-suit, after having carefully considered the evidence and the exhibits, he had made up his mind that neither party had made out his case so as to warrant him in giving judgment for one side or the other. The evidence of Carter showed that he was engaged to look after the construction of the ship, but there was no evidence of any contract that Carter should do a certain amount of work. He had a share in the concern and was to be the captain. On the other hand, though no neglect had been proved, it was probable that Carter had not bestowed all the attention that he might have done in the interest of the vessel. The petition of each party was dismissed without costs on either side. There remains, His Honor added, the agreement, which might come before him on some future occasion; but considering the circumstances and the old friendship of the litigants, this was eminently a case in which arbitration, and thus a friendly settlement, was advisable. His Honor concluded by remarking that his own good offices as arbitrator, or any other assistance that he could render toward such an adjustment as he recommended, were at the disposal of the disputants.

Before N. J. HANWEN Esq., Judge.—THURSDAY,
13th December, 1883.

JOHN EVANS V. J. J. GRAY.

This was a case in which plaintiff sued for \$175, and an allowance of \$2 per day from the 16th of November for detention. He stated in his petition that he was engaged as master of the *Penelope*, at monthly wages of \$50 and 2½ per cent on the net profits of the catch. He valued the goods on board at \$87,000.

Plaintiff stated that he claimed from defendant \$175 as 2½ per cent. of the catch of the schooner *Penelope* and \$2 a day from the 16th of Novem-

ber. The case was simply a matter whether or not there had been a misunderstanding. He was engaged in April last as master of the *Penelope* at \$50 a month and 2½ per cent. of the catch. He did not hear the articles read over, and it was only a month after that he found out that he had signed for net profits. The entire catch of skins did not cost them anything so they were all profit. He considered that there could be no objection on the part of the defendant to pay him the small amount of his commission. He received his wages. He took the schooner up to the North Pacific, and if his advice had been followed more skins would have been taken. His had been a most thankless task, one that he would never undertake again. He was under the impression that "net profit" meant the value of the whole catch.

His Honour, after reading the articles, said he did not know how plaintiff was to get over the fact that he had signed for net profits. Mr. Gray had no doubt sent the goods home, and an account would be rendered of them, after which plaintiff could claim his share. His Honor read "net profits" those of the voyage.

Mr. Gray observed to his Honor that he considered net profits the returns for the catch after wages, expenses, and lays had been paid.

A letter called for by Mr. Gray was put in. It was to the effect that he would pay plaintiff 2½ per cent. on the net profits after the returns came from England.

His Honour said he could not give plaintiff a judgment, as no one could tell what the skins might be worth. The hunters being on lay of course had an advance, as they had a share of the gross receipts. It was perhaps foolish of plaintiff to have entered into such an agreement; but he should not have signed without knowing what he was signing. His Honor would like it proved that the price of the skins had not been realized.

Mr. Gray remarked to his Honour that by the consent of the hunters he had sent the skins home to be disposed of. He had sent them through Messrs. Langfeldt and Mayers to their agents in London. There were 17 otter-skins, 84 fur-seals, 2,046 lb. walrus teeth and 145 cases of walrus oil, the total value of which he estimated roughly at \$6,000. He thought the cost of the expedition would be about as much as the catch would realize.

His Honour said that plaintiff would be entitled to go through all the ship's accounts, and the accounts from England, to ascertain what was due to him. Until returns were made from home, he could do nothing. Meanwhile, judgment was for defendant.

Before N. J. HANWEN Esq., Judge.—TUESDAY,
December 11th, 1883.

YOKIOKA SHOBBI V. ED. WHITTALL.

Mr. H. C. Litchfield appeared for the plaintiff, in whose interest Mr. Uchiyama Rossetsu was present to watch the interpretation. Mr. Kirkwood appeared for the defendant, Mr. Whittall, who instructed him personally during the trial.

The petition sets forth (1) that the plaintiff is a Japanese banker and merchant carrying on business in Tokyo; the defendant a foreign merchant in Yokohama: (2) on the 27th of August a sale was effected, by the defendant to the plaintiff, of a steamer (the *Jumbo*) for \$10,000, and 410 bales of cotton yarn and 2,200 pieces of grey shirtings for \$38,530, payable one-third in cash and the balance

in bills due six months from date: (3) the same day a contract was signed by Mr. Whittall to this effect, with a postscript also signed by him stating: "In the event of any one claiming the steamer, and I am unable to deliver her, I will return the \$10,000:" (4) on the 28th of August Mr. Whittall contracted in writing to sell to the plaintiff, described as a Japanese banker, 358 bales of cotton yarn (red flag), 1,050 piculs, for \$29,400; 60 bales of cotton yarn (tree), 180 piculs for \$4,950; and 2,200 pieces of grey shirtings for \$4,180—this whole second transaction representing a sum of \$38,530. The payments were to be made thus:—Cash \$6,177, and the balance in approved bills due in six months from date for \$32,353, carrying interest at the rate of 10 per cent. per annum: (5) on the 28th of August plaintiff paid defendant \$16,177, and lodged with him a fixed deposit note of the Nio Ginko, a Japanese Bank, situated at 14, Nichome, Kakigara-cho, Tokijo, for \$32,353: (6) the defendant applied \$10,000 of the cash payment to the payment for the steamer, which he attempted to deliver to the plaintiff, who could not, however, obtain possession, owing to a claim having been lodged against it: (7) \$6,177 was appropriated to part payment of the yarns and shirtings and received without objection and retained, together with the fixed deposit note, defendant giving an order upon his godown keeper for the delivery of the goods. Delivery of the yarn was then, however, and has ever since, been refused by the defendant, who would only deliver the 2,200 pieces of grey shirtings: (8) the defendant still retains the sum of \$16,177 and the deposit note, while the plaintiff, having fulfilled all conditions to which he consented, cannot obtain possession of steamer or yarns: (9) plaintiff has been deprived of the use of the steamer and any profits that would have accrued from her possession. The plaintiff then prays (1) for a refund of the \$10,000 paid for the steamer, with interest at the rate of ten per cent. per annum from the 28th of August: (2) for delivery of 410 bales of yarn: (3) for such damages as the Court may direct for the detention of the steamer and the yarn; and (4) for any other relief that the nature of the case may require.

The defendant's answer admits (1) the allegations in paragraphs 1, 2, 3, and 4 of the petition, except that the bills referred to in paragraph 2 were to be approved bills, bearing interest at the rate of ten per cent. per annum: (2) \$16,177 was paid defendant on August 28; but the other allegations of paragraph 5 are denied: (3) defendant admits having appropriated \$10,000 to the purchase of the steamer, which, however, has been taken delivery of by plaintiff or his agent, in whose control she has been for some time: (4) defendant admits having appropriated \$6,177 to the purchase of the goods referred to, and that he has only delivered 2,200 pieces of grey shirtings; but denies receiving, without objection, any deposit note or bill for the balance of the purchase-money. The only document offered to him was found to be unnegotiable, and was therefore disapproved by him. He delivered the shirtings because their value was less than \$6,177, but he refused and still refuses to deliver the balance of the goods against the bill or note offered, or any other that is not approved and negotiable. Meanwhile, defendant has been and is willing to deliver the goods on the terms agreed on, provided also plaintiff pays insurance and storage charges upon them from the date of the contract to the time of taking delivery: (6) defendant denies all allegations contained in the petition except such as are herein admitted.

Baba Keijiro was first called by Mr. Litchfield. Mr. Kirkwood asked that other witnesses be ordered out of Court. Granted.

Witness—I am the Manager of a printing office in Bente Dori and am acquainted with the plaintiff. On the 26th of August I was asked by the plaintiff to go to No. 4, Yokohama, and negotiate a contract with Mr. Whittall. A man called Tokura Kozaburo and Kuribara and myself went. I explained the terms of the contract proposed. The terms then proposed by defendant to plaintiff were:—Mr. Whittall had a steamer, shirtings, and yarns to the value of \$40,000, which should be purchased one third for cash and the remainder in deposit note of a Japanese Bank (the Nito Ginko). Tokura explained to Mr. Whittall that if he would agree to such a contract, the plaintiff would come the next day to ratify it. To this Whittall agreed, requesting plaintiff's attendance on the following morning. The form of the deposit note was produced during this preliminary conversation. (Deposit note produced, and recognized as being the form then produced. It had been subsequently sealed. The signatures were there.) The document purported that the sum should be deposited for six full months from the 27th of August. (A translation made by Mr. McClatchie was tendered by Mr. Kirkwood and accepted by Mr. Litchfield after it had been approved by Mr. Rossettsu.) I explained fully to Mr. Whittall the nature of the deposit. He made no objection to the security. Next day I visited him with the plaintiff, and again on the day after (the 28th of August,) on both of which occasions Whittall saw this deposit note. Tokura laid it on the table. Before the stamps were affixed Whittall drew up a contract. I interpreted it. Then this document was stamped and handed to Mr. Whittall. I recognize the contracts produced as having been then signed (A for yarns and shirtings, B for steamer. Papers put in.) In reply to my question why the two transactions were not mentioned in one contract, Whittall said that the goods belonged to a company and the ship was his own property. The addendum to the instrument, releasing the plaintiff from the contract for the vessel if objection to his taking charge were made, was inserted by defendant at our request. Both documents were signed the same day. The \$16,177 were paid by cheque on the same morning (the 28th) by the plaintiff. The goods were not delivered the same day, although we had been promised that delivery could be taken in the afternoon. Whittall held the deposit note, the purport of which had been already explained to him.

To Mr. Kirkwood (who requested that to save time the witness might be cross-examined in English)—My conversation with Mr. Whittall was in English. On the 26th Tokura alone came to me to ask me to go to Whittall's. My position at the Seishi Bunsha is under-manager. I go their every day, I take holidays on Sundays, except under pressure of work. I know one Izaya; but did not know him before this contract. He is an import and export broker. In reference to this business, I knew him as a customer of the plaintiff, desirous of buying the whole matters in this transaction. I am not sure about the yarns. Shimada Seishichi, of Tokiyo, was his principal, and paid \$10,000 for the ship some time in September. I have only visited the ship once—on the 27th of August. I do not know what Shimada paid for the shirtings. He is a big merchant in the export and import trade. Mr. Yukioka is President of the Bank, and does any business that is likely to bring profit. I didn't know anything about him prior to the 26th

of August, or of the Nito Ginko either. Everybody knows the First National Bank in Tokiyo and Yokohama, the Mitsui and Second National Banks also. I cannot say for the Fifteenth. (Witness mentioned several Banks whose notes he would take as cash, the First, and Second National, the Mitsui and Shokin Ginko. There was difficulty in making him understand the purport of the question. He was understood to mean that he would take any Bank paper of good repute.) The Nito Ginko is not a National Bank: it is a private one.

At noon Court adjourned till 2 p.m.

On the Court resuming,

His Honor addressed Mr. Litchfield on the subject of the learned Counsel having applied for a summons to issue during the course of the trial for the attendance of a witness. His Honor explained that the course was irregular, and the matter dropped.

The cross examination of the witness Keijiro was then proceeded with. He said:—I am not familiar with all the regulations of the National Banks. I do not know either of two persons (names mentioned by Mr. Kirkwood). I first met Yukioka Shobei on the 27th of August, when he came to my printing office. Tokura brought the draft of the contract. I had explained the purport in Mr. Whittall's office of the 26th. It was written in Japanese, I believe by Tokura. The two documents produced I see for the first time to-day. The broker's name was Kurihara Ichidei. On the 27th Kurihara, Yukioka, and myself went to Mr. Whittall's office, I explaining to the others what was not intelligible. We talked about the steamer principally; and went away without concluding a contract, arranging to come again next day. This was afternoon, the conversation being interesting having lasted till then. I think I saw contracts that had been written out by Mr. Whittall. There was some difference about the interest, which was ultimately fixed at ten per cent. (Witness was understood to say that he and his friends did not take away the draft contracts because they had that morning inspected the vessel which was incomplete, and they were unwilling to sign before the state-rooms were finished.) On consideration I think we did take away the contracts, but without their being signed. On the next day the papers were signed in Mr. Whittall's office. We agreed to the term "approved bill" being put in the contract, instead of "deposit note of the Nito Ginko," because we thought that the deposit note met all the conditions required. On the 28th we gave Mr. Whittall a cheque for \$16,177 and presented the document produced (the deposit note) which he received as good, handing the two godown orders. I do not know why Whittall, instead of giving clean godown orders, should have written on these "delivery against approved bills." I do not think it was written because he thought the bill was bad. Mr. Whittall did not explain in handing the orders that he had to make enquiry about the note before he approved it. Mr. Whittall did not ask if a stamp on the document was that of the Okurasho; nor did he say anything to the effect that if that stamp were on it he would probably approve it; but that he knew nothing about the Nito Ginko. In the afternoon he said that he would like better security before delivering the goods. I did not go in the afternoon. Coolies and carts were sent to take delivery of the goods. I do not know personally what goods were delivered, nor who signed the cheque for \$16,177. I do not remember that we sent out for the money from Whittall's office to the Shokin Ginko. There was something said about payment by cheque on the Second National Bank. I do not know what a letter that came in during our conversation to Mr. Whittall was about. Ichidei brought the cheque for the money. I do not know into whose godowns the goods were to be put if delivered; but I think they were to go to Tokiyo.

To Mr. Litchfield—The First National Bank issues three or four varieties of notes. I prefer such as are payable on demand. A deposit note not bearing interest is payable at any time. If I wanted a note redeemable at a certain date, say one month after sight, I would require one like that produced. Whittall did not say anything before the 28th about requiring another note. I had not known Ichidei before I saw him at Whittall's house.

Yukioki Shobei, the plaintiff, was next called.

At the request of his Counsel he was accommodated with a chair on account of age and infirmity. He said:—I am President of the Nito Bank, and do a general business. I have been a merchant for twenty-five years. I know the defendant. On the 27th of August of this year, I went to his office wishing to make a contract for the purchase of a steamer, yarns, and shirtings. I had heard that the articles were for sale through one Kurihara, who came to my house and told me. This was some days before I went to Mr. Whittall—about the 21st or 22nd. Kurihara went on the 27th with me to Mr. Whittall. Baba interpreted to me what followed: it was identical with what had been told me previously to the visit. On the 27th, not before, I saw the little steamer. The reason the purchase was not concluded that day was that the conversation about interest and the ship occupied a very long time. Mr. Shimada has taken delivery of the steamer and has not returned it. There has been a great deal of trouble about it. On the 27th of August when I went to Mr. Whittall's I took the deposit note produced, and took it away again as nothing was completed. As President of the Nito Ginko, I have power to issue such deposit notes with the sanction of other officers, and two of their signatures. This is signed by me as President, by the manager, and cashier. The steamer speculation was on my own account, not on behalf of the Bank. The \$16,177 was paid out of my own money. On the 28th Mr. Whittall expressed himself satisfied, as I understood, with the security I had to offer. He took this deposit note and my cheque for \$16,177. I stamped the note on the forenoon of the 28th at the request of Mr. Whittall, who then told me I could send for the goods at once. I only received the shirtings. The Nito Ginko was established in April, 1882, and is a registered Bank, still doing business, at Kakiyagachō, Tokiyo, a business quarter. At the time of the contract the price for yarns was about \$29 a picul in Tokiyo; it is now about \$25 or \$26.

Some conversation here ensued between the Bench and the Bar as to what could be construed by an "approved bill" to a Japanese merchant. There was difficulty, too, in the interpretation; but it was elicited from the witness that in Japanese business an equivalent of an English "bill of exchange" is clearly understood and in frequent use. Such a document as that produced is not transferable. It would not be transferable if it were issued by the First National Bank.

To Mr. Kirkwood—The money mentioned in the deposit-note is stated as having been deposited by Mr. Whittall. The depositor must consent to the conditions imposed by the document. (Some argument followed as to the compliance with the conditions of clause 5, and whether it was the custom of depositors to write their names and affix their seals on the counterfoil of the Bank books at each time of making deposit. The point raised appeared to be whether Mr. Whittall was a consenting party to the deposit, and whether he could withdraw the money in his own name). These notes must be paid in the manner described on the face, no matter whether a clause on the back says it may be payable in any currency. (In this case the term for "foreign money" has been written on the face over the term for "ordinary currency." The explanation was that dollars were implied). When I went to Whittall's on the 27th I wished to buy the goods and the steamer, at such a price as was named in the contract. I wanted the steamer for the transport of rice. I had not on the 27th already contracted to sell the steamer, nor did I before the 8th or 10th of September. Of the seals on the document (produced) one is my own and one that of the direction of the Bank. This paper is dated the 7th of September, and states that I have sold the steamer to Shimada in its present state. I think the sale was actually effected the previous day. I changed my intention of employing the vessel for rice, because there was no immediate business and Shimada wished to buy. The yarns I did not sell to Shimada: the shirtings I did at \$1.95 about the 5th or 6th of September. Ichidei took delivery of them. I did go to Mr. Whittall between the contract of the 28th of August and the 7th of September on the subject of the non-delivery of the yarns. I do not know anything of the delivery of the shirtings. I think the steamer was delivered to Shimada by Mr. Whittall about

the 10th. Since that time Shimada has paid wages and expenses. I did not buy any other steamer since I have been President of the Nito Ginko. It is not at all unusual for merchants to make such large transactions as that of mine with Mr. Whittall in one day. It is not particularly large. I have not negotiated a bigger one this year. The Nito Ginko allows from eight to ten per cent. interest on fixed deposit: the rate depends upon exchange. Eight per cent. per annum is not a large amount on a six months' deposit; but we have no fixed rate in our bank: it is matter of arrangement with the depositors. I did not actually pay the money into the Bank. I can deposit goods with the Bank and borrow money on security. The \$16,177 that I paid cash was money of my own that I had in use in the business.

Soon after 5 p.m. the Court adjourned till 10 a.m. next morning.

WEDNESDAY, 12th December, 1883.

The cross-examination of the plaintiff was resumed:—I asked the Bank to issue the deposit note in question. I am a director of the Nito Ginko. The note was put in as security against goods purchased from Mr. Whittall. The money was to be exchanged against goods. The directors have shares among themselves, and if the yarns had been promptly delivered the settlement would have been made. The matter was spoken about. As a private individual I should have to borrow the money from the Bank. As a matter of fact no actual deposit was made. When I came down on the 27th of August to see Mr. Whittall I did not actually bring the sixteen thousand dollars with me, but had the command of them. On the 28th I took a bill for the amount to Mr. Whittall. I had bought the bill, with the money I brought on the 28th, from Shimada Seisichi. I had arranged with him that my draft should be honored. I had a long draft in foreign characters addressed, I believe, to 62. Exceedingly early on the 28th I received the draft which I gave to Mr. Whittall. I took the bill in Tokiyo and handed it over down here, in Mr. Whittall's house. When I had handed over the draft, Mr. Whittall gave me instantly the godown orders (put in). I did not ask my interpreter to translate the documents to me. He merely told me that there were a certain number of bundles of goods to be delivered. There was no conversation, simply a transfer of documents. I do not understand English, but the interpreter told me that all was right. If I had not understood that the deposit note was accepted I should have taken it back. I intended to ask Shimada Seisichi, the Tokiyo broker, to take delivery of the shirtings, and had already instructed him to have them sent to his house in Tokiyo, there to be disposed of, but not to be retained by him as security. They, or the funds realized, if they were sold, were to be sent to the Bank, free from all charges. It was the intention to deal with the yarns in the same way. All this was arranged with Shimada previously to the 28th of August. I only asked him to sell the yarns. I know Mr. Iseya, but not intimately. The godown orders were handed to Shimada, as he was the person instructed to take delivery of the goods. He purchased the shirtings immediately on taking delivery of them, probably about the 30th. The actual arrangement (settlement) for the shirtings was made on the 5th of September. Where the goods were in the interval does not concern me, but Shimada only, to whom they were sold. I do not know that the whole lot of shirtings and yarns, if taken delivery of on the 28th of August, would have been instantly taken to the godown of a foreigner in Yokohama as security against the \$16,177 draft. No written contract passed between me and Shimada: the arrangement was verbal: receipts were given for the money. The two delivery orders were returned to me by Shimada recently. When I visited Whittall after the refusal to deliver the yarns a few days after the 28th, I only urged delivery; but did not tell him that I would try to get him better security. Mr. Whittall did not then hand me any letter saying that I might take until the 15th of September to bring approved security, and in the meanwhile he would not charge me for warehouse rent. I know something of Mr. Kato, of the Tono Bank; but I did not ask him or any one connected with his Bank to go to Mr. Whittall's to arrange better

security for me. I have an impression that Iseya was present when our arrangement was made for the purchase. He has no connection with this business. Shimada is alone concerned. (Counsel failed to shake witness's testimony on this point). The first transaction was between myself and Mr. Whittall; Iseya may have been in that gentleman's office with me, but I have no recollection of his going there with me or having any concern whatever in this affair. I first saw the steamer on the 27th; and then I thought of buying it for \$10,000, after having inspected it carefully. I did not offer a lower sum: but understood that the vessel should be delivered complete for that sum. Several fittings had to be added; but no date was fixed or mention made in any written contract. In exhibit E (referred to) I state that I have sold the ship to Shimada "in her present condition." Some slight fittings were put in after my purchase—cupboards and so on, but nothing very particular. I paid for them. The vessel is rather small for carrying rice. I thought she would do to ply to and from the central provinces; but was not good enough to go to Hakodate. I thought her a tolerably good bargain; and had had her inspected by some one of my establishment who knows something of vessels. I do not know when it was absolutely decided that she was not fit to go to Hakodate; but immediately after that negotiations commenced for her sale to Shimada. I think he bought her for traffic along the neighbouring coasts where no heavy seas would be encountered. Shimada paid \$10,000 for her in foreign dollars. It is not extraordinary that we, being Japanese, should have done the business in dollars, which we can always change. The money was paid in mixed paper, including cheques upon several banks.

To Mr. Litchfield—Probably Iseya may have acted for Shimada in Tokiyo and Yokohama for the sale of shirtings. I made my dealings with Shimada only.

Mr. Kirkwood asked that the plaintiff be instructed that he must not talk with the witnesses to be subsequently examined. This was granted; and Mr. Yokioka Shobei was requested to remain in Court.

Tokura Tozaburo—I am an official of the Nito Ginko, and have been since April last. In August I signed the deposit note, produced. In August Mr. Yokioka applied to the Bank verbally for a loan, explaining that he had transactions with Mr. Whittall and wanted security. On receiving the goods the plaintiff was to return the money to the Bank. It is not customary for Japanese Banks to guarantee money on such terms. (Some discussion here ensued as to the interpretation of a certain insertion in writing, not in print, on the back of the deposit note, Mr. Litchfield being under the impression that two of the characters read "Kigin" meaning "money" "currency," while the official translation had them "Kigen" meaning "due date." The latter was found to be the true reading, thus:—"Notwithstanding the before-going two clauses the deposit in this case shall not be paid before the due date or 'expiration of period' mentioned on the face of this note.") It was understood in this case that the goods should be instantly deposited with the Bank on their delivery by Mr. Whittall. By orders of the Bank I went with Yokioka Shobei to deposit the note for \$32,352. The note was handed to Mr. Whittall by Yokioka Shobei in my presence. I affixed the stamps before Mr. Whittall, when that gentleman had said that all was right. Before that I heard some conversation between the parties, to the effect that a ship, some yarns, and shirtings were to be sold; and Mr. Whittall accepted this note as all right. That closed the transaction. Two papers were given to Yokioka by Whittall for goods deposited in the godown. (The two godown orders in evidence produced and thought to be the same as those that passed.) As an officer of the Bank, I should not have parted with the deposit note unless I was convinced that the goods would be delivered. The note was actually exchanged for the godown orders. In the case of this document the money would never be given except to the principal named therein, and then only on expiry of the period mentioned. If the Bank had actually the goods in its possession it might, at its own convenience, discount the deposit-note, before it fell due. The pecuniary position of the Bank is cer-

tainly such that it could do so if it were willing. "There will probably be that amount in the Bank now." The Bank's capital is yet 100,000, and the concern is still doing a tolerable business. In Japanese banking there is a system of bills-of-exchange; but such bills are not current documents.

Adjourned till 2 p.m.

On the Court resuming, Higuchi Shiguro, a Kencho official, was called by Mr. Litchfield, to explain the system of shipping-registration. He said that, having only to do with the foreign department, he was unacquainted with the general run of the business. No application had been made by Shimada in relation to the steamer *Yumbeo*. Some slight application had been made by Iseya; but not as far as he knew for the removal of the boat from Benteu. Iseya had applied for the ship to be kept where she was.

Mr. Kirkwood then continued his cross-examination of Tokura Tozaburo who said—I first went to Mr. Whittall's on the 26th of August. It was not on a Sunday. I went because there was an agreement between Yokioka and the Bank, and I was ordered to see if the goods in question were in Whittall's godown. I went to hear if the agreement was actually concluded or not, and returned the same day, finding that the arrangement was in course of conclusion. I have no recollection of having seen the two papers produced. I came down also on the 27th and the 28th. On the 26th I came on behalf of the Bank, but did not examine the goods. I expected to get the steamer, the shirtings, and the yarns as security from Yokioka. On the 30th when the transaction was completed Mr. Whittall handed the papers to Yokioka, who deferred handing them to me until the goods should be delivered. As the transaction was between Whittall and Yokioka it was proper that the latter should hold the papers until the goods were delivered, when they would be handed over to the Bank. I was aware from conversation only that Yokioka had a bill for sixteen thousand dollars odd to pay Whittall. The bill was given by Shimada in Tokiyo upon Iseya in Yokohama. I think Yokioka Shobei brought down the money on the 27th in Bank-paper—cheques for dollars. I think the paper used the following day was not the same. As soon as delivery was taken from Mr. Whittall the things were to be removed to Tokiyo. This matter had been arranged between Yokioka and Shimada. I think the latter is away. I have not communicated with him since the 28th. Shimada was to arrange for the transport of the goods, in charge of which, if they had been delivered, I should have gone direct to Tokiyo. I do not know that carts were ready to convey them to a foreigner's godowns in Yokohama as security against \$16,000. I intended to take the goods up the same afternoon, as the transaction had been arranged in the morning. Three of us went to Whittall's in the afternoon. Yokioka had some conversation about the paper, but the goods were not delivered. The deposit-note remained with Mr. Whittall. I applied to Yokioka for its return.

His Honour here pointed out to Mr. Kirkwood that it was not this witness's business to demand the note back from Mr. Whittall, and wondered why it had happened that Counsel had not asked the plaintiff how it was that the latter had not demanded the note from Mr. Whittall—just the point, His Honour said, that should have been elucidated.

Witness—If the goods are not forthcoming, the Bank will not pay the thirty-two thousand dollars odd, represented by the deposit-note to Whittall. The steamer was not received by the Bank; and I do not know that it received the shirtings. It has received nothing whatever, and paid out nothing to Yokioka Shobei in regard of this transaction. If Mr. Whittall returns the note the Bank will sustain no loss; nor will it make any profit.

To Mr. Litchfield—The \$16,177 paid for the shirtings and the steamer was Yokioka's own money, not the Bank's. The Bank trusted Yokioka, and would have taken the yarns as security, though they were not of the full value of the deposit-note. Previous to the 26th of August I knew the proposed terms of the contract between Mr. Whittall and plaintiff. The Bank knew about these terms on the 25th.

Iseya Zenkichi, a dealer in foreign merchandise, deposed that he had acted as broker for the sale

of a steamer by Yokioka to Shimada, and thought the amount was paid in Tokiyo. Witness explained what he knew about the transfer of the steamer, which was nothing more than appeared from the evidence of other witnesses. He applied on behalf of Shimada at No. 4 (Mr. Whittall's) that the vessel be registered in the Kencho and the certificate handed to him. He did not know whether the registration had been effected, but thought, as Shimada bought it, this might have been done. In September witness made several applications to the Kencho for permission to move the steamer from the Bente Creek, on Shimada's behalf. Consent was given at the beginning of last month. He continued:—On behalf of Shimada I removed the *Jumbo* from Bente Creek, and moored her off the Moto Bente, Ishigawa. I think this was during the first ten days of last month. I went to Mr. Whittall's on the afternoon of the 28th of August. The money for the things bought by Yokioka had been sent in the morning. Early in the morning a messenger had come from Tokiyo stating that Yokioka desired the money and asking me to advance the amount. I obtained a loan that day of \$16,177 from Mr. Gillett, at No. 24. The money was repaid on the 30th of the same month, the accommodation being merely temporary. I have had many dealings with Mr. Gillett. On the 28th of August yarns were worth about \$31 in Tokiyo; they have fallen in price until now they may be worth \$29.75. Kinsatsu were then quoted at 114 to 118.6: this morning they were 111.5.

To Mr. Kirkwood—Mr. Gillett's loan to me was in the form of a cheque on a bank, at about 11 o'clock. I was told by the clerk that my signature was not required to it. It was arranged that the goods if received from Mr. Whittall should be given to Mr. Gillett as security. My first impression was that only yarns would be delivered: afterwards I heard of shirtings. Many carts were ready on the 28th to convey the goods from Mr. Whittall's to Mr. Gillett's. The yarns were not given over, but the shirtings were delivered. I handed the cheque to one Tokura at No. 4. Mr. Gillett, finding he did not get his yarns, waited over one day, and the money was returned to him. On the 29th he and I went to Tokiyo together to receive money. Night had already come and we had to wait until the following day. I received \$12,000. That was the balance after the shirtings had been pledged. I received the money from a Bank (I don't remember whether it was the First or Thirty-Third National) in satsu, and changed it into dollars in Yokohama. I had handed the \$16,000 in Whittall's office to Tokura. I believed in Yokioka's account. Yokioka repaid me after the matter was all settled.

At 4 p.m. the Court adjourned, by consent, until Friday, the 14th instant, at 10 a.m.

FRIDAY, December 14th, 1883.

On the opening of the Court, Mr. Litchfield, for the plaintiff, said that he had learned, subsequent to the adjournment on the 12th instant, that Shimada had become the *bona fide* owner of the *Jumbo*, although the sale had not been registered at the Kencho. He would, therefore, withdraw that part of the suit against Mr. Whittall which related to the steamer.

Mr. Kirkwood made an application for costs as regards that part of the proceedings.

His Honor suggested that it should be left to him to assess the costs thus claimed, and, Counsel agreeing to the proposition, the case proceeded.

The cross-examination of Iseya Zenkichi was resumed by Mr. Kirkwood—My clerk took Mr. Gillett's cheque. The signature on the back is not my own: it is neither mine nor my clerk's. The cheque is the one I received from Mr. Gillett. I spoke about the loan on the 27th of August. I said that I might probably wish to borrow twice about ten thousand dollars. No conversation took place about security. The loan that I then spoke about was for the same purpose as that for which I actually borrowed on the 28th. When I went to Tokiyo with Mr. Gillett I received \$12,000 from Shimada. I paid Mr. Gillett on the 30th, \$10,000 and \$3,000. It was on the 29th that the shirtings were pledged on a godown order received from Shimada. My banto took the goods from No. 4 (Mr. Whittall's) and delivered them at No. 24 (Mr. Gillett's). The actual delivery was on the 31st. I

believe that the shirtings were originally bought for something under \$4,000. I made up the full accounts with Gillett a few days later than our trip to Tokiyo. (Pressed by Counsel to say why he did not procure the whole balance on the occasion of his and Gillett's trip to Tokiyo witness repeated his statements). The balance due after my payments was about \$3,800. Yarns vary very much in price according to quality, from, say, cheapest \$25, to dearest \$31.75. These were the prices on the 29th of August. Prices vary according to the marks and quality. Before I could tell the value of 16-24 yarns I should have to inspect them.

To Mr. Litchfield—I proposed to Gillett that we should go to Tokiyo together. Mr. Gillett did not go with me to the place where I procured the money. The message on the morning of the 27th asking for money came from Shimada. Anyone holding such a godown order as that produced should be able to receive the goods there in mentioned. I cannot certainly say whether the godown orders (in exhibit) are those I received, as I am not familiar with foreign writing; but they resemble them closely. I received them from Shimada, and took them to No. 4 to receive the goods.

Shimada Seishichi—I am a dealer in yarns; and am on good terms with the plaintiff, Yokioka Shobei. On the 27th of August he spoke to me about an agreement that he had for the purchase of some yarns at No. 4. He asked me whether I would sell them for him. I did not at that time lend him any money. There was no special loan of money. I was asked for a bill and gave one for \$16,177 on Mr. Iseya in Yokohama. I had then money of Yokioka's in my possession. In the course of the next few days I received money from him on other transactions. On the 28th I asked Iseya to procure some dollars and hand them to Yokioka, which was done, Iseya borrowing, as I was told, the sum from No. 24. On the 29th, I repaid Iseya \$12,000, which I believe he paid to No. 24. The money I paid was my own. The transaction with Yokioka was then completed. I bought a steamer from Yokioka on the 5th of September for \$10,000, which sum I immediately paid. This had nothing to do with the \$16,000 transaction. Dollars were paid down. I have known the plaintiff since last year. He has a good reputation among his countrymen. He made his way from clerk to manager and at one time was possessed of considerable property; but has had losses and is not now considered a "warm" man. I cannot speak positively, but should think that, as he has to do with a Bank, he should be in a good position.

To Mr. Kirkwood—I am in the habit of making contracts with other Japanese in dollars, having two lines of transactions—silver and *Kinsatsu*. This contract happening to be made in dollars I paid in dollars, principally in paper. There was no special contract. The reason dollars were paid was that I had been told the original purchase was made in that value. The vessel was first offered to me on the 5th of September in Tokiyo, where also payment was made. The offer was made in the morning: payment was effected in the afternoon of the same day. I bought the steamer for my business with the central provinces. I made up my mind to buy directly it was offered to me. I thought it cheap. I inspected the steamer with another man on the 4th of September, I think. I then went merely to look at the boat, without intention of buying. It was later that the suggestion was made to me. I was at No. 4 on that day where I had been frequently since the 28th of August, and a visit to the boat being suggested by an acquaintance, I went on board. The ship is not yet ready for sea. Since I purchased her, very little work has been done to her, I do not know quite to what value, as Iseya looks after that. I intended at first to get her ready quickly; but it being explained to me that she was not quite suited for my trade with the central provinces I left the matter altogether in the hands of Iseya. I bought her on information I received. I never owned a steamer before; but members of my guild have. Yokioka first requested me to make arrangements for the payment of \$16,177 about the 23rd of August. On that day a clerk came from Yokioka and spoke about the probable purchase of yarns by that gentleman, and his possible want of money. The actual draft for the amount on Iseya in Yokohama was on the morning of the 28th. At that time Iseya had no

money of mine in his hands. I drew on him because the banks in Tokiyo did not open before noon. Iseya had no security from me. I intended to repay the money the same afternoon. I paid the next day, only, on account of matters which meanwhile arose between Yokioka and No. 4. I went down to Yokohama on the evening of the 28th of August. I had no other arrangement concerning the goods than that if they were delivered I was to sell them. Murataya was requested by Iseya to transport them from Yokohama to Tokiyo. Murataya has long looked after goods for me. I made no special request to him on this occasion, but suppose Iseya did on my behalf. I had not made any application before the 28th to Iseya for the \$16,177. It was a very sudden arrangement. Yokioka first spoke to me about the sum on the same day. Previous conversation had only related to the purchase of yarns. Yokioka brought me the money early in the morning in many cheques, but the banks not being open in Tokiyo, it was convenient to give an order on Yokohama. I thought if Iseya had not the money himself he could easily procure it. I first knew Mr. Whittall on the 29th or 30th of August. After that I met him frequently. On the 30th I paid Iseya in Tokiyo \$12,000 in foreign money. That is to say I confided *kinsatsu* to Iseya to change into dollars, and on his return I paid him from that money. When Yokioka paid me in cheques or dollars I converted them into *kinsatsu*. I cannot say exactly when, without reference to my books, I intended to bring the money to Yokohama in cheques from Yokioka.

Soon after noon the Court adjourned until 2 p.m. On resuming, the cross-examination of Shimada was continued. He said—I intended to go to Yokohama in the afternoon. I received a telegram from Tokiyo saying that there was some trouble between Yokioka and Whittall. I was asked to go, even if I had no money, as Iseya was anxious to see me. When I arrived that evening (the 28th) I first heard that Iseya had borrowed the money. On the 30th I paid Yokioka \$10,000. I had not returned till the evening of the 29th on account of trouble with the yarns. I purchased the shirtings on the 7th. I had paid Iseya \$20,000 on the 2nd of September; I only paid him \$10,000 at first because he said he was perfectly willing to take that amount. The full sum was to be \$16,177. The shirtings represented the balance. I received them about the 2nd or 3rd of September; but left them at No. 24 for about thirty days. I paid \$1.05 per piece for the shirtings after inspecting them at No. 24. I left them at No. 24 because it was there that Iseya had borrowed money.

To Mr. Litchfield—I purchased the ship for trade to the Central Provinces, after I had heard from Iseya that she was for sale. No one came specially to Tokiyo to inform me.

That was Mr. Litchfield's case.

Mr. Kirkwood, having briefly addressed the Court, outlining the scheme that the defence would take, called

Mr. F. da Roza, whose testimony, relating as it apparently would to collateral transactions, and not to the validity of the deposit note as an "approved bill," was reserved.

Mr. E. Whittall—I am the defendant in this case. I first saw Yokioka Shobei on the 27th of August. Tokura came with him, and Daba an interpreter, to my office. Several people came to see me about the steamer before the 27th, but I cannot say that these two people did. The two documents (produced and handed in) were delivered to me on the 28th. I had seen then on the 27th. They are in my own handwriting. Tokura handed them to me from a small bag that he had about him. The first document, a draft agreement for the sale of a steamer and 200 bales of yarn, was made in July. The Japanese mentioned in it was Kubota, who offered me \$10,000 for the steamer and never returned. On the 18th of August one Oyama Hachiuno came to me and wished to buy the steamer and 450 bales of yarn. He said he had learned the quantity from the comprador—the exact quantity I had. So of shirtings. (Witness here explained at some length that he found that the applicants knew better what quantities of shirtings he had in his godowns than he did himself. The remainder of his evidence was to the effect that, as regards the contract, instead of 2,000 pieces of shirtings there were 2,200. Instead of 63 bales of yarns, there should be sixty.

Instead of \$16,177 to satisfy him, it should be \$6,177. When Tokura came he asked where Kato of the Kono Bank was, and was told that that bank was only a branch of the Nito Bank, and that Yokioka Shobei was a much bigger man than Kato. On that day he wrote out the contracts, but did not sign them. The deposit note they put on his desk without comment. They took it away with them. He explained to the interpreter what he meant by approved bills: for instance he would be satisfied with the Okurasho's stamp. It was understood previously that he should have that guarantee. They produced no money. He did not than sign the contracts because the visitors wished to take them away and said they would call next day with the money. They came next day about nine o'clock, and put the bill on his desk. He asked what the Nito Bank was. Witness was not satisfied with the explanation of the address of the Bank, or the signatures, and asked whether a certain stamp was that of the Okurasho. Being answered in the negative, he said that he would inquire into the value of the security. He signed the contracts, but did not immediately deliver them. As the Japanese were waiting for some time, he asked what they were waiting for, and was told that they had sent to the Shokin Ginko for the money which would be paid in bank notes. He then directed his clerk, Mr. Engelhardt, to make out godown orders for delivery subject to approval of the bills. A letter came from Mr. Gillett in the meanwhile to which he replied, and a cheque arrived from Mr. Gillett, (handed in) for \$16,177 which Tokura endorsed in pencil and handed to him. He explained, after examining the deposit note and having had it translated, that the balance of the goods would be delivered when the deposit note had the stamp of the Okurasho. He gave a clean order for the delivery of the *Yumbo* at the same time. He sent his comrade to the leading Banks in Yokohama, and found that they would have nothing to do with the deposit note for \$32,000. He did not deliver the yarns. Mr. Walter, of the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank, sent word, on enquiry, that the Nito Bank was a small one, and witness declined to accept the note, and told Yokioka and Iseya so the next day. He offered it to them to take away. Yokioka said he was sorry, and would try to obtain better security. Shimada next day told him that he had bought the goods from Yokioka Shobei. Witness explained to him that he could not deliver the yarns, as he had not received enough money for them, but would deliver the shirtings for which he had been paid. He did so.

Mr. John Walter, Manager of the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank, remembered Mr. Whittall sending to enquire about such a note as that produced. Needless enquiries made by order of witness resulted in the answer from the leading Japanese Banks that no discount or even a small advance would be made on it. The Japanese Banks having the best reputation were Mitsui, Shokin Ginko, First and Second National, and (especially among the Japanese) the Nobles' Bank or Fifteenth National. What he understands by an "approved bill" is one that can be discounted at the market rate of interest.

Mr. Whittall's examination was resumed. He said that he refused Mr. Kato to advance any money on land being Japanese property. He had the yarns still and was ready to deliver them now against approved bills. He was never satisfied with the note offered him. As regards the *Yumbo*, he had permission to keep her in the creek for 90 days, and a short time before the expiry of the term he handed that permit to Shimada at the latter's request. Witness also made declaration of sale at the Consulate.

To Mr. Litchfield—Witness's order for the delivery of the steamer was an ordinary one addressed to the master in charge. Many Japanese came with Tokura on the 27th. The matter of the sale of the yarns was introduced to him by his draft of the contract being handed to him. It was taken from Tokura's little bag. Baba, the interpreter first spoke of Yokioka Shobei. (Witness in a tedious cross-examination was not shaken at all as regards his evidence in chief). He admitted having cashed Mr. Gillett's cheque for the \$16,177 an hour after having received it, and having subsequently asked that gentleman whether he was satisfied with

his securities. He received an affirmative answer, and remarked that they, the Japanese, had tried to do him, witness, in the eye; but he had done them.

To Mr. Kirkwood witness said that there was no reason why he should inform Mr. Gillett, or any one else whose cheque he took in the way of business, that he was about to present it for payment.

The Court adjourned at 4.45 p.m., until 10 a.m. next day.

SATURDAY, 15th December, 1883.

Ootsu Shoneyoshi was the first witness examined by Mr. Kirkwood to-day. He said:—I have passed my legal examination, and hold a proper certificate entitling me to practise as a barrister in Japanese Courts. The law regulating bills of exchange was promulgated on the 12th of December, 1882, under notification No. 57 of the Council of State.

Mr. Kirkwood read a translation of several clauses; and Mr. MacClatchie translated them from the Code verbally. Mr. Kirkwood's translation is substantially the same as Mr. MacClatchie's, and the provisions are apparently identical with those regulating the issue and transfer of English bills of exchange. The clauses referred to run as follows, according to Mr. Kirkwood's rendering, accepted by the Court:—

REGULATION FOR BILLS OF EXCHANGE AND PROMISSORY NOTES:—

2nd Clause—A bill of Exchange shall comply with the following conditions mentioned on its face, and bear the sign and seal of the drawer:—(1) the sum; (2) the date and place at which drawn; (3) the date and place of payment; (4) the name of the drawer; (5) the name of the payee; (6) the sum to be paid to the payee or having the right of ownership in the bill.

13th Clause—The ownership of a bill of exchange is transferred by endorsement.

14th Clause—Every endorsement shall bear the name of the endorsee, the date of the endorsement, the name of the endorser his place of residence and his seal.

15th Clause—Each endorser, together with the drawer, as well as all prior endorsers, are responsible to all subsequent endorsers, and to the holder of the bill for payment.

26th Clause—If the kind of money is mentioned on the bill the payment shall be made in that kind.

47th Clause—The ownership of notes that are not in accordance with the rules mentioned in the 1st and 4th section as well as the 43rd and 44th clauses cannot be transferred by endorsement.

To Mr. Litchfield—Bills of Exchange pass daily between Tokiyo and Yokohama. The Okurasho is a department for superintending the receipts and disbursements of the Japanese Government. It is positively no part of the Department's functions to guarantee bills of exchange.

To Mr. Kirkwood—National Banks must deposit a certain sum of money in the Okurasho, in exchange for which they receive bonds.

Mr. B. Gillett—I am a merchant, residing at No. 24, Yokohama. On the afternoon of the 27th of August last Iseya's banto came to me, and said that his employers might require a loan of about \$16,000 on the security of 450 bales of cotton yarn. I said that I thought the matter could be arranged, but I would let him know next morning. That day Iseya and his clerk both came at 11 o'clock, and I told them that I was prepared to advance them the sum they required on the security they offered, namely the 450 bales of cotton yarn. They left, and at half-past eleven the banto returned, and stated that Mr. Whittall would not deliver the goods without a letter from me. I wrote to Mr. Whittall to this effect:—

Dear Whittall—In consideration of your delivering 450 bales of yarn to Mr. Iseya, I undertake to hand you a cheque for \$16,177.

On the fly-leaf of the note I wrote:—

I hope the transaction is in accordance with your wishes. I explain the difference between the first allusion of the Japanese to 450 bales of yarns and their having only 410 bales to offer to fuller information obtained by them at the time the transaction was becoming definite. Mr. Whittall wrote to me to the effect that he did not know Mr. Iseya; but that they (the Japanese) were settling to take delivery of the goods. About twelve o'clock Iseya and his clerk came to my office and asked me for a cheque, which I gave them, for \$16,177, they remarking that they were to take delivery of the goods from Mr. Whittall's godown at one o'clock. I then went away to tiffin and returned shortly after one. In front of Mr. Whittall's godowns I saw a lot of trucks and Iseya's banto, whom I asked:—"Why

have you not begun to take delivery of the goods?" The reply was that Mr. Whittall's banto had not returned from tiffin, and that he had taken the key of the godowns with him. About five minutes later Mr. Whittall came along. He said:—"Well, Gillett, I've got your money: you'd better look after your securities. I have applied \$10,000 to the sale of the steamer, and \$4,000 to the sale of the shirtings which I will deliver. The remaining \$2,000 I retain against the contract for the yarns. These people are a pack of swindlers. They have been trying to do me in the eye for the last month; but now I have done them." I replied:—"Whittall, I have nothing to do with your steamer or your shirtings. I have only to deal with Mr. Iseya, to whom I have advanced money on the security of a quantity of yarns." This was on the 28th of August. At 3 o'clock that day Iseya and his banto returned to my office. They said that they were sorry that they had put me to any trouble, but that they would see that I did not lose anything. At 11 o'clock on the morning of the 29th Iseya came to me, and saying that he had not received money he expected from Tokiyo, asked me if I would accompany him thither. I replied that I would go certainly; would do anything to facilitate matters; and it was arranged that we should go up together that evening. We went by the six o'clock train; but did no business that evening. At eight on the following morning (the 30th) Iseya came to me and told me that he had \$10,000 for me. I said "all right." I was not very uneasy, though of course I desired the matter settled as early as possible. We returned to Yokohama by the quarter-past nine train; and when we arrived Iseya changed a quantity of *kinsatsen* he had with him into dollars and handed me \$10,000. On the 31st, 44 bales of shirtings came to my godown from him. On the 1st of September, on their account, I appropriated \$3,900, about their value, toward liquidating the balance due to me. The same day Iseya paid me \$2,000; and on the 3rd, I received from him \$217, thus cancelling my advance of \$16,177. When I gave Iseya the cheque at one on the 28th of August I saw some delivery orders. I did not then inspect them, as I was leaving the office. He laid them on my desk, and I think I subsequently returned them to him.

To Mr. Litchfield—I have known Iseya seven or eight years. In making this advance I had to make my own arrangements with the Bank.

Mr. Edward Engelhardt, bookkeeper to Mr. Whittall, recognised the delivery orders in exhibit. He wrote them himself before noon on the 28th of August by order of Mr. Whittall. He then instructed the godown-man to deliver nothing without the consent of Mr. Whittall or himself. People came for delivery about three o'clock. He sent the cheque to the Bank as is usual. By Mr. Whittall's order he stopped delivery of the goods.

Mr. Kirkwood called a Chinese comrade to testify to the fact of offering the deposit note for thirty-two thousand dollars odd.

His Honor remonstrated against evidence or interpretation in "pidgin English" but allowed Mr. Kirkwood to put his question. Nothing intelligible could be elicited from this witness, so a competent interpreter was sent for.

Mr. da Roza recollected seeing Yokioka Shobei in Mr. Whittall's office on the 30th of August. One or two days before, Iseya had visited him with one Ota; and Tokura asked him to go to Mr. Whittall's to persuade Whittall to take a certain note against a steamboat, some yarns, and shirtings. They offered him *yen* 500 to do so. Witness conversed with them, advising them to explain to him the whole business. They spoke of an agreement with Whittall for \$48,000, one-third cash: two-thirds in six months against a bill on a Japanese bank. They had paid \$16,000, and Mr. Whittall refused to deliver the goods. Tokura exhibited the contract which witness explained, they giving particulars of the establishment of the Nito Bank, a private bank with a nominal capital of *yen* 100,000. Only two or three shares had been sold, and there was no capital in reserve. Witness told them he could not in such case influence Mr. Whittall. They said the \$16,000 paid had been borrowed from a foreigner. If the cotton yarns could be procured, capital would be raised from a dealer in the interior, the \$16,000, would be at once refunded and the Bank would make enough money in six months to pay Mr. Whittall. Witness promptly

acquainted Mr. Whittall with the facts of the case; he had previously been acquainted with Ota. At Mr. Whittall's request he explained next day to the people concerned that their deposit-note was not worth the paper it was written on, and that goods could not be delivered against such security. They promised to try to get better security and return in two or three days. Mr. Whittall said he would allow than fifteen days during which time he would charge no godown rent. Mr. Shimada has since been to witness to ask him to sell the steamer, for which he would probably take seven or eight thousand dollars.

Nothing material was elicited in the cross-examination of Mr. da Rosa. Mr. Ota is a doctor.

Mr. Whittall's Chinese comrade, King San, testified through an interpreter that he had presented the deposit note at several Japanese Banks (the Mitsui and others) where he was told that it was valueless.

To Mr. Litchfield—Witness tried to sell the bill. He said "Dollar sinjo?" and was answered "Sinjo-nai!"

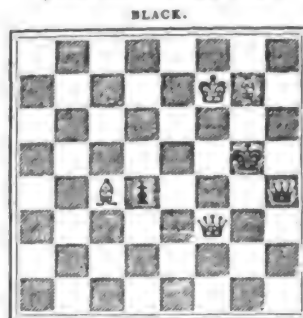
This closed Mr. Kirkwood's case.

The Court adjourned till half-past one.

In the afternoon, Counsel reviewed the evidence on both sides in behalf of their respective clients; and His Honour reserved judgment.

CHESS.

By E. B. Cook.
(From *American Chess Nuts*.)



White to play and mate in 3 moves.

Solution to Chess Problem of 8th December,
by V. N. PORTILLA.

White. Black.
1.—Q. to B. 2. 1.—B. moves.
2.—P. to Q. 5, ch. 2.—K. moves.
3.—Q. mate.

Correct answer received from "TESA."

MAIL STEAMERS.

THE NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From Shanghai, } per M. B. Co. Tuesday, Dec. 18th.*
Nagasaki, & Kobe
From America ... per O. & O. Co. Friday, Dec. 21st.†
From Hongkong, per P. & O. Co. Sunday, Dec. 23rd.
From Europe, via Hongkong, per M. M. Co. Thursday, Dec. 27th.

* Left Shanghai on December 9th. † Arabic left San Francisco on December 1st.

THE NEXT MAIL LEAVES

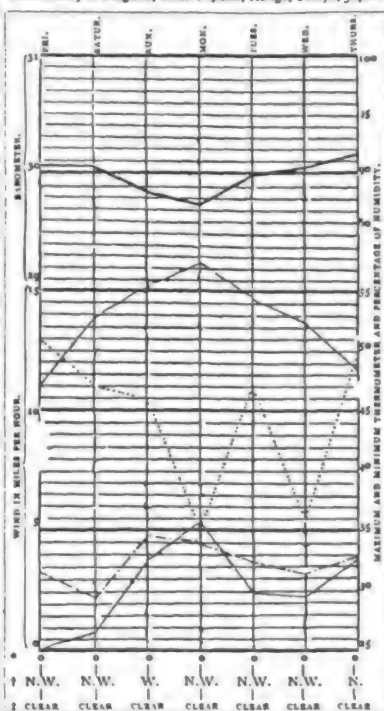
For Shanghai, } per M. B. Co. Thursday, Dec. 20th.
Kobe, and Nagasaki ...
For Europe, via Hongkong, per M. M. Co. Saturday, Dec. 22nd.
For America, per P. M. Co. Monday, Dec. 24th.

The arrival and departure of mails by the Occidental and Oriental, the Pacific Mail, and the Peninsular and Oriental Companies, are approximate only.

METEOROLOGICAL REPORT.

FOR WEEK BEGINNING FRIDAY, DECEMBER 7TH, 1883.

Observatory of Daigaku, Moto-Fujicho, Hongō, Tokyo, Japan.



REMARKS.

Heavy line represents barometer.
Light continuous line—maximum and minimum thermometers.
Dashed line—represents velocity of wind.
Percentage of humidity.

The barometer is reduced to the freezing point and to the level of the sea.

* Rain in inches. † Direction of Wind. ‡ Weather.
Maximum velocity of wind 18.0 miles per hour on Sunday at 2 p.m.

The highest reading of the barometer for the week was 30.185 inches on Thursday at 10 a.m., and the lowest was 29.872 inches on Monday at 9 p.m.

The highest temperature for the week was 57.3 on Monday, and the lowest was 25.1 on Friday. The maximum and minimum for the corresponding week of last year were 61.9 and 27.0 respectively.

The total quantity of rain for the week and that for the corresponding week of last year were both zero.

THE TOKIYO-YOKOHAMA RAILWAY.

It has been the practice of some local journals for a considerable time to notice, in the railway returns of the above line, all cases in which the current receipts were below those of the "corresponding week last year," no reference being made to returns which in any degree approached previous figures. As for many reasons such a method is manifestly fallacious and misleading, we give the following table, which exhibits the true progress and successful working of the line from its opening up to the present year:—

| YEAR WHEN JOHN JUNE. | PASSENGERS. YEN. | GOODS. YEN. | TOTAL. YEN. |
|-------------------------|---------------------|----------------|----------------|
| 1873 | 395,988 | — | 395,988 |
| 1874 | 403,327 | 24,590 | 427,917 |
| 1875 | 413,221 | 32,823 | 446,044 |
| 1876 | 379,555 | 28,219 | 407,774 |
| 1877 | 349,758 | 36,238 | 385,996 |
| 1878 | 357,064 | 43,568 | 400,632 |
| 1879 | 376,449 | 47,178 | 423,627 |
| 1880 | 428,018 | 53,533 | 481,551 |
| 1881 | 502,047 | 58,182 | 560,229 |
| 1882 | 515,927 | 52,994 | 568,921 |
| 1883 | 509,635 | 46,470 | 556,111 |

LATEST TELEGRAMS.

[REUTER "SPECIAL" TO "JAPAN MAIL."]

London, December 13th.

MORE TROOPS FOR TONQUIN.

Six thousand French troops have embarked at Marseilles for Tonquin.

London, December 9th.

FRANCE AND CHINA.

Negotiations continue between the Marquis Tseng and M. Ferry.

THE SYDNEY CONFERENCE.

The Sydney Conference has decided upon the formation of a Federal Council to deal with the common affairs of the Colonies.

London, December 11th.

FRANCE AND CHINA.

The Chamber of Deputies has passed a vote of confidence in the Ministry by a very large majority.

M. Ferry has announced that it is impossible, in the absence of a definite basis of agreement, to further suspend the advance on Bach-ninh.

London, December 13th.

THE AMERICAN TRADE DOLLAR.

Owing to the fall in silver, resolutions have been introduced into the House of Representatives (United States Congress) withdrawing the trade dollar.

REUTER'S TELEGRAMS.

[FROM THE HONGKONG "DAILY PRESS."]

London, 30th November.

The Emperor of Germany has telegraphed to the King of Spain, thanking him for the cordial reception accorded to the Imperial Prince at Madrid, and assuring him of his life-long friendship.

[FROM THE SAIGON "INDEPENDANT."]

Paris, 19th November.

Negotiations have been reopened with China. It is hoped that the attitude of the Chamber and of the extreme Left will induce China to moderate her demands.

Further bodies of African troops are being prepared for despatch.

The Colonial Budget for 1885 is under consideration. M. Felix Faure has introduced important reforms in it.

The Chamber appears disposed to vote the credits asked for by the Government for the Tonquin expedition. The majority of the Committee appointed to consider the matter is favourable.

Paris, 20th November.

The Tonquin credits will undoubtedly be voted.

The *Mytho* will embark two battalions of Chasseurs d'Afrique on the 24th.

M. Fallières succeeds M. Ferry.

SUNDAY CHURCH SERVICES.

Christ Church : 11 a.m. and 5.30 p.m.
Union Church : 11 a.m. and 8 p.m.
Roman Catholic Church : 8 and 9.30 a.m.
English Church, No. 12, Sakaicho, Shiba, Tokujo : 11 a.m.

LATEST SHIPPING.

FREIGHTS.

There is no demand for sailing tonnage, and there are more steamers on the berth than will fill, there being no less than three vessels for New York via Suez Canal, the *Benvenue*, *Mosser*, and *Mark Lane*, the *Benlarig* having been withdrawn. For despatch in January the *Electra* is fixed for Havre and Hamburg.

ARRIVALS.

Tokio Maru, Japanese steamer 1,146, R. Swain, 10th December.—Shanghai and ports, Mails and General.—Mitsui Bishi M. S.S. Co.
Mensaleh, French steamer 1,384, B. Blanc, 10th December.—Hongkong 3rd December, Mails and General.—Messageries Maritimes Co.
City of Rio de Janeiro, American steamer, 3,548, 11th December.—Hongkong 3rd December, Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.
City of Peking, American steamer, 3,129, Berry, 12th December.—San Francisco 22nd November, Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.
Kamchatka, Russian steamer, 701, Ingman 12th December.—Kobe 10th December, General.—Mitsui Bishi M. S.S. Co.
Sooloo, British bark, 472, Baikie, 12th December.—Nagasaki 7th December, Coals and Coke.—H. MacArthur.
Niigata Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,097, Hubbard, 12th December.—Hakodate 10th and Ogino-hama 12th December, Mails and General.—Mitsui Bishi M. S.S. Co.
Hiogo Maru, Japanese steamer, 806, R. N. Walker, 15th December.—Kobe 13th December, General.—Mitsui Bishi M. S.S. Co.

DEPARTURES.

Sophie, Russian schooner, 230, Sundrig, 11th December.—Amoy, Wheat.—Chinese.
Mosser, British steamer, 1,384, Longley, 11th December.—Kobe, General.—Smith, Baker & Co.
City of Rio de Janeiro, American steamer, 3,548, 13th December.—San Francisco, Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.
Benlarig, British steamer, 1,381, John H. Clark, 13th December.—Kobe, General.—Mourilyan, Heimann & Co.
Kamchatka, Russian steamer, 701, Ingman, 13th December.—Kobe, General.—Mitsui Bishi M. S.S. Co.
Saikai Maru, Japanese steamer, 102, Nonaka, 14th December.—Toba, General.—Seiriussha.
City of Peking, American steamer, 3,129, Berry, 15th December.—Hongkong, Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.
Khiva, British steamer, 2,600, P. Harris, 15th December.—Hongkong Kobe and Nagasaki, Mails and General.—P. & O. S. N. Co.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per Japanese steamer *Tokio Maru*, from Shanghai and ports:—Mr. and Mrs. Yenomoto, Miss Howe and 3 children, Mr. and Mrs. H. MacArthur, Rev. J. Warren, Messrs. H. Harris, J. Middleton, E. Zappe, Geike, Takou, Orita, Imai, Kung, Geyok, King, Yayeda, and Kambarra in cabin; and 76 Japanese in steerage.
 Per French steamer *Mensaleh*, from Hongkong: Mrs. Hagens, infant, and European nurse, Messrs. H. Fusiama, Tanaka Bensaburo, and Takamomo in cabin.
 Per American steamer *City of Rio de Janeiro*, from Hongkong:—Mr. J. V. Ribeiro in cabin.
 Per Russian steamer *Kamchatka*, from Kobe:—Mr. Kirby and 70 Japanese.
 Per American steamer *City of Peking*, from San Francisco:—Admiral Jno. L. Davis, U.S.N., Rev. and Mrs. J. H. De Forest and 3 children, Rev. and Mrs. J. C. Davison and 4 children, Miss F. N.

Hammefar, M.D., Miss Emma A. Everding, Rev. M. C. Harris, Dr. F. C. Gibbald, Messrs. E. G. Treickenberg, H. Gibbald, C. E. Barnes, and H. Comstock in cabin. For Kobe: Bishop and Mrs. Poole, 3 children and governess, Miss Boulton and Miss Pearson in cabin. For Shanghai: Mr. and Mrs. Theo. F. Jones, Mrs. Flora Bisbee and 2 children, and Dr. J. M. Mathewson in cabin. For Hongkong: Rev. and Mrs. J. Jamieson, Miss H. Lewis, Captain J. W. Conner, Messrs. P. C. Mozoondar, W. B. Spratt, and H. Kopsch in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Hiogo Maru*, from Kobe: Messrs. Thompson, Woolley, and Johnson in cabin; and 170 Japanese in steerage.

DEPARTED.

Per American steamer *City of Rio de Janeiro*, for San Francisco:—Mr. A. Conchee in cabin; and 4 Europeans, 3 Japanese, and 371 Chinese in steerage. For New York: Mr. and Mrs. O. W. Willets and 2 children, Miss G. Howe and 2 children, Messrs. C. B. Bernard and R. Trevethick in cabin. For London: Messrs. J. D. Falk and D. G. Falk in cabin.

Per American steamer *City of Peking*, for Hongkong:—Rev. and Mrs. Jamieson, Miss H. Lewis, Captain J. W. Conner, Messrs. P. C. Mozoondar, W. B. Spratt, and H. Kopsch in cabin.

Per British steamer *Khiva*, for Hongkong via Kobe and Nagasaki:—Mr. and Mrs. Lane and maid, Rev. and Mrs. Davison, Miss E. A. Everding, Dr. Dold, Messrs. A. Kader and servant, Nickerson, Lamy, E. Streichenberg, Williams, P. M. Fajell, E. A. Smith, A. R. Wayeton, John Walter, J. Collins, Wong Yoke Then, Lhar Hong, Lee Hoy, Cheng Choon, Chom Cheong, Fit Kuem, Lo Lam Hin, Wuy Kai Wun, Yen Him, Pom Thong, and Hon Kum in cabin; and 6 Chinese and 12 Japanese in steerage.

CARGOES.

Per Japanese steamer *Tokio Maru*, from Shanghai and ports:—Treasure, \$152,000.00.

Per French steamer *Mensaleh*, from Hongkong: 1,409 packages.

Per American steamer *City of Rio de Janeiro*, for San Francisco:—

| | TEA. | | | |
|----------|----------------|-----------|---------------|--------|
| | SAN FRANCISCO. | NEW YORK. | OTHER CITIES. | TOTAL. |
| Hongkong | 100 | 277 | 9 | 386 |
| Shanghai | 434 | 59 | 508 | 1,001 |
| Hiogo | 790 | 37 | 2,285 | 3,112 |
| Yokohama | 7,695 | 306 | 1,195 | 9,196 |
| Total | 9,010 | 679 | 3,997 | 13,685 |

SILK.

| | SAN FRANCISCO. | NEW YORK. | OTHER CITIES. | TOTAL. |
|----------|----------------|-----------|---------------|--------|
| Hongkong | — | 219 | — | 219 |
| Shanghai | — | 203 | — | 203 |
| Yokohama | — | 505 | — | 505 |
| Total | — | 927 | — | 927 |

CARGOES.

Per British steamer *Khiva*, for Hongkong via Kobe and Nagasaki:—Silk, for London, 164 bales; for France, 736 bales; for Italy, 27 bales; Total, 927 bales.

REPORTS.

The American steamer *City of Rio de Janeiro*, Captain Robt. R. Searle, reports leaving Hongkong on the 3rd December, at 3.15 p.m. bound for Yokohama and San Francisco with very strong monsoon and a heavy head sea, through the Formosa Channel; thence to port moderate weather. Arrived at Yokohama on the 11th December, at 8 a.m.

The British bark *Sooloo*, Captain Baikie, from Nagasaki, reports having arrived at Yokohama on the morning of the 12th December, after a good passage of five days, and passed the British ship *Haddon Hall* on the 11th, between Cape Sagami and Vries Island, steering south.

The Japanese steamer *Hiogo Maru*, Captain R. N. Walker, reports leaving Kobe on the 13th December, at 4.45 a.m. with light variable winds and clear weather to Omisaki; thence to port easterly winds and thick rainy weather. Arrived at Yokohama on the 15th December, at 1.30 a.m.

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

During the past week our Market shows signs of recovery from late stagnation, and although buyers still offer very low prices, the outlook is more promising, and some business is reported but generally on a small scale. Fair sales of Velvets have been made, and low Satteens are enquired for. Metals are quiet, and prices slightly easier.

COTTON YARNS.

| | PER PICUL. |
|----------------------------------|------------------|
| Nos. 16 to 24, Common to Medium- | \$25.00 to 28.50 |
| Nos. 16 to 24, Good to Best - | 29.25 to 30.00 |
| Bombay, No. 20, Good to Best - | 25.25 to 28.50 |
| Nos. 25 to 32, Common to Medium- | 30.50 to 31.50 |
| Nos. 25 to 32, Good to Best - | 32.00 to 35.00 |
| Nos. 35 to 42 - | 35.00 to 37.50 |

COTTON PIECE GOODS.

| | PER PICUL. |
|---------------------------------------------------|----------------|
| Grey Shirtings—34", 38" to 39 inches - | \$1.70 to 2.15 |
| Grey Shirtings—38", 38" to 45 inches - | 1.25 to 1.35 |
| T. Cloth—78", 24 yards, 32 inches - | 1.40 to 1.45 |
| Indigo Shirting—12 yards, 44 inches - | 1.50 to 1.65 |
| Prints—Assorted, 24 yards, 30 inches - | 1.10 to 1.40 |
| Cotton—Italians and Satteens Black, 32 inches - | 1.15 to 1.40 |
| Turkey Reds—2 to 2 1/2, 24 yards, 30 inches - | 0.07 to 0.09 |
| Turkey Reds—2 1/2 to 2 3/4, 24 yards, 30 inches - | 1.30 to 1.60 |
| Turkey Reds—3 1/2, 24 yards, 30 inches - | 1.70 to 1.85 |
| Velvets—Black, 15 yards, 22 inches - | 5.50 to 6.75 |
| Victoria Lawns, 12 yards, 43-1/2 inches - | 0.50 to 0.70 |
| Taffetas, 12 yards, 43 inches - | 1.75 to 2.05 |

WOOLLENS.

| | PER PICUL. |
|---------------------------------------------------|----------------|
| Plain Orleans, 40-42 yards, 32 inches - | \$3.60 to 5.25 |
| Figured Orleans, 39-41 yards, 31 inches - | 3.25 to 4.00 |
| Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 33 inches - | 0.18 to 0.23 |
| Mousseline de Laine—Crape, 24 yards, 31 inches - | 0.15 to 0.16 |
| Mousseline de Laine—Tajime, 24 yards, 31 inches - | 0.18 to 0.25 |
| Mousseline de Laine—Vases, 24 yards, 31 inches - | 0.30 to 0.37 |
| Cloths—Pilots, 54 @ 56 inches - | 0.30 to 0.40 |
| Cloths—Presidents, 54 @ 56 inches - | 0.40 to 0.50 |
| Cloths—Union, 54 @ 56 inches - | 0.30 to 0.55 |
| Blankets—Scarlet and Green, 6 to 5 1/2, per lb - | 0.35 to 0.40 |

IRON.

| | PER PICUL. |
|-----------------------------------|----------------|
| Flat Bars, 1/2 inch - | \$2.50 to 3.00 |
| Flat Bars, 1 inch - | 2.80 to 3.00 |
| Round and square up to 1/2 inch - | 2.80 to 3.00 |
| Nailrod, assorted - | 2.35 to 2.60 |
| Nailrod, small size - | 2.35 to 2.55 |

KEROSENE.

Sales were effected early in the week to the extent of 25,000 cases at an advance of 5 cents on last quotations; the Market having suddenly become much firmer. Deliveries for the week have been 17,000 cases. Stocks now stand at 650,000 cases sold and unsold Oil in first hands. Quotations are firm at:—

| | PER CIL. |
|----------|----------|
| Devco - | 1.75 |
| Comet - | 1.65 |
| Stella - | 1.55 |

SUGAR.

The condition of the Market as last reported continues, and no prospect of improvement can be looked for until the settlement of accounts at the end of the year. The prices given in last report remain unchanged, and may be considered nominal in view of the paucity of demands.

| | PER PICUL. |
|-----------------|----------------|
| White, No. 1 - | \$8.00 to 8.35 |
| White, No. 2 - | 6.75 to 7.20 |
| White, No. 3 - | 6.30 to 6.50 |
| White, No. 4 - | 5.30 to 6.00 |
| White, No. 5 - | 4.50 to 4.75 |
| Brown Formosa - | 4.25 to 4.50 |

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

Our last was dated 7th instant, and we have a large business to report: Settlements by foreign firms amounting to over 900 piculs for the week.

The *Tanais*, which left on the 8th instant, took 898 bales; of which 200 were for England and the rest for France. The *City of Rio de Janeiro*, despatched yesterday morning, had 505 bales for the United States Markets. It was expected that she would have had much more, but the Japanese contingent fell off most unaccountably; and it would seem that the purchases (noted in our last as being for native account) remain unshipped. Whether they will be once more offered on this Market or shipped by a future opportunity remains to be seen. Quotations generally must be again advanced; holders are very strong, and in some cases refuse to sell at all, preferring to carry their Stocks over the turn of the year. Settlements have exceeded arrivals, and Stocks are reduced to 4,000 piculs. The bulk of the trade has been in Filature sorts, and of these "good to best" are scarce, and hard to find. News from the Markets of consumption is again rather better, and the whole tone of our Market is decidedly against buyers. A feature in the week's business has been the clearing out of nearly all the Sodai and coarse silks which were in stock ten days ago.

Hanks.—Again we have to note but a small business in these, and recorded Settlements do not much exceed 100 piculs. Sellers have again put up their prices, but few buyers apparently care to operate on the new platform. Stock of these descriptions is still 2,300 piculs, and although news from Europe reports a slight advance in prices there, it would not seem sufficient to warrant purchases here at present quotations. Among the few sales reported we observe Shimonita, \$495; Tomiyoka, \$495; Omama, \$475; Chichibu, \$460; Maibash, \$440; and it is doubtful if sellers would go on at these rates.

Filatures.—This and the following class have been specially sought for; and two-thirds of the total Settlements have taken place in them. Really best qualities are getting very scarce, and prices for all kinds above ordinary No. 2 must be advanced. The competition from native buyers has been a marked feature, and it is fully expected that some of the silk so disposed of will reappear later on, when reduced Stocks and higher prices may offer the speculator a chance of profit. In the list of business done we note a few parcels No. 1 in fine size at \$610 and \$600. A small parcel of Nikosha, 14/16 den., is held for \$610. Ordinary No. 1 has been done at \$590, but is now quoted at \$600. Best 1½ are now \$590. Best No. 2 are firm at \$580. In lower grades not much change.

Re-reels.—These have been in good demand, and would have been dealt in to a greater extent, but for the extreme pretensions of holders with regard to certain well-known chops. Thus, for a rather inferior parcel of "Tortoise," \$600 is asked. A good-sized lot of "Five Girl" and "Deer" chop have been taken together at \$570 and \$555 respectively, but the operation could not be repeated at the same price to-day. Ordinary to fair Shinshu Zarguri are worth \$530 to \$560.

Kakeda.—Not a large business in these, about 100 piculs, 2½ to 3, change hands at \$520; but the higher grades have been neglected, and at closing the extreme prices asked tend to prohibit business altogether. "Chocho" done a few days ago at \$575 is now held at \$600.

Oshu.—There has been a fair enquiry, and prices are higher, especially for fair to best Sendai. Hamatsuki have also been freely taken at something over last week's figures. Stock of these districts is run down to less than 200 piculs.

Sodai and Traysam Kinds.—The Market has been nearly cleared of these, and available Stock is now less than 50 piculs. *Sodai*, good, has brought \$440, with good medium at \$410. *Masuda*, \$400.

| QUOTATIONS. | | |
|---------------------------------|---|--------------|
| Hanks—No. 1½ | - | \$500 to 510 |
| Hanks—No. 2 (Shinshu) | - | 490 to 500 |
| Hanks—No. 2 (Joshu) | - | 480 to 490 |
| Hanks—No. 2½ (Shinshu) | - | 475 to 485 |
| Hanks—No. 2½ (Joshu) | - | 460 to 470 |
| Hanks—No. 3 | - | 445 to 450 |
| Hanks—No. 3½ | - | 425 to 430 |
| Filatures—Extra. | - | 620 to 630 |
| Filatures—No. 1, 10/13 deniers | - | 600 to 610 |
| Filatures—No. 1, 14/16 deniers | - | 600 to 610 |
| Filatures—No. 1½, 14/17 deniers | - | 580 to 590 |
| Filatures—No. 2, 10/15 deniers | - | 580 to 590 |
| Filatures—No. 2, 14/18 deniers | - | 570 to 580 |
| Filatures—No. 3, 14/20 deniers | - | 540 to 550 |
| Re-reels—No. 1, 14/16 deniers | - | 580 to 590 |
| Re-reels—No. 1½, 14/17 deniers | - | 565 to 575 |
| Re-reels—No. 2, 14/18 deniers | - | 555 to 565 |
| Re-reels—No. 3, 14/20 deniers | - | 530 to 540 |
| Kakedas—Extra. | - | 605 |
| Kakedas—No. 1. | - | 585 to 595 |
| Kakedas—No. 2. | - | 535 to 545 |
| Kakedas—No. 3. | - | 510 to 520 |
| Oshu Sendai—No. 2½ | - | 465 to 475 |
| Hamatsuki—No. 1, 2 | - | 470 to 480 |
| Hamatsuki—No. 3, 4 | - | 420 to 440 |
| Sodai—No. 2½ | - | 400 to 410 |

Export Tables Raw Silk to 14th Dec., 1883:—

| | SEASON 1883-84. | 1882-83. | 1881-82. |
|------------------|-----------------|----------|----------|
| France and Italy | 12,689 | 8,410 | 3,725 |
| America | 6,697 | 5,225 | 2,576 |
| England | 1,240 | 2,554 | 1,869 |
| Total | 21,226 | 16,189 | 8,170 |

WASTE SILK.

There has been more doing this week, and recorded sales amount to 750 piculs. Buyers have been unable to obtain better terms especially on good kinds of Waste; and sellers as a rule have it all their own way. Stocks of all kinds are but 1,000 piculs, and some of this is withdrawn from the Market, at least for the present. Shipments continue to be freely made as per Export table given at foot. For the best descriptions of *Filature-Noshi*, and *Kibiso*, the demand exceeds the supply.

Pierced Cocoons.—A few small lots have been taken into godown for testing, but the price will depend on how they turn out. Arrivals come in very slowly, and the available Stock is not increased. At closing the sale of a parcel of light yield is reported, but the price has not yet been definitely fixed.

Noshi-ito.—Some few transactions at full rates in *Oshu* and *Filature* kinds. Some old contracts of *Joshu* are being slowly delivered; but quality from this province is rapidly falling off, and good assortment is not easily found even at an advance on recent prices.

Kibiso.—The chief business done has been in medium *Oshu* at \$80, *Joshu* at \$30 to \$50, with a large parcel *Samdanshu* at \$60. *Filatures* have been in request at former quotations, and we note a sale of *Utsunomiya* at \$120. A fair-sized lot of *Tokosha* has also been delivered under contract at \$115.

Mawata.—There has been some revival in the demand for this article, and about 75 piculs of Good Medium have found purchasers at from \$169 to \$171½. A large parcel good *Oshu* is offered at \$180.

Some few arrivals have come to hand. Present Stock 250 piculs.

QUOTATIONS.

| | | |
|--------------------------------|---|--------------|
| Pierced Cocoons—Medium to Fair | - | \$ 90 to 100 |
| Noshi-ito—Filature, Best | - | 150 |
| Noshi-ito—Filature, Good | - | 130 |
| Noshi-ito—Filature, Medium | - | 110 |
| Noshi-ito—Oshu, Good to Best | - | 140 to 145 |
| Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Best | - | 110 |
| Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Good | - | 100 |
| Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Medium | - | 90 |
| Noshi-ito—Joshu, Best | - | 100 to 105 |
| Noshi-ito—Joshu, Good | - | 8½ |
| Noshi-ito—Joshu, Ordinary | - | 75 |
| Kibiso—Filature, Best selected | - | 115 to 120 |
| Kibiso—Filature, Seconds | - | 110 to 105 |
| Kibiso—Oshu, Good | - | 95 to 90 |
| Kibiso—Shinshu, Best | - | 70 |
| Kibiso—Shinshu, Seconds | - | 50 to 60 |
| Kibiso—Joshu, Fair to Common | - | 50 to 30 |
| Kibiso—Hachoji, Medium to Low | - | 30 to 15 |
| Kibiso—Neri, Good to Common | - | 30 to 12½ |
| Mawata—Good to Best | - | 170 to 180 |

Export Table Waste Silk to 14th Dec., 1883:—

| | SEASON 1883-84. | 1882-83. | 1881-82. |
|-----------------|-----------------|----------|----------|
| Waste Silk | 12,364 | 9,990 | 7,340 |
| Pierced Cocoons | 1,727 | 2,801 | 1,850 |
| | 14,091 | 12,791 | 9,690 |

Exchange.—Rates have advanced slightly, and native Bankers have again been competing for the purchase of private paper. All quotations may be raised, and now stand as follows:—London at 4 m/s. Credits, 3/9½; Documentary, 3/9½; New York 30 d/s., 91½; 60 d/s., 92; Paris 6 m/s., fcs. 4.82½. *Kinsatsu* have not fluctuated more than one per cent., closing at about 111 per \$100.

TEA.

The past week has been extremely quiet, only one or two buyers showing any disposition to operate. Total Settlements amount to about 595 piculs, consisting of the following grades:—Common 185, Good Common 70, Medium 35, Good Medium 130, Fine 145, and Finest 30 piculs. Prices are about the same as last advised, although some of the lower grades are rather firmer. Underrated are shipments from this port since last report:—The steamships *Gordon Castle* and *Venice* both sailed on the 5th instant, the former taking 8,272 lbs. Tea for New York, and the latter 227,976 lbs. Tea, viz.:—For New York 201,927 lbs. and for Canada 26,049 lbs. The cargo despatched by the steamship *City of Rio de Janeiro* on the 13th instant comprised 368,749 lbs. Tea from this port, viz.:—For New York 2,729 lbs., for Chicago 46,120 lbs., for California 283,743 lbs., and for Canada 36,157 lbs. The steamships *Mosier*, *Benvenue*, and *Mark Lane* are advertised for New York, via ports, at 40 shillings per ton of 40 cubic feet. The steamship *Benlarig* recently advertised for New York has been withdrawn. The next Pacific Mail steamer, for San Francisco, the *City of Tokio*, advertised to leave here on the 24th instant, takes Tea at 3 cents per lb. gross to New York and Canada and at \$12 per ton of 40 cubic feet for San Francisco.

QUOTATIONS.

| | | |
|-------------|---|--------------|
| Common | - | \$10 & under |
| Good Common | - | 11 to 14 |
| Medium | - | 16 to 18 |
| Good Medium | - | 19 to 21 |
| Fine | - | Nominal |

EXCHANGE.

There has been a fair amount of Private Bills on offer during the week, a considerable portion of which have been placed with the Shokin Ginko at more favorable rates than those offered by Foreign Banks. There is hardly any demand for Bank Bills, and quotations at the close are steady.

| | | |
|-----------------------------------------|---|-------------|
| Sterling—Bank Bills on demand | - | 3/8½ |
| Sterling—Bank 4 months' sight | - | 3/9½ |
| Sterling—Private 4 months' sight | - | 3/9½ |
| Sterling—Private 6 months' sight | - | 3/9½ |
| On Paris—Bank sight | - | 4/7½ |
| On Paris—Private 6 months' sight | - | 4/8½ |
| On Hongkong—Bank sight | - | 10/0 dis. |
| On Hongkong—Private 10 days' sight | - | 11 0/0 dis. |
| On Shanghai—Bank sight | - | 7½ |
| On Shanghai—Private 10 days' sight | - | 7½ |
| On New York—Bank Bills on demand | - | 90½ |
| On New York—Private 30 days' sight | - | 91½ |
| On San Francisco—Bank Bills on demand | - | 90½ |
| On San Francisco—Private 30 days' sight | - | 91½ |

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The Japan Weekly Mail.

"FAIS CE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL," must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith. It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, DECEMBER 22ND, 1883.

BIRTH.

On the 6th instant, at No. 217, Bluff, the wife of Mr. D. J. SCOTT of a Son.

At No. 73, Bluff, Yokohama, December 16th, the wife of Wm. BARRIE, M.B.M.S.S. Co., of a Son.

DEATH.

On the 15th instant, at Shanghai, WILLIAM HENRY BERR GUBBINS, second son of the late Martin Richard Gubbins, Bengal Civil Service, aged 35 years.

At 6.30 a.m. on the 21st December, at No. 43, Yokohama, HORACE PAGDON, aged 41 years.

WEEKLY NOTES.

A SECTION of the foreign press in Japan and China has recently found a great deal to say about the supposed arbitrary proceedings of the Japanese Consul at Pusan (Korea). The Consul is reported to have forcibly closed the premises of a firm of Chinese store-keepers recently established within the limits of the Japanese settlement, and to have peremptorily ordered the owners to remove their goods and chattels without delay. Such an outrage offered

a happy chance to journalists whose apparent interpretation of their public duties is to manufacture a maximum of mischief out of a minimum of material. The public was informed that the Japanese openly claim to have a private arrangement with Korea by which no other foreign subjects are allowed to settle and trade at Pusan. It is scarcely necessary to say that no such claim has ever been advanced by the Japanese. We learn, on enquiry, that as yet an official report of the affair in question has not been received in Tokiyo, but in the meanwhile the explanation offered is simple and sufficient. The ground occupied by the Japanese at Pusan has been allotted to them under an arrangement by which they exercise complete municipal control there, and levy taxes for that purpose. It is obvious that the residence of other nationals within the same limits could not be permitted, unless they consented to subscribe not only to the police, but also to the fiscal, system obtaining there, and even with such consent, troublesome complications might arise. Reasons connected with these municipal arrangements were doubtless at the root of the action ascribed to the Japanese Consul at Pusan, though it remains to be seen how far rumour has exaggerated the facts. We find it stated in a Nagasaki journal, which, judging from its unvarying tone of hostility to Japan and partiality to China, appears to have constituted itself the latter's champion against the former, that the new treaties just concluded with Korea will without doubt, upset "any anomalous private, arrangements that may now exist" between that country and Japan. It is obvious that the new treaties can have no effect whatsoever on the arrangement we have described. It is an arrangement openly entered into by the Governments at Tokiyo and Seoul, having for its object the preservation of peace and good order among the Japanese settled at Pusan. The advent of other nationals under separate treaties need not, as a matter of right, effect the status of the Japanese settlers in any way, though as a matter of convenience and expediency it probably would.

THAT article of the Anglo-Korean treaty which concedes to British subjects the right of trade in the interior of the country has already been made the subject of journalistic remarks reflecting unfavourably on the apparent illiberality of the Japanese Government, which, after a quarter of a century's intercourse, withholds a similar privilege. That such a contrast should be drawn and

that the inference suggested should generally be discreditable to Japan, cannot be considered unreasonable. But the point deserves something more than a cursory examination. For the most part, it is true that restrictions upon international intercourse are due to imperfect civilization. Thus in Japan's case the limit originally set to the commercial privileges conceded by the treaties was to be interpreted as an evidence of self-distrust. When she was called on to open this port or remove that obstruction, she hesitated, doubtful of her own ability to control forces that had been in operation among her people for more than two centuries. For every failure to protect foreigners against outrage, the Government was required to pay a heavy indemnity, and sometimes to imperil its own existence by preferring the claims of aliens to the prejudices of its nationals. Under these circumstances it was natural that Japan should shrink from incurring responsibilities attended by such serious results. None the less it is quite certain that, since the Restoration, her statesmen's most earnest wish has always been to remove every restriction upon foreign intercourse, since no otherwise can they hope to obtain recognition of their country's fitting place among independent nations. There are people who profess to doubt this, maintaining that Japan's secret wish is to return to her former isolation and to get rid of foreigners altogether. We shall scarcely be thought discourteous if we say that such suspicions are not worthy of discussion. They are simply an illustration of the old couplet,

All seems infected that the infected spy,
As all looks yellow to the jaundiced eye.

Japan's aim is to be really regarded as an independent and civilized country. She wants to place her commercial relations with the outer world on the same footing as those of an European State; to permit strangers to come and go as they please, and travel and trade wherever they list in her territories without let or hindrance. But in removing all old fashioned restrictions, she looks to be herself treated in a similar spirit. She will never consent to extend to every part of the country that monstrous system of conflicting jurisdictions which, even within the narrow limits of the open ports, has shown itself so vexatious and impracticable. Foreign nations set up that system as a guarantee against the possible wrong-doing of a nation not yet fitted to associate with them on equal terms, and that the system should cease with the unfitness which justified it, is only fair and logical. Holding these views, it is not likely that the

Government will sanction any such partial and impolitic measure as that suggested by persons who advocate the issue of trading passports. For, in the first place, there is no need whatsoever of such passports so far as the Japanese themselves are concerned. They have no reason to discriminate between the foreigners with whom they will associate: the days are gone by when this was necessary. To impose any extraordinary conditions now upon persons wishing to extend their business transactions beyond the limits of the treaty ports, would be equivalent to declaring one of two things—either that the Japanese dare not yet trust themselves to carry on unconditional intercourse, or that they are unwilling to trust foreigners. Their dearest object—complete assimilation to the conditions of civilized independence—would be rather defeated than advanced by such a course. Further, appreciating fully the material advantages which would accrue to the country from the admission of foreign capital and enterprise, they are naturally averse to a make-shift that would tend to perpetuate existing conditions. The issue of trading passports comes under this category. The empty privilege of going into the interior and dealing directly with the producers, offers no solid attraction to capital or enterprise. It might help to free commerce from some of the unhealthy parasites that now impede its growth, but its direct benefits would be accessible only to persons residing at the treaty ports. It would, in short, be a palliative, not a remedy, and wise men do not devise palliatives for evils that must always be mischievous until they are eradicated. Before, then, comparing Japanese and Korean policy in these respects, it will be well to remember that the Government of this country does not refuse to grant trading passports because such a concession overtaxes its liberality, but because its aims are much larger. It is ready to remove everything resembling an obstacle to commercial and social intercourse; to extend to foreigners residing within its borders every privilege enjoyed by its own people, provided that other distinctions be levelled at the same time; or, at least, so far modified as to afford reasonable security for the maintenance of law and order.

Another length of five miles has been opened on the Tokiyo-Takahashi line, bringing the total mileage upon to traffic up to about 53 miles. The daily service upon the line now consists of three passenger and one luggage train, and the gross monthly earnings are thirty thousand yen, approximately. No energetic steps have yet been taken, so far as can be seen, to develop the goods traffic. The district between Tokiyo and Kumagaye, though very thickly populated, has few towns or villages of importance. The inhabitants are, for the most part, thriving farmers who live upon their land, and whose habit for generations has been to send their produce, on men's or horses' backs, by wretched roads, to Tokiyo or some other market little less distant. To such persons the advantage of getting their vegetables or other goods carried

by train does not appear very marked, especially when it is necessary to walk seven or eight miles to a railway station, as a preliminary measure. They will still persevere in their old fashioned ways until the benefits of railway traffic are brought home to them forcibly. The only method of accomplishing this is to establish a number of sidings, as well as short branches as feeders of the main line, and when efficient steps of this nature are taken, the resultant earnings cannot fail to be very large. It may be remembered that when the Tokiyo-Mayebashi line was projected three years ago, we published some statistics showing that the cost of the goods traffic alone between these places amounted annually to a million and a half (yen), and that the number of passengers averaged two and a half millions. There was, therefore, good reason to predict a prosperous future for a railway tapping these districts, and even in its semi-developed condition, the line opened a few months ago has fulfilled this prediction. The method of construction originally proposed was the so-called "American style" that is to say, a cheaper and less durable method than experience has proved to be really economical—though it is needless to say that this conception does injustice to American engineers, whose practice is identical with that of all other engineers, namely, to make the best possible line their funds will permit. Fortunately, however, the Japanese were better advised. The new line is not of an elaborate or costly nature, but it is by no means one of those "back-wood tracks" which consume all their earnings in repairs. At the rates of exchange ruling three years ago, experts calculated that a durable and serviceable road might be built between Tokiyo and Mayebashi at a cost of about forty-five thousand yen per mile, and it is stated that the actual expenditure has been well within this estimate. Assuming thirty-five thousand yen as a fair figure, and assigning half the gross takings to the working expenses' account, it appears that the line is already paying upwards of ten per cent. It will probably pay nearly twice as much when the whole length to Mayebashi is opened, and when the facilities for attracting goods traffic are properly developed.

Roughly speaking, the method of railway extension now proposed, and virtually adopted, by French financiers, is to devote the proceeds of prosperous lines to meet the deficits of those which are not yet self-supporting. The mere earnings of a railway will not bear to be mentioned in the same breath with the benefits it confers on the districts through which it runs. This consideration is prominent among the many which have induced modern economists to recommend that a railway's earnings ought, if possible, to be devoted, not to the enrichment of private speculators, but to the construction or support of other lines. There has been talk lately in this country of raising an internal loan of 25 millions and devoting the proceeds to railway construction, but we doubt whether the project was ever seriously entertained, and we

more than doubt whether it could be successfully carried out. Even supposing the money were procurable in that way, the withdrawal of so large a sum from the floating capital of the nation would inevitably produce a disastrous effect upon commerce. Foreign capital, on the other hand, could be easily and cheaply procured for such a purpose. The net earnings of the railways already opened in Japan are about eight hundred thousand yen per annum. If this sum were set aside as the interest and sinking fund of a foreign loan, ten million dollars might be obtained to-morrow, and devoted to supplying the country with some of the transport facilities it so sadly needs. In a very few years the principal could be repaid, and by pursuing this plan all the lines most needed might be constructed without entailing any sensible effort upon the nation. This is a subject which does not appear to require much demonstration.

At a meeting of the Hiyogo Municipal Council on the 12th instant, the representative of the Working Committee read the following letter:—

THE SUPERINTENDENT, MUNICIPAL COUNCIL.
SIR,—I beg to notify you that the privilege hitherto given to the Hiyogo Municipal Police to enter my premises and make inquiries about my servants is hereby withdrawn.

I would thank you to make the above known to the members of the force.

I have been obliged to take this step in consequence of the insolence and unwarrantable proceedings of one of the Municipal Police. The man in question hesitated to leave my premises this morning when ordered, and insisted on demanding the names of Japanese whom I told him were merchants transacting business with me.

I am, Sir, Your obedient servant,

J. BLACKMORE.

In commenting upon this communication, the representative of the Working Committee said that "the system of registering servants instituted by the Council had been very efficacious in preventing thefts," and "this was well recognised by the public, who willingly afforded the municipal police every facility for making the necessary enquiries." The President of the Council also remarked that "this was the first occasion any objection had been raised to a system which had undoubtedly effected a great deal of good." It is scarcely necessary to comment any further on the fact that in Kobe a municipal council of foreign residents deems it necessary to resort to a system which the Japanese authorities in Yokohama for more than seven years have vainly solicited foreign co-operation to inaugurate. There is, however, another interesting lesson to be learned from the letter of this recalcitrant citizen—namely, that in the model settlement of Kobe, where municipal affairs are conducted by the foreign residents themselves, the Council's ability to carry out any particular system depends upon the caprice of individual residents. Here we have a person named Blackmore coolly notifying the Superintendent of the Council that a function hitherto performed by the Hiyogo municipal police shall cease, and requesting that the fact be made known to the members of the force. Mr. Blackmore condescends, indeed, to give his reasons. A policeman offended him, by "hesitating to leave his premises when ordered," and by "insisting on

demanding the names of Japanese who," according to Mr. Blackmore, "were merchants transacting business with him." In short, one policeman annoyed him, and he unhesitatingly closed his doors to the whole force; "hereby withdrew their privilege and would thank the Superintendent to notify" the fact. It is obvious that Mr. Blackmore is just the sort of gentleman for whose special behoof laws are made. And this becomes still more evident when we learn that "the merchants transacting business" with him were, in all probability, Japanese subjects engaged in violating the laws of their country by his connivance. The *Hiyogo News* states that one of the illegal exchanges recently denounced in its columns is conducted on Mr. Blackmore's premises. Not unnaturally, therefore, he objected to domiciliary visits from the police. So long as his house was an asylum for law-breakers, the less it was frequented by the guardians of the law the better. The opportunities which this country offers to enterprise without capital are not yet fully recognised. A few more persons of Mr. Blackmore's stamp are needed to open the public's eyes.

It is said that the foreign residents of Osaka are preparing a memorial to the local Municipal Council with reference to the illegal exchanges which exist upon the premises of certain foreigners residing in the Settlement. This action is worthy of the gentlemen who are taking it. As the *Hiyogo News* justly says, it will show the Japanese "in what a wretched minority those foreigners are who seek to turn their extraterritorial privileges into cash." But while fully sympathising with, and applauding, this movement, we would ask our readers to consider what it means. Does it not mean that the presence of foreigners in Japan under existing conditions virtually invalidates the laws of the empire, even though they are laws prohibiting some business detrimental to the public welfare? The memorial of the Osaka residents will establish the fact that respectable foreigners have nothing in common with men who take advantage of their peculiar position in Japan to provide opportunities for law-breaking and immorality. But we venture to think that that fact was already established. What we are perplexed to discover is whether the power of the Government of this country to enforce just laws within its own territories must be held in abeyance until some flagrant abuse like the Osaka and Kobe exchanges excites a demonstration of foreign indignation. Have the treaties rendered everything, even to the laws of the land, dependent upon the caprice of individual foreigners? In commenting on these recent disgraces, English local journals called them a prostitution and an abuse of extraterritorial privileges. Extraterritoriality then confers on Englishmen the ability to violate, and assist Japanese subjects to violate, every law or regulation which Her Majesty's Consuls in Japan are not clothed with English legal authority to enforce. This is the English interpretation of the treaties, and its consequences are now before the public. Perhaps the adventurers who have

devised this pretty scheme for making money in Osaka and Kobe will feel the pricks of conscience, and turn from the error of their ways, when they find that their fellow-residents have taken the trouble to write a memorial on the subject. But beyond this somewhat remote possibility, we do not see what the memorial can effect. It will not confer upon the Consuls any new powers, neither will it bring the offenders within reach of Japanese law. It may, indeed, help to prove what reason and justice have already demonstrated over and over again, namely, that extraterritoriality, while exempting foreigners from Japanese jurisdiction, does not exempt them from the obligation of observing all Japanese laws which do not conflict with the provisions of the treaties. Were the keepers of these exchanges American citizens, they could be immediately restrained and adequately punished. But, up to the present, the Government of the United States stands alone in its method of interpreting a treaty of amity and commerce.

THE peculiar methods of Chinese administration are exemplified in a memorial from the Governor of Kiangsi and the Literary Chancellor of that province reporting the steps taken by them, in obedience to Imperial Decree, to put down the practice of female infanticide. That the Governor and the Literary Chancellor should be associated in a work which seems to concern the former only, is due to a wise recognition of the principle that no reforms can be successfully carried through unless the spirit to receive them exists among the people. With the view of fostering that spirit in the case under consideration, the educational officers were directed to compile and publish short essays on the subject, and to be specially instant in their exhortations at the examination seasons. But the action of the executive authorities does not appear to have been inspired by a similarly judicious instinct. The Governor reports, with evident pride, as the result of the system inaugurated by him, "that nearly every Department and District town has now its Foundling Hospital or Orphanage, for the receipt and maintenance of children that have been abandoned." It would thus seem that the plan approved by the authorities is to persuade the people to substitute abandonment for child-murder. This is certainly a very deliberate species of reform.

RESIDENTS of Tokiyo and Yokohama cannot fail to have noticed an extraordinary lurid appearance presented by the sky at sunset and sunrise during the past few weeks. The phenomenon was singularly distinct on the evening of the 20th and morning of the 21st instant, especially at the latter time, when the whole of the Eastern and a portion of the Northern horizon glowed, for fully an hour before dawn, with a rose and copper-coloured illumination. Phenomena of this nature are not unfrequently witnessed in Japan during the prevalence of those storms which succeed prematurely severe frosts, but we do not remember to have before observed anything so striking as the appearances of the

past few days. The following letter which we reproduce from the columns of the *North China Herald*, shows that similar phenomena have been noticed elsewhere, and offers some interesting hypotheses as to their causes:—

SIR,—You have asked me my opinion upon the case of the phenomena of light which everybody has been able to witness both morning and evening for the last two months. It is in fact since the first days of October that my attention has been attracted by the remarkably intense red colours with which the western sky has been arrayed after sunset, and you may remember that the first appearance of this beautiful phenomenon at Foochow led to the belief that it arose from some vast conflagration. Red was not the only colour which illuminated the atmosphere; the most diverse hues succeeded each other, as, generally speaking, in the order of spectral colours, red appears the first in the morning and disappears the last at night. This phenomenon was particularly remarkable in that the illumination of the sky in the morning began a considerable time before the ordinary moment of dawn, and in the evening lasted a long time after the normal twilight. Another peculiarity not less striking was that the sun, on rising and setting, presented a disc of dazzling whiteness; the sky nearest the horizon was of the same tint, while towards the zenith the firmament was lightly washed with purplish violet. These phenomena were visible every morning and evening, whatever may have been the atmospheric conditions, and it was not difficult to discern their persistence behind the thick curtain of clouds which so often veiled the firmament during the month of November.

The most obvious explanation that could be given of the phenomena of colour thus observed was to attribute them to the presence of watery vapours in the highest regions of the air; and in the frequent typhoons of the past autumn we had the mechanical agent by which these vapours would have been raised and transported a long distance. But the occurrences were too constant, too persistent, in spite of the changes of weather, and still more the whiteness of the sun's disc at the horizon presented too great a contrast to the intense colouring that had preceded its rise and followed its setting, to allow of this explanation being sustained.

Upon these intervals, the scientific journals of Europe (*Nature*, 11th and 18th October) informed me that absolutely similar phenomena had been observed since the middle of September in India, especially at Madras, and that popular credulity recognised in them prognostics of a famine; just as, in China, they are regarded as presaging war. The explanation of the phenomena given by the savants of the country was at first identical with the one just quoted; but soon it appeared insufficient, and they fell back upon the cinders proceeding from the great eruption in Java, which might have been carried along by the higher aerial currents. But the cinders thrown out in August will not explain what we have observed here in October and November; besides, even in India, the phenomenon continued to the end of October, according to letters which came from Calcutta by the last mail. Moreover, America herself participated in the spectacle; for, under date of the 2nd September, a letter appeared from Trinidad in *The Times* stating that during the evening it was generally believed that an immense conflagration was raging in the environs, so intense and wide-spread was the red colouring of the sky. Here, then, we have the same phenomenon showing itself either successively or more probably at the same time in three countries all far distant from one another—India, China, and the Gulf of Mexico; we may almost conclude that it was general, at least as regards the whole of a pretty large zone, and including the tropics.

Is it, then, not reasonable to seek outside our own globe for the cause of these strange occurrences? For, we can admit that the same atmospheric conditions are able to occur at the same time in places so far apart? So much the more as these conditions themselves do not seem to explain equally well all the phases of the phenomenon. But, if it is necessary to leave the earth in our quest, what are we likely to meet, in space, that can give rise to the facts that have been observed? Evidently it can scarcely be anything but masses of gaseous particles, perhaps even solid particles, sufficiently diffused not to sensibly obscure the light of day, but capable of reflecting, and dispersing, the solar light at pretty large angles, and finally intermixed with our own atmosphere in such a way as that the direct rays of the sun at the horizon, reaching us sifted and reflected a thousand times through a thick stratum of these particles, acquired a radiance as though of silver.

Again, I see nothing but the solar nebulosity known as the Zodiacal Light, or a mass of cosmic dust encountered by the earth in her revolution round the sun, that could present these conditions. By a cause entirely unknown to us, the solar nebulosity which at this time of year envelops our globe and extends to a considerable distance, might have experienced a sensible increase of density; and as its plane blends with that of the ecliptic, it is evidently in a zone in the neighbourhood of the equator that the maximum of the consequent phenomena should have been observed. The modifications in the solar nebulosity may depend upon the modifications occurring in the body of the sun, either on its surface or in its immense atmosphere. As regards the supposed meeting of the earth with a mass of cosmic dust, there is nothing more natural; such masses are by no means lacking in the universe; nebulæ are innumerable, and according to a most ingenious theory of the Italian astronomer Schiaparelli, a comet which has disappeared and ceased to exist for ever under that form, may be found again in all its component parts in the dust with which its former orbit is sown. One may thus form some idea of the magnitude

of the supposed mass which the earth would have had to pass through during these three months of September, October, and November—the strange phenomena observed in the evening and the morning, appear to have ceased with the beginning of December. We know that the earth in its revolution round the sun makes 29.5 kilometres a second, or 2,548,800 kilometres a day; if the duration of the phenomena was about eighty-eight days, the earth will have made 224,294,400 kilometres through this mass of cosmic dust, and this would be the extent of its densest portions. This again is a small thing compared with the dimensions of some nebulae. It is, no doubt, to an encounter of this sort that we must attribute the dry mist observed in 1783 in Europe, Africa, and America. This mist certainly possessed a feeble light of its own, for at midnight it distinctly illuminated objects more than 200 kilometres off. The mist of 1831, which excited so much public attention in the four quarters of the globe, had a strong resemblance to that of 1783, and was the cause of several of the phenomena observed during 1831, although this year, the cosmic dust in question, even allowing that it is the cause of what has been witnessed here in China, and also in India and America—has not been dense enough to partially obscure the sun, as was the case in the two former instances. We will say in conclusion, that from 1783 to 1831 is 48 years, from 1831 to 1883 52 years. These two numbers are sufficiently alike to justify us in asking whether these three phenomena may not be produced by one and the same cause which makes its appearance periodically, or nearly so.

These, Sir, are speculations on which I do not ask you to place too much faith. They are conjectures which no doubt have some probability, but they are conjectures notwithstanding, and it may be that the phenomenon is simpler than we think.

MARC DECHREVENS, S.J.

A CORRESPONDENT of the *North China Herald*, writing from Tientsin under date December the 3rd, says that, though the War Party is slightly in the ascendant for the moment, the last thing desired by the Court is war. The manifesto recently addressed to the various Powers, was, according to this writer, merely a concession to the wishes of Peng Yü-lin, one of the most prominent members of the War Party, but "the Empress will never consent to let the Manchurian funds be used for military operations." It must have become plain to China long ago that if French designs upon Tonquin are to be seriously resisted, the time for active measures will be well nigh past after the army of occupation has been strongly reinforced. The proceedings of the Peking Government bear but a very faint resemblance to what we should expect were the prospects of war really considered imminent. The programme evidently is to resist French aggression by secretly assisting the Black Flags with men and material, but to avoid any open declaration of war. And it must be confessed that up to the present the balance of success is on China's side. Bravely as they have fought, difficult forces, assisted by climate and topographical difficulties, have so crippled the action of the invaders that after a campaign of six months no visible impression has been produced on their task. Sontai is taken, but the Red River still represents the limit of French occupation, although the forces at the disposal of Admiral Courbet are now said to number nearly twenty-five thousand men. The worst feature of the business is the apparent want of unanimity among the civil and military authorities. Another change is announced; a change which argues ill for the prospects of peace—M. Tricou has succeeded Dr. Harmand as Civil Commissioner.

NOTES.

THE latest development of the Chinese question in California is the landing, or rather the failure

to land owing to the refusal by the Customs Authorities, of those Chinese who have left their country furnished with "traders' or 'students' certificates. The *Alla* of the 15th ult., referring to this subject, says:—Up to noon yesterday only seven out of the one hundred and sixty-seven of the Chinamen bearing Canton certificates had been allowed to land, and it is the opinion of Collector Sullivan that a majority of the "traders" and "students" now on the *City of Peking* would have to return to the Asiatic hive from whence they swarmed. The Collector is of the opinion that these trader and student certificates are being issued to any one who will pay the requisite fee. Prior to the arrival of the *Peking* nearly three hundred Chinese had landed on these Canton certificates, and the total number of "traders" and "students" arriving for the present month is only 207 short of the arrivals for November, 1880, when there was no restriction. This fact alone is sufficient to prove the fraudulent character of these alleged certificates. Surveyor Morton, who has charge of the landing of the Chinese, has earned the ill-will of the Chinese Consulate by refusing to accept the testimony offered, and states that he is prepared to go behind the returns, so to speak, to get at bottom facts, and when the man contradicts himself he will not pay any attention to affidavits. He resents the intimation that the Custom House is negligent in the matter. The only object is to do justice to all. Some of those on the *Peking* are probably entitled to land, but where there are any doubts the Courts must be invoked. It is the opinion of the Custom House people that when a ship-load of pseudo "students" and "traders" have been returned to China, the bottom will fall out of the certificate market in Canton.

THE aggregate contributions on behalf of the sufferers in Ischia had reached 3½ million francs at the date of our latest advices from Europe. We may assume that this represents the total amount of probable subscriptions. It is a very handsome amount, and the public, having shown itself so charitable, seems now to be growing naturally curious about the results achieved by its charity. Probably there never yet was an eleemosynary fund distributed in such a way as to satisfy alike its donors and its recipients. We are not surprised, therefore, to find that complaints begin to make themselves heard in the case of Ischia also. A letter addressed to the *Pungolo* of Naples sounded the first note. Its writer said:—"I went yesterday to visit Casamicciola. The steamer was full of strangers, mostly Germans. We were literally assailed by the whole population. The people asked for alms with tears in their eyes. Casamicciola is become the land of beggars." This communication immediately attracted the attention of the press. "How does it happen," the journals asked, "that, three months after the disaster, such a state of affairs exists, when the coffers of the Committee of Succour are overflowing with money? What has been done with this money? How is it employed, and why has it been impossible, up

to the present, to obtain any account of the nature and amounts of the sums distributed?" One newspaper says that experience seems to be thrown away on the authorities. They ought to have learned something from the fact that when the last catastrophe occurred in Ischia, the donations collected on the occasion of the previous earthquake, two years before, had not yet been entirely distributed. Alluding to this earthquake of 1881, an ex-naval officer writes thus:—"Six months after the first disaster there had been but 27 thousand francs distributed. One person and one only was charged with the distribution of the money collected. Besides the 27 thousand francs given in the form of relief, he had spent considerable sums on the construction of roads, the principal of which led to his own hotel." The writer then describes how a hundred thousand francs were given to found a hospital for the support of children who had lost their parents by the earthquake, though the total number of these children was nine; and how a family which had been utterly ruined by the catastrophe, and reduced from comparative opulence to beggary, had, with infinite pains, succeeded in obtaining succour to the extent of twelve francs in six months. It is not to be expected that everybody will be pleased with the methods of using the sums contributed on account of the sufferers by the last catastrophe, but a little more publicity as to those methods is to be desired, if only to silence the ever ready tribe of cavillers.

WE have frequently had occasion to remark upon the eccentricities of vernacular journals, and the latest case that has come under our notice is certainly one to the point. A few days ago we published a paragraph which stated that a man had been blown to pieces whilst engaged in firing a salute on board the U.S. frigate *Richmond* as the ship was entering Nagasaki Harbour. The *Jiji Shimpō* reproduces the item, but with a considerable variation. The vernacular journal gives it that Captain Skerrett was the man to whom the accident happened, and, as near as it can be translated, says, "he stood in front of the gun and was blown to pieces." It is scarcely necessary to say that by no possible contortion of our paragraph could it be made to read that the accident had happened to Captain Skerrett.

IN the U.S. Consular-General Court on Tuesday, before General Van Buren, Consul-General, Edward Valentine, a colored-man, formerly a watchman at the "Windsor House,"—the man who shot a Japanese jinrikisha driver some months ago,—was summoned for an assault upon one Esmond, a boatswain, recently discharged from a foreign vessel. In default of sufficient evidence to convict the accused, His Honour had no alternative but to discharge him, remarking at the same time severely upon the condition of the grog-shops in Honmura Road, where the alleged assault took place late at night the day before last.

LONDON seems to have been much and justly startled by the two explosions which took place in the underground railway on the night of the 30th of October. The first explosion occurred near Charing Cross Station. A few minutes after eight in the evening a number of passengers were waiting there for the purpose of proceeding to the Fisheries Exhibition which was to close the next day. The Great Western train had just left the Westminster platform, when a violent shock was felt, accompanied by a noise which is said to have resembled a discharge of artillery. The sound proceeded from the tunnel, on entering which it was found that though the rails were uninjured, the ballast had been disarranged, the signal telegraph wires thrown down, and part of the masonry cast in ruins on the permanent way. Fortunately, however, nobody was sufficiently near the spot to be injured. The other explosion was more disastrous. It occurred in the tunnel way of the Edgeware Road just beyond the Praed Street Station. A train, crowded with people returning from the Exhibition, had just entered the tunnel when there was a flash of brilliant white light, a loud report, and then sudden darkness, the gas lights from front to rear of the train being extinguished. The train, nevertheless, proceeded steadily ahead, although the permanent way was much injured, and it was only on reaching the Edgeware Road Station that the amount of the damage was ascertained. Six carriages were more or less shattered, the woodwork of the two last in the line being literally torn to pieces. Altogether about forty persons were wounded, the occupants, without exception, of the two rear carriages. A few were able to return home immediately, but twenty-eight were taken to St. Mary's Hospital, where four of the number were found to be seriously hurt, though none fatally. It was at first supposed that the explosions were caused by coal-gas, but an inspection of the meters showed that this could not have been, and experts soon decided that the mischief had been undoubtedly produced by dynamite or gun-cotton. The investigations subsequently held showed that the police had warned the railway officials three months previously against the probability of such outrages. Advices had been received from America, and precaution taken accordingly. Strangely enough, Michael Davitt was lecturing in St. James' Hall at the very time of the explosions. Amid deafening cheers he denounced Lord Salisbury, declaring that "private right in land was public robbery of the nation;" that "the battle must be fought in England, and fought it will be," with other similar clap-trap. Nobody doubts for a moment that the explosions were of Fenian origin, though the organ of the Home Rulers, the *Freeman's Journal*, protests against such a conclusion being hastily formed. The *United Ireland*, on the other hand (the National League organ), takes it for granted that the authors of the explosions are Irish agitators and plainly calls them "idiots." Three days after the outrage, London was again thrown into excitement by the issue of a *Pall Mall Gazette*

"extra," containing the statement, in leaded columns, that the authorities had received anonymous information of a design to blow up the train by which the Duke and Duchess of Connaught were to travel from London to Dover, on the night of November the 2nd; *en route* for India. In consequence of this, large bodies of police were summoned for duty at the Cannon Street, Charing Cross, and London Bridge stations, while gangs of plate-layers watched the entire railway track to Dover. It appears that the warning was given by means of an anonymous letter addressed to the Privy Council. Whether the letter was a hoax, or the conspirators were paralysed by the precautions adopted, the Duke and Duchess travelled safely to Dover. Meanwhile, a reward of £1,000 has been offered for information that will lead to the arrest of the Charing Cross and Praed Street Station scoundrels. In London it is said that men go about muttering curses against the Fenians as they did after the Mansion House explosion, though indeed it speaks much for the forbearance and good sense of the inhabitants of the metropolis that they have hitherto refrained from violent reprisals. Such senseless brutality as that betrayed by the affair of the underground railway—brutality dictated, as it must be, by a blind desire to cause sorrow and suffering—might well excite a less law-abiding population to terrible revenge.

THE telegraphic intelligence by the American mail which arrived on Thursday contains nothing that can be regarded as foreshadowing the terrible disaster which is said to have overtaken the army of Hicks Pasha in Egypt. From the columns of the *New York Herald*, however, we take the following, which will help to explain the position of affairs in the Soudan at the date of latest advices:—

Cairo, November 2nd, 1883.

No official confirmation of the reports of the defeat of El Mahdi, the False Prophet, with great slaughter of his army, by Hicks Pasha, has yet been received. The report is doubted by the military authorities, who calculate that Hicks Pasha and his army were seven days' march from El Obeid at the time of the alleged victory.

The position of General Hicks Pasha's forces is as yet uncertain. He started from his camp near Khar-toum for his final assault upon the False Prophet on September 8th. His force was a formidable one, comprising about 7,000 regular infantry, 400 cavalry—of which 100 were cuirassiers, the remainder Bashi Bazouks—one battery of Krupp guns, two batteries of mountain guns, and one battery of Nordenfeldts. He picked up in the neighborhood of Berair 1,600 regular infantry and some 1,000 native Bashi Bazouks (Arabs). This brought his total force up to 10,000 men of all arms, but he had to establish seven or eight posts between the Nile and El Obeid to keep up his line of communications. To garrison those posts required some 3,000 men, reducing the available fighting force to 7,000 men. Included in General Hicks' little army was the First Regiment of Egyptian Infantry—Arabi's old regiment. This regiment was the first to mutiny and fought against the British last year at Tel-el-Kebir.

El Obeid is the capital of Kordofan, to the west of the White Nile. The False Prophet advanced upon the town, which was garrisoned by 6,000 Egyptians in August, 1882, and after various manoeuvres in its vicinity made an attack on September 8, which was repulsed. A week later the place was again assaulted, but with disastrous results, nearly ten thousand of the False Prophet's adherents being reported slain. The siege of El Obeid was maintained, however, until December 8, when the enemy retired southward, but soon returned, and on January 15 last the place capitulated unconditionally to the False Prophet, and he took up his residence there. The Egyptian garrison

was compelled to surrender by famine. The garrison and inhabitants suffered great hardships previous to the surrender. They were reduced to eat gum and in some instances, they said, even the corpses of those that were killed. A hatful of grain after the capitulation was sold for \$100 and a large sackful of the same fetched \$2,400.

The garrison of 3,500 men on taking an oath on the Koran to remain faithful to the False Prophet were permitted to join his army, keeping their arms, and received \$2 a month pay. Six priests and nine sisters belonging to the Austrian mission were captured, together with sixty-two native converts. These were all kept in chains for three days and otherwise ill-treated. Finding that all attempts to make them renounce their religion were without avail, they were released and afterwards treated fairly. Besides getting possession of the town, the False Prophet secured a large amount of money. The sum of \$1,500,000 had been lodged in the treasury for the sake of security by different merchants. This, of course, was confiscated, and the victor further discovered a sum of \$1,000,000 outside the town buried in all sorts of unlikely places. Altogether he seems to have looted considerable over \$2,000,000, which was of great service in enabling him to prosecute his campaign against the Egyptians. Since the capture of El Obeid it has been the headquarters of the rebels.

As illustrating the bizarre pastimes to which gentlemen are betrayed by the possession of more money and leisure than they can readily dispose of, a story—said to be true—is told of certain English cavalry officers who, being confined to barracks by their military duties and having little predilection for literary pursuits, conceived the idea of inaugurating insect athletics in the mess-room. The arena was a hot plate and the athletes were maggots taken from a Stilton cheese. Placed in the middle of the plate, the maggots sometimes refused to do more than writhing themselves to death, but as a general rule, they made a straight line across country and often reached the edge of the uncomfortable circle without expiring. Each officer was allowed to choose his own maggot, and large sums of money changed hands over these exciting trials of speed. Such a pursuit does not bespeak a very high order of intellect, but the circumstances were exceptional, and cavalry officers are never suspected of much devotion to intellectual occupations. In Paris, however, one would imagine that sober citizens might find some more profitable way of spending their time than kite-flying. A kite, to be sure, is a most seductive plaything. There are very few of us who would not turn out on a breezy day to man the string of a six-footer, and even those who despise such a sport will acknowledge that there must be peculiar charms about an occupation which can hold entranced grave Chinese merchants even at a time of life when pigtail hats have to be eked out with a deal of false hair. Therefore we can sympathise somewhat with the good people of Paris when we read that the manufacture of monster kites has become a highly profitable occupation, and that as many francs are staked on the performances of these aerial rivals as upon the results of the races at Chantilly. It appears that one enormous kite gained heavy sums of money for its owner on the 24th of October by soaring straight up until its distance from the point of ascent was 2,500 metres. We shall not be surprised to be told that the prospect of a war with China, the paradise of kites, has something to do with the development of this

unwonted tendency among the Parisians. That would be a worthy sequel to the Uhlan uniform.

In the *Hiogo News'* epitomized report of the last meeting of the Kobe Municipal Council, we read as follows:—"Another matter which occupied some attention will, perhaps, but only until the circumstances are understood, cause general surprise. Most residents in the Settlement have found the system of registering their servants followed for the past couple of years so advantageous, that they will hardly credit any objection being raised to its operation. Such, however, is the case, for a letter from a resident to the Municipal Superintendent refusing admittance to the police was read at the meeting. It transpired during the discussion which ensued that Mr. Trotzig's correspondent is vigorously engaged in the reputable exchange business to which we have had occasion to refer recently. This, of course, affords a complete explanation of what might otherwise appear incomprehensible, for the Japanese who frequent these establishments have a wholesome dread of their proceedings becoming public." There is matter for reflection here. In the first place, it would appear that the system of registering Japanese in foreign employ has been in force in Kobe for the past two years, and that it has been found very advantageous. In Yokohama, on the contrary, the Japanese authorities, for eight or nine years, have been vainly seeking power to carry out a similar system. What can be the reason of this difference? Simply that since in the former place the responsibility of municipal government devolves upon the foreign residents, they are ready to avail themselves of every legitimate contrivance likely to assist the maintenance of law and order, whereas in Yokohama, since the responsibility of Government devolves upon the Japanese, a strong section of the foreign community is inspired by a disposition of obstruction rather than co-operation. The registration of our servants by the Japanese authorities ought not to involve any greater violation of household privileges here than in Kobe. Most residents of Yokohama can boast a *ménage* sufficiently respectable to endure without shame a monthly or bi-monthly visit from the police. There are some, indeed, who still profess to believe that Japanese constables are a band of political spies, under secret orders to observe, as accurately as possible, whether trader A eats porridge for breakfast or accountant B drinks "three star" brandy. To these persons domiciliary visits by a guardian of the peace suggest all sorts of dreadful contingencies, and one cannot contemplate without reluctance the prospect of submitting such venerable prejudices to a succession of monthly shocks. But their number, after all, is small, and if necessary there could be provided for them a separate settlement, where all visible exercise of authority might be restricted to nocturnal perambulations of watchmen after the good old Dogberry type. There would then remain to be dealt with only the variety of gentlemen represented by Mr. Trotzig's correspondent in Kobe—persons who have good and sufficient reasons of their own to abhor every-

thing resembling police surveillance. Among the privileges conferred on foreign residents by the treaties—privileges that have been won by most unselfish sacrifices of conscience and very remarkable diplomatic constancy—there is the unparalleled right of exemption from municipal regulations of every description. This right carries with it various chances, as, for example, the chance of making money by selling lottery tickets, an occupation strictly forbidden by Japanese laws; and the chance of making money by keeping gambling saloons, an occupation also forbidden by the same laws; and the chance of making money by opening one's doors to marginal speculators in *Kinsatsu*, rice, kerosene, and so forth, which speculations are also restricted by the same laws; and the chance of turning an honest penny by running private brothels, which chaste pursuit is also forbidden by the same laws. All these rights, we say, exist for foreign residents under the present system, and are exercised by the variety of gentlemen under consideration. Are we to suppose that the community's refusal to have their servants registered is dictated by a desire to protect such rights and to shield those that execute them? Surely not. But if not, how does it happen that a system which the foreign municipality of Kobe deems necessary to the preservation of order, and which the foreign residents of Kobe have found so advantageous in its working that they can scarcely credit the idea of anyone objecting to it—how does it happen, we say, that this system is regarded with abhorrence in Yokohama and every attempt to inaugurate it negated?

It is to be hoped that there is no mistake about the telegram which refers to the safety of Hicks Pasha. If the news be correct, it may be taken for granted that his army is with him, and that the message does not refer merely to Hicks Pasha himself. The news announcing the safety of Hicks Pasha is telegraphed from Dongola, by the Governor of that place, which is thus described:—Dongola, a town of Nubia, capital of a province of the same name. It is seated on the Nile, among mountains; 500 miles N. by W. of Senaar. It is called Marakah or New Dongola, and is increasing. Pop. probably 6,000; lat. 19. 7. N. long 29. 55. E. Old Dongola, once the capital, is now a miserable place. Its mosque is in a commanding situation. The country is celebrated for a fine breed of horses, and the inhabitants for their skill in horsemanship. The province now is a portion of the Egyptian Pasha's dominion. It was taken possession of by Mehemet Ali in 1822.

We have received from the Bureau of the Imperial Chinese Maritime Customs the quarterly returns of the trade of the nineteen treaty ports of China for the three months ending September, 1883. We collate the following statistics of the entries and clearances of Japanese vessels in the respective harbours. The Commissioner at Newchwang reports that of forty-six sailing-vessels entered, one was from Japan: of forty-eight steamers, one was from Japan. Of clear-

ances of fifty-four sailing-ships, four were for Japan. No steamer cleared for this country from that port. In Tientsin, of twenty-two sailing-vessels entered, one was from Japan: of ninety-nine steamers, one was from Japan. Of twenty-five sailing-ships cleared, three were for Japan. No steamer, thence cleared for this country. In Chefoo, of forty-eight sailing-vessels entered, seven were from Japan; of two hundred and twenty-nine steamers one was from Japan. Of forty-eight sailing-ships cleared, seven were for Japan and of two hundred and twenty-eight steamers, one was for this country. No Japanese ship visited Ichang, Hankow, Kiukiang, Wuhu, Chinkiang, Wenchow, Foochow, Tamsui, Takow, Canton, Kiungchow, or Pakhoi. In Shanghai, one hundred and eight sailing-vessels were entered, twenty-four of which were from Japan. Of the entries of four hundred and ninety-three steamers, fifty-nine were from this country. Of one hundred and six sailing-vessels cleared, twenty-four were for this country. Of four hundred and eighty-seven steamers cleared, fifty-five were for this country. At Amoy, four entries of seventy-one sailing-ships, four were from Japan. Of entries of one hundred and seventy-four steamers, three were from Japan. Of clearances of fifty-seven sailing-ships, seven were for Japan.

EXTENSIVE preparations, says the *Hongkong Daily Press*, are being made in Canton to resist the anticipated French invasion. Every house in the city has been marked with a little yellow placard to the effect that "in the ninth year, it (that is, its inhabitants) has been examined." This is probably synonymous with having been "squeezed," or made to pay a "war contribution." Every shop and house has also to furnish a watchman to guard the street in which it is situated; this may possibly be the commencement of a military force formed on the conscription system. At present the duty required from these budding Wellingtons is to patrol the street at night, and decrepit old men and little boys seem to be eligible for it. They are supplied by the local authorities with a sleeveless jacket similar to those worn over their clothing by Chinese at fires. The inscription simply states the street and ward of the city, to which the watchman, or rather perhaps "special constable," may belong. The principal object of this arrangement is doubtless the preservation of internal order and prevention of riots such as that which occurred on the 10th September last, when the *Hankow* wharf was burnt and so much damage done upon the foreign Settlement of Shamien.

THE Teheran correspondent of the *Daily News* telegraphs:—Kotchan reports state that the Russian Commissariat is buying large quantities of provisions and storing them in places east of Askhabad. The Russian forces among the Tekk Turcomans amounts to 10,500 men. A camp has been formed at Ashabad, and reinforcements are arriving. When the force numbers 15,000 men, it is believed that 10,000 will march under General Camaroff to Merv.

THE peculiar fashion of diplomacy inaugurated in the Orient by M. Tricou, which consists in playing the rôle of the gentleman at large, with no particular business in any particular place, finds an echo in the *Exposé* submitted to the Chamber by M. Challemeil-Lacour. Arrived at Shanghai, the special Envoy to China declared, as everybody knows, that nothing was farther from the purpose of his mission than to discuss Tonquinese affairs with the statesmen of the Middle Kingdom. The latter had no concern with anything appertaining to Annam, according to French notions. Finding his *vis-à-vis* in this mood, it was not surprising that Li Hung-chang failed to arrive at a basis of satisfactory understanding and ultimately took his departure for Peking. Conjectures then became rife as to whether the Envoy would follow the Viceroy, with the object of renewing his assurances that there was nothing to talk about. M. Tricou, however, remained in Shanghai, expecting, apparently, that some proposals would be made to him. The anticipation was a little hazardous. People are not generally expected to re-open the discussion of business with a man who has already disavowed all intention of discussing it. Still that was M. Tricou's idea, and the idea of his Government also, for the latter declare, in their *Exposé*, that after Li Hung-chang's departure, "no overture was made to M. Tricou," and that "it was consequently resolved to put an end to a mission which seemed no longer to have any object." In order, therefore, to re-establish the normal relations between the two countries, M. Patenôtre was appointed Minister of France in China, and the special Envoy would have returned but for the Canton riots. These supplied a convenient pretext for proceeding to Peking, on the chance of something turning up. "M. Tricou looked also," says the *Exposé*, "to find there, at the same time, an opportunity of placing himself directly *en rapport* with the members of the T'sung-li Yamên, and of contributing, perhaps, to the favorable issue of the negotiations which would follow the presentation of the French memorandum." He began to "contribute," immediately on his arrival, by announcing that he had come to the capital for no other purpose than to see the Great Wall. By way of incidental diversion, however, he let the Viceroy of Chihli have a passing glimpse of a programme which was in process of immediate preparation, namely, the massing of thirty thousand French troops on the banks of the Red River, and the postponement of all further respect for Chinese susceptibilities until the whole of Tonquin had passed comfortably under French protection. Li Hung-chang is an accommodating sort of politician. He seems to have entered thoroughly into the sport of wall-viewing and army-making, for the next thing we heard was that China could easily raise a force of half a million men in the districts adjoining the disputed territory. This was capping M. Tricou's thirty thousand with a vengeance—capping it so effectually that nothing remained but to revile all Chinamen as bouncers and deceivers. Then followed the special Envoy's remarkable telegraphic despatch, in which Li

Hung-chang was represented as disavowing the Marquis Tseng, and longing for the continued pleasure of M. Tricou's society in Peking. Herod was out-Heroded. Morose children, when they find themselves worsted in a sport, frequently have recourse to the expedient of throwing mud at their competitors. The T'sung-li Yamên, beaten in the game of brag, resorted to the vulgar device of giving M. Tricou the lie direct, and even the polished M. Ferry so far forgot himself as to retaliate in kind. Readers of Brett Harte's poetical narratives remember less about the moral obliquity of "truthful James" and Bill Nye, than about the dark ways and vain tricks of "the heathen Chinese," and we do not doubt that the story of the Tonquin negotiations will leave a similarly one-sided impression. At Peking, however, serious business seems to have been postponed for the sake of this thrasonic sport, and the *Exposé* submitted to the Chambers adroitly transfers the imputation of obstructiveness to Chinese shoulders by saying that, up to the date of latest advice, "the Tonquin question had not been entered upon by Prince Kung and the T'sung-li Yamên in their interviews with M. Tricou." Nothing is added, however, about the Envoy's designs upon the great wall or about the terrible things he predicted should China attempt to make herself heard. It would seem as though M. Tricou's chief business was to show China a genuine specimen of Chauvinism, and in this he succeeded admirably. But that his Government should blame the statesmen of the Middle Kingdom by implication for not conferring with a man who refused to be conferred with, is a diplomatic coup that takes us slightly by surprise.

THE bathos which poetasters can fathom, especially those who dive after Swinburne into the abyss whose bottom he at last has reached, emerging comparatively cleansed from the viler stains of mere sensualism, is well shown in the *Indian Review*, which, in a critique on "Anglo-Indian Verse," writes:—

We find also another set of verses entitled "A Song of Sound" in which the writer addresses some lady of his fancy after this fashion:—

Didst thou drink to the lees of the winepress? Thou gavest
Sweet guerdon of smiles to the hearts thou enlaved;
That tempest of sighs in the air—
Wilt thou answer it, sweet one, after thy fashion
With the crimson of hate and purple of passion?
Ah, love, with the rippling hair!

This is *Sound* indeed, "sound and fury, signifying nothing;" and when in the last stanza he asks:

Is it opium, or absinthe, or Bedlam unveils thee?

the majority of his readers would I think, on the whole decide in favour of Bedlam. The fact is that Swinburne, especially in his earlier manifestations, is a dangerous poet to imitate: his shores are covered with the bones of many a youthful versifier, who has been lured to poetical ruin by his Siren strains. Giving full play to a wild and sensuous imagination, Swinburne, in his younger days, took men's ears captive, almost in spite of themselves, with his wealth of language and wonderful harmonies of rhythm; but when weaker geniuses attempt to reproduce those passionate cadences, sheer nonsense is too often the result. Diluted Wordsworth or Tennyson is bad enough; but Swinburne-and-water is worst of all. Still, as has been already pointed out, our author can do a good deal better than this; and we may venture to address to him his own farewell words of consolation to the tearful one.

PÈRE DECHEVRENS, the chief of the Siccawei Observatory at Shanghai, writes as follows to

the *Mercury*:—"A comet was discovered by Mr. Brooks on the 2nd September; it had then the brilliancy of a star of the tenth magnitude—circular and tailless. Calculations show that it is identical with that known as Pons's Comet which appeared in 1812. The intensity of its radiance will continue to increase up to the middle of next January; but then, although it ought by rights to be three or four times more brilliant than in 1812, its luminosity will not exceed that of a star of the third magnitude, and will be far from rivalling the beautiful comets of recent years. With the assistance of a good binocular, it can be distinguished at the present time between six and 7 p.m., to the West-north-west, at about 45° of elevation, and 6° or 7° to the north of Wéga, the beautiful star of the constellation Lyra. In our telescope it appears without any tail to speak of, under the form of a dense nebulosity, nearly round, and having already a strong condensation in the centre. Its motion in the sky is sufficiently well marked."

A WRITER on the Chinese question, in a letter to the editor of the *Atlas* on the 16th ult., says:—"The manner of Chinese laborers landing in this country after their exclusion under the Restriction law lately passed is not surprising. My residence in China, back some twenty-six years ago up to a few years since, has given me an insight into the traits of that crafty people. The officials I have found always the most corrupt; and when an opportunity occurs to increase their income by nefarious practices, it is gladly taken advantage of. Every captain of an opium clipper knows well what benefit a few dollars would result in when given to the customs officials and others at the ports where foreign vessels were not allowed to enter. The Custom House at Canton has the usual avaricious officials who will luxuriate in clover with the monies derived from these creatures; and they will the more enjoy it, as they can thus torment the citizens of the United States by nicknaming them 'traders.' Very respectfully, H.L.B."

THE statistics of the Universal Postal Union for 1881 show that the United States ranks first in number of post offices, with 44,512; Great Britain takes second place with 14,918, Germany has 11,088 and France 6,158. Japan, with 5,094 offices, is far in advance of Russia, British India, Austria, Italy, and Spain. Switzerland has one post office to every 985 inhabitants, and the United States one to every 2,126. The United States conveyed the most postal cards, Germany next, and Great Britain and Austria in order. In respect to the number of letters and postal cards to each inhabitant the countries ranked as follows:—Great Britain, 38.7; the United States, 27.3; Switzerland, 19.9, and Germany, 15.8. The United States had 91,571 miles of railroad; Germany, 20,563; France, 16,822, and Russia, 14,439 miles. In number of newspapers conveyed in domestic mails the United States ranks first, with 852,180,792; Germany second, with 439,089,900; France third, with 320,188,636, and Great Britain fourth, 140,789,100. In gross

postal revenue Germany has 205,324,215 francs; the United States, 194,630,444 francs; Great Britain, 175,690,000 francs, and France, 152,968,569 francs. Great Britain, Germany and France had a net revenue in 1881 ranging from 68,525,100 francs to 19,900,440 francs, but the United States, Russia, and Japan had a deficiency in revenue in the same year ranging from 14,418,075 to 1,320,846 francs.

We remarked recently upon the safety and ease with which several passages have been made by sailing ships from New York to this port by taking the Australian route during the N.E. monsoon. Two vessels arrived on Thursday from New York, which further illustrate the advantages of this route during the period referred to, both ships having made fair passages with regard to time and experienced fine weather till approaching this coast. The weather they would have met in struggling up the China Sea can be well imagined through recent reports.

THIRTY-FIVE years ago calculations made in France showed that for every ten thousand cartridges fired in battle, one man was hit. The introduction of rifles, and especially of breech-loaders, has so far improved this proportion that out of every four hundred bullets one is now supposed to find its billet. A notable exception to this rule was furnished by the recent Egyptian campaign. The British military authorities calculated that on that occasion 999 shots were wasted out of every thousand. It is plain, therefore, that nothing would influence the results of a battle more than some device for preventing this waste of force. Such a device is said to have been contrived by a Russian. The details of the invention are not published, but the history of its fate has created quite a sensation. It appears that after repeated appeals to the Russian War Office, the inventor, M. Liatchok, at last obtained permission to submit his apparatus for official inspection. His friends subscribed the necessary funds and he repaired to St. Petersburg. According to his own story, he had scarcely taken the apparatus from its case, when one of the high specialists appointed to examine it, cried:—"I would give a good deal to an enemy who would consent to to embarrass himself with such a weight as that." Another raised the thing and said:—"A heavy affair this and doubtless very costly." The inventor replied that it weighed 14 lbs. and cost 10 francs. Another specialist objected that the support being fixed would soon be destroyed by the recoil, but it was pointed out to him that, so far from this being the case, one of the advantages specially claimed for the instrument was the mobility of its point of support. The Committee, however, had made up their minds, and the scheme was condemned as impracticable. M. Liatchok then addressed himself to the French and Austrian Governments successively, but failed to obtain any encouragement. At last he applied to Germany, and the immediate answer was a telegram inviting him to come at once to Berlin at the expense of the

Ministry of War. There the invention was highly approved, and the *Gazette de Moscou* says that the secret division of the Arsenal at Spandau has received orders to construct a number of machines after M. Liatchok's design. As might be expected, great indignation is expressed by the Russian journals at the folly of letting such an invention fall into foreign hands. It is even declared that one of the military experts who condemned the design is himself engaged in elaborating a piece of mechanism intended to serve a similar purpose.

Speaking of military inventions, the *Invalides Russe* says that Lieutenant Kondinoff has invented a portable apparatus for intercepting telegraphic and telephonic communications in time of war. The machine is contained in a little box and weighs only seven pounds. To make use of it, somebody finds his way to the enemy's line of telegraph, cuts the wires and connects them with the interior of the box. The result is that all messages passing the wires are reproduced on a slip of paper which can be deciphered at any staff office. It is truly an admirable spectacle to observe the infinite pains which the nations of the world give themselves to-day to devise means of deceiving and slaughtering each other.

Our readers will remember the letter recently addressed to the *Figaro* and translated by us with reference to the atrocities said to have been committed by the French troops at Hué. It appears that the writer was M. Viaud, a lieutenant on board the *Atalante* and a gentleman well-known in the literary world under the nom de plume of "Pierre Loti." He is the author of *Asiade*, *Le Mariage de Loli*, *Les Fleurs d'Ennuï*, &c. So soon as his name was definitely connected with the letter to the *Figaro*, the *Journal Officiel* announced his recall from active service, and the *Parlement* commented on his conduct in the following terms:—"It is unfortunately necessary to admit the possibility of acts such as those ascribed to our troops at Hué. That the sailors, exasperated by the death of Commandant Rivière, and by the tales, more or less fantastic, related about it, should have suffered themselves to be carried away by a desire of taking revenge on the Annamite soldiers who had nothing to do with the act, is a matter deplorable, blamable in the highest degree, but comprehensible. What is more difficult to understand is that there should be found an officer ready to make such savage scenes the subject of a literary narration, and a French journal, with a large foreign circulation, willing to publish that narration. Will there be any reason for astonishment if the *Figaro's* letter is translated and reproduced in London and Berlin, accompanied by commentaries which we can easily divine? Will there be anything astonishing if the Chinese Government, well posted, as we all know, in the contents of the European journals, become possessed of the letter and circulate it throughout the Orient, so that some day it shall serve as a pretext for terrible re-

prisals?" We may reply at once that there will be nothing surprising in all this. What is surprising is that any excuse for such atrocities should be found in the death of Commandant Rivière. That officer was killed in open fight: killed as all his enemies would have been killed had their ambuscade failed. If his body was decapitated, so too were many Annamites and Black Flags taken prisoners by the French. That soldiers should become dehumanized in the heat of battle is nothing new, but that their brutalities should be afterwards condoned on the ground that some of their number had met with the death they themselves were seeking to mete out to their opponents, is a novel species of sophistry.

Most persons are familiar with the story of the three pilgrims, an Irishman, an Englishman, and a Scotchman, who finding their stock of provisions reduced one evening to a loaf of bread, agreed that whoever dreamed the most remarkable dream that night should have the whole loaf. The following morning, the Englishman and the Scotchman told long stories of their dreams, but when it came to the Irishman's turn, they found that he had dreamed of eating the loaf and had actually consumed it in his dream. Something similar is said to have occurred recently in the Canton of Saint-Gall. Three peasants of the neighbourhood formed a society for the purpose of making money after a recipe of Albertus Magnus. They possessed thirty-two five-franc pieces, and having buried these under a tombstone in the churchyard of Saint-Fiden, they stripped themselves naked, took up their abode in a little hut near the cemetery, living only on bread and water, and repeating certain formulae every hour of the day and night for seven days. On the seventh evening their 160 francs should have been changed by the god "Hisis" into five millions, but one of the three, observing no symptoms of the transformation, fobbed the thirty-two pieces without waiting for the *dénouement*, and disappeared, not by sorcery.

THE developments of the Clovis-Hugues affair, allusion to which was made in these columns some time ago, present some features even stranger than the origin of the scandal. It will be remembered that a certain Madame Lenormand, anxious, so the story ran, to fix upon her husband a charge of inconstancy, accused him of improper relations with Madame Clovis-Hugues before her marriage. The latter is a lady of some reputation in France. Her husband, deputy for Marseilles, is a poet and writer of distinction. He has dedicated several of his works to "Ma Jeanne," as he loves to call his wife, and the lady seems to have well merited this devotion. She is described as a tall, handsome and resolute-looking brunette of about thirty-five, and it is said that once when her husband was imprisoned for writing violent attacks against the government, she used to visit him in his cell, carrying prohibited books in her skirts and packets of tobacco in her hair. She has two daughters, one called Marianne, a popu-

lar name for the Republic in France, and the other Mereille, the name of the heroine of her husband's finest poem, which is also dedicated to "Ma Jeanne, la grande, bien aimée." In short Madame Lenormand, or rather the secret police said to be in her employ, could scarcely have chosen a more unpromising field wherein to sow seeds of scandal than the Clovis-Hugues family. M. Clovis-Hugues has declared in the Chamber that "there is no justice in France," adding, "I know for certain that Madame Lenormand has paid 25,000 francs to an *agence privée* to obtain evidence, or, in other words, false witnesses against me. My wife and I are followed about hourly by private inquiry agents; but I say here, once for all, that if they overstep the bounds up to which modern French law permits them to outrage family life, I will blow out the brains of one of them, and so make an example." Previous to this impassioned address, delivered by the poet-deputy, "wild and unkempt as usual, leaning against the statue of Laocoon in the Salle des Pas Perdus," M. Clovis-Hugues had actually been going about trying to find a private detective named Vandal, whom he desired to shoot. This Vandal was formerly Chief of the Secret Police, and is now the head of a private agency, which is said to be connected with the Detective Bureau and has the reputation of having served a great many Parisian magnates under very peculiar circumstances. A certain Baron de la Pleize wrote to M. Clovis-Hugues to inform him that Madame Lenormand had taken Vandal also into her pay, and the Deputy lost no time in pursuing his new persecutor with a revolver. Coming home unsuccessful, he found that his wife had started off on her own account with another revolver, to shoot her slanderer Madame Lenormand. This was "Ma Jeanne's" second attempt against Madame L.'s life, and it would probably have succeeded but for a happy accident. Madame L.'s son, M. du Tillet, happened to be coming out of his mother's room when the lady with the revolver essayed to enter. There was a struggle. Madame Clovis-Hugues was overcome, and the gendarmes, arriving, took possession of her revolver and conducted her, with the utmost politeness, to the Commissaire de Police. There she made her declaration, avowing, in answer to the Commissaire's enquiry, that she had gone to Madame Lenormand's house "firmly resolved to kill her." When her amiable intentions had been duly placed on record, she was informed, with many apologies for her detention, that she might return home. Meanwhile M. Vandal says that he has not received any money from Madame Lenormand, and that he will "box the ears of any journalist who writes a word against him." What with blowing soap-bubbles, flying kites, and watching the developments of such cases as the above, Parisian society is not likely to suffer from ennui.

THE authorities in England are evidently impressed with the idea that the recent attitude of the Chinese, in the Crown Colony of Hongkong as well as at several of the treaty ports, has been such as to necessitate the strengthening of the

Hongkong Garrison. Our telegraphic news this morning announces the despatch of 900 troops for that purpose, which will nearly double the strength of the combatant portion of the garrison under Major-General Sargent's command. The corps at present stationed at Hongkong are the 2nd Batt. East Kent Regiment (3rd Buffs), and a battery of the Royal Artillery. There are also a few Engineers, principally detailed for Staff duties, and the remainder of the garrison is made up of small contingents for carrying out the duties of the Commissariat, Transport, and Ordnance Store Departments. The vessel mentioned in the telegram, the *Hankow*, is a steamer well known in Hongkong Harbour, and possesses such enormous space on her three decks that she can accommodate the 900 and all their belongings with ease. She is a screw steamer of 500 horse-power, belonging to Messrs. E. H. Watts & Co., of London, and was built at Low Walker, on the Tyne, by Messrs. Mitchell & Co., in 1873; of 2,594 tons, length 389 ft., 42 ft. beam, and 28 ft. 8 in. deep. She has made some fast passages between China and England, and coming from Australia once to load tea, brought into Hongkong Harbour the largest cargo of coals from Newcastle, N.S.W., that ever reached the place.

In another column will be found an article on "Strong Nations' Injustice," translated from the *Jiyu Shimbun*. The amusing part of it is the fact of the writer taking *an strictus* such a quaint piece of satire as the following in the *New York Nation*. "This will have to be amended this winter if it is intended to be really operative, and there is only one way to make it really operative, that is to authorize the summary slaughter of all Chinamen found within the country after a certain date, and then, to offer a reward for the heads of all Chinamen caught after another still later date. In no other way can our Christianity be saved from the debasing influence of these heathen." If there is a journal in the world that represents the force of morality and the hunting-down of iniquity—international or other—that print is probably the *New York Nation*; and it is rather surprising that an able Japanese writer should have misapprehended its drift in such a case as that before us.

A New York Exchange informs us that the same story comes from all the stock exchanges of the world, and the universal distrust is a striking illustration of the unification of the markets everywhere. There are special causes at work in some countries, but all are under the common cloud of commercial depression. In one important respect America is much better off than the continental countries. The credit of the government is unquestioned, and it is engaged in no foreign enterprises likely to involve it in trouble. Its 4½ per cent. bonds, therefore, sell at 115, while those of France are quoted at 108, Russians at 78; our 4's at 122, Austrians at 84, Hungarians at 77, Belgians at 105. Even British Consols sell relatively lower than U.S. bonds. In spite of the industrial

depression in England, its securities are much firmer than those of France, and considerable capital has gone from the latter to the former country to accept a lower rate of income than could be obtained at home because more confidence was felt in the investment. In addition to the strained relations of France with China and its prodigal expenditures, the recent conversion of the 5 per cent. rentes into 4½ per cents has complicated affairs. The former holders of the "fives" think that the terms of refunding were unjust to them, and they are charged with the purpose of embarrassing the financial operations of the government in the coming fiscal year. They aver that M. Tirard was in league with speculators for a decline, and so adopted the most objectionable plan of refunding. Leading securities in France have fallen to prices at which they yield a larger income than corresponding ones in the United States. This is an anomaly. Yet there are more sellers than buyers, and the Paris Bourse is a quiet place.

WE (*Daily Press*) hear the prospect of War between China and France is making its influence felt on the stream of emigration to Singapore. Recruiting is going on briskly in Canton, the pay offered the men being \$8 per month, in consequence of which the coolies all "wanchee do that soldier pidgiu" instead of going to Singapore to seek their fortunes.

MR. W. G. Astor, the newly-appointed British Consul at this port, arrived from Kobe in the steamship *Radnorshire* on Thursday morning last, and was duly installed in office yesterday. That foreign residents of this port in general, and British residents in particular, are for various reasons to be congratulated upon the appointment of so competent and popular an official as Mr. Astor, will, we venture to assert, not even be questioned; and we take this early opportunity of heartily welcoming him to Nagasaki again.—*Nagasaki Express*, Dec. 15.

WE find the following shipping report in *Mitchell's Maritime Register*, which is interesting, as showing the extent of the vast quantities of pumice stone ejected from the Krakatoa volcano on the 26th and 27th August:—"Liverpool, 19th October, 8.5 p.m.—Master of *Cleomene* at Calcutta, September 15th, in letter reports:—I followed track-chart, and have no accidents to report, but we had a very narrow escape on September 1, in lat. 5 S. and long. 86 E.; we were struck by lightning and about four feet was struck off our fore royal masthead, but no other damage was done. At same time we were passing through immense fields of pumice stone, which extended from 450 to 460 miles, and over 1,100 miles from the Island of Java, from which, no doubt, it was ejected in some volcanic eruption."

THE *Hongkong Daily Press* Canton correspondent, writing on the 6th December, gives an account of a disturbance, which plainly shows the temper of the populace in that city:—"On

the afternoon of the 4th inst. the Mission Chapel lately established in Chew Yam street, in the Western Suburb, Near Dr. Kerr's Hospital, was the scene of a somewhat serious disturbance. A native catechist was preaching, and took for his subject the folly of ancestral worship. Some of his hearers took offence at his remarks, and strongly expressed their disapprobation. The excitement increased and ended in the smashing up of all the furniture in the chapel. No personal injuries seem to have been inflicted. On the following day soldiers were sent to the place by the authorities to prevent any renewal of the disturbance."

THE *Nagasaki Express* of Dec. 15, says:—The British steamer *Will-o'-the-Wisp*, Captain Porrett, arrived from England *via* Singapore on Saturday morning last, after experiencing very heavy weather since leaving the latter port. The *Will-o'-the-Wisp* is a small, smart-looking steamer of the following dimensions:—length, 130 ft.; breadth, 22 ft.; depth, 10 ft.; gross tonnage, 285; nett tonnage, 165. She was built in Hull, England, on the most approved principles, and is in every respect well found and fitted. She was taken into the Government dock on Tuesday last, and after cleaning and painting she came out again on Thursday. She is now taking in bunker coal, and will shortly proceed to Yokohama, where she is owned, and for which port she has a cargo of general merchandise on board.

LATEST advices from Shanghai inform us that the Russian cruiser *Opritchnik* arrived there on the 9th from Foochow. The British ironclad *Audacious* left Nagasaki on the 2nd inst. bound for the South. The German frigate *Leipzig* arrived at Nagasaki from Chefoo on the 4th inst. and left again on the 6th for Hongkong *via* Amoy. The French corvette *Volta* arrived at Nagasaki on the 6th inst. from Yokohama. The British man-of-war *Esper* left Shanghai on the 10th for Chinkiang where she is expected to winter. The German gunboat *Alta* left Hongkong for Canton on the 4th instant. The British man-of-war *Sapphire* arrived at Nagasaki from Chefoo on the 6th inst. having left the latter port on the 2nd inst. A large barque-rigged man-of-war arrived on the 10th at the Red Buoy; she is said to be the *Audacious*.

THE Indo-China steamer *Wing-sang* the latest addition to the fleet of steamships trading in Chinese and Indian waters, arrived on the 25th ult. at Hongkong. She is a vessel which any master feel proud to command. The *Wing-sang* was built at Aberdeen by the well known firm of Hall, Russell & Co. Her dimensions are:—Length (between perpendiculars), 295 feet; breadth of beam, 40 feet; and when fully loaded she draws 20 feet (mean). The engines are of the usual high and low pressure character, but all the latest appliances in the way of steam windlasses, steering gear and so on, have been fitted on her. Apart from the usual steering apparatus, she has a double-screw rudder aft for cases of emergency. On the trial trip the *Wing-*

sang made the good average of 12½ knots per hour, drawing at the time 15 feet. She is almost keelless, being provided with rolling chocks; she carries eight boats, and has one of the long bridges so much in favour at home now for the protection they afford to the engine rooms. As to accommodation, there is room for fifteen first-class passengers; the saloon and cabins are very prettily fitted up with maple and walnut, and there is a good piano. The lavatories and bath-rooms all show the same indications of attention to foreigners' requirements, while for the native passengers, removable cabins, sufficient to accommodate 800 people comfortably, are on board. The *Wing-sang* had a good trip out, but at Port Said something went wrong with the paint put on her there, and it has blistered off, rendering it likely that she will be scraped here and repainted. The *Tae Sing*, a sister ship, is due here in about a month.—*China Mail*.

AMONGST the latest to undergo the operation of being "interviewed" by newspaper reporters in America is Hanlan, the rowing man. He was on his way to San Francisco, and at Chicago was "interviewed" to the following effect:—"I have rowed sixty races, and out of that number I have been defeated in four." "To what do you attribute your success as an oarsman?" "Well, I scarcely know whether it was born in me, or whether I achieved as near perfection as possible by constant and hard practice. I am the strongest oarsman in the world. In my boat I do not uselessly expend an ounce of strength. I utilize all that I have. I owe my success partly also, perhaps, to having hit upon a winning stroke. I presume that in the stroke lies a great part of my superiority. It is a thing which cannot be governed by mathematical calculation, but is more the result of accident or inborn knack, I scarcely know which." The champion is a plain-looking young man with a handsome physique, medium size and well educated. He said he had leased his hotel in Toronto, and that he would devote the next couple of years to rowing entirely. "I go to San Francisco," he said, "with George M. Lee to give an exhibition in the regatta which comes off there on the 29th instant. Mr. Lee rows an exhibition race with Stevenson, the best man on the slope. I shall remain in San Francisco about three weeks, and then go to Sydney, Australia. I want to stay there one year and come back by way of England." He said he expected to row with Trickett and Laycock in Australia, but could not say definitely, as he would not row unless he was in form. The oarsmen carry with them to Australia two American boats, weighing twenty-five pounds, of Mexican cedar. Hanlan said he regarded the American boats as the best.

"Who carried New York?" This is a question which there ought not to be a particle of trouble in answering, although (says the *Alta*) some of our contemporaries talk as if there could be more than one opinion. It is undeniable that the Democrats carried the State, and the latest estimates fix their majority at 15,000. That the Republicans

elected one man on their ticket, because his opponent was scratched to the extent of 30,000 votes, gives them no reasonable grounds to claim that the State election went in their favor. Neither is it any more to the point to claim the State because the Legislature has a Republican majority. The State is districted so favorably to the Republicans that they do not need to have a majority of the popular vote to get control of the Legislature. Nevertheless, it is perfectly true that the Democratic majority is so small as to be a cause for disappointment; instead of 15,090, it should have been 30,000 or 40,000; and probably would have been but for factional fights. But the falling-off in the Democratic majority is exaggerated by setting up in comparison with the 15,000, received this year, the nearly 200,000 received by Governor Cleveland last year. The election of 1882 was not much of a test, because it is admitted that the internal dissensions of the Republicans prevented them from polling a vote which was a fair index of their strength. But be that as it may, it is not true that the Democratic majority last year was anything like 200,000 on the whole ticket. On Congressman-at-large the Democratic plurality was 109,000, and on Chief Justice of the Court of Appeals it was but 73,400. If from the latter figures we subtract the vote for the Greenback and Prohibition candidates, it leaves the Democrats a clear majority of only 46,000, and that in an off year for the Republicans. This is the "offset" kind of a year for the Democrats, and yet they get 15,000 plurality.

PROFESSOR MILNE left here yesterday in the Mitsui Bishi Mail steamship *Nagoya Maru*, for Nagasaki, where he will institute an underground observatory in the Takasima Mines. The objects sought to be determined are various, and amongst other paraphernalia, instruments will be placed to discover if the seismic phenomena observed "at grass" are coincident with and of similar intensity to those at various levels in the mine. This observatory will be unique, no other similar establishment being in existence in any country.

AMONGST the passengers who left in the Mitsui Bishi mail steamer *Genkai Maru*, on Saturday for Nagasaki, was Admiral Davis, U.S.N., who proceeds to that port to hoist his flag on the frigate *Richmond*. Admiral Davis was in Japan as a midshipman with Commodore Perry's expedition.

WE regret to have to record a fatal accident which has occurred on the United States' frigate *Richmond*, Captain Skerrett. The vessel left here on the 4th inst. for Kobe and Nagasaki, and whilst entering the latter port on Thursday morning last fired the usual salute, during which a man was blown to pieces.

ABOUT thirty-six houses were destroyed in a fire which occurred on the night of the 17th instant, at Tachibana-cho, Tokijo. Exaggerated reports of the extent of the disaster were current in Yokohama. We are happy to learn that they are without foundation.

THE JAPANESE LIBERALS.

WHAT is represented by Japanese Liberalism and who are its representatives? These are questions which foreigners find much difficulty in answering. Nor is their perplexity surprising, since added to the almost insuperable obstacles that beset any outsider's attempts to become familiar with the politics of an Oriental State, there is of necessity in this country more than common vagueness about the scope and purpose of political creeds. The average Englishman has but a hazy notion of the meaning of Radicalism. In general he regards it as a synonym for Republicanism, whereas, in truth, the latter is but an accident of the former. The extension of the franchise, the equitable distribution of political power, and the abolition of all traces of ecclesiastical privileges, are ends which may be attained just as well with a King at the head of the State as with a President. In England, however, as in all lands where thought is free and progressive, party platforms are not only changeable but interchangeable. The Conservatism of to-day has been truly described as the Liberalism of twenty, and the Radicalism of thirty, years ago. In every party there is a clique of speculative reformers whose doctrines represent, not the faith of the main body of their associates, but the tenets that faith is destined to embody at some future stage of its history. Hence it is that the general public often mistakes the aspirations of these theorists for the practical purpose of their party, and finds itself unable, at any given period, accurately to define the limits of either Conservative or Radical designs. This uncertainty is doubly apparent in Japan. Political science is comparatively new to the nation. To the majority of its students it is still a mere science, not a means of evolving practical doctrines that can be immediately expressed in legislation. Thus in the foremost ranks of the Liberals may be found men whose reading is wholly untempered by experience, and who would unhesitatingly apply to society as it exists, the ideal methods which HERBERT SPENCER hopes some day may be possible; while side by side with these utopian progressists are others who appear to see only the practical aspects of politics, and who separate Western moral doctrines from Western daily doings with a distinctness that does larger credit to their judgment than to their faith.

Among the principles enunciated by this latter class of so-called Liberal politicians, there is one that has gradually received

very emphatic expression. It is the principle that might is right. There is little need, we presume, to consider such a doctrine as a point of moral philosophy. Even those that hold it admit frankly that it runs counter to all the better instincts of humanity. But there are two facts which the Japanese, being, for the rest, open-eyed enough, cannot fail to recognise. The first is that the most civilized nations of the world appear to place most reliance upon brute force; the second, that the treatment Japan receives at the hands of Western nations has hitherto been regulated entirely by her ability or inability to command better terms.

Europe spends, to-day, a thousand million dollars annually on military armaments and keeps three and a half million men constantly engaged in military duties. As an open avowal of mutual distrust, these figures are conclusive. It is obvious that nobody places the smallest reliance on moral principles, which are nevertheless daily receiving wider recognition. There are no longer any Goths, Saracens, or Huns to swoop down on peaceful peoples and carry their women away from blood-drenched homesteads to lives of worse than slavery. There are only Christian nations, punctilious disciples of "soft-handed Charity," that virtue by which "neither angel nor man can come in danger."

No wonder, then, that the Japanese, seeing all this, fear to stand defenceless among so many armed men. More especially since they have actually experienced, and are daily experiencing, the disadvantages of weakness. Say what we please, the so-called "treaty rights" claimed by foreigners in this country, would not be conceded by any State strong enough to refuse them. It may be for Japan's advantage that her tariff should be regulated by strangers; it may be for her convenience that foreigners living in her territory should be exempted from her laws and jurisdiction. But it is absolutely certain that, were she strong enough to insist upon managing her own affairs and compelling every one within her borders to respect her laws, the power to exercise these natural rights would long ago have been restored to her. When, therefore, we find the Liberals maintaining, as they have lately maintained through the columns of their organ, the *Jiyu Shimbun*, that the first business of this empire is to arm itself, to build forts and buy ships, we are obliged to confess frankly that the doctrine is seemingly justified by circumstances. In the abstract there is no reason why Japan should be wiser than the rest of the world,

or more ready to trust other nations than they obviously trust each other. But there is one point which the Liberals seem to have lost sight of, and that is, that all nations are not similarly situated. There are some countries so fortunate as to be naturally in a position to hold aloof from the military mania of their neighbours. Such a country is the United States. No nation in the world could afford to spend more upon an army and a navy. No nation in the world spends less. The consequence is that the people of the United States, left entirely free to develop the wonderful resources of their land, are rapidly attaining a degree of opulence and civilization beyond all experience and expectation. Japan's case is similar, so far as her military necessities are concerned. She has absolutely nothing to apprehend in the form of foreign aggression. It was not always so with her. In the days of her seclusion, when as yet Western nations had no interest in her independence, Russia was a danger to her. Not that Russia can be fairly suspected of having harboured any definitely aggressive designs against Japan; but simply that Russians, like Englishmen, and no more than Englishmen, have a tendency to carry their country's flag wherever there is room to plant it, and consider themselves, in a manner, entitled to carry it wherever civilization would benefit by the process. These, however, are things of the past. Neither in the present, not in the future so far as human eye can see, has Japan anything to fear from Russia. One possible enemy she has—China, with whom she would fain be on the best possible terms, but from whom the direction her civilization has taken inevitably separates her. For China's sake we should be sorry to regard the separation as permanent. But even if it should continue for years to come; even if China should persist in turning away her face from Western ways, and in nursing her foolish umbrage against a neighbour that "has chosen the better part," what then? Japan must have little faith in her newly adopted creeds if she has any fear of such an opponent. To an assailant, China's *vis inertia* may be formidable; as an assailant, she does not merit a second thought. In the day when she will be able seriously to think of sending an army to invade Japan, she will have forgotten to be angry with the latter for forestalling her in the paths she will then be following herself.

The Liberal organ professes to discern danger for Japan in the complications pending between China and France. In

the event of war, Japan might be unable, says the *Yiyu Shimbun*, to perform her duties as a strict neutral. If French ships insisted upon entering her ports to coal or repair, she would not be strong enough to keep them out. This is a mere chimera. Even supposing—which is in the highest degree improbable—that France resorted to any such violent measures, Japan would incur no responsibility thereby. How far China could consistently appeal to Western systems of international law in defining the treatment she has a right to expect, as a belligerent, at the hands of Japan, as a neutral, we need not stop to enquire. It is sufficient to say that nothing more could be demanded of this country than a reasonable care for the maintenance of neutrality.

In fine, from whatever direction this question be considered, only one conclusion is possible. If Japan elects to follow the Liberal programme in the matter of armaments, she will be deliberately flouting the advantages which nature has conferred on her. She has nothing to apprehend except her own extravagance. That she should raise an internal loan to build railways or make roads, would, we believe, be a financial blunder; that she should apply the proceeds of such a loan to erecting forts and purchasing men-of-war, would be simply disastrous. It were absurd to ask her to trust foreign nations or to take a lesson from their methods of trusting each other. But we do recommend the leaders of the Liberals to sit down and honestly draw up a list of the uses their forts or ships are likely to serve. On such a list only one item would endure a moment's scrutiny—namely, the purpose of compelling a revision of the treaties on the basis of Japan's complete independence. But that revision will come without an appeal to force; while, on the other hand, the reckless and impatient course recommended by the *Yiyu Shimbun* is the surest way to defer it.

FRANCE AND CHINA.

THE contents of the memorandum submitted to the French Chambers at their meeting in October will probably have the effect of considerably modifying public opinion with regard to the questions at issue between France and China. Broadly speaking, the claim of the Middle Kingdom divides itself into two counts, of which one is based upon particular, the other upon general, considerations. The former has reference to China's so-called "rights of suzerainty" over Annam; the latter to her

rights to be heard as an independent State in all matters that concern her frontiers.

With her pretensions as a suzerain it is difficult to deal gravely. Western ideas of the nature of the relations which justify that term are so different from Eastern that no common platform of discussion exists. It is tolerably certain that up to the beginning of the fifteenth century Annam was a vassal, if not a province, of China. Subsequent to that date, however, though the political connection was not actually severed, it carried with it no practical evidences of dependency; while, on the other hand, the first occasion of French interference, was a revolt which defied China's perfunctory efforts to re-establish the *statu quo ante*. That a State's obligations are not destroyed by a change of government or a revolution, is a well recognised principle of international law, but the justice of its application becomes very questionable when that change involves consequences so momentous as those which overtook Annam in 1783 and 1862. China's capricious method of ignoring those consequences at the time, and yet attempting to interfere with their sequel in 1883, is a variety of statecraft that could not be safely recognised by serious governments. In a word, this old fashioned title of suzerain once accorded to the Middle Kingdom by its neighbours, is a relic of conditions which have long ceased to exist, and deserves no more respect at France's hand in Annam, than it has received at England's in Burmah and Siam. Its preservation, in every respect prejudicial from the humanitarian point of view, could not fail to induce grave complications, sooner or later, in the Orient.

Very different is the case with regard to the second count of China's claim. It must have been as well known in Peking as it was in Paris, that one of the problems of the day in 1867, was to open up commercial intercourse with the Western provinces of China. This design, not the mere acquisition of territory in Tonquin, was at the root of French operations, first on the Meikong and afterwards on the Red River. The right of a foreign Power to establish exclusive control over a river furnishing the only or most convenient outlet for an inland State, is justly open to opposition by that State. So strongly defined is this doctrine by modern international law that even the possession of the territory through which the lower parts of such a river run is not regarded as conferring a title superior to the natural justice of the inland State's claims. That the Red River constitutes the most convenient, if not the only, outlet

for China's Western provinces, is a fact established by French explorers, and, from this point of view, nobody will be disposed to deny that the proceedings of the French in Tonquin had a vital interest for China. Not less plainly does it follow that France's original attempts to ignore the Middle Kingdom altogether, and wholly to exclude it from the discussion of Tonquin's destiny, were distinct violations of the law of nations. It would appear, however, from the memorandum submitted to the Chambers, that France did not long persist in this attitude. M. CHALLEMEL-LACOUR virtually abandoned it in the propositions he formulated on September the 15th. For in the first place, he signified his Government's willingness to combine with China in establishing a neutral zone on the latter's southern frontier; and in the next, he stipulated that the Red River should be opened from Manhoa downwards to foreign commerce. This stipulation improved the prospect which China had most reason to consider, since the opening of the river to foreign commerce would convert it into a triveable water-way for the produce of her western provinces, whereas, under existing circumstances, whatever facilities of communication it naturally offered, were rendered useless by the presence of the Black Flags.

On the other side, it may, of course, be contended that the compulsory opening of Man-hoa, a town lying actually within Chinese territory, was an unjustifiable demand. But this is a mere point of detail. The Cabinet at Peking knew well that France would never insist on such a concession.

With a neutral zone between herself and foreign territory, and with the navigation of the Red River assured to the flags of all nations, China's further claims to oppose French designs in Annam assume very shadowy proportions. On October the 16th, her demands amounted briefly to this:—that if the condition of anarchy and brigandage which existed on the banks of the Red River under Annamite rule could not be perpetuated, she would adopt the alternative of annexing the whole of Tonquin, annexation to carry with it the entire and exclusive right of action on the Red River. She avowed, indeed, some polite regret for "this necessity of encroaching upon the territory of her vassal after having respected it for two centuries." But it was not an inconveniently obtrusive regret. If an act of national larceny had to be committed, she would commit it herself rather than let France reap the benefit.

Annam's claims counted for nothing in the business.

There is reason to believe that these extravagant demands have undergone considerable modification. Probably they were originally framed with an ample margin for contingences. China could not but see that to enforce them would be to leave France no alternative but war, and that, certainly, is a prospect the Peking Government can scarcely like to contemplate. We need not stop to consider here what were the motives of so much boldness. It is enough to note that according to the showing of the memorandum laid before the Chambers two months ago, the obstacles to a peaceful settlement were created by China not France, and that the credit of any forbearance subsequently displayed belongs to the latter.

THE CRUELTY OF FEET-BINDING.

NOT long ago news reached us that a missionary body in China had passed a resolution closing the doors of their schools to children whose feet had been subjected to the cramping process. It seemed at once a harsh and short-sighted resolution, since its immediate effect would be to punish the unfortunate children for a deformity which had already cost them cruel agonies, and since there was little hope that the fear of sacrificing some educational advantages would exercise any practical influence upon people who pay no attention, in this particular instance, to the example and wishes of their rulers. For in China the only persons who utterly eschew the inhuman habit of foot-binding on principle are the members of the Imperial family. No small-footed women are to be found among these, and the Imperial dislike of the practice is carried so far that the precincts of the Palace may not be trodden by feet of an unnatural shape. Against a prejudice which all this is powerless to cure, and which the great Emperor KANG-HI found so strong that he dared not meddle with it by legislation, what could the feeble protest of a few missionaries' accomplish? Not much perhaps. It was not easy, indeed, to avoid an apprehension that the only result of the missionaries' resolution would be to empty their schools and add the impossibility of procuring education to a misfortune for which the children were not answerable. But we cannot forget that for years and years the missionaries have been preaching against the terrible cruelty of this practice, or that they have to choose between continuing a campaign of fruitless words and

adopting some practical means of enforcing their protest. Whether or no they have chosen wisely, everyone must feel that the difficulties of the position offer a marked contrast to the readiness with which this last attempt to overcome them has been criticised. But though the missionaries may be comparatively helpless to grapple with the evil, and though the Chinese Government may feel its tenure of power so insecure that to legislate with the object of saving the female children of the nation from torture and deformity would be to provoke a rebellion, there is an authority not only strong enough to protect many thousands of human beings against this brutal ill-usage, but also bound by all the principles of civilization to interfere. The island of Hongkong is British territory, and its 150 thousand Chinese inhabitants are British subjects. Obligated to grapple there with social problems of an unusual character, the English authorities have from time to time shown themselves happily indifferent to conventionalities. Sixteen years ago they shocked the good people of Exeter Hall by licensing gambling-houses; giving the world an opportunity of crying shame upon a civilized Government so untrue to the doctrines it professed that it could sell to its subjects the right of practising a most demoralizing vice. Yet to those who really understood the condition of the Colony in 1867, it seemed beyond all doubt that, by the issue of gambling licenses alone could a remedy be found for evils which had passed beyond the reach of ordinary control. The Colonial Office, indeed, could never be persuaded to view the matter in this light, or to comprehend that wise men sometimes voluntarily accept the lesser of two inevitable evils. But before the scruples of the Colonial Office shaped themselves into a peremptory veto, the gambling-houses had been brought under complete control and the object of the licenses attained. Other shocks, however, were in store for the humanitarians. Malefactors were flogged in public at the whipping-post, and hardened criminals had a brand put on the lobes of their ears, a distinction which they took most unkindly: not that their nerves were shocked by the operation of tattooing a tiny device in their flesh, but because they found it exceedingly inconvenient to be shadowed by a policeman whenever they attempted to revisit the scenes of their misdeeds. Recalling, to-day, all the indignant protests these various abnormal ordinances evoked, we observe a singular instance of the inconsistency of public opinion. For, in this

very island of Hongkong, where gentle-folks were horrified at the notion of levying fines on the devotees of "Fan-tan" that their haunts might cease to be the asylums of pirates and assassins, and soft-hearted philanthropists winced to think that brutalized malefactors were flogged or marked; in this very island, we say, from year's end to year's end, every hour and every minute of the day and night, the air is filled with the screams of tortured babies, while men and women go about their business self-contented and unconcerned. There is no exaggeration in this language. Those who have carefully watched all the processes of foot-binding, and noted its effects, declare that since the world began there never was invented a device that inflicts keener and crueller suffering. Were the subjects of any civilized government in the universe to treat their cats or rats as the subjects of the British Government in Hongkong treat their female children, public opinion would be shocked into a vehement and effectual protest. Yet, so far as we can see, public opinion in Hongkong is quite silent on the subject, if we except an earnest remonstrance from "Banian" in the columns of the *Daily Press*. Doubtless there is a great deal to be said on the other side: as, for example, that reforms to be lasting must not anticipate the mood to receive them, and that any arbitrary attempt to correct such a long established custom would probably have the effect of driving away the respectable portion of the native population from Hongkong. Upon such a question it would be presumptuous to express any opinion, but we do feel justified in saying that whether by radical or partial methods, some official action ought to be taken. Quite recently the police records of the Colony contained a case which excited no little horror and indignation. It was found that part of a Chinese undertaker's business was to let sick children—girls of course—to be left to die among the coffins in his store, and that days of neglected suffering were sometimes passed in this miserable place. This was a Chinese habit, and Chinamen thought no harm of it. Their creed was that when a child's malady became plainly mortal, the sooner it ceased to be a burden to the living, the better. English law, however, was not slow to assert itself in this instance, and English people congratulated themselves that such inhumanity would not again be practised in their midst. Yet no comparison is possible between the additional suffering thus imposed upon the dying children and the harrowing tortures to which female babies

are systematically subjected. In the former case the little patients would probably have lost the power of appreciating pain, or would at least be insensible to neglect, whereas the tortures of foot-binding have to be borne day after day by children of an age when pain is most keenly felt and the strength to endure it as yet wholly wanting. The subject almost precludes discussion. There are many strange things in this world of ours, but few, if any, stranger than the apathetic attitude of a highly civilized government toward this most revolting barbarism, and that, too, a government which, as pointed out above, has shown not unfrequently that it does not shrink from exceptional legislation under exceptional circumstances. The measure of deference we exhibit towards Oriental customs which interfere with our own convenience or prosperity is scarcely large enough to explain our respect for an abuse which, by processes of the most pitiless cruelty, converts half the inhabitants of an empire into life-long cripples; neither is it a comfortable reflection that while we bombard cities and sink ships to secure the permanence of a trade in yarns and shirtings, we cannot afford so much as an Order in Council or a diplomatic protest to save a multitude of children from extreme brutality.

THE ANGLO-KOREAN TREATY.

THE skeleton draft of the Anglo-Korean treaty published by the *North China Herald* is not of a sufficiently accurate nature to justify detailed comment. Speaking inferentially, the terms obtained from Korea may be regarded as the limit of the concessions she can be induced to grant at present. The character of the official by whom British interests were represented, places that question beyond the reach of doubt.

And, indeed, from a foreign stand-point the conditions embodied in the document leave little to be desired. Three ports and one town are opened, definitely, and the capital, conditionally; a reasonable tariff is fixed, and the right to trade and travel in the interior is conceded. More than this could not have been asked at the outset.

Here it may be well to note that the contrast between this treaty and that concluded by Admiral WILLES ought not to be taken as a strict measure of their negotiators' respective dexterity. Even in the short interval that separated the Admiral's visit from Sir HARRY PARKES' mission, Korea had undergone important changes.

When the first treaties were concluded, the country was still trembling from the shock of a rebellion avowedly directed against the pro-foreign party; the reins of Government were virtually in China's hands, and the terms upon which intercourse with the outer world should be commenced, were dictated by a Chinese Viceroy. Since then, the Government of the peninsula has felt itself strong enough to openly avow a more liberal policy and to send an embassy to a Western country, while the perils that threaten her own security forbid China to persist in asserting her influence over her so-called vassal. Admiral WILLES was suddenly called on to undertake a duty for which he was in no respect prepared, under circumstances of considerable difficulty. An official better versed in the technicalities of treaty-drafting might have accomplished something more consistent with mercantile requirements, but we doubt whether any official, however supported, following so closely on the American Envoy, whose treaty was drafted by Korea's nominal suzerain, could have obtained terms nearly as liberal as those now secured by Sir HARRY PARKES. Of treaty making it is eminently true that to the pioneers falls the labour without the honour, and it is a simple point of justice to note that but for the initiative taken by America last year, we should not now be in a position to extol the achievements of our own negotiators. Foreigners in the East would have been surprised to learn that Sir HARRY PARKES had put his hand to any document embodying conditions unfavorable to his countrymen; but at the same time we cannot forget that the negotiations now brought to a successful conclusion, were conducted with the utmost deliberation. During many months Mr. W. G. ASTON, a gentleman eminently qualified for the task, both by official experience and linguistic attainments, was in direct communication with the Korean authorities and Her Majesty's Legation, and we can scarcely doubt that had such assistance preceded previous attempts, the difference between the result and that now attained would only have been proportionate to the difference in Korea's ability to be liberal.

Not the least interesting and important feature in this treaty is the fact that the supposed relations between China and Korea are completely ignored. The SHUFELDT and WILLES treaties were concluded under circumstances, and followed by events, which distinctly tended to confirm and establish China's claim of suzerainty. The new English and German

treaties virtually invalidate that claim, since they were concluded without reference to the Middle Kingdom, and the nature of the engagements they embody are not within the competence of a vassal or dependant to assume without such reference. The resolute action said to have been taken by Sir HARRY PARKES in this respect cannot be too highly commended. China's romantic and unpractical pretensions are a constant source of peril to the peace of the Orient. They involve responsibilities which she is neither able nor willing to accept, and provoke external interference which she is sufficiently ill-judged to resent.

We may dismiss the tariff appended to the treaty by observing that it does not appreciably differ from the Japanese tariff which was arranged five months ago and came into force on the 1st of November. Neither, indeed, does it conflict with the provisions of the SHUFELDT treaty. The mind of the commercial public appears to have been unnecessarily perturbed about the American negotiator's conditions. It did not follow that because an inferior and superior limit of rates was fixed, all the duties must approximate to the latter. We apprehend that people would have been little less discontented though the SHUFELDT treaty's maximum rate had been, not thirty, but twenty per cent., which latter is the figure actually embodied in the new English tariff. One notable difference exists between the Japanese tariff and that of Sir HARRY PARKES. According to the former, foreign wines pay a duty of twenty-five per cent., while foreign (and Japanese) spirits pay thirty per cent. These figures are reduced by the English tariff to ten and twenty per cent. respectively. The reduction will be welcomed by consumers of such beverages, but we cannot see that it is justified by any economic or moral principle.

The article relating to extraterritorial jurisdiction is epitomized in terms too vague to permit comment. In a country where the criminal codes and methods of criminal procedure have not yet been assimilated to those of civilized nations, it is unavoidable that the persons and property of strangers should be safeguarded by exceptional provisions. But experience has amply pointed out the serious defects that disfigure the provisions hitherto enacted with this object. When Western Governments deprive an Eastern State of its judicial functions, it is their imperative duty to provide an efficient substitute. This duty has been systematically neglected in the past by some of the great, and all the small, Powers whose

nationals enjoy extraterritorial privileges in China and Japan. England has now given a written guarantee for the peace and good-order of her subjects while residing in Korea. She will doubtless adopt efficient measures to fulfil her guarantee. But can the same be predicted of the countries that will follow her treaty-making example and claim all the privileges accorded to her? It may be objected that this is none of England's business: that she is liable for her own short-comings only. The objection would be valid could it be shown that Korea had full knowledge of the responsibilities attaching to the exercise of extraterritorial jurisdiction. But she has not, and cannot have, any such knowledge. She enters into these covenants in all good faith herself, and with entire reliance on the good faith of her *vis-à-vis*. Upon the latter, therefore, whether England or Germany, devolves the plain duty of providing that the privileges obtained through her instrumentality for all Western nations shall not be openly abused. Than Sir HARRY PARKES, no official in the universe has better reason to be conversant with the miscarriages of law and justice, as well as the international bickerings and recriminations, that have resulted from the imperfect wording of extraterritorial clauses in previous treaties. We do not venture to suppose that the failure of the epitomized Korean treaty to provide against these contingencies will be found to disfigure the complete document.

We look in vain throughout the various articles for any definition of British subjects' responsibilities towards Korean laws. If this vexed question has been left unsettled, the omission cannot fail to prove a fatal stumbling block to the progress of foreign intercourse with the peninsula. One provision there is, indeed, which constitutes a most commendable addition to previous conventions, and which will go far to correct the consequences of the above, omission. "British subjects will be amenable, in the Settlements or elsewhere, to such Municipal, Police, and other, Regulations as may be agreed on by the authorities of the two countries." This is a partial recognition of the American doctrine that extraterritoriality does not carry with it exemption from the laws of the land, except in so far as those laws conflict with treaty provisions. But the question arises, how are these "Municipal, Police, and other, Regulations" to be enforced outside the Settlements? Are offences committed by foreigners trading in the interior to be indictable in the Settlements only, and if so, what provision, if any, is made for the

relief or indemnification of native suitors who may have to travel hundreds of miles to prosecute an offender? These are questions which the treaty in its published form does not answer.

With regard to the privilege of trade and travel in the interior, it will of course be generally welcomed. Korea has so few attractions to offer foreign merchants that, from a material point of view, she does wisely to be as liberal as possible. She is also the best judge of her own present ability to assume such an obligation as the protection of foreigners outside the limits of the treaty ports. Looking at the events of her recent history, it seems very doubtful whether she has not over-rated her strength, and whether it would not have been more judicious on her part, as well as more politic on that of the other high contracting parties, to defer, until some fixed date—a year or more after the treaties had come into force—the exercise of a privilege which, if prematurely taken advantage of, may only lead to unpleasant complications.

MODERN AEROSTATICS.

Just one century has passed away since the famous brothers Montgolfier made the first balloon ascension on record, and yet we are hardly very much farther advanced in aerostatics to-day than were the aeronauts of 1783. Numberless experiments have been made and many societies founded for the purpose of studying the problem of aerial navigation, but the results of all these attempts, however laudable they may be in the abstract, have been of comparatively little practical value. Of recent years, and especially since the discovery of the electromotor, a new impetus has been given to aerostatic research, so that the probability of ultimate success seems less questionable than it did a decade ago. Taking the rapid advance in technical science into consideration, aerial navigation is apparently only a question of time. So many totally unlooked for discoveries have been made that one cannot help feeling that "something will turn up" shortly, which will completely revolutionize aerostatic science and result in the conquest of the air.

The importance of the balloon for military and engineering purposes was brought prominently before the attention of the public in the Franco-Prussian war of 1870-71. Since that time many societies have been formed in France, Germany, and Russia for the sole purpose of increasing the facility of the application of aerostatics to the military art; and as these societies number not a few of the highest scientific authorities among their members, we may not unreasonably expect the most interesting and important results as the outcome of their investigations. At Auteuil an *atelier aérostatique* has been lately established, and similar institutions are in course of erection elsewhere.

L'Illustration and *Ueber Land und Meer*

have recently devoted considerable space to the discussion of the problem, instigated by the experiments of M. Tissandier and Dr. Wölfert. It appears that there are two plans which have suggested themselves to scientific experiment-alists: one being to supply the ordinary gas-balloon with steering gear and a propelling power of sufficient force to keep it motionless in the face of a stiff breeze; while the other idea is to construct a machine modelled on the lines of that excellent aerial navigator, the bird, and to furnish it with a gas or electromotor strong enough to raise it from the ground and guide it through the air. The upholders of the former plan have to combat chiefly with the wind, which necessarily exerts great force upon so large a resisting body as a balloon; those of the latter contend with the seemingly insurmountable difficulty of constructing a machine light enough to rise in the air with the sole help of the motor. Public experiments have so far invariably been made in connection with the balloon, while the self-supporting aerial ship exists as yet only in models. Twenty years ago, the idea embodied in the recent experiments was suggested by a French scientist, and the screw-propelled balloon of Bowdler in 1874 (which, though unsuccessful, was highly commended), proved that 'a screw with a vertical axis can raise or depress a balloon, thereby saving gas and ballast.' Dr. Wölfert's aerial car, the first public trial of which took place in last June, was constructed on this principle, but unfortunately without success. In the first place the aeronaut discarded all other motive power but that which he could supply himself by revolving the shafts of two small fan-shaped screws. His balloon was shaped somewhat like a huge Bologna sausage, in order to oppose less resistance to the wind. Two large, light stanchions ran the whole length of the balloon, acting as a sort of 'spine,' and materially strengthening the silken hull. The car was made of rattan, the disproportionately large canvass rudder being attached to one end, while a three-bladed screw was fastened to either side and worked by hand. Whether the screws were too small or the operator too weak, is not known: at all events, Dr. Wölfert was unable to steer his grotesque looking craft against the wind.

M. Tissandier's balloon, which made its first ascent at Paris on the 8th of October, resembles that of Dr. Wölfert, with the exception that either end is pointed, giving it the appearance of a huge spindle. Its dimensions are 28 metres in length by 9.20 metres in diameter at the widest part. The time-honoured rope-trappings of the ordinary balloon are ingeniously replaced by broad hempen ribands, sewn fast to the inflated spindle with geometrical precision. The trappings of the car are fastened to two lateral beams, of a light, flexible wood, which follow the outline of the balloon. The car is built of bamboo staves, held firmly in position by india rubber bands. The rudder is elevated several feet above, and connected with, the car, but altogether smaller than that adopted by Dr. Wölfert. A powerful electromotor revolves the screw, which is at once

simple and powerful, for M. Tissandier has spared neither time nor labour in order to render it as effective as possible. Before putting the screw in motion the aeronaut ascended several hundred metres, in order to test the force of the wind. Upon starting the motor it was found perfectly competent to keep the balloon motionless in the face of a strong West wind, and the aeronaut crossed and recrossed the aerial current and ascended and descended without throwing out ballast. The one drawback was that the violent vibrations of the screw gave the whole balloon a rotatory movement which considerably neutralised the effect of the steering apparatus. After the wind had slightly subsided, M. Tissandier directed his course towards Croisy-sûr-Seine, where he shortly arrived in perfect safety. The defects of this machine are, as *L'Illustration* hopefully remarks, easily remedied; but although M. Tissandier's final success may not be far distant, we doubt whether a machine constructed as his is can be applied to any very practical purpose. At the same time it is assuredly a step in the right direction, and marks a new era in the development of aerostatics.

From the sublime to the ridiculous is often but a step. In connection with the above we quote a paragraph from the *North China Daily News* :—

A copy of the following document, addressed "To the Rulers of Nations, Explorers of the Earth, and Inhabitants (sic) of the Globe," has been sent to us. We reprint it *verbatim et literatim* :—

I announce to you that I have discovered the secret of navigating the air in a balloon against the wind.

I have not yet put in practice my great discovery because the means are still wanting; but long study and repeated experiments have assured me of a successful result and that in a short time men will be able to navigate round the world in a balloon.

Now this being in many respects a delicate subject as the peace and tranquillity of the world might be endangered by the aeronaut carrying arms and bombs across the confines of even the most powerful states and so exciting general uneasiness, it may be readily imagined that, desirous as I am that my invention be beneficial to the world and not hurtful, I cannot divulge my secret till I learn the views and intentions of the different governments and so avoid all unnecessary susceptibility and the possible effusion of blood and treasure to the utter destruction of all peace and security.

If then my invention be thought worthy of your approbation, I wait a reply before publishing my secret.

FRANCESCO MASTRODOMENICO.

Signor Mastrodomenico does not say from whom he expects a reply, or from how many people. If he waits until all the crowned heads and all the "inhabitants" of the world acknowledge the receipt of his manifesto, we fear that his discovery will continue a secret for this millennium at least. The enterprising Mastrodomenico is also in possession of a famous scheme for making everybody rich and saving two hundred thousand million francs per annum. If the potentates of the Universe will only act upon his views the world, he says, will soon become "an Earthly Paradise and posterity may bless and revere our memory—in hopes of receiving a favourable answer."

ASIATIC SOCIETY OF JAPAN.

A General Meeting of the Asiatic Society of Japan was held at the Theological Hall, 17, Tsukiji, on Wednesday, December 12th, the Vice-President for Tokio in the Chair.

The minutes of the last Tokio Meeting, having been published in both the daily and weekly editions of the *Japan Mail*, were taken as read.

The CORRESPONDING SECRETARY stated that in the room of Mr. Cox, resigned, Dr. Knott had been elected Recording Secretary for Tokio.

The CHAIRMAN announced that the Council had received a further instalment of Mr. H. Pryer's catalogue of the Lepidoptera of Japan, which from its purely technical nature would be received as read.

Mr. KORSCHOLT then read his paper on "The Water Supply of Tokio." He first referred to a previous paper on this subject submitted by Mr. Atkinson (read Nov. 24, 1877) whose analyses had established that the river waters brought into Tokio were greatly deteriorated by passage through wooden pipes, and that most of the surface waters were dangerous and some exceptionally bad. Of the 29 waters analysed by Mr. Atkinson, three only were satisfactory drinking waters. By separating Mr. Atkinson's waters into two groups, high ground and low ground waters, Mr. Korscholt was led to the startling result that the high ground water of Tokio is twice as impure as the low ground water. The obvious explanation is that the low ground wells really reach a lower level though they may not be so deep; and hence it was concluded that below Tokio there is pure water rising upwards in the soil. At moderate depths, depending upon the nature of the soil, this pure under ground water will be more or less mixed with actual surface water; but yet it will be possible to obtain pure water anywhere in Tokio by driving a shaft down deep enough. This depth need never exceed 250 feet, while usually a very moderate depth of from 60 to 100 feet will suffice. Throughout the city there are certainly many hundreds of such artesian wells, especially in Asakusa-ku, Shitaya-ku, and Kiyobashi-ku, and to a limited extent in Shiba-ku, Kanda-ku, Nihonbashi-ku, and Kojimachi-ku. After detailing the analyses of 78 different well waters from different parts of Tokio, the author proceeded to enquire as to the source of this abundant supply of pure water constantly oozing up through the soil. The existence of certain overflow wells not far distant from wells which did not overflow seemed to preclude the idea that this underground water should be referred to the mountain ranges to the west and north. The only other possible source is the low table-land lying between and beyond the Sumidagawa and Tamagawa. Through the loose red soil of unstratified tufa which forms this plain the water will freely sink. Some of it, no doubt, rises again through the pond and river beds—a fact which explains the remarkable increase of volume of the Kandagawa, notwithstanding the constant drawing off for irrigation purpose. The paper ended with estimates as to the expense of giving Tokio thoroughly good water supply by pumping this underground water up through iron pipes to suitable reservoirs. Not only would the water thus obtained be admirable drinking water; but the constancy of its supply would make possible the erection of large manufacturing in and around the city.

Dr. DIVERS, in emphasising some of the points brought out in the paper, took occasion to draw the attention of members to the great practical importance of accurate chemical analysis. Much of the analysis which the paper contained had been done by Japanese students under Mr. Korscholt's direction.

After replying to some questions, put by Mr. DU BOIS and Mr. ANERMAN,

Mr. KORSCHOLT submitted another paper on the analysis of certain saline springs. The work had been undertaken with the hope of finding evidence for the existence of rock-salt; but, so far, the results had been negative.

The CHAIRMAN, in conveying the thanks of the Society to the author, remarked that the importance of the subject, technical though in many respects it was, was fully attested by the large audience which had gathered to hear the papers.

The meeting was then adjourned.

CHRIST CHURCH.

The services yesterday were rendered especially interesting by the presence and first public appearance of the newly-arrived Bishop of the English Church in Japan, the Right Reverend Arthur Wm. Poole, D.D.

A very large congregation assembled for the morning service, which was read by the Rev. E. Champneys Irwine, M.A., our Chaplain. The lessons and epistle were read by the Rev. T. Warren, of Osaka. The Choir were present in full force to welcome the Bishop, and at a very short notice had prepared a beautiful service under the able direction of Mr. Griffin.

The Anthem "It is high time to awake out of sleep," was listened to with great attention. The various parts were finely rendered, and the force of the striking words was well brought out by such a rendering. The Bishop took for his text Ephesians iii., 14 and 15: "The Father, of whom the whole family in heaven and earth is named." He dwelt first upon the beauty of the human family relationship, its tenderness and joys. He then adduced a powerful illustration from the rudimentary organs found in different species of the animal world, showing that undeveloped fingers had been recognized in the horse's hoof, which found their prototype in the true fingers of man's marvellous hand. Many similar cases in the animal world were known to exist, and the preacher argued that it was just to assume from analogy that human family ties, venerable and strong as they were, were after all but rudimentary types of something greater. Their great antitype was found, as revelation showed, in the mystery of the Eternal Father and the Son. Bound up in families, in tribes, in nations, named from the progenitors of each, the race itself derives its Fatherhood, as do the tribes of Heaven, from the Father of all. Vistas of thought opened up here where the contemplation was lost in the distant glory of the Eternal. The Bishop then went on to speak of the latest scion of the Christian Church springing up as it were, amid the autumnal civilization and modes of life of Japan. Three marked epochs, as an able writer, who not himself biased by Christianity, had said, might be traced in the history of all the early Christian Churches. First, the period of development of morality, then the epoch of controversy with scepticism and heathen philosophy, and thirdly the consolidation of dogmas. It was propable that at present the native Christian Church in Japan was but in the first of these stages. The preacher then alluded to the foreign residents, their absence from many of the powerful restraining influences of the mother countries, and the temptations by which they were surrounded. Knowing and feeling these things, how much the more should their interest and sympathy go forth to the native Christians, surrounded as they were with all the vices of heathenism, and loaded with the accumulated errors of centuries. For the missionaries, too, discouraged often by the inevitable but trying environment of a heathen world, he asked the sympathy and prayers of all who valued the noble possessions of the Christian. Finally, he asked the same for himself, Bishop Pastor of his Church, but also missionary of the gospel to this nation, which, though yet only awaking to a dim knowledge of its lineage, is one of those named of Him from whom every family in Heaven and Earth is named.

At evening service the Church was again full, and the whole strength of the choir was available.

The beautiful Anthem, "What are these arrayed in white robes?" having been sung with great expression and feeling, the Bishop proceeded with the Confirmation, having previously delivered a most valuable and pointed address to the candidates. The Bishop gave as the heads of his discourse, and as watchwords to those just about to enter upon the solemn duties of the Christian campaign, three words from the fourth Chapter of Hebrews. The command to *fear*, not servilely, but lest we fail of the promise: to *labour*, which is needful to obtain spiritual food as well as bodily sustenance, and to come with boldness to Him who is not only touched with the feeling of our infirmities, having felt them, but is also seated on the throne of omnipotence. The Hymn "Onward Christian Soldiers" was sung, when the Bishop had laid his hand on the head of each of those who knelt to receive his blessing, and its stirring strains touched more hearts than those of our young people who have thus made open profession of their faith. The offertories during the day amounted to nearly \$80.

SOCIAL GATHERING IN YOKOHAMA.

A dinner was given last evening at the Grand Hotel, by the President of the Yokohama Judicial Courts, Judge Hasegawa Takashi, to the Foreign Consular Corps, and a few friends, among whom were the Governor of Kanagawa Ken and the Superintendent of Customs, thirty persons in all being present.

Mr. E. DE BAVIER, who sat at the right of the President, addressed the company as follows:—Amongst the manifestations of civil and political progress in Japan none deserves more attention than the administration of justice. Instead of the confused and many bye-laws, which formed part of the legislation of the country, or of penal regulations amongst which the *Harakiri* subsisted up to our own time, we find public Courts constituted on modern principles applying codes of laws which answer all demands of modern civilisation. Thus the mercurial rapidity with which Japan is marching on the road of progress has achieved as great wonders in this as in other fields. This, however, is not by any means the result of foreign influence alone. We all know that Japanese civilisation is much older and quite as mature and refined as that of Western countries, and whilst admitting the existence of pure bye-laws in Japan some of which were unreasonable, we must not forget, that Japan had codified laws long before she ever came into contact with foreigners. Indeed, the first codified Japanese law book was published in the year 702, an authentic interpretation of which forms part of the teaching at the Tokio University to-day. If between that date and modern time we have not heard of much alteration in the legislation, this is mainly due to the establishment of the feudal system following the foundation of the Shogunate, which gave birth to ever so many different systems of legislation of which it is difficult to speak generally. One of the first convictions arrived at with the restoration of the Mikado was that the diversity of legislation in the various parts of the country must be amended, also that the rules of law transmitted from the feudal age must be modified and improved, and the result was the great labor bestowed on the codification of the new civil and penal laws. These codes of laws are by no means, as many suppose, a mere copy from foreign laws, they are based, es-

pecially as regards penal law, on the first Japanese Code just referred to, and embody most of the old laws with some modifications and improvements; thus the material used for the compilation of the new codes must be considered as mostly native. These codes are the product of Japanese civilisation, they are not abstrusely speculative, or mechanically copied, but historically developed laws tempered by foreign contact. If we look on the subject in this light we must admit that the opinion held by some that a long time will be needed before Japanese judges are fully competent to apply the new codes is exaggerated, as the laws which they are called upon to apply are already well naturalised on Japanese soil, and are by no means foreign to the moral ideas. This fact will explain the efficiency of judges, of whom otherwise it would be difficult to conceive that they could have so quickly and successfully adapted themselves to modern legislation. Amongst these judges, you will agree with me, that Mr. Hasegawa Takashi occupies a prominent position. During the comparatively short time of his tenure of office, Mr. Hasegawa has already succeeded in making himself a name for the soundness and impartiality of his judgments, while the urbanity of his manners as a gentleman, has won him many friends. I propose the health of Mr. Hasegawa, hoping that we may long keep him amongst us for the benefit of his country and of foreigners.

Mr. HASEGAWA TAKASHI, who replied, spoke in the English language, and said:—Gentlemen, while thanking you for your honored presence here this evening, I wish to reply, briefly, to the very kind remarks of Mr. Bavier. Mr. Bavier, just now spoke with reference to the reformation made in our, the Japanese, law, and said that the efficiency of Japanese judges to adapt themselves to modern legislation is explained by the fact of our new laws being founded on those in use in olden times. Now, I consider those remarks unprecedented in talent, and I admire his high and clear opinions. Such remarks are, I assure you, a source of the greatest pleasure to the people of this country. Mr. Bavier also remarked that I have already succeeded in making myself a name for the soundness and impartiality of my judgments. Such a name, if made, is really more than I expected, and I can only ascribe it to your kind assistance. Thanking you all for your kind and friendly feelings, I drink to your very good healths.

THE BRITISH TREATY WITH COREA.

The following particulars of the Treaty between Great Britain and Corea, which was signed at Seoul on the 26th ultimo, are published in the *N.C. Daily News* of the 5th instant:—

Art. I.—Provides for Peace and Amity, and for the exercise of good offices in case of these being required by one or other of the contracting powers.

Art. II.—Provides for Diplomatic and Consular representation.

Art. III.—Secures to the British Authorities exclusive jurisdiction in all cases, civil or criminal, brought against British subjects in Corea, either by the Korean Government or Korean subjects, or by any British or other foreign subject or citizen. Any complaints involving a penalty or confiscation for breach of the Treaty or of the Regulations annexed thereto will also be decided by the British Authorities.

Art. IV.—Opens the ports of Chemulpo (Jenchuan), Wonsan (Gensan), and Pusan (Fusan), the City of Hanyang (Seoul) and the town of Yanghwachin to British trade. Choice may be made of another port in the neighbourhood of Pusan and of another town in the neighbourhood of Yanghwachin if those two places should be found unsuitable; but the right to open commercial establishments in Hanyang (the capital) is subject to surrender if the Chinese Government should relinquish that right. At each of the places named, British subjects may rent or purchase land or houses, and may erect dwellings, warehouses, and factories. The sites for the foreign Settlements are to be selected and laid out by the Korean Government in conjunction with the competent Foreign Authorities, and will be managed by a Council the constitution of which will be determined in the same way. British subjects will have full liberty to travel and trade in the interior of the country, and will be amenable in the settlements or elsewhere to such Municipal Police and other Regulations as may be agreed on by the authorities of the two countries.

Art. V.—Gives British subjects the right to import into any Korean open port from any foreign port or any Korean open port all kinds of merchandise (excepting prohibited goods); and to export the same to any Korean open port, or to any foreign port. It provides for drawbacks on foreign goods, and for the refund of duty on Korean produce when proved to have been conveyed to a Korean open port. All goods that have once paid the duty of the tariff may be transported to any Korean open port free of duty, or may be conveyed into the interior free of any additional tax, excise, or transit duty whatsoever. Tonnage dues are to be paid at the rate of 30 cents per ton, a single payment being good for four months; and the whole of the dues so collected are to be appropriated to the construction of lighthouses, beacons, etc., and to the improvement of the anchorages at, and the approaches to, the open ports.

Art. VI.—Relates to smuggling at non-opened ports, the penalty being confiscation of the smuggled goods, as well as the forfeiture of twice their value.

Art. VII.—Details the course to be followed in case of shipwreck, or when a British vessel is stranded on the Korean Coast. All salvaged cargo or property is to be carefully protected, and the wants of the shipwrecked persons are to be fully provided for.

Art. VIII.—Relates to ships of war. They may visit any Korean port, may store supplies at the open ports, and may make surveys of the Coasts.

Art. IX.—Sanctions the employment of Korean subjects by British subjects in any lawful capacity.

Art. X.—Is the favoured nation clause, and secures to the British Government and subjects all privileges that have been or may hereafter be granted by the Korean Government to the Government or subjects of any other Power.

Art. XI.—Provides for the revision of the treaty and tariff by mutual consent in ten years.

Art. XII.—Provides that any dispute as to the meaning of the treaty shall be determined by the English text.

The Regulations of Trade annexed to the treaty define the course of procedure in relation, firstly, to the entrance and clearance of vessels; secondly, to the landing and shipping of cargo and the payment of duties; and, thirdly, to the protection of the revenue.

The Import Tariff in its classified form is arranged under six headings:—

Class 1, duty free goods, contains agricultural implements, books, bullion, coins, models, packing materials, plants, samples, scientific instruments, travellers' baggage, &c.

Class 2, being goods subject to an *ad valorem* duty of five per cent., comprises various raw materials, together with grain, seeds, beans and pulse, flour and meal, hides and skins, horns and hoofs, kerosene and mineral oils; metals in pig, sheet, bar, &c.; oil cake, and all manures, drugs and medicines, yarns of all kind, and all unenumerated articles, raw or unmanufactured.

Class 3.—The goods under this head, which are to pay 7½ per cent. *ad valorem*, form the most important class of the tariff. They consist of cotton manufactures of all kinds; cotton and woollen, and cotton and silk mixtures; woollen manufactures of all kinds, and woollen and silk mixtures; linen, or linen mixed with cotton, wool or silk; grass cloth, and all textiles in hemp, jute, &c.; clothing or wearing apparel of all sorts, ordinary carpeting, chemicals, dyes, colours and paints, leather; window glass, plain or coloured; metals in pipe, tube, or wire; steel, tin-plates, nickel, white copper or other valuable metals; hardware, cutlery, machinery, porcelain, paper, soap, sugar—all qualities, tea, raw silk, and some silk manufactures, soft woods and timber, and all unenumerated articles partly manufactured.

Class 4. comprises goods liable to a duty of ten per cent., and consists of beer and foreign wines, superior carpeting, certain silk manufactures, and clothing made wholly of silk; clocks and watches, in silver; glassware, furniture, leather manufactures, fancy paper, plated ware, pictures, hard woods, various articles of superior make, and all unenumerated articles completely manufactured.

Class 5. consists of goods liable to twenty per cent. duty. These are articles of luxury, such as amber, coral, jade, ivory, birds' nests, tortoise shell, embroideries, furs, musk, jewellery, precious stones, velvet, watches in gold or gilt, fire-arms, tobacco, spirits and liqueurs, &c.

Class 6. being prohibited goods, consists of adulterated drugs or medicines, arms and munitions of war (except when imported under permit), counterfeit coins, and opium (except medicinal opium).

All native produce, except the free list, consisting of refined gold and silver, bullion, gold and silver coins, plants, samples, and travellers' luggage, will pay an *ad valorem* duty of five per cent. The exportation of red ginseng is prohibited.

The above *ad valorem* tariff is to be converted into specific rates as soon as possible by the authorities of the two countries.

Duties may be paid in Mexican dollars or Japanese silver yen.

TRANSLATIONS FROM NATIVE JOURNALS.

THE DIFFICULTIES OF THE GOVERNMENT.

(Translated from the *Fiyu Shimbun*.)

The erection of Government buildings and public gardens, encouragement of transport, agriculture, and direct trade, extension of the military organization, establishment of the Nippon Bank, reform of the Specie Banks, opening of competitive exhibitions of painting, arts, marine and other

produce, reclamation of waste lands in Hokkaido and Oku-u, opening of gold, silver, copper, and coal mines, protection of sugar and cotton cultivations, aid to *shisoku*, furtherance of education and sanitary arrangements, repairs to wharves and construction of railways and telegraphs—all these are undertakings that entail heavy outlays by the Government. If detailed accounts were prepared and if we compared them with the amount of our revenue, we should be astonished to find that the Government could bear the burden; although during the last three or four years, the revenue has steadily increased, now amounting to more than yen 75,000,000. Apart from the question of precipitancy or tardiness with which these undertakings are executed, we find, on consideration, that they are all of the utmost importance and demand serious attention on the part of the Government, which is already involved in many difficulties.

We hear that the Government contemplates extending railways by raising a domestic loan of yen 25,000,000. This report has been published in many journals, and is the main topic of discussion among the companies which have relations with the authorities. It must, therefore have some foundation. Some of our contemporaries have already expressed their views on the subject, one in favor of the project and another against it. Believing, as we do, that the matter is decided, we will offer a few remarks. Now-a-days the railway is the principal means of communication in every civilized nation. Consequently it is incumbent upon Governments to construct them, since road making is within the legitimate sphere of the duty of Governments. It is opposed to all reason to assert that though the Government is bound to construct roads, it is abusing its duty to make railways. For this reason, we included the construction of railways among the difficulties of the Government. No one will, we believe, raise objection on this point. The importance of connecting Kiyoto with Tokiyo, is well recognized. Not only will the railway between the two cities afford facilities for transport, improve trade, and encourage industry, but it will prove to be of immense value for the defence of the country in case of foreign war. Therefore, we have no reason to condemn the construction of the Tokiyo-Kiyoto line.

The raising of a new domestic loan in these days when the taxes are increased to the aggravation of the populace, forms another subject. We cannot approve it, even though it be raised for the construction of railways; because the outlay can be defrayed from other sources. We refrain, however, from discussing the advantages and disadvantages attendant upon the domestic loan, but its appropriation demands consideration on our part. We desire to see it applied on the works that are of most pressing nature, and the Government must have decided which work to commence first. In our opinion, the most important of all works is coast defence. We have had occasion to urge the speedy construction of forts around the coast. There is no nation in Europe and America that has neglected the fortification of its coasts as our country has. It is surrounded by sea on all sides, but there is not a single fort that affords defence against the incursion of an enemy's ships. The Bay of Yedo is exposed to the attack of foes. So are the ports of Kobe and Osaka. Hokkaido, whilst exposed to the immediate aggression of Russians, has no military protection. The Riukiu Islands have also no man-of-war or a soldier to protect the inhabitants. This is inconsistent with the fact that the Government abolished the Riukiu clan in

spite of the objection of the Chinese Government. In fact, Japan has no Navy worthy of the name. Ships that can engage in warfare, are four or five. In a word, the whole empire is exposed to the rapacious incursion and plunder of foreign enemies. The matter is of such an important nature that the Government—even though it be obliged to abandon all other enterprises—must attend to it. We earnestly desire that the new loan to be raised shall be applied to the erection of forts.

The Chinese maxim, "You must not forget war while peace prevails," was the fundamental principle that moved our ablest men. We must be equally prepared for civil and military pursuits. A Western proverb also says:—"To be armed beforehand, is the best means to avoid war." This most forcibly applies to the case of our country. We are placed in a peculiar position. Brilliant, as the career of the empire has been since the present Government was established; yet, in fact, the apprehension of foreign aggression and resentment of foreign insult, were the causes that stirred the spirit of able men and led to the present achievement. This spirit was then styled *Joi* (expulsion of barbarians). On careful analysis, we find that, it was the desire to maintain the independence of the country. This expression was not used at the time when the Dutchmen and Chinese alone held tralad relations with us. It originated with the arrival of the American fleet. The Chinese and Dutch were amenable to the Japanese law. Consequently the popular feeling was not directed against them. But the Americans forced themselves upon us by the power of their heavy artillery. This provoked the whole nation and gave rise to the term "*Joi*." Even the Imperial edict issued in the early days of the Restoration was not free from this spirit, for it contained such words as these:—"His Majesty desires to stand on an equal footing with foreign nations" or "extend the Imperial power over foreign countries by the aid of his Ancestors." Since then, sixteen years have elapsed, but the treaty which was signed under the united coercion of England, France, Russia, and America, remains in the same condition as before. The stain of extra-territoriality has not yet been washed off. The foreign settlements in the treaty ports and at Osaka and Tokiyo appear as though they were definitely conceded to foreigners by the Government. Foreigners are only amenable to their own laws. Even the territorial law sanctioned by Imperial decree, is not binding upon them. The foreigners in the employment of the Japanese Government also claim exemption from the law. In that way is Japan humiliated and subjected to ignominy. Is this because our claim is not just and is unreasonable? No. Our claim is just and certainly reasonable. Yet we cannot do away with the stain, because we have no sufficient military force. It is the first duty of the Government to enlarge the Army and Navy, and thereby to secure the dignity and peace to the nation. At present, there is a menacing danger to the country, and if effective measures are not taken now, all the plans hitherto adopted will be frustrated. Observers may remark that Liberalism does not aim at improving the country by means of arms. But there is a wide distinction between moral and practical politics. We are constrained to guard against the incursion of any invader. We believe there is nobody foolish enough to leave his property at the mercy of thieves. If even this country produces a great minister of liberal views, in the 23rd year of Meiji, when a National Assembly comes into existence, he will not be able to adjust

domestic and foreign policy without a sufficient military force at his command. Foreign powers are watching for a chance to carry out their aggressive designs. We are informed that a certain Russian officer belonging to the General Staff Office suggested to the Russian Government an attack on Japan. Should a war break out between China and France, our country will suffer most severely, even though Russia and America do not combine with France, or even though England and Germany do not assist China. The moment hostilities commence, the Government must either proclaim neutrality or combine with either one of the parties. But, considering the condition of our Navy, we are unable to maintain neutrality or to combine with either one of the parties. Supposing we declare neutrality, let us ask whether our Navy is strong enough to make the belligerents observe our orders. If the French squadron enter our ports for coaling, provisioning, or water, can we prevent them? No! we are unable to do so. The authorities must be seriously concerned about this question. There is no country on the earth that has so much neglected fortifying its coast as has Japan. It is only reasonable that we should be subjected to European aggression and evoke contempt from the Chinese. An old proverb says that unless a nation has a reserve of force for three years, it is not a nation. What shall we do, then, in case of an emergency? The fortification of the coast and enlargement of the Navy, are the most important of all works. The erection of Government buildings, public gardens, and opening of competitive exhibitions are nothing as compared with the above works.

We regret that the country is utterly destitute of means of defence. The sooner the work is commenced the better, since it requires at least ten years to complete our scheme of fortification. It is to be hoped that the new loan may be appropriated to the extension of our military organization.

A STRONG NATION'S INJUSTICE.

(Translated from the *Jiyu Shimbun*.)

Unsupportable as its theory and reason are, the Western proverb "might is right" which is identical with our "*anata no go-muri wa go-mottomo*" (literally, your obstinacy is quite right!) we must condemn it as a thing that ought not to exist in this civilized nineteenth century of which we boast. Reflection upon the state of affairs, however, shows that, in matters of great importance such as international intercourse, and of minor importance such as the relation between the prosperous and unfortunate classes, the above doctrine predominates. The powerful nations of Europe and America adopt an egotistic and avaricious policy towards Japan, China, and Turkey—a sugar-plum policy. This may be justifiable to a certain extent in the case of Germany or Russia where politics mean militarism. But that the people of Great Britain and the United States, where opinions of equality and freedom are supposed to prevail, should adopt a policy towards Orientals more oppressive than that of Germany or Russia, causes us as much regret as indignation.

America has prohibited the immigration of Chinese laborers—a prohibition revolting to any sense of justice. Americans hate the Chinese because the latter are frugal and work for low wages, driving white men out of the field of competition. They have striven hard to force Chinese settlers away, and have made their residence a political question.

The year before last, Congress passed a law prohibiting the entry of Chinese laborers, and President Arthur himself, yielding to vulgar prejudice, sanctioned the measure. This is a glaring example of the protectionist principle; nay, it almost amounts to closing the country against Chinese workmen. Whether or no this is reasonable, requires no investigation; but a few examples of its injustice may be instructive to the public. Lately, when Chinese living in Hongkong—therefore British subjects—went to America, the Court of Massachusetts decided that, as the Chinese of Hongkong are British subjects, the Chinese Restriction Act is inoperative against them. On the other hand, a Californian Court delivered judgment that the spirit of the Act being to prohibit the immigration of Chinese labourers, the law is applicable to Chinese from Hongkong so long as they are Mongolians, no matter where their place of residence. According to this decision, Chinese labourers cannot enter the United States of America. This is iniquitous. Another instance is still more remarkable. In Boston, the master of a British sailing vessel refused to discharge a Chinese sailor for fear of violating the law. The man applied to the Boston Court for a writ of *habeas corpus*. The Court rejected the application on the ground that a Chinese sailor is a Chinese "labourer," and that the master was justified in detaining the man on board the ship. The *New York Nation* bitterly complains of the law being eluded, and says that Chinese are freely smuggled into the United States by way of British Columbia, and suggests a most atrocious plan as the only efficacious one to put a stop to the evil. It is as follows:—"This will have to be amended this winter if it is intended to be really operative, and there is only one way to make it really operative, that is to authorize the summary slaughter of all Chinamen found within the country after a certain date, and then to offer a reward for the heads of all Chinamen caught after another still later date. In no other way can our Christianity be saved from the debasing influence of these heathen." We do not of course believe that the American Government will adopt such a plan. But that such a journal should—even as the mere opinion of a writer—urge such a plan publicly, has struck us with astonishment. Such unjust laws and decisions are a disgrace to a Republican Government which professes perfect freedom and the equality of all men. It was this very same Government that abolished slavery at a vast expenditure of money and blood; and now it advocates injustice. American opinion of freedom and equality must henceforward be received with reserve. Since the people of the Eastern and Western worlds came into mutual contact, every country meets alternately with injury and benefit. Europeans and Americans trading in the ports of China or Japan, do not bring benefit solely. Immigration of Chinese laborers into America may have many objectionable features and may import vice into American soil. The Chinese Government cannot put a stop to the importation of opium under the British flag to the terrible prejudice of the Chinese people. On the other hand, the American Government has carried protectionist principles to the extent of prohibiting the entry of the Mongolian race into its territories. And, not satisfied with this harsh measure, Americans still clamour for the expulsion of the Celestials by the most murderous measures. What a world of injustice and of violence! Careful analysis of the Chinese Immigration Restriction Act proves that it means closure of the ports and the expulsion of barbarians (*Foi*). Ah! What a great difference! Thirty years ago, Americans summoned us, with their heavy artillery, to break down the walls of our isolation; and now they choose to close their doors against Chinese labourers. Do they believe, then, that strength is reason? We cannot tell them that unreason is right.

THE DANGER TO JAPANESE SILK MANUFACTURERS.

The following is translated from the *Jiyu Shimpo*, where it appears in the form of a letter to the Editor, over the signature "A Cloth Dealer":—

The depression of business is widespread throughout the country. The fall in value of all commodities is unusual. This is especially the case with silk-fabrics. The other day, I read with great interest an article in your paper treating of the depreciation in the value of raw silk. But manufactured silk is still cheaper than the raw. Cheap as raw silk is, yet it fetches \$500 per bale in Yokohama. But, supposing 5 *yen* worth of raw silk to be manufactured according to any pattern, woven, and dyed at some cost, it will not fetch more than *yen* 4; while in the original state, it fetches what it is worth. Thus, both labor and capital are wasted. The demand for silk-fabrics has greatly diminished; and, consequently, dealers cannot dispose of a single article. On the other hand, the manufacturers can no longer bear the strain upon them, and are discharging their workmen. The looms are all idle. The most fortunate have sold their places and declared themselves bankrupt. Similarly with clothiers. This state of things cannot be permanent, but we cannot tell with any degree of certainty when the revival may come. In my opinion, it will not arrive soon.

It is plain that, as the looms have been nearly all stopped, goods will get scarce at some time, and then exactly the opposite of the present low prices will prevail. Deluded by this brilliant prospect, the already ruined manufacturers or clothiers will desire to start afresh. But alas! for want of capital they will not be able to commence; or even though they could secure financial aid, they will not be able to regain their former prosperity. Suppose the clever merchants of England or France should avail themselves of this opportunity and import silk fabrics specially made for the use of Japanese! Already, we have proof of this in the importation of crapes. In this way, the foreign and Japanese manufacturers will be brought into competition. Although freight, import duty, and commission may increase the price, yet as silk goods are of great value, however small in quantity—exactly the opposite of coals, rice, or wheat, which occupy much room and are subject to high charges for carriage—the said charges do not enhance the price after all. In addition to this, the import duty is only 5 per cent., the increase on goods worth, say, *yen* 10 will not be more than *sen* 50. This should not prove at all a serious obstacle to trade. Moreover, foreign manufacturers have large capital available at low interest, and more skill than Japanese manufacturers. Thus, armed with capital and experience, if they enter into competition with Japanese, there is no reason why they should not succeed. If they think it unsafe to establish factories to be worked rentily by foreign hands, they can employ the most skilled Japanese labor at the lowest wages. Some people may remark that, if competition is so easy for foreigners, why did they not commence long ago. Because, simply, they have had no opportunity before the present. That they can succeed at this moment, we can prove by referring to the exportation of *gomame* (dried sprats) to China. Seven or eight years ago, when famine was reported in that nation, that edible commenced to be exported; and since then a good business has been done in it. Hence, if foreign silk manufacturers once enter into competition with Japanese they will not be easily defeated. The present is the best opportunity for foreign manufacturers to wrest the trade from Japanese.

TOKIO SHISHIN SAIBANSHO.

Before NAKAMIKADO Esq., Judge.—SATURDAY,
15th December, 1883.

J. J. GARGAN v. KONO SUKEJIRO.

This was a claim for payment of the penalty stipulated for between the parties for non-execution of the contract and of the balance—yen 207.43—due to the plaintiff on account of the two lots of machinery taken delivery of by defendant.

The petition of the plaintiff runs as follows:—
TOKIO SHISHIN SAIBANSHO.

J. J. Gargan, American citizen, living at No. 57, Bluff, Yokohama, plaintiff, and Kono Sukejiro, Japanese subject, doing business at Honjoku, Kikugawacho Nichome, No. 25, Tokio, as timber merchant, defendant.

The petition of J. J. Gargan, the above-named plaintiff, against Kono Sukejiro, the above-named defendant to this honorable Court sheweth as follows:—

1.—That by virtue of a certain contract (Exh. No. 1) entered into between the defendant and the plaintiff on the 4th day of May, 1883, the said defendant agreed to build for the said plaintiff two houses with material and in the manner stipulated in the said contract.

2.—That the defendant agreed to build the said houses at the price of yen 24.50 per tsubo, this price including and labor.

3.—That it was agreed between the parties that the said two houses were to be finished within 40 days from the 6th day of May, 1883, rainy days excepted, that is to say, that the said two houses were to be completed on the 15th June, 1883.

4.—That it was agreed between the parties that if the said two houses were completed before the expiration of the said 40 days the plaintiff was to pay to the defendant \$1 per day for each day wanting of said 40 days.

5.—That on the other hand the defendant agreed to pay the plaintiff \$1 per day for each day over and above the said 40 days until the completion of the said buildings.

6.—That the defendant has failed to carry out his contract, and that the said buildings still remain unfinished, thus entitling the plaintiff to claim from the defendant the sum of \$1 per day, commencing from the 16th day of June, 1883, up to the eventual completion of the said buildings, with the exception of such days which the defendant can prove as having been rainy days during the period from the 6th day to the 15th day of June, 1883.

7.—That it was further agreed by the above said contract, that the defendant should take over as part-payment against the material and labor required in the building of the said two houses a certain lot of machinery belonging to the said plaintiff and valued by the parties to be worth yen 828.

8.—That the plaintiff on the 25th day of April, 1883, some days before the contract had been written out, but under the clauses of the same, delivered to the defendant two lathes valued at \$60, or yen 82.80, as per Exhibit No. 2, and received in return wood to the value of yen 79.17, leaving a balance due him on this transaction of yen 3.63.

9.—That on the 25th day of May, 1883, the defendant with the assistance of some men took from the plaintiff by force 5 pieces of machinery valued at \$235, or yen 324.30, against which he had delivered wood to the amount of yen 120.50 only, leaving a balance due to the plaintiff on this transaction of yen 203.80.

10.—That the defendant, having contracted to take over the said machinery, the plaintiff has lost his chance of selling the same elsewhere, as also the interest on the price of the same during this time.

The plaintiff therefore prays this Honorable Court:—
1.—That the defendant may be ordered to pay to the plaintiff \$1 per day for breach of contract, commencing from the 16th day of June, 1883, or such date as may be fixed as the date on which the two houses should have been completed, according to the rainy days during contract time.

2.—That the defendant may be ordered to pay to the plaintiff yen 207.43 balance due the plaintiff out of the 2 lots of machinery received by the defendant.

3.—That the defendant may be ordered to take delivery of the balance of the machinery left on the plaintiff's hands through the breach of contract on the part of the defendant and pay for the same as agreed.

4.—That the defendant may be ordered to pay to the plaintiff legal interest on the sum of yen 207.43 and on the sum of yen 420.90 (the latter being the value of the machinery still in the plaintiff's possession) commencing from the 16th day of June, 1883, or such other date as may be fixed as the date on which the contract should have been completed up to the date of final settlement, and that the plaintiff may have such further or other relief as the nature of the case may require and as to this honorable Court may seem fit.

Dated this 6th day of August, 1883.

To IKEDA YAICHI, Esq., President of the Tokio Shishin Saibansho.

After hearing several pleadings, the Court gave the following decision:—

J. J. Gargan, an American citizen, No. 57, Bluff, Yokohama, plaintiff, *versus*, Takano Sukejiro (Heimin), No. 25, Kikugawa-cho Nichome, Honjo-ku, Tokijo, defendant.

The Court, on hearing the above case, in which

the plaintiff claims damages and repayment of the over-balance of machinery, decides as follows:—

1.—That the defendant states that he was prevented from executing the contract as per Exhibit No. 1, on account of the plaintiff having preferred a groundless charge against him, in consequence of which he has been detained in Yokohama Keiza, Saibansho (Criminal Court) since the 19th June, 1883: But owing to the want of evidence to show that he took steps to execute the contract during the interval of twenty-six days between the day he was detained and the day (May 23rd) on which he delivered timbers to the plaintiff, his plea is untenable. Again, the contention that he communicated to the plaintiff on the 24th of September to repudiate the contract, is not proved by any fact. The Court, therefore, decide that the defendant neglected fulfilling the contract. 2.—That the defendant asserts that on the 23rd of May, 1883, he forwarded the timbers to the Kiyodo Mono Ageba (the creek side allotted for landing of cargo) according to the contract. He further says the plaintiff, however, refused to hand over the machinery unless the timbers were conveyed to the site of the building. Accordingly, he was compelled to send the timbers worth 120 yen and 50 sen to the site and received five pieces of machinery equivalent in value to the timber; and that the plaintiff asserted that the said five pieces of machinery were worth 325 yen and 68 sen and charged him (defendant) with having fraudulently carried away the machinery, while the remaining timbers were not delivered. Further the defendant asserts that as shown in the end of Article 11 of Exhibit No. 3 A, and the last clause of exhibit No. 3 B, the timber and machinery were to be exchanged at equal value at the creek side from time to time; that he forwarded the timber, valued at 120 yen and 50 sen and received the forfeited pieces of machinery in return; and that as there is no reason why the plaintiff should hand over machinery worth more than the timber, his (plaintiff's) statement is unreasonable. The original contract (Exhibit No. 1 A) dated 4th May, 1883, however, says that the materials should be sent to the building site, &c., and further on the same contract says that the machinery shall be handed over to Takano Sukejiro after the timber was conveyed to No. 52, Bluff. The provisional contract (Exhibit No. 1 B) dated the 10th April, 1883, says that seven-tenths of the timbers shall be sent to the Bluff, &c., &c. For this reason, the statement as embodied in the Exhibit No. 3 that the machinery should be exchanged for timbers at the creek side cannot be interpreted otherwise than that the timbers should be handed over to the plaintiff according to the price* ruling at the time of the arrival of timber at the creek side. But it cannot be interpreted as showing the time of the arrival of the timber at the creek side. Therefore, the contention of the defendant is void. The defendant is unable to, and did not estimate the value of the machinery he received from the plaintiff on the 23rd of May, 1883, when the contract was entered upon. He stated previously that he knew not what and how the machinery made up \$660. This being the case, unless the defendant establishes the fact that the machinery he received is worth 120 yen and 50 sen, his contention that it is not worth 120 yen and 50 sen is untenable.

3.—That the plaintiff claims, according to the contract, the penalty amounting to \$145 at the rate of \$1 per day for 145 days from the 16th of June till the 8th of November, exclusive of for 40 days from the 6th of May till the 15th of June that have been allowed for completion of the building. The said penalty was stipulated for compensating the damage that may accrue to the plaintiff through the non-execution of the contract. But in the absence of evidence to show that the plaintiff sustained such damage, he is not entitled to it. He demands that the defendant should be compelled to take delivery of the remaining pieces of machinery. But the contract does not provide for the sale of the machinery; and as it was to be handed over to the defendant in part payment for building house—as though a man contracted to pay for goods in paper money or silver as the case demands—the plaintiff cannot compel the defendant to take delivery of the machinery, unless he should

let the defendant undertake the work in future. For the foregoing reasons, the Court orders that the defendant shall pay to the plaintiff the sum of 207 yen and 43 sen, the balance for the machinery; storage from the 16th of June, 1883, at the rate of 7 yen and 50 sen, and insurance at 6 yen per month. The defendant to bear the costs, the expenses for witness's attendance and translation.

IN H.B.M. COURT FOR JAPAN.

Before N. J. HANNEN Esq., Judge.—SATURDAY,
December 22nd, 1883.

YOKIOKA SHOBEI v. ED. WHITTALL.

Mr. Litchfield for plaintiff, Mr. Kirkwood for defendant.

This case, the evidence in which was concluded on the 15th instant, was called on to-day for delivery of

JUDGMENT.

After reviewing the evidence and pleadings, His Honor observed:—The conclusion that I come to, therefore, is that, although the defendant might, after having signed the contracts for the sale of the steamer and the merchandize, have said, "It is a condition precedent of my carrying out this contract that you should hand me approved bills for \$32,000," he cannot, after taking what was a most substantial part of the consideration, viz., \$16,000 in cash, still insist on this as a condition precedent to his handing over the yarns. He would be clearly entitled to his cross-action against the present plaintiff for the alleged breach of the contract by the non-delivery to the present defendant of "approved bills." As however, there is no cross-action, I cannot deal with this, and I must leave the parties to take such action as they may be advised. There will, therefore, be judgment for the plaintiff upon the second prayer of his petition with costs—against which latter the defendant will be entitled to set off \$300 as costs of that portion of the petition which was abandoned during the course of the suit. There will also be an enquiry which may be before me in Chambers as to what damages the plaintiff has suffered by the wrongful detention of the yarns.

The Civil Code is completed and would have been issued but for the return from Europe of H.E. Ito. He has made important suggestions in connection with it, and consequently it has been modified. Its enforcement is looked forward to with great interest.

Branches of the Nagasaki Custom House have been established at Idzughara, Hakata, and Shimonoseki.

A few years ago, the Marine Produce Office of the Agricultural and Commercial Department, procured Hiroshima oysters and laid them down to breed in Kanagawa Harbour. They have multiplied with wonderful rapidity, and are of excellent quality.

According to the returns prepared by the Water Police, 24 steamers, 45 sailing vessels, and 1,237 junks entered Shinagawa Bay during last month. The passengers numbered only fifty-five. The merchandize imported was:—rice, 83,666 bags; cereals, 33,354 bags; sake and shoyu (sauce), 81,550 casks; salt and miso, 248,061 casks; kerosene oil, 5,880 cases; firewood and charcoal, 126,372 kin; coal, 7,608,706 kin; dry goods, 3,285 pieces; sugar, 7,322 bags; tea, 66 boxes; tobacco leaves, 2,058 bags; dried fish, 1,684 pieces; and fresh fish, 239,855.—*Hochi Shimbu.*

* Among Japanese merchants. With them the goods are often purchased on board ship and landed at the expense of the purchasers. This is known by the name of *kaihi-maba* (creek side price) or *Okunaba* (floating price).—Translator J.M.

LATEST TELEGRAMS.

[REUTER "SPECIAL" TO "JAPAN MAIL."]

London, December 16th.

MEETING OF PARLIAMENT.

Parliament is summoned to meet for the despatch of business on February 5th.

SAFETY OF HICKS PASHA.

The Governor of Dongola telegraphs that Hicks Pasha is safe.

MORE TROOPS FOR TONGKIN.

A reinforcement of 3,000 men has been ordered for Tonquin, under General Millot.

London, December 18th.

EXECUTION OF O'DONNELL.

O'Donnell, convicted and sentenced to death for shooting Carey, the informer, was hanged yesterday.

SOUTH AFRICA.

It has been officially announced that Imperial administration has been established in Basutoland. A British resident will be appointed.

London, December 19th.

REINFORCEMENTS FOR HONGKONG.

The steamship *Hankow* has sailed with 900 troops to reinforce the garrison at Hongkong.

London, December 20th.

CAPTURE OF SONTAI.

The French have taken Sontai with severe loss.

[FROM THE HONGKONG "DAILY PRESS."]

Paris, 18th November.

THE NEW FRENCH CONSUL FOR SHANGHAI.

M. Kraetzel has been appointed French Consul-General at Calcutta, M. Lemaire being transferred to Shanghai.

London, December 1st.

O'Donnell has been found guilty, and sentenced to death.

London, 6th December.

The Presidential Message to both Houses of Congress announces the intention to extend the relations of America with Eastern nations; and a surplus of \$39,000,000. It also recommends the redemption of the Trade Dollar in bullion.

Sydney, 6th December.

The Conference at Sydney has decided in favour of the annexation of New Guinea with a common action to defray the expenses.

London, 7th December.

EGYPT.

The Mahmedi are not advancing on Kartoum, and the panic is subsiding.

London, 10th December.

ANOTHER DISASTER IN THE SOUDAN.

Another reinforcement of picked Egyptian troops has been completely annihilated by hill-men close to Suakim. The disaster has caused great consternation in Cairo.

THE PRINCE IMPERIAL OF GERMANY ON HIS TRAVELS.

The Imperial Prince of Germany intends to visit the King of Italy and Pope at Rome.

London, 11th December.

THE POET LAUREATE RAISED TO THE PEERAGE.

Mr. Tennyson has been created a baron.

London, 12th December.

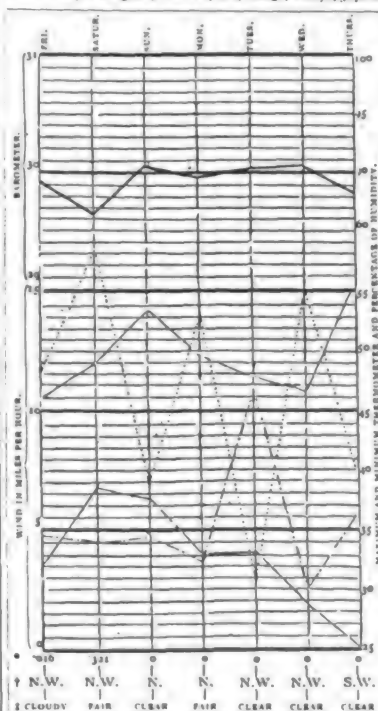
THE IRISH SEPARATIONIST LEADER.

Mr. Parnell, M.P., when receiving in Dublin a testimonial of £38,000 sterling, counselled patience, and said he had every confidence that the independence of Ireland is obtainable.

METEOROLOGICAL REPORT.

FOR WEEK BEGINNING FRIDAY, DECEMBER 14TH, 1883.

Observatory of Daigaku, Moto-Fujicho, Hongô, Tokiyo, Japan.



REMARKS.
Heavy line represents barometer.
Light continuous line—maximum and minimum thermometers.
—represents velocity of wind.
—percentage of humidity.

The barometer is reduced to the freezing point and to the level of the sea.
* Rain in inches. † Direction of Wind. ‡ Weather.
Maximum velocity of wind 36.0 miles per hour on Tuesday at 10 a.m.
The highest reading of the barometer for the week was 30.125 inches on Sunday at 11 p.m., and the lowest was 29.554 inches on Saturday at 3 p.m.
The highest temperature for the week was 55.8 on Thursday, and the lowest was 25.2 on Thursday. The maximum and minimum for the corresponding week of last year were 59.9 and 24.8 respectively.
The total quantity of rain for the week was .337 inches, against .119 inches for the corresponding week of last year.

TIME TABLES.

YOKOHAMA-TOKIO RAILWAY.

The Trains LEAVE YOKOHAMA Station at 7.30, 8.45, 9.30,* 10.15, and 11.30 a.m., and 1.00, 2.30, 4.00,* 5.00, 6.15, 8.00, 9.15, and 10.30† p.m.

The Trains LEAVE TOKIO (Shinbashi) at 7.30, 8.45, 10.00,* 10.45, and 11.30 a.m., and 1.00, 2.30, 4.00,* 5.00, 6.15, 8.00, 9.15, and 10.30† p.m.

Those marked with (*) run through without stopping at Tsurumi, Kawasaki, and Omori Stations. Those with (†) are the same as above with the exception of stopping at Kawasaki Station.

UYENO-KUMAGAI RAILWAY.

The Trains leave UYENO at 7 and 11.30 a.m. and 4 p.m., and HONJO at 6.30 and 11 a.m. and 3.30 p.m.

The Fares are:—Special-class (Separate Compartment), yen 2.35; First-class, yen 1.40; Third-class, sen 70.

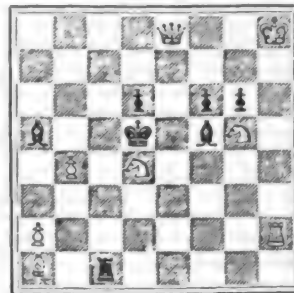
YOKOSUKA STEAMERS.

The Yokosuka steamers leave the English Hatoba daily at 8.15 and 10.45 a.m., and 12.30, 3.00, and 4.15 p.m.; and leave Yokosuka at 7.00 and 9.45 a.m., 12.15 m., and 2.00 and 4.00 p.m.

CHESS.

By Mr. F. HEALEY.

BLACK.



WHITE.

White to play and mate in 3 moves.

Solution to Chess Problem of 15th December, by E. B. Cook.

White. Black.
1.—B. to K. 2. 1.—Q. to R. 4, ch.
2.—Q. takes Q. ch. 2.—R. to B. 5.
3.—Q. to K. 5, mate. if 1.—Q. to B. 5, ch.
2.—B. to B. 6, ch. 2.—Anything.
3.—Q. mates.

Correct answer received from "TESA."

MAIL STEAMERS.

THE NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From America ... per O. & O. Co. Friday, Dec. 21st.*
From Shanghai, Nagasaki, & Kobe ... per M. B. Co. Tuesday, Dec. 25th.
From Europe, via Hongkong ... per M. M. Co. Wednesday, Dec. 26th.†

* Arrives left San Francisco on December 1st. † Arrives (with French mail) left Hongkong on December 19th.

THE NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For America ... per P. M. Co. Monday, Dec. 24th.
For Hakodate ... per M. B. Co. Tuesday, Dec. 25th.
For Shanghai, Kobe, and Nagasaki ... per M. B. Co. Wednesday, Dec. 26th.
For Europe, via Hongkong ... per P. & O. Co. Saturday, Dec. 29th.

The arrival and departure of mails by the Occidental and Oriental, the Pacific Mail, and the Peninsular and Oriental Companies, are approximate only.

EXCHANGE.

Rates have remained firm during the week, and a moderate amount of business has been transacted in Private Bills at quotations. The demand for Bank Bills has been small.

Sterling—Bank Bills on demand ... 3/8
Sterling—Bank 4 months' sight ... 3/9
Sterling—Private 4 months' sight ... 3/9
Sterling—Private 6 months' sight ... 3/9
On Paris—Bank sight ... 4/72
On Paris—Private 6 months' sight ... 4/32
On Hongkong—Bank sight ... 1 1/2 dis.
On Hongkong—Private 10 days' sight ... 1 1/2 dis.
On Shanghai—Bank sight ... 72
On Shanghai—Private 10 days' sight ... 72
On New York—Bank Bills on demand ... 90
On New York—Private 30 days' sight ... 91
On San Francisco—Bank Bills on demand ... 90
On San Francisco—Private 30 days' sight ... 91

SUNDAY CHURCH SERVICES.

Christ Church : 11 a.m. and 5.30 p.m.
Union Church : 11 a.m. and 8 p.m.
Roman Catholic Church : 8 and 9.30 a.m.
English Church, No. 12, Sakaicho, Shiba, Tokiyo : 11 a.m.

LATEST SHIPPING.

FREIGHTS.

Chartering business continues on the smallest scale, the berth for all destinations being well filled with both steam and sailing tonnage. The *Benlarig*, withdrawn last week from New York berth, is now on for London, and the *Electra* is advertised for Havre and Hamburg to sail at the end of the present month, while the *Benvenue*, *Mosser*, and *Mark Lane* are laid on for New York, with quick despatch. The British bark *Sagitta* is still loading at Kobe for Havre and London, the British bark *Cross Hill* is promised departure in January for New York, via Kobe, and the American ship *Hercules* is advertised for same destination with a prompt sailing date.

ARRIVALS.

Koweki Maru, Japanese steamer, 63, Omura, 17th December.—Yokkaichi 12th December, General.—Kowyekisha.

Mikuni Maru, Japanese steamer, 412, Taneda, 17th December.—Shimizu, 15th December, General.—Seiriussha.

Shidzuoka Maru, Japanese steamer, 334, Nakai, 17th December.—Shimizu 15th December, General.—Seiriussha.

Kengi Maru, Japanese steamer, 236, Masuda, 18th December.—Yokkaichi 14th December, General.—Kowyekisha.

Nagoya Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,900, Wilson Walker, 18th December.—Shanghai and ports, Mails and General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S. S. Co.

Okame Maru, Japanese steamer, 148, Ichishima, 18th December.—Handa 14th December, General.—Handasha.

Saikai Maru, Japanese steamer, 102, Nonaka, 18th December.—Toba 13th December, General.—Seiriussha.

Electra, German steamer, 1,162, E. Kaler, 18th December.—Nagasaki, Coals.—Simon, Evers & Co.

Kamtchatka, Russian steamer, 701, Ingman 19th December.—Kobe 17th December, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S. S. Co.

Seirio Maru, Japanese steamer, 459, Tamura, 19th December.—Yokkaichi 17th December, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S. S. Co.

Takasago Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,229, C. Young, 19th December.—Hakodate 16th and Oginohama 18th December, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S. S. Co.

Benlarig, British steamer, 1,481, H. Clark, 20th December.—Kobe 18th December, General.—Mourilyan, Heimann & Co.

Kairio Maru, Japanese steamer, 370, Amano, 20th December.—Handa 18th December, General.—Handasha.

Ben Nevis, British ship, 1,061, MacKie, 20th December.—New York 20th July, 36,000 cases Kerosene.—Comes & Co.

City of Tokio, American steamer, 3,128, Dearborn, 20th December.—Hongkong 12th December, Mails and General.—P. M. S. S. Co.

Jennie Harkness, American bark, 1,373, E. Amesbury, 20th December.—New York 13th July, 47,000 cases Kerosene.—Smith, Baker & Co.

Onoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 104, Sugimoto, 20th December.—Fukuda 19th December, General.—Handasha.

Pembrokeshire, British steamer, 1,784, Davis, 20th December.—London via Hongkong 12th December, General.—Adamson, Bell & Co.

Yechigo Maru, Japanese steamer, 750, MacFarlane, 20th December.—Kobe 18th December, General.—Kiyodo Unyu Kwaisha.

Niigata Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,097, Hubbard, 21st December.—Kobe 19th December, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S. S. Co.

Fuso Kan (12), Captain Inouye, 21st December.—Nagasaki 15th December.

Taganoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 458, Matsumoto, 21st December.—Yokkaichi 18th December, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S. S. Co.

Kosuge Maru, Japanese steamer, 794, Kawaoka, 22nd December.—Hakodate 18th December, General.—Kiyodo Unyu Kwaisha.

Zambesi, British steamer, 1,510, L. H. Moule, 22nd December.—Hongkong 13th Dec. via Nagasaki and Kobe, General.—P. & O. S. N. Co.

DEPARTURES.

Genkai Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,914, G. W. Conner, 15th December.—Shanghai and ports, Mails and General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S. S. Co.

Seirio Maru, Japanese steamer, 210, Isoda, 15th December.—Kobe, General.—Seiriussha.

Kairio Maru, Japanese steamer, 370, Amano, 16th December.—Yokkaichi, General.—Handasha.

Hiogo Maru, Japanese steamer, 896, R. N. Walker, 17th December.—Hakodate, Mails and General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S. S. Co.

Kiyokawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 62, Emada, 17th December.—Shimizu, General.—Seiriussha.

Koweki Maru, Japanese steamer, 63, Omura, 18th December.—Yokkaichi, General.—Kowyekisha.

Saika Maru, Japanese steamer, 65, Minoura, 18th December.—Kawasaki, General.—Seiriussha.

Lady Bowen, British bark, 890, L. Rodd, 19th December.—Victoria, B.C., Ballast.—Mollison, Fraser & Co.

Sattara, British bark, 940, Jenkins, 19th December.—Kobe, Ballast.—E. B. Watson.

Shidzuoka Maru, Japanese steamer, 334, Narita, 19th December.—Shimizu, General.—Seiriussha.

Kengi Maru, Japanese steamer, 236, Masuda, 19th December.—Yokkaichi, General.—Kowyekisha.

Okame Maru, Japanese steamer, 148, Ichishima, 20th December.—Handa, General.—Handasha.

Ise Maru, Japanese steamer, 748, J. J. Efford, 20th December.—Hakodate, General.—Kiyodo Unyu Kwaisha.

Nagoya Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,900, Wilson Walker, 20th December.—Shanghai and ports, Mails and General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S. S. Co.

Saikai Maru, Japanese steamer, 102, Nonaka, 20th December.—Handa, General.—Seiriussha.

Saika Maru, Japanese steamer, 65, Minoura, 20th December.—Shimizu, General.—Seiriussha.

Seirio Maru, Japanese steamer, 459, Tamura, 21st December.—Yokkaichi, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S. S. Co.

Takasago Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,229, C. Young, 21st December.—Kobe, Mails and General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S. S. Co.

Mensaleh, French steamer, 1,384, B. Blanc, 22nd December.—Hongkong, Mails and General.—Messageries Maritimes Co.

Ada, British schooner, 85, Hardy, 2nd December.—Guam, General.—Captain.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per Japanese steamer *Koweki Maru*, from Yokkaichi:—12 Japanese.

Per Japanese steamer *Kengi Maru*, from Yokkaichi:—25 Japanese.

Per Japanese steamer *Nagoya Maru*, from Shanghai and ports:—General T. B. Van Buren, Mr. and Mrs. Hellyer and child, Professor Mayet, Messrs. Takezoe and servant, Albert Stopford, H. Robertson, C. F. Vallin, Fujioka, Hashimoto, Ooba, Higashi, Nakamura, Tanabe, Inouye, and Watanabe in cabin; and 3 Chinese and 138 Japanese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Okame Maru*, from Handa:—17 Japanese.

Per Russian steamer *Kamtchatka*, from Kobe:—Mr. Griffiths and 5 Japanese in cabin; and 22 Japanese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Seirio Maru*, from Yokkaichi:—80 Japanese.

Per Japanese steamer *Takasago Maru*, from Hakodate via Oginohama:—Mr. Klein and 3 Japanese in cabin; and 116 Japanese in steerage.

Per British steamer *Benlarig*, from Kobe:—13 Japanese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Kairio Maru*, from Handa:—34 Japanese.

Per Japanese steamer *Onoura Maru*, from Fukuda:—20 Japanese.

Per American steamer *City of Tokio*, from Hongkong:—Mr. C. Nickels in cabin; and 1 Chinese in steerage. For San Francisco: Rev. and Mrs. F. Masters and child in cabin; and 125 Chinese in steerage.

Per British steamer *Pembrokeshire*, from London via Hongkong:—Dr. and Mrs. Kato.

Per Japanese steamer *Niigata Maru*, from Kobe:—Messrs. J. Walter, R. Kirby, Takezawa, Suzuki, Kawasaki, Nakai, and Yamaki in cabin; and 82 Japanese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Taganoura Maru*, from Yokkaichi:—120 Japanese.

Per Japanese steamer *Kosuge Maru*, from Hakodate:—Mr. F. Bowden and 61 Japanese.

Per British steamer *Zambesi*, from Hongkong via Nagasaki and Kobe:—Mr. and Mrs. Lowson and 2 servants, Mr. and Mrs. Abel, child, and amah, Messrs. W. H. Willoughby, Nakawara and friend, and Achong in cabin; and 6 Chinese and 12 Japanese in steerage.

DEPARTED.

Per Japanese steamer *Genkai Maru*, for Shanghai and ports:—His Excellency Inouye, Governor Tanabe, Admiral Davis, U.S.N., Lieut. James, Mr. and Mrs. J. A. De Forrest, and 3 children, Mr. and Mrs. J. F. Jones, Mrs. Bisbee, family and nurse, Mrs. F. Koshima, Mrs. N. Koshima, Mrs. Edwards, Miss S. Koshima, Dr. J. M. Mathewson, Messrs. R. Kirby, Blum, John Stoddard, Hon. L. Greville, G. Wauchope, Uyeda, Oki, Mori, Kitamura, Matsumoto, Shun, K. Inouye, Ban, Ishikawa, Shima, Iijima, Numa, and Akabane in cabin.

Per British bark *Lady Bowen*, for Victoria, B.C.: Mr. and Mrs. Ribberjelke, Rev. J. Goble, and Miss Goble in cabin; and 3 Europeans in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Nagoya Maru*, for Shanghai and ports:—Governor Nishimura, Governor Senda, Mr. and Mrs. Nomura, Mr. and Mrs. Takagi, Mrs. Kildoye, Mrs. Imai and child, Miss Boulton, Rev. Warren, Professor J. Milne, Captain F. Creighton, Lieutenant W. Strugan, R.N., Dr. Sibbald, Messrs. Chamberlain, C. W. Phipps, T. B. Wheeler, Comstock, Barnes, H. Sibbald, F. Dubois, T. Iwakura, Isobe, Usagiya, J. Yoshikawa, S. Yanaga, and B. Takagi in cabin.

CARGOES.

Per Japanese steamer *Genkai Maru*, for Shanghai and ports:—Treasure, \$169,480.00.

Per Japanese steamer *Nagoya Maru*, from Shanghai and ports:—Treasure, \$1,000.00; yam 102,436.

Per Japanese steamer *Nagoya Maru*, for Shanghai and ports:—Treasure, \$700.00.

Per British steamer *Zambesi*, from Hongkong via Nagasaki and Kobe:—Through Cargo, 2,261 packages; Treasure, 48 boxes; Local Cargo, 938 packages; Sugar, 1,063 packages; Beef, 40 sides; Beef, 8 baskets.

REPORTS.

The American steamer *City of Tokio*, Captain H. C. Dearborn, reports leaving Hongkong on the 14th December, at 3.15 p.m. with variable winds and fine weather throughout the passage. Arrived at Yokohama on the 20th December, at 7 p.m. Time, 6 days and 3 hours.

The Japanese steamer *Niigata Maru*, Captain John C. Hubbard, reports leaving Kobe on the 19th December, at 5.10 p.m. with light variable airs and overcast to Omaisaki; thence to port strong westerly gale, heavy sea, and fine clear weather. Arrived at Yokohama on the 21st December, at 6 a.m.

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

During the past week business has continued on but a small scale for Yarns and Shirtings, and the few sales made show a decline on our last nominal quotations, other Piece Goods are generally easier, but Indigo Shirtings and Turkey Reds show a slight improvement, whilst Velvets are enquired for at an advance of 25 to 40 cents for common qualities and a less marked advance for best chops. Metals show no improvement, and Bar Iron is quoted lower but no business doing.

COTTON YARNS.

| | PER PICUL. |
|---------------------------------|------------------|
| Nos. 16 to 24, Common to Medium | \$24.50 to 27.50 |
| Nos. 16 to 24, Good to Best | 28.25 to 29.25 |
| Hombay, No. 20, Good to Best | 25.00 to 27.00 |
| Nos. 25 to 32, Common to Medium | 29.00 to 30.00 |
| Nos. 25 to 32, Good to Best | 31.00 to 33.25 |
| Nos. 35 to 42 | 34.00 to 36.00 |

COTTON PIECE GOODS.

| | PER PIECE. |
|----------------------------------------------|----------------|
| Grey Shirtings—8½, 38½ to 39 inches | \$1.70 to 2.15 |
| Grey Shirtings—9½, 38½ to 45 inches | 1.85 to 2.30 |
| T. Cloth—7½, 24 yards, 32 inches | 1.35 to 1.45 |
| Indigo Shirting—12 yards, 44 inches | 1.50 to 1.75 |
| Prints—Assorted, 24 yards, 30 inches | 1.10 to 2.40 |
| Cotton—Italians and Sateens Black, 32 inches | 0.07 to 0.09 |
| Turkey Reds—2 to 2½, 24 yards, 30 inches | 1.15 to 1.45 |
| Turkey Reds—2½ to 2½, 24 yards, 30 inches | 1.45 to 1.60 |
| Turkey Reds—3½, 24 yards, 30 inches | 1.70 to 1.82½ |
| Velvets—Black, 35 yards, 22 inches | 6.50 to 7.00 |
| Victoria Lawns, 12 yards, 42-3 inches | 0.60 to 0.70 |
| Taffachels, 12 yards, 43 inches | 1.75 to 2.05 |

WOOLLENS.

| Plain Orleans, 40-42 yards, 32 inches | \$3.50 to 5.35 |
|--------------------------------------------------|----------------|
| Figured Orleans, 29-31 yards, 31 inches | 3.25 to 4.00 |
| Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches | 0.13 to 0.23 |
| Mousseline de Laine—Crape, 24 yards, 31 inches | 0.14½ to 0.16 |
| Mousseline de Laine—Itajime, 24 yards, 31 inches | 0.13½ to 0.25 |
| Mousseline de Laine—Yuzen, 24 yards, 31 inches | 0.30 to 0.35½ |
| Cloths—Pilots, 54 @ 56 inches | 0.30 to 0.40 |
| Cloths—Presidents, 54 @ 56 inches | 0.40 to 0.50 |
| Cloths—Union, 54 @ 56 inches | 0.30 to 0.55 |
| Blankets—Scarlet and Green, 6 to 5½, per lb | 0.35 to 0.40 |

IRON.

| | PER PICUL. |
|-------------------------------|----------------|
| Flat Bars, ½ inch | \$2.50 to 2.85 |
| Flat Bars, 1 inch | 2.80 to 2.90 |
| Round and square up to 1 inch | 2.80 to 2.90 |
| Nailrod, assorted | 2.35 to 2.60 |
| Nailrod, small size | 2.85 to 3.15 |

KEROSENE.

Sales during the week have amounted to 18,000 cases, and deliveries to 20,000 cases. The Market has been firm at quotations, and holders look for higher prices. The *Jennie Harkness* and *Ben Nevis* have arrived with 82,976 cases, making present Stock some 710,000 cases sold and unsold Oil.

| | PER CASE. |
|--------|-----------|
| Devos | \$1.72 |
| Cimet | 1.69 |
| Stella | 1.55 |

SUGAR.

No change in the situation as last reported, continued stagnation in business, and prices, of course, nominal.

| | PER PICUL. |
|---------------|----------------|
| White, No. 1 | \$5.00 to 5.35 |
| White, No. 2 | 6.75 to 7.00 |
| White, No. 3 | 6.30 to 6.50 |
| White, No. 4 | 5.30 to 6.00 |
| White, No. 5 | 4.60 to 4.75 |
| Brown Formosa | 4.25 to 4.30 |

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

Since our last issue of 14th instant there has been less doing in this Market. Settlements not reaching more than 450 piculs, or say half the total of the previous week. The *Khiva* which left on the morning of the 15th instant, took 927 bales; of these 164 were destined for London and the re-

mainder for the Continent. Prices are well maintained for all descriptions: holders are firm, and for some classes the demand exceeds the supply. Stocks are reduced by native shipments and purchases to 3,750 piculs as per table at foot. Business has been done in *Hank* sorts at full rates and *Oshu* kinds have been currently sold at about recent quotations. The Stock of the last mentioned is for the moment practically exhausted.

Hanks.—There has been some demand for these, although but little has really been done. The few transactions noted have shown a rise of fully \$30 above the lowest point touched last month. Stocks have slightly increased, but the advance asked seems to prevent general buying. Among the recorded sales we find *Shinshu*, \$480; *Omama*, \$485; *Tomiyoka*, \$480; *Hachoji*, \$450.

Filatures.—There have been many enquires for good silks of this class, but available parcels are few. A large parcel of "*Hida*" sent back by a foreign hong is reported sold to a native shipper. *Koshu* sorts are fairly plentiful, but *Shinshu* kinds are scarce and well maintained. Indeed, some holders refuse to part with desirable parcels at any price until after New Year, counting on a higher Market then. In fine size little has been done, and prices are nominally unchanged. In coarse sizes last week's rates are on the whole well maintained, with here and there a transaction at a fractional reduction. For some *Filatures* prohibitive prices are wanted, while others are for the present withdrawn altogether.

Re-reels.—There has not been much done in these, and prices have been rather irregular. The parcel of "*Tortoise*" noticed in our last is reported to have changed hands at \$390. Some reelers, wishing to return home for the "*Shogatsu*," have made concessions to clear off some small holdings, but transactions do not amount to very much in all.

Kakidas.—A small business during the week. There are still enquires for decent silk ranging from No. 2 to No. 3, at old prices, while the better kinds are more or less neglected. Quotations are nominally the same, but holders are more inclined to talk about business, especially for sorts grading better than No. 2.

Oshu.—The chief business has been in this class, the remaining Stock having been cleared off by one or two buyers. Both *Sendai* and *Hamatsuki* have been in request: it is even reported that contracts "to arrive from the interior" have been entered into.

Taysam Kinds.—Some small purchases on basis of *Shinada* \$420 and *Nagahama* \$380. The Stock is reduced to a minimum.

QUOTATIONS.

| | |
|---------------------------------|--------------|
| Hanks—No. 1 | \$300 to 510 |
| Hanks—No. 2 (Shinshu) | 490 to 500 |
| Hanks—No. 2 (Joshu) | 480 to 490 |
| Hanks—No. 2½ (Shinshu) | 475 to 485 |
| Hanks—No. 2½ (Joshu) | 465 to 475 |
| Hanks—No. 3 | 450 to 460 |
| Hanks—No. 3½ | 430 to 440 |
| Filatures—Extra | 620 to 630 |
| Filatures—No. 1, 10/13 deniers | 600 to 610 |
| Filatures—No. 1, 14/16 deniers | 600 to 610 |
| Filatures—No. 1½, 14/17 deniers | 580 to 590 |
| Filatures—No. 2, 10/15 deniers | 580 to 590 |
| Filatures—No. 2, 14/18 deniers | 570 to 580 |
| Filatures—No. 3, 14/20 deniers | 540 to 550 |
| Re-reels—No. 1, 14/16 deniers | 580 to 590 |
| Re-reels—No. 1½, 14/17 deniers | 565 to 575 |
| Re-reels—No. 2, 14/18 deniers | 555 to 565 |
| Re-reels—No. 3, 14/20 deniers | 530 to 540 |
| Kakidas—Extra | 605 nom'l |
| Kakidas—No. 1 | 585 to 595 |
| Kakidas—No. 2 | 535 to 545 |
| Kakidas—No. 3 | 510 to 520 |
| Oshu <i>Sendai</i> —No. 2½ | 465 to 475 |
| Hamatsuki—No. 1, 2 | 470 to 480 |
| Hamatsuki—No. 3, 4 | 420 to 440 |
| Sodai—No. 2½ | 400 to 410 |

Export Tables Raw Silk to 21st Dec., 1883:—

| | 1883-84. | 1882-83. | 1881-82. |
|------------------|----------|----------|----------|
| France and Italy | 13,452 | 8,449 | 3,725 |
| America | 6,697 | 5,225 | 2,576 |
| England | 2,004 | 2,595 | 1,597 |
| Total | 22,153 | 16,269 | 8,198 |

WASTE SILK.

Business in this branch has also fallen off, and the Settlements are returned as about 400 piculs. The same conditions seem to be existing as when we last wrote, the best descriptions of *Noshi* and

Kibiso being wanted. The chief transactions have been in *Mawata*, including a large parcel sent back by one hong and immediately taken up by another. Stocks of various classes at date are estimated as per table given below.

Pierced Cocoons.—The parcel of light yield noticed in our last, is understood to be going forward as a consignment through a foreign firm but on native account. Besides this transaction nothing has been done, and the Stock actually in Yokohama is virtually nil.

Noshi-ito.—The principal business has been done in *Joshu* sorts, ranging from \$90 to \$82½ according to quality. Nothing done in *Filature* kinds or in the lower grades of *Joshu*. Some few *Oshu* and *Bushu* reported at \$142½ and \$107½ respectively.

Kibiso.—Not much done in this during the week. *Filature* kinds are currently sold, as they come in from the interior, but they do not arrive very freely. In *Hank* sorts the bulk of Stock is low, undesirable stuff, and does not tempt buyers.

Mawata.—A sudden run upon this article has much reduced the available Stock. Good *Oshu* has been done at \$172½. For Best \$180 is asked, but most likely an offer of \$175 would bring about business.

QUOTATIONS.

| | |
|--------------------------------|-------------|
| Pierced Cocoons—Medium to Fair | \$90 to 100 |
| Noshi-ito—Filature, Best | 150 |
| Noshi-ito—Filature, Good | 130 |
| Noshi-ito—Filature, Medium | 110 |
| Noshi-ito—Oshu, Good to Best | 140 to 145 |
| Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Best | 110 |
| Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Good | 100 |
| Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Medium | 90 |
| Noshi-ito—Joshu, Best | 100 to 105 |
| Noshi-ito—Joshu, Good | 87½ |
| Noshi-ito—Joshu, Ordinary | 75 |
| Kibiso—Filature, Best selected | 115 to 120 |
| Kibiso—Filature, Seconds | 110 to 105 |
| Kibiso—Oshu, Good | 95 to 90 |
| Kibiso—Shinshu, Best | 70 |
| Kibiso—Shinshu, Seconds | 50 to 60 |
| Kibiso—Joshu, Fair to Common | 50 to 30 |
| Kibiso—Hachoji, Medium to Low | 30 to 15 |
| Kibiso—Neri, Good to Common | 30 to 12½ |
| Mawata—Good to Best | 170 to 180 |

Export Table Waste Silk to 21st Dec., 1883:—

| | 1883-84. | 1882-83. | 1881-82. |
|-----------------|----------|----------|----------|
| Waste Silk | 13,547 | 9,990 | 7,864 |
| Pierced Cocoons | 1,777 | 2,561 | 1,850 |
| Total | 15,324 | 12,551 | 9,714 |

Exchange.—Rates have been steady during the week; even native Bankers asking some slight advance. We leave rates nominally unchanged, yet decidedly strong; quoting, London 4 m/s., Credits, 3/9½; Documents, 3/9½; New York 30 d/s., 91½; 60 d/s., 92; Paris 6 m/s., fcs. 4.82. *Kin-satsu* have again gradually appreciated, and close about 109½ per \$100.

Estimated Silk Stock 21st Dec., 1883:—

| | RAW. | PICULS. | WASTE. | PICULS. |
|---------------------|-------|---------|-----------------|---------|
| Hanks | 9,400 | | Pierced Cocoons | 50 |
| Filature & Re-reels | 800 | | Noshi-ito | 200 |
| Kakidas | 500 | | Kibiso | 600 |
| Sendai & Hamatsuki | 10 | | Mawata | 150 |
| Taysam Kinds | 40 | | | |
| Total piculs | 3,750 | | Total piculs | 1,000 |

TEA.

There has been a steady demand throughout the past week for all grades of Tea on offer, and the aggregate Settlements show an increase on the previous interval, but scarcely amount to half those for the corresponding period last season. Nearly all the buying was confined to one firm. Settlements amount to about 1,400 piculs, and comprise the following grades:—Common 65, Good Common 125, Medium 450, Good Medium 330, Fine 200, and Finest 230 piculs. Teas in Stock in Yokohama are estimated about 2,700 piculs, and consist principally of grades below Good Medium. Total Settlements to date are 150,856 piculs, against 156,670 piculs for the same period last year. Prices are a shade higher than those quoted below. No shipments of Tea to the United States or Canada have been made since our last weekly report.

QUOTATIONS.

| | |
|-------------|--------------|
| Common | \$10 & under |
| Good Common | 12 to 14 |
| Medium | 16 to 18 |
| Good Medium | 19 to 21 |
| Fine | Nominal |

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[£24 PER ANNUM.]

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The Japan Weekly Mail.

"FAIS CE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL," must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith. It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, DECEMBER 29TH, 1883.

DEATH.

At Tokijo, on the night of December 27th, Tokouno Rioké. The funeral will leave the Insatsu Kioyoku at One p.m. on Sunday.

WEEKLY NOTES.

ATTENTION is drawn by some of the continental journals to the remarkable difference between the conduct of the International Conference of Socialists at Paris and that of the Congress of Liberals recently held at Leeds. Any attempt to compare English Liberals with European Socialists appears, at first sight, a little shocking, but the object of the comparison in this case is by no means to bring discredit on the former. It is pointed out that in England the deputies of five hundred Liberal Associations assembled with a perfectly definite and limited purpose, and discussed peacefully, methodically, and clearly, the articles of an eminently practical programme; whereas at Paris, the delegates from different countries lost themselves in a labyrinth of questions, ill presented, little studied, and without any practical object; a hearing was refused to anyone who did not formulate a programme subversive of all social order, and representatives of the same country abused each other in the grossest terms. Having regard to the very

different conditions under which the two Conferences met, the Leeds Liberals might well have been expected to show more political sagacity and practicality than the Paris Socialists, of whom it may safely be said that a majority are not in a position to define their own wishes. But even for a Socialistic gathering the scenes of the 30th of October were singularly disgraceful. The incident of M. Costa, delegate of the Roman workmen and member of the Italian Parliament, attracted most attention. The Spanish delegate having concluded his address, the President, M. Joffrin, announced that M. Costa would translate it into French for the benefit of the Conference. No sooner, however, did M. Costa make his appearance than a violent tumult arose in the body of the hall. The voices of the Speaker and the President alike were lost in shouts of "traitor! robber of Cipriani!" &c. Nobody seemed to know very well what was the matter, until an individual with stentorian lungs succeeded in making audible above the uproar an accusation that Costa had betrayed his party by taking an oath of allegiance to the King of Italy when he entered Parliament. One would imagine that such a wild charge would have been dismissed without comment. On the contrary, M. Costa defended himself against it, and to our thinking his defence was not the least shameful part of the business. He assured the Assembly that his oath of allegiance was not serious: that it had been taken under duress, and that he had submitted to the necessity in the same way as he was obliged to submit to many other laws of which he hoped to see his country disembarassed hereafter. By this time the loudest of his accusers had been violently expelled, and the good humour of the meeting was somewhat restored by the peroration of M. Costa's speech in which he vehemently denounced all "monarchies commanded by Prussian Colonels." The only part taken in the disturbance by the English delegates was to applaud stoutly the expulsion of the agitators. Subsequently, however, they addressed the Conference, through an interpreter, in the following practical fashion:—"We regret this incident. We beg this Assembly to observe that we have not come from England to Paris to wash the dirty linen of Italian politicians. We propose that the Costa incident be declared finally disposed of."

THE speech made by M. Ferry before the Chamber of Deputies on October the 31st—a speech which was followed by a vote of confidence in

his Ministry—imparts to the Tonquin imbroglio a more hopeless complexion than it has yet borne. The President of the Council unfolded to his hearers, and received their approbation of, a scheme of ambition that points to much larger results than the occupation of the delta of the Red River. He told them that however important for France may be the duty of concentrating her forces in Europe, she has to remember that she is the second naval power of the world, and that it is the business of the Government "to consider the future of that grand democracy, of labour, of industry, and of commerce, whose guardian the Republic is." He drew attention to the avidity with which nations, careful of providing for themselves commercial outlets, seek access to the unexplored regions of Africa and of Asia, and particularly of the immense empire of China. That huge multitude of 400 millions must be "conquered by European productions," and this conviction made the speaker "admire the foresight and profound instinct which had pushed his country towards the mouth of the Red River." To forbid the Republic to have a colonial policy would, he declared, be "detestable and anti-French." He then went on to discuss the military operations in Tonquin and the Bourée Convention, and having read to the Chamber the now celebrated despatch of M. Tricou—which, as may be supposed, created a profound impression—he proceeded to explain that if France found herself confronted, not by China, but by some European Power, there might be cause for disquietude. China, however, had a peculiar method of proceeding. Her habit was to protest perpetually and to submit perpetually. Thus for four centuries she had been protesting against the presence of the Portuguese in Macao, yet they were there still, and she was still protesting. *Vis-à-vis* England and Japan she was in a similar position, yet her good relations with both countries continued, just as they did then with France. To put an end to this suspense and come to a satisfactory arrangement with China, it was necessary that the statesmen of the Middle Kingdom should be confronted by deeds accomplished—by the establishment of French garrisons at Son-tai and Bac-ninh. The *élite* of the Chinese nation, the men at the head of the Government, were politicians of enlightened and wise views. But they were in the minority. Constantly struggling against a host of anti-foreign prejudices, they dared not consent to the "establishment of Europeans in Chinese territory" until their Asiatic good sense was constrained to bow before facts.

Therefore it was necessary to obtain a firm footing in Tonquin: to take Son-tai, and Bac-ninh. "Once there, nobody should drive the French out." The President concluded with these words:—"Perhaps our policy will not lead to a solution of the Tonquinese question to-day or to-morrow. Colonial enterprises are long businesses. Some delay may be necessary before we gather the fruits of the great establishment that we desire to found. Recall the debates which took place, half a century ago, about Africa. The Government was adjured to abandon Africa which could only cost us blood and treasure. Well, I ask you whether this Africa, which has cost us so much blood, which has added so much glory to the military crown of our army, I ask you if it is not the strength, the glory, the honour, the future of our country?—(Cheers.) When, then, we undertake to found a colonial empire, let us learn to arm ourselves with patience and *sang-froid*. Let us tell ourselves that we work for our children; that as good fathers we make, for future generations, an investment which the passage of years can only augment."—(Loud cheers.)

These words make it no longer possible to doubt that Tonquin has become for France a question of national *amour propre*. It is too late for her to recede now, even if she would. Before this vote of confidence and the unequivocal declaration of policy that preceded it, there was always a hope that France might confine herself to the territory she had already occupied, and come to terms with China on the basis of the Bourée Treaty. But that hope no longer exists. The Ferry Cabinet has pledged itself to an almost unlimited programme of conquest in Annam. We believe that such an open declaration of a policy so sweepingly aggressive was never before made by an European Government and endorsed by an European Parliament. It is generally said of Englishmen that to cry out against a neighbour's acquisitiveness ill becomes them. We frankly admit the charge. England's conduct towards Oriental peoples disqualifies her to sit in judgment upon any other nation. But in the majority of cases England has been unable to help herself. Individual enterprise marked out routes which the country subsequently could not choose but follow. With France the case is different. Her Government openly pledges itself to a career of aggression and conquest; unequivocally announces its intention of "founding a great establishment" abroad, and of making a valuable investment for posterity by appropriating the territories, and forcibly tapping the resources, of Eastern nations. Which of the two proceedings is the less blameworthy we do not profess to judge, but France's method has this inconvenience, that it cannot fail to arouse powerful opposition. Whatever may be said about China's romantic claims of suzerainty over this country or that, there can be no second opinion as to her right to oppose the programme now definitively announced by the French President of Council. France goes to Tonquin, not to form a settlement in the delta

of the Red River, but to gain access to the Western Provinces of the Middle Kingdom. Everybody knew already that this was her ultimate object, but no one dreamed that her Government would openly avow it. In the face of M. Ferry's declaration and the Chamber's vote of confidence, China cannot remain inactive, be her diplomatic habits what they may. The President of the Council professes to believe that the leading Chinese statesmen would not really object to see Frenchmen settled on the borders of the Middle Kingdom, or to any other conjuncture likely to promote the extension of their country's foreign intercourse. If the attitude of France under her present Ministry is to be governed by this creed, it is difficult to see how war can be avoided.

It is but a short time since the peace-loving public congratulated itself on M. Challemlacour's surrender of the portfolio of Foreign Affairs, and already people are beginning to ask whether the only chance of avoiding war does not consist in replacing M. Jules Ferry and his colleagues by men of a more circumspect and less ambitious stamp. The triumph which the Ministry has gained over the Radicals will be dearly bought if it costs a struggle with China. But France cannot afford another Ministerial crisis, so that she is reduced to a choice of very palpable evils. Meanwhile, the Government, fortified by the vote of confidence it has received, seems to think no longer of masking the full dimensions of its programme. The twelfth army corps is to be mobilized for service in the East, a step which points to action of a nature very different from the half-hearted measures hitherto taken to complete the occupation of Tonquin. The composition of a French army corps is as follows:—

| | | |
|-----------------|--------------------------------------|--------|
| Cavalry..... | 3 Regiments, or 14 Squadrons | 3224 |
| Artillery | 3 Regiments, or 35 Batteries | 1,494 |
| Infantry | 10 Regiments, or 56 Battalions | 5,079 |
| Chasseurs | 1 Battalion | 20,256 |
| Engineers | 1 Battalion | 174 |
| | | 1,531 |
| Total | | 34,334 |

It is scarcely likely that such a force as this is destined to be sent to Cochin-China, but the mere fact of its mobilization shows that the French people have almost resigned themselves to a prospect which a few months ago they would not consent to contemplate.

THE Clovis-Hugues scandal, to which we have alluded more than once, has entered a new phase. Our readers will remember that the last attempt to defame Madame Clovis-Hugues was attributed to an agent of secret police named Vandal, whom the originator of the trouble, Madame Lenormand, was supposed to have bribed with a sum of twenty-five thousand francs. This information was imparted to M. Clovis-Hugues by the Baron de la Plesse; and Vandal, whose denials were most vehement, waited on that gentleman to demand his authority. Meanwhile, the Baron had discovered that he, in his turn, was the victim of a deception. One of his old school-fellows, M. Jules Denis, had practiced upon his credulity by trumping up the story against Vandal. Under these circumstances, the

Baron willingly acceded to Vandal's request and wrote a letter to M. Clovis-Hugues retracting all the accusations against the agent of police. Not content with this, Vandal begged the Baron to accompany him to the Chamber of Deputies for the purpose of offering personal explanations to M. Clovis-Hugues. The two accordingly went to the Palais Bourbon and interviewed M. Clovis-Hugues, who had not yet recovered from the excitement caused by his wife's attempt to shoot Madame Lenormand. On learning that he was the victim of a new deception, the Deputy for Marseilles lost all self-command, and, springing upon the Baron, gave him two terrific blows, crying, "this is the first time I have had the honor to box a Baron's ears." We shall not be surprised to learn that the whole of this scandal which has caused so much commotion in Paris, is the result of an attempt to extort money under false pretences, and that Madame Lenormand, Madame Clovis-Hugues, and the Agents of Secret Police are all equally innocent of the charges they have been deceived into bringing against each other.

MR. EARNEST SATOW's numerous friends in Japan will be glad, though not surprised, to learn that he has completed his course of legal studies with much distinction, having passed first by more than 50 marks at his final examination. Another laurel is thus added to the numerous distinctions won by law students from the Japanese and Chinese branches of H.M.'s Consular Service.

NOTES.

THE result of planting operations in the Government cinchona plantations in Bengal during 1882-83 shown a total of 50,000 trees less than in the returns of 1881-82, which is attributed to the uprooting of a large number of hybrid varieties, and about 160,000 red bark trees. The total number of cinchona trees of all sorts at the close of the year was 4,711,168, and the crop was the largest yet harvested, amounting to 396,980 pounds of dry bark. The whole of the produce was made over to the factory, except about 41,800 pounds of bark which, at the request of the Secretary of State, was sent to London to be there converted into various forms of febrifuge, and returned to this country for trial by the Medical Department. The revenue derived from the sale of febrifuge, seed, plants, and bark amounted to Rs. 1,52,807, leaving a profit of Rs. 66,284 which is equal to a dividend of 6½ per cent. on the capital. The cost of an equal quantity of quinine at Rs. 96 per pound would have been Rs. 4,01,328, whereas the febrifuge used cost £68,988, leaving a saving to the Government and the public of Rs. 32,340.

A "TELEGRAPHIC SPARK" from Washington to San Francisco says that the members of the Korean Embassy were greatly mortified over an item in a Washington newspaper stating that they had been so lavish in their expenditure of money in America that they would be obliged to borrow money enough to get home with.

Who can doubt that some future historical novelist will find in the Court of the Emperor William of Germany and its remarkable entourage materials such as Dumas found in the Court where Richelieu and Mazarin ruled? To writers of this class details such as those furnished by a recent essayist in the *Nouvelle Revue* will prove invaluable. Speaking of the society which immediately surrounds the Emperor, he says that it is an assemblage of eccentricities. The Court of the great monarch to-day conveys the impression of a collection of old-fashioned furniture taken out of a museum. One can always count upon finding there the same persons in the same places. On a gala evening, when the sovereign may be seen advancing preceded by quite a cortège of decrepit grandees and followed by persons whom art has helped in some sort to repair the irreparable ravages of time, one cannot choose but admire a King who has worn out two generations and yet remained himself fresh and robust all the while. Physical decrepitude, however, is nothing. One could pardon that in "the old chargers of the parade ground" who surround the Emperor. But it does convey a somewhat painful impression to see all these favorites, who take advantage, not of the affection, but of the goodness of their sovereign, to obtain from him all sorts of favours, this one a title, that a decoration, and who believe that they have the right to keep away every one that comes in their way, with their haughtiness and their arrogant fashion of watching over the monarch as though he belonged to them. The Emperor himself takes no note of these little contrivances. He likes always to keep about him his old servants, and though he does not seem deeply touched if death removes them, he cannot bear to separate from them so long as they retain any vestige of validity. Thus the Count Puckler remains always at the head of the Imperial Household, and the Count Perpoucher continues Court Marshal, though the former is all but blind and the latter in a state of decrepitude baffling description. The writer in the *Nouvelle Revue* then describes the military establishment of the old Kaiser and the surroundings of the Empress, arriving at last at Prince Bismarck, whom he describes as *cette vivante synthèse de l'unité allemande, nature multiple, curieux mélange de Machiavel et de Richelieu*. Few politicians have more enemies, and no one has been able to get rid of them with greater ease. He gets rid with equal ease even of his friends when they embarrass him. Count d'Armin, M. Dellbrück, Count Stollberg, Count Eulenburg, his former *collaborateurs*, have been successively removed or crushed by his dexterity. Turn by turn on good terms with all parties, he makes use of each to weaken the other. His conduct towards the Emperor is singular. Affecting always the greatest respect for the old Sovereign, he nevertheless adopts a species of autocratic pose towards him. He knows perfectly how to set vibrating the sensitive cords of a heart inspired by a love for Prussia so earnest that any sacrifice is possible to it. "When one sees them side by side,

the tall figure of the Chancellor dominating that of his master by more than a head, one involuntarily asks oneself which is the ruler of the other, and which deserves more of his country, the man who has effaced himself for her sake, or the man who has only made her great to crush her with his own weight." As for the Empress Augusta, she has never liked the Chancellor. Formerly she even went so far as to intrigue against him, but soon experience taught her that it was not well to trifle with so rude an adversary. At present there is an armed neutrality between the two enemies. Not being able to destroy one another, they preserve an attitude of mutual observation, ready to resume hostilities at the least provocation. Meanwhile all this hatred accumulated about him, all these imprecations directed against him, have produced a certain influence on M. de Bismarck. They have rendered him a misanthrope, or at least made him take a dislike to the world and prefer solitude. He lives a hermit's life, shut up within the four walls of his palace, hidden from all eyes, whether of friends or of enemies, only showing himself now and then to the Parliament, or to some one of whom he has need to obtain information. Then he becomes amiable, chatty, *bon enfant*, well skilled to fascinate those who do not know him or divine his purpose. With the exception of these rare occasions no one sees the Chancellor. Yearly he retires more and more into the bosom of his family, which, for the rest, surrounds him with the tenderest affection. His wife is a good and brave lady, not over polished in her manners, but endowed with a kind heart and much wit, though without finesse. She regards her husband with a tenderness as true as it is deep; is not puffed up by his position; is benevolent though brusque, kind to everybody, and not more moved by the enmity of some than she is deceived by the professed friendship of others. She has two sons and a daughter. The eldest son, Count Herbert de Bismarck, has been greatly talked of in consequence of his relations with a lady celebrated for her beauty. The part he played in this affair was not creditable, and showed him to be an egoist, not less cruel than weak. He is said to be a very vain person, exceedingly proud of his position as son of the Chancellor, and morally as small as his father is great. In society, however, he is flattered and bowed down to by a multitude of persons who accredit him with an influence he does not at all possess. His brother, a graver and more thoughtful man, has greater solidity of character. He possesses considerable powers of application and is a politician by conviction, but the world has decided that he will never become anything greater than a good official. In features and physique he resembles his father, and in disposition, his mother, always excepting a certain ferocity in his antipathies, which he inherits from the Schœnhausen blood. The daughter, Mlle. Marie de Bismarck, after seeing the man she loved die, married Count de Rantzau, adviser to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. She is her father's favorite, and resembles him in the vigour of her intelligence and the nature of her wit, while her husband,

like her father, is a skilful judge of character, and much given to criticise it. One of the most terrible traits of Prince Bismarck's disposition is his power of divining at a glance the weaknesses of those with whom he comes in contact. He is at once a sceptic and a cynic, whose strength of mind is incalculable.

Mr. HONG BENG KAW has delivered a lecture in Shanghai on the "Domestic life of the Chinese." The *Mercury* observes that "Mr. Kaw has never previously attempted to lecture, and the result of his want of experience was that he immediately wandered from his subject, and gave us his opinions disjointedly about foreigners' behaviour to, and in, China. It was long before he got to the subject, and then he made some very interesting remarks, which we are sure the audience would have been glad to hear more of. Amongst them, he gave an account of how what we may call a Chinese fine lady employed her time. She got up very late; took three hours to dress, two hours to smoke, and passed the rest of her time in gambling. On the other hand, the dutiful ladies of a large household ought to, and do, get up very much betimes in the morning and do their devoirs to the head of the household of at least a dozen daughters-in-law, daughters, and sons. The duties of the youngest male of the family were to light three incense altars in the morning, one to Heaven, one to Earth, and the third to * * * , and again in the evening. Mr. Kaw, soon after he had got into these interesting topics, seemed exhausted and told the audience that he had made a mess of it. He remarked privately that he ought to have written out what he wanted to say. Mr. Kaw has been for four years in the Edinburgh University, and is a young man of remarkable intelligence; we are sure he must have something very interesting to tell us from his experience of two such remarkable diverse evolutions of civilization as those of the black-haired sons of Han and the West."

An American trade circular, on Louisiana rice culture, calls attention to the ever increasing consumption of rice as a staple article of food. Its cheapness, ease and variety of preparation, and immunity from adulteration, has won for it in America the same high regard and popularity which has long attended its use in the "Old World." The rapid development of the country, by magnificent railway systems, has afforded unsurpassed transportation facilities to many points which a few years ago were dependent on precarious water routes, or on the slow and expensive method of "teaming" or wagon trains. These facts, together with the increasing population, have combined to give the product a larger consumptive demand, which, notwithstanding the greatly increased production, cannot be supplied without the addition of heavy importations of foreign kinds. A previous circular, issued on October 12th, 1880, says:—"For several years past, by reason of the galling, grinding, evil times which have fallen upon the country, merchants in every line have overstepped their

proper trade bounds and have succeeded in doing little more than demoralizing the smaller customers, and totally destroying, or greatly reducing the profit which should have accrued to wholesale or larger dealers. In many cases the fault has been that of an intermediate broker over-zealous for business."

In this connection the question of price is interesting. The New Orleans annotator remarks that the influence of the "First New" rice, which as a rule commands a fancy figure—and is, in a certain way, the official introduction to the new crop—was entirely dissipated by the offering of parcels of so-called new (really "stubble" or "volunteer" rice) as early as June 30th. These were unfit for market, and the only effect was to limit the old crop and create an enquiry for the new which could not be supplied. No further receipts of moment came to hand until fully six weeks later (August 15th), when the market regularly opened at 6½ at 7c for good to prime, or ½c to ¾c below the closing rates for "old" crop. From this point prices gradually declined to 5½ at 6½ in September; 5½ at 6c in October; 5½ at 5½ in November and 5½ at 5½ in December. This was the lowest point reached. After the "turn of the year" prices gradually hardened, and in latter part of February good to prime was worth 5½ to 6½. These quotations continued in force with but trifling variations, the greatest fluctuation being ½c decline in May, which was recovered and prices were maintained until the close of the crop.

In Louisiana, as in Japan, it was a bad year for speculators,—for, taking the experience of a single season as a guide (the season of 1881-'82, when the scarcity of all grades of rice, both domestic and foreign, caused at the opening of the crop an immense demand at high prices), and ignoring the changed condition of foreign competing markets, as well as the ample supply at home centres, they, the speculators, stocked themselves heavily at the outset, paying higher prices for the "rough" than the cleaned article would warrant, hoping that the future course of the market would enable them to realize a handsome profit on their ventures. The offerings were mainly held by them, and as the market for clean at no time justified the speculation, they were loth to part with their goods, and fed out supplies as needed; hence the large quantity marketed was disposed of without the usual accumulations of cleaned stock in November and March. As there was no advance sufficient to pay cost of carriage (storage, interest, waste, etc.), and having paid more than the goods were worth at the outset, the speculators in rough lost heavily; but the planters who received from 20 per cent. to 30 per cent. more than the rough was actually worth, when compared with the market value of the cleaned product, were highly gratified with the results of their season's work.

In *John Swinton's Paper* something is said regarding daily journalism in the great cities

of the United States which has much truth and point in spite of the exaggeration incident to the writer's pronounced point of view. He says that one looks in vain over the daily papers of New York city, upon which so many presumably intelligent men are employed, for any information regarding the actual social movements of the times. Those papers, he says, "give us chronicles of crime, records of sports and amusements, displays of Wall-street debauchery, the deeds of political gamblers of both parties, news of the sloggers and the police, 'society' twaddle, army and navy intelligence, sketches of accidents and incidents, Washington gossip, muck-heaps without end and daily boluses of stilted 'editorial.' Look in them for the real things of the times in New York—the struggle for life, the battle of industry and of the community with corporate or moneyed power, the invasions of public right, the alarming changes that are being wrought in society, the monstrous death-rate of the city, and the spread of all sorts of abominations that were once unknown here. Look for the warnings they ought to give, the things they ought to tell, the 'editorials' they ought to write in the interest of their readers. Where is the sound of the trumpet? where the voice of the watchmen on the walls of the press? The worst feature of the whole business is that the obnoxious and dangerous things of the times have reached their present threatening growth under that which the press is in the habit of calling its 'watchful eye.' Worse still, if possible, they have reached that growth with the assistance of the chief daily papers of the city."

THE *Alla* of the 10th ult. says:—A ridiculous story comes over the wires, via Chicago, to the effect that the Democrats of New Orleans are inducing Chinamen to make declaration of intention to become citizens, in order that they may become voters. It appears that the law of Louisiana makes a declaration of intention sufficient qualification for voting, and it is said that the Democrats hope, by getting these Chinese votes, to "make an impression on the ballot-box." But the Democrats of New Orleans do not need to resort to such means to "make an impression on the ballot-box," inasmuch as they control the city by a majority of more than three to one, while the State is Democratic by 30,000. The Chinese story is a self-evident hoax.

On the afternoon of the 14th instant, says the *Hongkong Daily Press*, an outrage which is happily of a kind of very rare occurrence was perpetrated by a Chinese servant upon his mistress. Mrs. Fincham, wife of Mr. H. G. Fincham, D.A.C.G.O., whose residence is in Richmond Terrace, Bonham Road, was attacked in a most brutal manner by her boy, and beside being savagely maltreated, was robbed of jewellery to the amount of about \$300. The boy in question had not been employed in the house long, and was only acting as a substitute for the regular boy. A few days since a pencil case, or some other small article was missed, and this boy was accused of stealing it. Mrs. Fincham had

accused him yesterday, and not long after the accusation was made, she was alone in her room, when the prisoner entered and fastened the door behind him. Mrs. Fincham was surprised at his conduct, and asked what he was doing, and was immediately attacked by the ruffian with the greatest violence. She was knocked down at once and robbed of what jewellery she had about her, after which the wretch cruelly beat her on the face and head with a heavy bangle which he used like a knuckle duster, and otherwise ill-treated her until she became unconscious. He then took everything that was of value within easy reach and went quickly off, having a good long time to get out of the way before any alarm was raised or the outrage discovered. As soon as the discovery was made the police were at once communicated with, and all possible steps were taken to apprehend the miscreant, but up to last night he was still at large, and there were some fears that he had escaped to Macao, from whence he is believed to hail. Before going he went to a sweetheart of his in a brothel and gave her some money to induce her to go with him, and the police got upon the scent there not long after he left. It is to be hoped that the man may be caught and made a severe example of, for this is a kind of offence of a most intolerable character.

WHAT are the ages of the oldest ships in active service? It would be worth while to have a record of a few instances. The record might commence with two samples of very old vessels—one of them almost a centenarian, and the other, over six-score years old. The former is the smack *Janet*, of Greenock, which is now 99 years old, having been built at that port in the year 1784. A few weeks ago she was to be seen on the north-west coast of Scotland, engaged in the herring fishery, and, according to report, her appearance seems to indicate that she may last another term of 99 years. The other example of old age is the smack *John & Samuel*, 37 tons register. She arrived at Greenock about the end of September, for Belfast, with a cargo of old iron. Her record states that she was built in London, as far back as the year 1763, so that she is now 121 years old. A good deal of the original material is still left in her hull. To have lasted for such a length of time she must have been built of well-seasoned timber. Originally employed in the revenue service, the *John & Samuel* is now owned by Mr. Hull, Great Patrick street, Belfast.

THAT unlucky compound, No. 16, was again visited by fire on Christmas Day, when between eight and nine o'clock the out-buildings belonging to the corner house, occupied by Mr. Balmès as a saddlery-store, caught fire, which soon communicated to the main building, the flames ultimately spreading to Mr. Harding's house. Both buildings were destroyed. The wind was blowing strongly from the South-east, and sparks, wafted on to the roof of Mr. Douglas's new photographic establishment on the Bund, speedily rendered that house a bonfire. At half-past ten all danger to the neighboring houses was over.

Messrs. Domoney say their establishment was undoubtedly saved through the efforts of Mr. Hegt with his hand-engines.

THE scheme now under consideration in France for forming a combination between the Government and the railway companies, is a very interesting illustration of modern political economy, and deserves a moment's attention, especially in Japan, where public enterprise is beginning to turn so energetically in the direction of this class of speculation. The total mileages open in 1860, 1869, and 1880 were 9,152, 16,465 and 25,000 kilometres respectively, and the average receipts (gross) per kilometre for the same periods were 44,208, 41,480 and 40,000 francs. This falling off in the returns is attributable to the fact that the majority of the lines constructed during the past twelve years, have not proved half as profitable as their predecessors. There are, in short, now open fully four thousand kilometres of lines built within the past eight years, the gross receipts of which do not average six thousand francs a kilometre, and which, consequently, do not pay working expenses. Yet these lines are said to be more favorably circumstanced than the generality of those in process of construction or projected at present. Competent judges declare that the receipts of the twelve thousand kilometres which it is now proposed to add to the 29,000 already open, will not be more than from four to five thousand francs a kilometre, while the working expenses will be at least 6,500 francs, and the cost of construction will average about 200,000 francs per kilometre. Dealing with totals, we may say that there will be required for the building of these projected twelve thousand kilometres a sum of about twenty-four hundred million francs, which sum, allowing 4½ per cent. by way of interest and sinking fund, represents an annuity of 115 million francs, approximately. According to the arrangement which it is in contemplation to make between the State and the companies, the latter would defray about 29 millions of this annual amount, and the former would have to defray the remaining 81 millions. Further, the total working expenses would be about 78 millions annually, while the gross takings, during the first four or five years, could scarcely exceed 57 millions, so that the loss on this account would be upwards of 20 millions annually. This loss, according to the contemplated scheme, is to be charged to the capital account for a certain number of years. The actual annual loss will therefore be represented by the interest on the sums which the companies must borrow to meet current expenses. After ten years—when the lines will just begin to be self-supporting—the sums thus borrowed cannot be less than 150 millions, carrying about six millions interest. Thus the companies will then have to find 35 millions annually (interest on cost of construction and sums borrowed) and the State 86 millions, making 121 millions in all. Against the annual outlay which the companies and the State will thus be required to make on account of the new lines, it is proposed to set the

surplus receipts of the old. A comparison of the returns for the latter since 1860 shows that the average annual increase in the gross takings is 30 million francs. In ten years it will be absorbed by additional working expenses (it is calculated that an increase in the actual traffic of 50 per cent. only adds 30 per cent. to the gross receipts); while about 83 millions will be required to pay the interest of the sums expended on the improvement, reconstruction, &c., of the lines during these ten years. This would leave 82 millions to meet the above outlay of 121 millions. In other words, if the proposed scheme is carried out—if a combination is made between the State and the companies with the condition that the surplus receipts on the old and profitable lines be devoted to meet the loss on the new and unprofitable until the latter, in their turn, begin to be self-supporting—the tax upon the public funds will not cease at the end of ten years, as sanguine financiers calculate, but will probably continue for more than fifteen. Under these circumstances, as might be expected, arithmeticians are beginning to recommend that this bold scheme be reduced to more reasonable proportions.

THE following note appears in the *St. James's Gazette*:—Major-General Mesny, of the Chinese Imperial Army, who has been imparting his views on the Franco-Chinese difficulty to correspondents in Hongkong, is known to us in England chiefly from the fact that it was he who accompanied the late Captain Gill in his voyage up the Yangtze to the borders of Tibet. When Mr. Colborne Baber parted company from Captain Gill at Ch'ung-king there seemed a likelihood that expedition might prove a failure. But, fortunately for our knowledge of the 'River of Golden Sand,' General Mesny turned up; and his experience and knowledge of the country enabled the party to get safely through to Rangoon. Except Mr. Baber there is no European who has a greater knowledge of western China than the Jerseyman, and General Mesny has the advantages over the Chinese Secretary of Legation that he dresses as a Chinaman, and boasts of a *queue* of his own growing—not the frowsy article tagged on to a cap which ordinary wandering Europeans protect themselves with. The General is known as a man of great ability and untiring energy. His sudden appearance in the south from the borders of Yün-nan and Ssu-ch'uen, therefore, bodes ill for the French, if they persist in pushing China to extremities. General Mesny is but one out of many foreign military men in the Chinese Imperial service. His friends will be amused to observe how he has imposed upon the credulity of the American correspondent. The horrible tale of how the Black Flags eat their slain enemies is quite in the General's best vein. We may expect more startling information if he remains long in the neighbourhood of Hongkong."

THERE have been published in Paris two books whose contents offer a curious contrast. One

is by Doctor Leneveu, a scientist of great reputation, and an ardent advocate of vivisection. His work is spoken of by the reviewers in the highest terms. It describes minutely the practical results which have been attained by vivisection, and the contributions its practice has made to the progress of science, as well as to the welfare and relief of humanity. Among these results are mentioned the discovery of the circulation of the blood; of the action of poisons; of the functions of the brain; of the method of animal ingraftment; of vaccination, and so forth. The other book is by a gentleman who has made the habits of the rabbit a study, and who finds as much to say for that despised animal as has ever been said for bees or ants. According to him the rabbit has strong artistic propensities, and is keenly sensible of the charms of nature and of beautiful scenery. "It may be seen," says the author, "searching for elevated sites whence its view embraces a vast extent of country. There it makes its little toilette; there it loses itself in charmed contemplation of the heavens and the horizon. The spectacle of rural beauty inspires it with a mental satisfaction, which seems even to exercise an influence on its health and fecundity. So true is all this that if the soil of the warren or the hutch is flat, there ought to be constructed there a little hill whereon the rabbits can breathe the free air and survey the prospect at their ease." We are further told that the rabbit's love of aromatic plants is not inspired by the palate, but by a desire to feast its eyes and nose on their charms. As for the morals of the little burrower, it is declared that filial piety animates the whole tribe, and that however numerous a furry patriarch's family may become, their obedience to the head of the hole is unchanging. One little trait of rabbit morality remains to be explained—namely, the father's propensity to slaughter his offspring, and the mother's consequent anxiety to keep him at a distance when the little ones are taking their nourishment. This murderous instinct, we are told, is simply an excess of conjugal affection. The male kills the young ones to save the female the trouble of bringing them up. In proof of this we are assured that the father becomes the most affectionate of parents so soon as the baby rabbits are weaned. He caresses them tenderly between his paws, licks them, polishes their coats, and bestows upon them long glances of affection. After this, how will the vivisectionists be able to justify the pains they inflict upon these affectionate and æsthetic quadrupeds? Probably they will have assurance enough to reply that the best thing which can be recorded of the rabbit is the facilities it has afforded to anatomical experimentalists.

THE Philadelphia *Times* says that the best seal-skins come from the Antarctic waters. New York receives the bulk of American skins, which are shipped to various ports. London is the great centre of the fur trade of the world. In America the sea-bear of the north has the most valuable skin. Since 1862 over 500,000

have been killed on Behring Island alone. In 1867 there were 27,500 sea-bears killed; in 1871 there was a very large decrease, only 3,641 being killed. There were 26,960 killed in 1876, and in 1880 the number killed was 48,504, a large increase. Sea-otter fur is about as expensive as any, and some 48,000 skins are used yearly. Over 100,000 martin or Russian sable skins are annually used. Only about 2,000 silver foxes are caught every year, and about 6,500 blue foxes. Other fox skins are used more or less. About 600 tiger skins are used yearly, over 11,000 wild cat skins, and a very large trade is being carried on in house-cat skins; about 350,000 skunk and 42,000 monkey skins are utilized annually. The trade in ermine skins is falling off, as is also the trade in chin-chilla. About 3,000,000 South American nutrias are killed every year, and a very large business is carried on in musk-rat skins; about 15,000 each of American bear and buffalo skins were used last year. There are also used each year about 3,000,000 lamb, 5,000,000 rabbit, 6,000,000 squirrel, and 600,000 filch skins; also 195,000 European hamster, and nearly 5,000,000 European and Asiatic hares.

THE *Shanghai Mercury* of the 3rd of December says that the following steamers belonging to the China Merchants' Company are at present engaged in carrying troops for Canton:—"The steamship *Fushun* left yesterday for Canton; the steamship *Yungching* leaves to-night for Kwachow (near Chinkiang). The steamship *Poochi*, steamship *Yehsin*, and steamship *Leeyuen*, leave in a day or two for the South. Each of these steamers convey on an average some 800 soldiers."

UNDER the title "The Black-Sea Pirates," an extraordinary story is told by the journals of Odessa. It appears that public attention has recently been directed to the daring exploits of a band of sea-robbers who infest the environs of Kertch and Sebastopol. At first all the efforts of the Russian police failed to discover the authors of these outrages, but they were at last able to learn that the band was organized by the British Consul at Kertch with the intention, say some, of destroying the Russian fleet in the Black Sea, but, according to others, purely for purposes of plunder. However, this may be, it is asserted that the Consul, warned by a spy that a visit from the Russian detectives was imminent, decamped in all haste and made his way by a sailing vessel to Odessa, whence he hoped to be able to reach England. He was disguised so as to be quite unrecognisable, and would doubtless have effected his escape without difficulty, had not his arrival at Odessa been simultaneous with that of a telegram which threw the police into a state of exceptional activity. Descents were made upon all the hotels and lodging houses, but in the meanwhile the Consul had placed himself in a box covered with straw matting and been forwarded as "glass with care" to Constantinople, whither he was shortly afterwards followed by his family.

The Russian Government is reported to have telegraphed to its Embassy at Constantinople instructions to demand the surrender of the fugitive by the British authorities, and failing the latter's compliance, the ambassador, M. de Nélidoff, is to address himself to the Porte with a view to obtaining the Consul's extradition. How much truth this strange narrative comprises, we are of course unable to say, but it is recounted with all semblance of belief by a journal called the *Phare du Bosphore*.

WE read that the International Labor Conference at Paris is attracting widespread attention. Delegates from the English trades unions are honored participants, and an address was adopted at the opening extending the sympathy of the conference to working men of all countries, and recording its protest against wars. Henry Broadhurst, M.P., was elected honorary president. He called on the conference to be practical in its acts and suggestions, and said that English trades unions are progressing and will support their continental brethren. French speakers urged the workmen not to abandon politics, the only means for struggling against capital. International legislation was suggested for the protection of children. An extremist advised the employment of force, but foreign delegates dissented. They doubted that universal legislation was feasible owing to international competition. They preferred the lawful progress of a revolution by successive reforms, enabling workmen on enter Parliament and thus assist in making the laws. A resolution was adopted which laid down that the principal end to be pursued was to limit the hours of labor and thus render supportable the position of the workmen of all nations. The speakers urged the French working men to devote more attention to business and less to politics, and to organize trades unions. Resolutions were also adopted looking to the prevention of competition in the matter of wages by emigrating, trades unionists going abroad to obtain work.

A BERLIN, correspondent of *Bradstreet's* writing under date October 9, says:—"The introduction of Russian petroleum into Germany is apparently on the increase. During the week from the 15th to the 22nd of September 5,026 barrels, mostly on account for Berlin dealers, were imported from St. Petersburg to Stettin, the well-known port on the Baltic, and there are expected several more ship-loads in the course of the autumn. The petroleum was in American barrels, with the mark of 'Nobel Brothers.' The production of oil at Baku, on the Caspian, in 1882, was six times as large it was eight years previously, the gain from year to year having been as follows:—

| BARRELS. | | BARRELS. | |
|-----------|-----------|-----------|------------------------|
| 1875..... | 850,000 | 1879..... | 3,000,000 to 4,000,000 |
| 1876..... | 1,400,000 | 1880..... | 181 |
| 1877..... | 2,000,000 | 1881..... | 182 |
| 1878..... | 2,500,000 | 1882..... | 5,000,000 |

The Nobel Brothers, Baku refiners and shippers, may be called the Standard Oil Company of the Caspian, in that, beginning at Balakhani, six miles from Baku, in 1875, they now practi-

cally monopolize the shipping and refining of petroleum from that region. There are now 375 wells at Balakhani, as against two in 1875, and the yield is so abundant that the correspondent of the *Morning Post* says "the oil is flowing 300 feet high, at the rate of 2,000,000 gallons per diem, forming a huge black fountain visible in the clear atmosphere for many miles around." There are 60 miles of pipe line, twenty iron steamers, 200 to 250 feet long, each running up to the mouth of the Volga, and 60 or 70 steamers on the river, besides 10 large sea-going steamers—all engaged by the firm in their oil traffic, besides the steamers, etc., of others. Nobel Brothers are said to employ over 7,000 persons. The total annual production of oil in the United States may be called at the present rate perhaps 26,000,000 to 28,000,000 barrels, or about five and a half times only what the Baku wells produced last year. An American capitalist at Baku is reported to be arranging to lay a pipe-line from Baku to Batoum, 540 miles west, across the isthmus to the Black sea. As yet American oil is going abroad rapidly and in unprecedented quantities. This demand makes a better price for it here than it could otherwise retain. Decreasing supplies at home must also eventually tend to raise the price; but, on the other hand, if met by a vigorous competition for sales in Europe, the opposite effect may be produced. The "exhaustion theory," as applied to the Pennsylvania wells, has few believers. The prospects for ultimate and serious competition in eastern Markets speak for themselves.

MR. JOHN MORLEY's speech, opening the Liberal Conference at Leeds, was in many respects a significant utterance. It indicated plainly enough that a new political force has entered upon an active existence in England, and that henceforth the course of political action will be determined, not by the small group of men composing the executive committee of the House of Commons, but by the wider constituency whom they, in theory, represent. Mr. Morley made a strong plea for organization, saying that it should be recognized that there would be a great peril in democratic institutions if for great solid parties small groups were substituted, and if, instead of union upon points of substantial agreement, there should be a splitting up on points of minute difference. There was, he said, no question as to the desirability of parliamentary reform in the abstract. Upon that there was substantial agreement. The present system under which the exercise of the franchise by workmen in certain cities of the kingdom were surrounded with difficulties and obstacles, and they themselves allowed only one-thirtieth or one-fortieth of the voting power of some voter living in the west of England, was a juggle and a mockery of representation which the radicals were resolved to bring to an end. The meaning of the great gathering over which he presided was, he said, that the men of the associations—the men who won the elections of 1880—felt, as a matter not of formula but of inmost conviction, that the

arbitrary exclusion of large sections of intelligent and industrious men from the political power they desired to have was an anomaly, a blot, and a danger, which it was not wise to retain longer in the political life of the country.

THE pacific telegram, received by Reuter announcing that the Committee of the Chamber of Deputies have recommended an amicable arrangement with China, but at the same time reinforcements for Tongking, looks like a deplorable instance of negotiating foreign affairs by Parliamentary Committees. In the first place, the Chinese will look upon the French forces as part of the game of bluff, at which they are playing themselves, and so they will be all the more difficult to deal with. The result will probably be, that in order to come to an amicable arrangement with China, France will have to retreat before the Chinese threats, and surrender the opening of the Trade Route through Tongking. It may be quite true that France would gain less by the route than other civilized nations, but the abandonment of the policy the Republican Government have made so much fuss about would be a vacillating proceeding that must eventually discredit Republican government itself, as being unfit to deal with foreign affairs; particularly with Orientals, who require firmness above all things in dealing with them. If the action of the Deputies' Committee leads to a retreat before a Chinese threat, we may look forward to further troubles with the Government of China. The obstructiveness they displayed last year will of course return, and, fortified by her purchases of vessels like the *Ting Yuen*, she will be encouraged by her own display of force to resort to any steps that can embarrass foreign traders. She will renew her determined efforts to prevent the spread of Western notions of progress, until at last England will be unable to stand it any longer, and have to "force China's hand" (as Marquess Tseng phrased dealing with Chinese obstruction) herself. China's arrogance will be intensified by the recognition of her claims to universal sovereignty. At any rate, she will be encouraged to think that the dissensions of European nations will be her safeguard. In the meantime many people in Shanghai and the Treaty Ports will be delighted that the so much dreaded war will be avoided. Very few people thought there was going to be any war, however. We trust we may be mistaken in supposing that the French mean to abandon their operations in Tongking. Perhaps all they mean to say is that they wish to be on amicable terms with China, whilst pursuing them. It really rests with China to be amicable or not, if France pursues the policy so long announced; for the Committee does not recommend the reversal of it.—*Shanghai Mercury*.

THE Trustees of the Clyde Navigation have just done a most commendable act. Their jurisdiction terminates opposite Newark Castle, at Port Glasgow, and then begins that of the Clyde Lighthouses Trustees. For several years the last-

named body have had certain dangerous portions of the Firth of Clyde indicated by means of gas-lit buoys, that is to say, by means of buoys on which a jet of gas is kept constantly burning, day and night, the method adopted being that known as Pintsch's patent lighting system; and in order to supply their wants they have had erected at Port-Glasgow an establishment for the manufacture of the gas from crude petroleum, for compressing and storing the same, and for transferring it to receivers on board a small steamer specially built for their service, and appropriately named the *Torch*. The commendable act just done by the Clyde Trust is that of following the example set them by the Lighthouse Trust, improving the navigability of the channel between Newark Castle and Dumbarton. Notwithstanding the amount of dredging which has been done in recent years in the middle and lower reaches of the river proper, there have been of late many instances of vessels getting aground in the fairway, or while endeavoring to continue in it. It is nothing unusual for heavily laden Atlantic steamers, vessels of 3,000, 4,000, or 5,000 tons, becoming grounded; and by way of rendering such occurrences very much less frequent, the Clyde Trustees have just laid down no fewer than six gas-lighted buoys on Pintsch's system, the uppermost of them being opposite Dumbarton, and the lowermost opposite Newark Castle. From the experience already gained and the improvement made in the navigation, there is no good reason why the channel down to Port Glasgow should not eventually assume the appearance of a well-lighted street in a large town. Shipowners, merchants, and the Clyde Trust treasury, would all reap an advantage by the change.

ADMIRAL PENG YÜ-LIN, Imperial Commissioner for the Defence of the Southern Frontier of China, has suddenly become one of the most prominent figures in the Middle Kingdom. He is a man of considerable age, having occupied responsible positions in the Chinese Navy for thirty years past, and commanded the naval forces of five provinces since 1862. He suffers, however, from a complaint described as "loss of blood," which affliction is, perhaps, fortunate for his country seeing that, despite his anæmic condition, his truculent proclivities are so strongly marked as to be decidedly dangerous. Some time ago his malady became so serious that he petitioned the Throne to be relieved of the cares of office, but though his application received a favorable answer, the imminent prospect of trouble with France induced him to remain at his post. One of the symptoms of his sickness is an access of dizziness, and it was under the influence, we presume, of this vertigo that he published in Canton, three weeks ago, a remarkable proclamation, assuring foreigners that the Emperor desired to treat them all like one family, but, at the same time, recommending them to remove their goods and chattels without delay, since China could not be responsible for their safety

in the event of war with France. When the modicum of blood that remains to him descended from his brain and began to circulate in its normal channels, the Admiral repudiated the authorship of this proclamation, and sought to quell the indignation its issue had excited, but some unreasonable persons declined to accept his disclaimer and insisted upon regarding the contents of the document as a correct expression of his views. However this may be, no doubt attaches to the authenticity of a memorial which the veteran warrior submitted to the Throne some months ago, and which seems to have been the cause of the Emperor's secret decree directing that assistance should be given to the Black Flags in their struggle with the French. The memorialist does not disguise his indignation against the Barbarians and their forgetfulness to be reverent towards "the Sacred Dynasty whose benevolence and justice are so complete." He thinks that the spirit of aggression, of brow-beating and harassing, of taking an ell if they are given an inch, must be innate in the French, and he declares that all his countrymen are determined to avenge China's wrongs "with hair on end and eye-lashes bristling." That there is a scarcity of regular troops does not give him the least concern, for the "heaven-born instinct to fight" is within the breasts of Chinamen, and so persuaded are the people of the necessity of doing battle that their unanimity will make them "as strong as a city wall." Then this bloodless Admiral goes on to give some very practical advice. He recommends that instead of marching troops from a long distance to Kwangtung, men and material should be obtained on the spot, and explains that in pursuance of this plan he has already taken steps for raising volunteers and assembling them at Canton. His ideas of French achievements in Annam are not very exalted, for he says that, according to certain foreign newspapers, Liu Jung-fu, chief of the Black Flags, has gained repeated victories, and from this he argues that the invaders of Tonquin must be far inferior to the Russians in strength and resources. His scheme is that while the Chinese forces in Kwangtung stand on the defensive, "secret instructions should be given to the Viceroy of Yün-kwei and the Fu-tai of Kwang-si each to appoint valiant generals to head some thousands of soldiers, who will, in conjunction with Liu Jung-fu, harass the French and attack them when least prepared all along from the Red River to Saigon." That this advice was acted upon, we know from the secret decree recently published in the columns of the *North China Herald*, and though Liu and the allied generals have not yet recovered possession of the "lairs and caves" occupied by the French, they have given the "barbarians" a good deal of trouble. A postscript to this same memorial suggests the advisability of issuing a circular note to all the Foreign Powers having treaties with China, in order to rouse them to the necessity of preventing a war which will lead to the interruption of commercial relations. This advice, also, has, we know, been

followed, so that, on the whole, Admiral Pêng Yü-lin may be regarded as the leading spirit in China at present. Divested of the absurd phraseology which an old-fashioned etiquette compels him to employ, his counsels are singularly shrewd and vigorous, and if not troubled with "dizziness" at inopportune moments, he may yet have the pleasure of directing a great many "hair-on-end-and-eye-lash-bristling" braves against the "caves and lairs" of the irreverent barbarians.

In a late issue of the *Napa Reporter* we find the following note:—The Hon. Eli T. Sheppard was in town recently on his way to San Francisco. He has just got through grape picking, and reports a two-thirds crop, owing to the hot spell in the early part of the season; still this shortage is more than offset by the superior quality of the wine made. Mr. Sheppard's place is located in the Glen Ellen district, in the upper part of Sonoma valley, one of the most beautiful and fertile spots of Sonoma county. In addition to the large estate which he recently purchased and now occupies, Mr. Sheppard has just purchased the well-known farm of Col. G. W. Whitman, adjoining. This latter place comprises 300 acres, one hundred of which are in bearing vines. Among other substantial improvements is a fine wine cellar with a capacity of 60,000 gallons, and a distillery all complete. It is one of the very best improved and most favourably located pieces of property in that section, and the average annual income of the place since 1880 has been \$10,000. The property sold last year for \$45,000, and we understand Mr. Sheppard paid something near that figure for it. He will remove his family to his new purchase and occupy that as his residence in the future.

THE *Albion* says:—A brochure entitled "The Truth about Tonquin" will shortly be published in London and Leipzig, based upon the letters recently contributed to the *Times* by their Tonquin correspondent Mr. A. R. Colquhoun, the well-known traveller. "La Verité sur le Tonquin" might be a valuable contribution towards the discussion of French colonial policy which is to take place next week in the French Chamber, but it is not likely to find a French publisher.

THE effects of the seventeen conflicting jurisdictions that impart such a charmingly variegated aspect to the history of legal procedure in Yokohama, are beginning to be observable in directions not hitherto contemplated. We have seen how successfully they paralyze the exercise of municipal law, and we have had numerous examples of the fatal obstacles they oppose to anything in the shape of enterprise or reform. But it seems now that they are not unlikely to change the whole character of commercial dealings. There is an old saying of Lucan, "*nulla manus belli, mutato iudice, pura est*," of which this community is rapidly learning the truth. So vitally important has it become to

keep a case in the Court of one's own nationality, that people are no longer particular as to the nature of the preliminary steps they take to secure that result. If a merchant lends money to some Japanese shipbuilders, he must not think of suing them, in the event of default, before their own tribunals. His proper plan is to seize the ship, without troubling himself to obtain a warrant, and let the Japanese take action in a foreign Court for the recovery of their sometime property. If a number of gentlemen of various nationalities have chattels which they desire to remove from one building to another, they must not run the risk of being deprived, for a twelvemonth, of the use of their property, while Monsieur this, or Herr that, or Signor the other, puts a variety of legal obstacles in the way of the removal. The proper plan, in such a contingency, is to carry the chattels away under cover of darkness, and let who will proceed to dispute the result. Again, if Japanese tradesmen come to buy goods from an Englishman, and the latter suspects that they want to "do him in the eye," he must not send them away, lest he lose the business altogether; neither must he think of invoking the aid of a Japanese tribunal. His best device is to behave as though he had no suspicions until the Japanese pay whatever ready money the transaction requires. He can then retain possession of a thousand or two as security against fraudulent contingencies, and let the Japanese seek their remedy in an English Court. There may be moralists who will deprecate these arbitrary proceedings, but self-protection is the first rule of life. We have high warrant for the belief that under certain circumstances men may be "a law unto themselves," and though this community is not reduced to the condition of the people who, acting upon that principle, were "beaten with few stripes," it will not be extravagant to say that the lawlessness of the Scriptural heathen was not much worse than the profusion and confusion of our laws in Yokohama.

We sincerely congratulate the supporters of extraterritoriality on the comfortable assurance the Anglo-Korean Treaty appears to afford them that the policy of Western Governments with regard to jurisdiction over their subjects residing in the East has undergone no change. These good folks seem to have become cruelly apprehensive lest their rulers should be overtaken by "a moment of vacillation or indifference," and in that unguarded interval surrender privileges without which "life in the Orient would be unbearable." Still, it must be confessed, a feeling of astounded helplessness creeps over us at the aspect of this wonderful conservative crassness, which, after so many dissertations and so much experience, has not yet learned to distinguish between extraterritoriality under conditions such as those presented by Korea to-day, and extraterritoriality, with all its flagrant abuses, under conditions such as those that exist now in Japan. No one, even among the Japanese themselves, has ever yet been found to deny that extraterritoriality was indispensable in the early days of

foreign intercourse with this country. It is still indispensable in China, where no attempts have yet been made to reform semi-barbarous laws and legal processes, and it is still indispensable in Korea, where things are at least equally bad. But what has all this to do with Japan? It is very wonderful that even the most defective reasoning powers can find a momentary resting place among such patent subterfuges. What should we think of a man who, in reply to an assertion that pap ceases to be suitable aliment for some constitutions after a certain age, pointed with triumph, as a distinct proof of the contrary, to a nurse feeding a baby with that preparation? We have often commented on the straw-clutching helplessness to which the men who advocate the policy of totally ignoring Japanese progress are reduced, but this last example takes us somewhat by surprise. Perhaps it is on the whole better and safer that persons so careless, or so incapable, of discriminating between right and wrong, should be left to enjoy the imperfect intercourse to which alone the systems they extol are fitted.

THE revised regulations for conscription were issued yesterday by Imperial Order and under the signatures of the Prime Minister and War and Marine Ministers. According to the new rules, every male of the population is eligible for military service from seventeen to forty years of age. The service is divided into two classes, Active and Reserve. The former is again subdivided into Men with the Colours and Active Army Reserve. Each man has to serve three years with the Colours, four with the Active Reserve, and five with the ordinary Reserve. Altogether, the whole period amounts to twelve years. Even those who are temporarily exempted from service, are to be enlisted in the National Army. But men who have been punished for major crimes, are disqualified. The conscripts who have the diploma of the Government Schools, except the common school, and who have distinguished themselves by proficiency in training and good behaviour, are to be relieved of the term in that branch. They will, however, be retained in all other services. Those registered in the Active Army Reserve, are to be called out once a year. Deformed persons only are exempted from any service. The elder sons or heirs, who have fathers aged above sixty, and the heads of family, are temporarily exempt, but in case of war or of a deficiency in the number of the conscripts required, they will be compelled to enter the army. Graduates of the government schools, priests, workmen employed in the military and naval departments, persons who are sick, and those who are studying in foreign countries, also those who are undergoing a criminal prosecution and have their civil rights temporarily suspended, will be relieved of service until such time as may hereafter be determined upon. School teachers, members of the Metropolitan and Prefectural Assemblies, and physicians practicing and in possession of diplomas from the Government medical colleges, Government officers above the *Hannin* class,

and chief of ward officers, will not be required to be reviewed, whether they are registered in the Active, or ordinary, Reserve, but if they are wanted in war time their attendance must be sanctioned by the Council of State. Malingerers or persons who otherwise attempt to escape the conscription by fraudulent means, are punishable with a fine of from *yen* 3 to *yen* 30, or imprisonment from one month to one year. The fee for exemption has been abolished.

THE PRINCE OF WALES has been advanced to the degree of Mark Master Mason. The meeting was necessarily exclusive, the attendance being limited to Past Grand Masters, the Deputy Grand Master, Provincial Grand Masters, Grand Officers of the year, and Deputy Provincial Grand Masters. A meeting of emergency of the Grand Lodge of the Mark Master Masons of England and Wales and the Colonies and dependencies of the British Crown was convened at the hall, Golden-square, by special dispensation from Lord Henniker, the Grand Mark Master, for the special purpose of advancing the Prince of Wales to the degree of a Mark Master Mason, and thereafter installing him as Master of a Mark Mason lodge. The Grand Lodge was opened by Lord Henniker, assisted by Lord Wolsley, Grand Senior Warden, and Brother A. H. Henniker-Major, Grand Junior Warden. The ceremony of advancing the Prince of Wales was performed by his Royal Highness the Duke of Albany. A Mark Master's Lodge was afterwards opened by the Grand Mark Master, Brother W. W. B. Beech, Past Grand Master, occupying the Senior Warden's chair; and Brother C. F. Matier, Past Grand Warden, that of the Junior Warden. His Royal Highness was presented to the Grand Mark Master by Brother Binckes, Grand Mark Secretary, and installed by Lord Henniker as Master of a Mark Masters' Lodge. The Earl of Kintore, Deputy Grand Master, was unavoidably absent, but amongst the other distinguished Masons present were the Rev. Canon Portal (Past Grand Master), Sir Francis Burdett (Provincial Grand Master), Brother John Watson (Provincial Grand Master), General Brownrigg (Past Grand Warden), Colonel Shadwell H. Clark, (Grand Secretary), and Captain N. Philips.

A PERSON signing himself J. S. Danielsen, master of the British Schooner *Catharine Marden*, has addressed a letter to a Shanghai journal with reference to some injustice which he thinks he suffered at the hands of Mr. Acting Consul Hall, of Nagasaki. The gist of Mr. Danielsen's story is that five Japanese sailors having complained to the Acting Consul of the quality of the rice supplied to them on board the *Catharine Marden* and of the treatment they received from the master, succeeded in getting Mr. Hall to believe their story and to order that they should be discharged from the ship. It does not seem to strike this worthy mariner that the complainants may possibly have had right on their side, though he admits that the rice was shipped at Chefoo without any inspection, and that he had

"slapped one or two of the men with his open hand." Evidently what rankles most in Mr. Danielsen's mind was that the Acting Consul ventured to give him some advice about the management of his crew, and that the Japanese sailors "had the impudence to say he did not know how to navigate the ship." Whether all this was as undeserved as Mr. Danielsen would persuade the public, we are not in a position to determine, but it is at any rate certain that the schooner *Catharine Marden*, under her present master, is not an attractive vessel to seamen. The five Japanese who replaced those so unreasonably befriended by the Acting Consul, commenced operations by going ashore at Nagasaki on a "jamboree," whatever that may mean, and cleared out of the ship altogether at Shanghai "the first opportunity they had of going ashore." Appearances are decidedly against Mr. J. A. Danielsen, and he has not at all improved his position by addressing to a Shanghai journal complaints against a British official at Nagasaki. We trust that there are not many English masters of ships who would adopt such a course, or many English newspapers which would assist them to pursue it.

GENERAL JOHN CLEVELAND WHEELER, one of the oldest officers in the Indian Army, died on the 1st of November at Bangalore. The deceased, who was of the advanced age of 93 at the time of his death, entered the army so far back as the 29th September, 1808. He had, therefore, been a soldier for no less a time than 75 years, and what is more remarkable, the greater portion of his service was spent in India. He is stated to have come out to India when he was 16 years old, and he only revisited his native country once, and that visit was paid when he attained the rank of captain, just sixty years since. A military career, which extended from the famous Peninsular campaign to the Egyptian war, and from the early victories of Wellington to those of Roberts and Wolsley, could not fail to have been an eventful one, and doubtless the old warrior could have furnished many interesting reminiscences of men and times long since passed away.—*Times of India*.

THE population of the Indian Empire—according to the last census, is 253,891,821, of whom 187,973,450, are Hindoos and 50,121,585 Mahomedans. The total number of British-born subjects in India is only 88,544, of whom 76,456 are males and 12,088 are females. But of these 88,544, 56,656, are soldiers, which only leaves just 20,000 British-born males out of military employ. It should, however, be remembered that a considerable proportion of the European population of India have been born in the country, the total number of British-born and "other Europeans" amounting to 142,612. Of these 6,400 were born in European countries other than the United Kingdom. For instance, among the Europeans there are 180 Belgians, 126 Danes, 1,013 Frenchmen, 1,170 Germans, 246 Austrians, 195 Greeks, 79 Dutch, 788 Ital-

ians, 106 Maltese, 358 Norwegians, 147 Portuguese, 204 Russians, 87 Spaniards, 87 Swiss, 355 European Turks, and 773 unspecified Europeans.

MR. VEREY, an engineer, of Dover, has been appointed by the International Association of the Upper Congo to take charge of an expedition to convey a steamer to Stanley Pool, Central Africa. In the spring of next year he will accompany Mr. Stanley upon a long expedition into hitherto unexplored regions in that continent. Mr. Verey will leave England shortly in order to make himself acquainted with the soundings of the Congo for a considerable distance from the mouth of the river previous to the arrival of the steamer, which will have to be taken to pieces and carried 500 miles through forests.

AN American paper says:—In Rhode Island the farmers are building wire fences, and the New York dudes who go to that State to chase anise-seed bags behind a pack of foxhounds are greatly concerned, as they have no notion of breaking their precious necks by jumping fences which their horses cannot see in the excitement of a gallop. The wire fence has its merits.

It is rumoured (says the *Penang Times*) that the Perak Government is threatened with an attack by two Chinese Secret Societies, who are making preparations to revenge the burning of the villages by the Police in the late disturbance at the above place. The Perak Government has been warned of the intention.

A LARGE fire occurred at a village near Fujiyeda early yesterday morning, in the course of which the telegraph lines connecting Yokohama with Kobe were destroyed for a considerable distance. Communication was, however, maintained by the Kōfukaidō route until the main Tōkaidō line was repaired in the afternoon.

THE English mail of the 16th ult., which is coming up from Hongkong in the *Owari Maru*, left that port on the 22nd instant (Saturday last). The *Owari Maru* is described as a fine new steamer; she belongs to the Union Steam Navigation Company.

THE British ship *Ben Nevis*, which took her departure yesterday morning for Nagasaki, beat down the bay for several hours, but had ultimately to return to the anchorage and is now lying windbound.

THE O. and O. steamship *Oceanic*, for this port, left San Francisco on the 22nd December.

THE new French Secretary of Legation, M. Grinet, arrived yesterday in the *Volga*.

AMONGST the passengers by the American mail for Europe we note the name of Mr. Pelikan.

THE Bund lot No. 14 was sold by Mr. Cope at auction on Saturday last for \$11,500.

Nature says that the Russian Geographical Society is taking an active part in the International Congress which is to be convoked by the United States for the unification of the meridian. Delegates from the Academy of Sciences and from the Russian ministries of war, and posts and telegraphs, will constitute a committee at St. Petersburg, and the conclusions of this committee will be supported at Washington by one or more Russian delegates.

MINT DIRECTOR BUCHARD, in his report for the last fiscal year, estimates the total gold, silver and paper circulation of thirty-eight countries at \$9,878,000,000, of which 38.8 per cent. is paper, 33.5 per cent. gold, and 27.7 per cent. silver. It can be seen from this that any general attempt to do away with silver as a circulating medium, or to deprive it of the legal tender qualities which make it a regulator of prices, must be a dangerous experiment to make, because it would be attended with the gravest financial consequences.—*Alta*.

A UNIQUE municipal anniversary (says a home paper) will be celebrated in the coming year by the city of Winchester, the occasion being the seven hundredth anniversary of the election of a mayor under the charter of Henry II., who gave that city the privilege of a mayor at its head before it was enjoyed by the city of London, its then rival in metropolitical dignity.

A "DEAL" AND A "SHUFFLE."

THE judgment delivered in H.B.M.'s Court for Japan on the 22nd instant was probably forecast by a majority of the public. The circumstances of the case were simple. On the 28th of August, Mr. YUKIOKA, president of a private bank called the *Nito Ginko*, an institution established in Tokiyo last year with a nominal capital of 100,000 *yen*, and, as yet, only one or two shareholders, called on Mr. EDWARD WHITTALL, an English merchant of Yokohama, and contracted for the purchase of certain goods, then in the possession of the latter. The total value of the goods was \$48,530, and the terms of payment were one third in cash and the balance in six months' bills bearing interest at 10 per cent. The former amount, viz., \$16,177, was immediately handed to Mr. WHITTALL by Mr. YUKIOKA, and by way of fulfilling the latter condition a deposit-note of the *Nito Ginko* was tendered and received. Mr. WHITTALL then handed to Mr. YUKIOKA a clean order for the delivery of a portion of the goods—a small steamer, valued at \$10,000—and an order for the delivery of the remainder "against approved bills." These documents the Japanese purchaser took in good faith, knowing nothing and having received no distinct intima-

mation of the proviso recorded on the second. When, however, he attempted to obtain the goods, a part only was delivered, so that the relative positions of the parties to the contract stood as follows:—Mr. WHITTALL had received from Mr. YUKIOKA a document promising payment of \$32,352 in six months, together with a sum of \$16,177 in cash; while Mr. YUKIOKA had received from Mr. WHITTALL goods to the value of \$14,180. Under these circumstances, the Japanese merchant, claiming to have fulfilled his part of the bargain, sued the Englishman for delivery of the remaining goods and for payment of such damages as the Court might direct; but the Englishman, though professing willingness to deliver the merchandise on the stipulated terms, denied that those terms had been satisfied, since the deposit-note of the *Nito Ginko* was not negotiable paper.

It will be seen at once that this defence, if admitted, would constitute a most mischievous innovation in commercial practice. It would be equivalent to asserting that a merchant is at liberty to carry out only just so much of a contract as he finds convenient. Mr. WHITTALL had accepted a cash payment, representing one third of the total cost of the merchandise in question, simultaneously with a so-called deposit-note for the balance. The note, according to his own admission, was not shown to him for the first time when the contract was signed. It had been submitted for examination—"laid on his desk"—the day before, but he apparently failed to examine it. Before finally receiving it, however, he seems to have asked some questions, amongst others whether a stamp which the document bore was that of the Finance Department. He might as well have looked for the MIKADO'S autograph on a Mitsu Bishi bill of lading. Being, as was natural, answered in the negative, he said—though his evidence on this point is not corroborated by any of the Japanese who were present—that he should enquire into the value of the security. Then, having signed the contract, he handed to Mr. YUKIOKA documents which professed to be godown orders for the delivery of the merchandise. Thus, according to his own admission, up to the very moment of signing the contract and receiving a large cash payment, he had taken no steps to assure himself of the nature of the security offered, although ample opportunity of doing so had been afforded. His only proper and straightforward course, under the circumstances, would have been to defer the receipt of the cash payment until the nature of the deposit-note had

been distinctly ascertained. Instead of this, he took the note; locked it up in his desk, with some uncertain expression of distrust; received the cheque for \$16,177; cashed it "within an hour;" gave his customers go-down orders, on the strength of which they made all their preparations to take delivery of the goods; at the same time privately instructed his godown keepers to deliver nothing without the direct sanction of himself or his book-keeper; and finally, having convinced himself that the deposit-note was not negotiable, and that the contract could not be carried out in its integrity, proceeded to carry out such portions of it as suited his own convenience by delivering goods to the value of nearly \$2,000 less than the cash he had received. Such commercial methods could not be endorsed by any civilized tribunal. H.B.M.'s Court decided that Mr. WHITTALL must deliver the balance of the goods and pay such damages as might be subsequently decided for breach of contract.

The reasons which induced an English merchant of reputation and experience to adopt this irregular and arbitrary course are not far to seek. Mr. WHITTALL, to use his own language, believed that he was dealing with "a pack of scoundrels" whose object was to "do him in the eye." He accordingly took measures to perform a similar operation on their optic. And indeed, looking at the affair by the light of the wisdom that follows the event, his estimate has a strong semblance of justification. The value of a deposit-note depends, in the first place, on the solvency of the bank that issues it. Whether the *Nito Ginko* satisfies this condition, there was naturally some difficulty in ascertaining. The evidence given at the trial did, however, show distinctly that the issue of deposit-notes by the *Nito Ginko* is not necessarily preceded by any deposit of money. The President has power to issue them, with the sanction of other officers and two of their signatures. He exercised that power so well that, in the case under consideration, he issued a deposit-note for \$32,352 in Mr. WHITTALL'S favour without the troublesome preliminary of lodging any coin in the bank. Then, with regard to the sum of \$16,177 which he was obliged to pay in cash, his method of proceeding was, at best, devious. On the morning of the day when the transaction was nominally completed, he brought to a fellow-merchant, SHIMADA, in Tokiyo, a number of cheques. It being too early to cash these, SHIMADA gave an order on one ISEYA, in Yokohama, thinking that "if

ISEYA had not the money himself, he could easily procure it." It happened, strangely enough, that ISEYA did not have the money, but did have the ability to procure it. He went to an English merchant, Mr. GILLET, in Yokohama, and obtained a loan of \$16,177, pledging, as security, a portion of the very goods which the borrowed dollars were intended to purchase! By a little clever manœuvring it was contrived that the lender should give a cheque before receiving the security, so that, had the arrangements matured, the Japanese, having obtained from Mr. WHITTALL \$48,000 worth of goods with \$16,000 borrowed from Mr. GILLET, might have repaid the latter and remained in possession of merchandise valued at \$32,000, while their liability would have been represented by a deposit-note issued by themselves and not representing any money deposit. It reads like a pretty scheme, but that Mr. WHITTALL had any valid reason to count it a scheme, there is little, if anything, to show. Never having met, or had any transactions with, Mr. YUKIOKA before, he was scarcely justified in regarding that gentleman as an unit of a pack of swindlers, except on the general principle which obtains among a small section of the Yokohama community that all Japanese are swindlers. Seeing also that Mr. YUKIOKA first heard of the goods in question on August the 21st; opened negotiations for their purchase on August the 27th, and concluded the purchase on August the 28th, there was scarcely sufficient warrant for Mr. WHITTALL's assertion that "they"—i.e. the "pack of swindlers"—"had been trying to do him in the eye for a month." This trifling hyperbole is doubtless referable to that peculiar phase of commercial exultation with which the Bible has made us familiar in the buyer that said "it is naught," and of which Mr. WHITTALL may well have experienced an access when he found that, having realized the full price of the goods delivered, he still remained in possession of nearly \$2,000 for which he had delivered nothing, but which he could hold as a sort of general security against further essays of the swindling pack. Apart, however, from the tenets of the comprehensive creed above alluded to as prevalent in parts of Yokohama, we fail to see why Mr. WHITTALL fancied himself the object of a fraudulent transaction. He neglected the one piece of testimony which would have enabled him to determine the character of the proposed business, since he took no steps to ascertain the value of YUKIOKA'S deposit-note until after he had

received a large cash payment from the latter and signed the contract. If he believed, when he concluded the bargain, that an attempt to swindle him was on foot, his conduct in receiving YUKIOKA'S cash was absolutely indefensible, since he must have known that he could not fulfil the contract. If he did not believe this, his subsequent assertions were as unjustifiable as his readiness to exchange goods against paper of which he knew nothing was unaccountable. True, the immediate upshot of the business was that he got rid of the *Jumbo*, an elephantine source of trouble, and appropriated a good round sum of his customer's money by way of guarantee against dishonest contingencies. But reputation far outweighs these paltry results, and, for the rest, this diamond-cut-diamond variety of commerce is not calculated to remedy the evil conditions from which it springs.

LOCAL CRITICISM.

WE do not remember to have noticed a more amusing illustration of the spirit that animates English local critics of Japan, and of the peculiar methods they employ, than that afforded by the columns of indignant protest which the Danish Consul-General's remarks at a recent dinner in Yokohama have evoked. Mr. E. DE BAVIER—who, we may observe, is the Senior Consul and one of the oldest foreign residents in this settlement—being called on to propose, in the name of the Foreign Consular Corps, the health of the President of the Yokohama Judicial Courts, spoke in terms displaying, as those who have studied the history of Japanese legislation will readily admit, very exceptional familiarity with his subject. He began by pointing out, and congratulating Japan on, the successful efforts she has made during the past fifteen years to unify and amend her laws, and said that the outcome of those efforts is "public Courts, constituted on modern principles, applying codes of laws which answer all demands of modern civilization." He then went on to show that the remarkable progress exhibited by the country in these respects is not entirely attributable to foreign contact, but that the germs of a sound legislative spirit are to be found in the earliest recorded Japanese code, which was published more than eleven hundred years ago. Thus, though the uniform development of legislative reform was im-

peded by the innumerable local subdivisions of authority under the feudal system, the principles of sound law and of its just administration were never wanting, and the evidences of their existence were to be found in the rapidity with which the nation had adapted itself to the new codes, and the judicature to their administration. Having regard to all these things, the Senior Consul found exaggeration in "the opinion held by some that a long time will be needed before Japanese Judges are competent to apply the new codes." Whether or no they are already competent, he did not venture to assert, but confined himself to educing, from the above historical facts, an explanation of the apparent ease that has characterized Japan's universal application of highly civilized laws.

In the abstract these remarks are moderate and circumspect, while the historical references they contain are perfectly correct. But they are flagrantly blameworthy in one respect: they imply that something good can come out of Japan. Foreign officials who publicly admit anything of that sort, are betraying the high trust reposed in them. In order to cultivate relations of friendship and mutual confidence with the Japanese, it is essential to show that we despise and distrust them. This axiom of civilized intercourse being admitted, the Senior Consul's observations will be found to embody dangerous matter. Placed under the microscope of local criticism, they assume proportions of a startling character, and are at once seen to be "indiscreet and improper." It is quite intolerable that "the spokesman of the Consular representatives of Great Britain, Germany, France, the United States, and all other great Powers in treaty relations with Japan, should, virtually in their name, declare the *raison d'être* of the extraterritorial clauses in the treaties to have ceased, and the condition which exempts foreigners from Japanese jurisdiction to be no longer tenable." Many persons will be puzzled to put such a sweeping interpretation upon the Senior Consul's speech, but then we must remember that extraterritoriality being in a very precarious condition, its guardians have to shield it with the utmost care against everything resembling adverse opinion. The wearing anxieties of their task to some extent account for their readiness to be thrown into a state of unreasoning perturbation by an after-dinner speech, as well as for their prone-

ness to suspect everybody of designs against the privileges to which they cling with so much tenacity and so little discrimination. This, too, will explain the recklessness of their reasoning when, being themselves absolutely ignorant of the language of Japan and the ideographs of China, they ask the world to discredit the Senior Consul's legal and historical information because he cannot decipher square characters or converse in more elaborate forms of speech than those supplied by Yokohama "pidgin." Nobody will find it worth his while to be annoyed by these exhibitions of pot-and-kettle logic, or to censure the Consul-General's critics because they resort to their old familiar device of putting into their adversary's mouth the statements they desire to combat. Mr. DE BAVIER did not say that "the Courts of Japan and the Judges presiding over them answer all demands of modern civilization." He applied that complimentary description to the codes only, and if his estimate was erroneous, he at all events erred in company with several of the most distinguished jurists in Europe. He has already proved that he is a gentleman who possesses the courage of his opinions. Whatever may be said of the motives that inspired his opposition to the combination of Japanese merchants known as the *Ito-gwaisha*, the resolute and unflinching nature of that opposition justify us in concluding that his proclivities count for nothing in his present attitude. He will not be much disturbed by the shower of stilted censure and sneering abuse his expression of opinion has elicited, though this exhibition will help him, as well as others, to estimate the justice and magnanimity of writers who profess to interpret foreign sentiment in Japan. Perhaps he has never before been "called on to explain himself without loss of time." If not, we trust the disturbing effect of the summons will not be very serious. Several persons in Yokohama are in a chronic condition of being required to stand forth at once and answer sundry grave charges; or to choose between immediate recantation and perpetual condemnation; or to stand convicted by their silence; or to emphatically disavow certain innuendoes; or to strike some other imposing moral attitude. But somehow they never respond to these challenges and exhortations, and we expect that the Consul-General for Denmark will follow their example.

HISTORY OF JAPANESE PENAL LEGISLATION.

BY SADATAKE KOKA.

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I.

It is a mistake to suppose that the new penal laws of the empire of Japan, which came into force on the 1st of January, 1882, are the first codified penal legislation of this island. It is in reality the fourth code in the history of Japanese penal legislation. The first, which was published in the year 702 A.D. can scarcely have been strictly carried out; but the second and third, both of which were introduced under the present Emperor since the fall of the feudal system, are in every respect penal codes. The new penal law, thus the fourth codification, is simply a continuation of its predecessors, and is neither the outcome of theoretical speculation nor a mere copy of foreign codes. The lengthened interval between the first and second codes produced also its share of penal laws, which, though not codified, were from time to time enacted by the authorities and publicly proclaimed. The chief reason why, for so long a time after the first legislation, no further codification was undertaken is to be found in the political circumstances of the country.

The first penal code, which, along with other laws, Government organization, regulations for armies, prisons, Government educational institutions, etc., was published in the year 702 A.D., and which along with the rest bore the common name of *Taihorei*, was without doubt fully made known to officials and nobles, but whether it was ever properly presented to the people is not so certain, although it was by no means a secret law. Aside from the fact that the law was far in advance of the people of that time, the Government was not strong enough to enforce its will in all parts of the land; the difficulties of communication must also have hindered the proclamation of Imperial edicts in distant parts. Under these circumstances, the above mentioned *Taihorei* could not have been published in all parts of the land nor enforced in every point.

Nevertheless, this penal law exerted a great influence upon the administration of justice, not only of that time but also of after years. It is still extant as the first codified law; and even to-day the authentic interpretation of the same under the name of *Rio-no-gige* is still very widely read (*Rio-no-gige* is prescribed in the curriculum of the Tokio University as an obligatory study for jurists). No one can mistake the connection between this code and the second codification although they are sundered by nearly 1,200 years of time.

No great change was made in the administration of justice for a long time after the codification of the first Penal law. The political condition of the country also does not seem to have undergone much change, although there must have been advance in population, wealth, and in cul-

ture generally. As a result of the difficulty of communication and the weakness of the central government, every division of the country was almost independent of the control of the latter, although they always used to recognize the supreme authority of the Emperor. No further attempt was therefore made to introduce into these different independent states a uniform Imperial penal law.

About the year 1185 a second central government was established in Kamakura (in the neighbourhood of the present port of Yokohama), which indeed recognized the authority of the Emperor, but which centralized in itself all real governmental powers, with the exception of the bestowment of most of the public honors, so that the Emperor's power gradually diminished and eventually dwindled to a mere shadow. Under this second usurped government, it is certainly true that the whole country became more consolidated than ever before, but the seeds of the feudal system had been sown. When this power, in the year 1600, passed into the hands of the Tokugawa family, whose head is known to Europeans as the Taikun or temporal sovereign, the feudal system was already fully developed. Although the Taikun was so powerful that all the lords of the land, numbering over 300, trembled before him, he seldom enforced his own will outside of his own immediate possessions, and thus ordinary legislation and the control of the people remained in the hands of the respective provincial chiefs. The result was that in different parts of the land different systems of administration were developed, so that it is very difficult to give a general description of them.

The semi-independence of the different provinces in the feudal system must also be distinguished from the independence of the older days, for by means of the feudal system each separate provincial division acquired a sort of State character within the greater Imperial State, while in the older times the independence of the provinces must have arisen from autonomy for want of national legislation by the Central Government.

Many foreigners appear to think that criminals in Japan were formerly punished by mere caprice. That is not quite correct. Even in the times of the feudal system the Daimiyo generally published their laws. New regulations, especially those that directly related to the officials, were posted up in certain fixed places (called *Fuda-no-tsushir*) of their respective territories, on placards (called *Taka-fuda*, &c.), or were communicated to certain local officials, who then were responsible for making them known to the members of the district. In every province certain so-called *Go-katto*,—prohibitions or orders which were issued partly by the Taikun mostly through the Daimiyo, and partly by the latter himself—were publicly recognized. Besides these there were many judicial usages, which apparently punished according to custom, but which in reality either originated in the first penal code, or having been once published were afterwards forgotten.

But I must not be misunderstood here, as though I denied the existence of administration of justice according to mere inherited custom, which was sometimes reasonable and sometimes irrational. Along with these judicial customs the feudal system brought along with it certain penal regulations completely military in character and which were very severe, often barbarous. (The well-known *hara-kiri* belongs to this category.) But these applied almost exclusively to knights and higher vassals.

Apart also from the first penal law, the penalties were often ill-defined and were left entirely to the opinion of the judge: the threatenings of the law were often couched in terms such as these: "certain to be held responsible," "will be severely punished," etc. The recognition of the inviolability of judicial rules was only conditional, for in practice judicial regulations were held secondary to moral considerations. There can be no doubt that the subordination of judicial laws to moral considerations was very prejudicial to the preservation of justice; at the same time one cannot overlook the fact that this free and easy acceptance of judicial regulations must have assisted materially in the introduction of a new system of judicial procedure.

Judges seem also to have punished frequently from considerations of expediency. "Punish one and frighten a thousand," was publicly proclaimed by some judges. It is also undeniable that the Daimiyo sometimes punished their subjects capriciously, and even without judicial procedure. Those Daimiyo, however, whose capricious and unjust rule gave rise to sedition in their respective provinces, were generally called to account by the Taikun, and often lost their inheritance by being compelled to retire in favour of a relative; sometimes the whole family was deprived of a part or of the whole of their possessions, which were then confiscated; in extreme cases such tyrannical Daimiyo were even condemned to commit *hara kiri*. This held good still more in the case of judges. Those judges who allowed themselves to be bribed, or, from private reasons, knowingly punished the accused unjustly, were either degraded from office, or condemned to exile or infamy, and even to death, so soon as their misdeeds were made known to their lords. From this it will be evident that, in spite of abuse and imperfection in the administration of justice, mere caprice could not have played so great a rôle as some foreigners seem to suppose.

Nevertheless, I must confess that in the former administration of justice there were many defects. If one takes into consideration the fact that the land was divided up into so many small, mutually independent states, and as a result criminals could easily find a refuge, and that the system of criminal police was very imperfect, it is no wonder that many offenders were left unpunished. As the judges, and other officials were not very independent, they often had not sufficient courage to prosecute energetically friends and relations of the Daimiyo and other influential persons. Moreover, his own confession was considered an essential condition to the punishment of a criminal. This well-meant,

but practically bad, principle naturally resulted in the system of torture. Publicity of adjudication was also unknown, as indeed all participation of the subject in public affairs stood in complete contradiction to the conception of the political law of that time.

At the time, a little before the middle of the present century, that Europeans once more began to visit this Island Empire, the power of the Taikun was decaying. But the last blow was dealt by the visit of the Europeans. The negotiations and treaties which he made in the name of the Japanese Empire, were completely in opposition to public opinion, not only because he acted in so frivolous and pusillanimous a manner, but because he had concluded these most important treaties without the consent of the Emperor, which was contrary to Japanese political law. It began to be evident also that it was necessary to form one compact powerful State. At the head of this party of unification were many powerful Daimiyo who supported the Emperor. In the year 1868, the second central government and the feudal system—I mean the Taikun and the chief of the Tokugawa family—were overthrown after a short revolution; the Emperor was restored to his full powers, or rather he was elevated thereto, for he had never before possessed so great power. In July, 1869, all the Daimiyo presented the Emperor a petition praying for permission to retire from the control of their inherited possessions in favour of the Emperor, so that he might form one compact and powerful nation. The Emperor granted this unanimous prayer of the provincial lords. They were at first merely transformed into Imperial officials, and controlled for a time the government of their respective provinces; at the same time various changes and improvements were made in the same. In the year 1871 all the Daimiyo were entirely released from these functions and called to the Imperial city of Tokiyo, to reside there as a Japanese nobility *in perpetuo*. The organization and other regulations of the provincial governments were completely reconstructed and little by little, energetically improved. The former retainers, who are still recognized as of gentle blood (*Shizoku*), had also lost all right and obligation to military service. The new regulation enforcing universal military duty was introduced in the year 1873. Thus the old feudal state, which had flourished for seven hundred years, vanished, and in its place arose the present consolidated Government of the Imperial Japanese nation.

II.

When the Taikun was removed and the Emperor restored to power, it soon became evident that the difference of administration of justice in different parts of the land was not only opposed to the harmony of the State, but also a great hindrance to the political and social development of the people; that the judicial regulations handed down from feudal times needed considerable improvement and modification; in a word that one of the greatest needs of the land was the introduction of one national penal system for the whole empire. The result was

the codification of the second Japanese penal law. At the end of the year 1870 this second Japanese penal code was published under the name of *Shin-ritsu-korei* (new penal law), which was doubtless modelled after the first code (*Tui-horei*) and must have had incorporated in it most of the penal regulations which had descended from feudal times with various modifications and improvements.

The New Penal Code, or *Shin-ritsu-korei*, recognized five kinds of penalties:—1. Light flogging, from 10 to 50 blows. 2. Severe flogging, from 60 to 100. 3. Penitentiary for from 1 to 3 years. 4. Exile and penitentiary in Yezo from 1 to 2 years (with the obligation to remain there after the penalty had been undergone). 5. Death, which was usually executed by hanging and beheading, and in certain legally defined cases the head was exposed for three days in addition. (This last form of the execution of the death penalty was abolished long ago.) The privileges of the *Samurai* are recognized in the application of these penalties. 1. Partial seclusion from the outer world. 2. Total seclusion. 3. Imprisonment in one's own house. 4. Military service in Yezo. 5. *Harakiri*. The females of the *Samurai* class were to a great extent included in the category of minors, aged persons, deaf mutes, &c., so far as penalties were concerned. For the rest we need not here go into the details of this Code.

As this second Penal Code was codified at the time of the transition from the feudal to the present consolidated system of Government, it could not of course be a permanent law. Any law, however excellent at the time of its codification, requires reconstruction so soon as the political and social conditions of the land undergo important change. Intercourse with foreign lands, and the consciousness of consolidation of national interests, called forth the energetic efforts of both government and people, which have given a new aspect to the conditions of the country in every respect, and indeed in many things a rather changeful one. Even in the year 1873, it began to be evident to the government and the public that the penal code of 1870 (*Shin-ritsu-korei*) was too far behind the times: although the interval since its enactment was so short, the obsolete ideas and regulations of the second code could no longer satisfy the popular demand. Thus it came to pass that in May of the same year (1873) the Government was impelled to issue a third codified Penal Law under the name of *Kaiti-ritsuri* (Revised Penal Law).

In this revised penal code are many evidences of the influence of modern civilization. The Imperial introduction informs us that this Code of laws was "founded upon the old forms of national justice, harmonized with the penal laws of other lands." Moreover, this revised penal code was by no means an independent one, for the former code—the *Shin-ritsu-korei*—remained still in force. With the exception of a few new regulations, the revised penal code contained explanations, supplements, and improvements, in different paragraphs of the second code—

generally in the interest of moderation and reasonableness, as well as of clearness—those parts which were left untouched remained in force as before.

The provisions of the revised code were therefore much more moderate and rational than those of the second. Penal servitude for from ten days to ten years with different gradations was substituted for flogging, banishment, &c., and occasionally life-long penal servitude occurs. In certain cases imprisonment was inflicted. The code recognized still three kinds of death penalty, the most severe of which (with subsequent exposure of the head) was shortly afterwards abolished; but the category of crimes incurring the death penalty was greatly curtailed, and various forms of former death penalties were exchanged for Penal servitude for life. The former strictly moral conception of criminal justice, was already giving way before the more correct conception of strictly judicial penal administration.

III.

No Code of laws can for any length of time meet the circumstances of a people which speeds along the way of improvement at a mercurial rate. The details of the revised Penal Code were therefore necessarily improved and supplemented from time to time, until under the influence of this current of reform the Government was once more impelled, in the year 1880 to issue a new penal law and a suitable Code of Criminal Procedure, under the simple names *Keiho*, Penal Law, and *Yisaiho*, Criminal Procedure.

As the French translation of these two codes has been published by the Government and is of course accessible to the European world, and as the two codes have been well discussed by an Austrian jurist, Dr. S. Mayer, Professor of Penal Law in Vienna (my teacher), I do not think it necessary to reproduce the contents of these laws. The general review of the legal development, and a few needful explanations which are not to be found in the above mentioned translation, nor in Dr. Mayer's disquisitions, seem, however, to call for a little fuller discussion.

The objection raised by some foreigners, that this threefold codification of criminal laws within the short space of fifteen years deserves the reproach of fickleness, is quite unfounded, for penal legislation must harmonize with the circumstances of a people. Whenever these circumstances have become so thoroughly altered as has been the case with Japan, a new penal law becomes a necessity. To retain a recent law, simply because it is recent, in face of the fact that the condition of the people has radically changed, would be as irrational as to reject an old law simply because it has been in force so long although the circumstances of the people remain the same.

On the other hand, it would rather be inexplicable that during these remarkable fifteen years, only three and no more revised codes were issued, if it is not borne in mind that between the different codifications various shorter laws were issued, which from time to time modified, improved, removed, or supplemented old details

and regulations that had fallen behind the times. And this very interval was particularly rich in the production of those laws which relate to the constitution of Courts, procedure, the position of judges, State prosecution, advocacy, police and prison organization, &c. With every new regulation the administration of justice became more secure and more complete. The Courts have long been divided into three grades, the right of appeal always being recognized. The independence of the judge was recognized; the functions and duties of the public prosecutor were clearly defined; advocates were subjected to public examinations. The criminal police was perfectly organized, and prison organization became no less perfect. The old principle requiring the confession of the criminal before the infliction of any penalty, had been long ago exchanged for the modern principle of evidence procedure. The use of torture for the extraction of confession, which ever since the restoration of the Emperor was less and less resorted to, was eventually, in accordance with the new principle, not only strictly forbidden, but had grown obsolete. In fact, for the last five years at least, torture has been absolutely—I say absolutely—abolished in Japan.

In short, most of the regulations of the present Penal Code and Code of Criminal Procedure, were in practical force in Japanese administration of justice before the introduction of the said codification. The new Codes have however made important advances in two particulars,—(1) the recognition of perfect publicity of Courts, and the permissibility of advocates in penal procedure (in civil matters they were admitted long ago). (2) In that the judge is to presuppose the innocence of the accused. But even in these two points the foreign laws have not been simply copied as some foreigners seem to affirm. Public opinion, particularly the newspapers and magazines which number over one hundred and which are mostly inclined to the side of opposition, advocated the acceptance of the new principles of penal justice, and they did much to prepare the people so that they gladly welcomed the two Codes as soon as they were issued. What these Codes have borrowed from the French Codes are principally forms of expression—what I might call from a literary standpoint, translation, style—and the division into paragraphs, sections &c., &c. The materials of both Codes were mostly either indigenous or had already become well naturalized. It is a mistake to suppose that the Japanese have simply “swallowed” foreign Codes whole. The *Keiho* and the *Yisaiho* are really Japanese legislation, but nevertheless they are the developed laws of modern civilization.

With the fall of the feudal system, and the introduction of general military service, the former *samurai* (of whom there are 400,000 males) had indeed lost their ancient occupation, but as they had been educated from youth up not only in athletic and military arts, but also in history, literature, moral and political philosophy, etc., and were therefore somewhat prepared for the duties of statesmanship, they now sought the new

occupation of officials, officers, judges, advocates, authors, editors, &c., &c.

Foreign languages had been studied somewhat. Towards the end of the feudal times there were many people who could translate Dutch books. But with the overthrow of the feudal system increased intercourse with Europeans, particularly with the English, Americans, and French, occasioned an energetic study of English and French books. Thousands of English and French books, particularly on social-juristic subjects, were translated into Japanese and widely circulated.

Hundreds of law schools were established under the direction of judges, advocates, authors, etc., both in Tokio and in the provincial towns. The Ministry of Justice had also founded a law school under its own direct supervision in the city of Tokio, where at first instruction was imparted in French but now for a long time only in Japanese. These schools have already graduated a large number of students. Above all, however, the University of Tokio has a law faculty, under whose instruction, besides the Encyclopedia of Jurisprudence, Philosophy of Law, Popular Rights, English Constitutional Law, etc., Japanese law (the old and new with practical instruction), the French Law (Penal and Civil Codes), and English Law (the greatest importance is laid on the study of English Law), are made obligatory subjects in the curriculum which covers a course of four years. Since the year 1878 many students have graduated and received the title of *Hogakushi* (Dr. jur.)

Moreover the efforts after enlargement and improvement of juristic culture were just as marked amongst the older jurists. In the department of the Minister of Justice and in different high Courts it was customary to have several European jurists appointed for counsel and consultation. It soon became usual that these jurists, at the desire of the Judges and the higher police officials, explained the modern principles of justice and gave the letter of the law in their respective countries. These lectures were generally interpreted for the hearers on the spot, but afterwards carefully translated and printed, and were not only distributed among the members of the bar, but often published for the benefit of the general public. Judges, advocates, teachers of law, etc., often formed themselves into legal societies, which met weekly or monthly for the discussion and explanation of legal questions and principles of jurisprudence.

And there was no lack of law publications. Different juristic publications were issued by law schools, law clubs, individual advocates, and authors, and the daily newspapers even, were chiefly filled with politico-legal matter. They busied themselves with the popularization of European conceptions of law, and criticized themselves the condition of justice in Japan. The newspapers had perhaps the greatest material (in contradistinction to the legislative) influence on the development of Japanese law.

I have already mentioned the fact that English and French Law books, original editions (and

such books are imported perhaps a thousand fold more than is supposed in Europe), as well as translations of the same, have been widely circulated among the people. In the so-called public "lecture-meetings," which have come into vogue within the last eight years, and along with the newspapers have exerted on immense influence, legal questions are mostly discussed.

I need not here emphasize the fact that the Government, as well as rich parents, have sent many young people to Europe (mostly to England, America, and France) in order to study the legal sciences there, and that many of these students after completing their studies returned to their own land.

My chief object, in conclusion, has been to show that the Penal Code and the Code of Criminal Procedure now in force are neither the result of abstract speculation nor a mechanical transcript, but the outcome of historically developed legislation. The second (*Shinritsu-korei*), and third (*Kaitai-ritsurei*) penal codes, with other supplementary smaller legislative productions, must not be taken alone or piece-meal, but must be studied as a whole and in their actual relationship to the latest Criminal Codes (*Keiho* and *Jisaiho*). If one looks at the matter in this light, the connection between the different codes becomes very plain. All those recent laws were nothing more nor less than a preparation for the two Codes of Penal legislation now in force in Japan.

THE CHRISTMAS SERVICE AT CHRIST-CHURCH.

On Tuesday morning the Church was crowded, and presented a scene that brought a home Christmas vividly back to the recollection. The ancient English, or rather British, custom, of decking with evergreens had been most tastefully carried out by the ladies of the congregation; and their work had been helped by gifts of flowers and berries from various neighbours. Over the beautiful carved screen, which separates the chancel from the nave, appeared in letters wrought in golden chrysanthemum the words from Charles Wesley's noble hymn,

Born to raise the sons of earth,
Born to give them second birth.

At the Western end of the Church, over the organ, were two lines from one, still living, who gives the truest utterance to the Spirit of the Age,

Ring out the darkness of the land,
Ring in the Christ that is to be.

The service opened with a carol by Dr. Monk, "Christus Natus Hodie!" Its joyful freshness at once aroused the souls of the worshippers. The *Te Deum*, one of the most ancient hymns of the Church, was sung to music by Stephens, the character of which well accorded with the occasion. The Anthem chosen for the day was one which demanded all the ability of our painstaking organist, Mr. J. T. Griffin, and every effort of the Choir. It is a fine composition by Dr. S. S. Wesley, beginning with the words, "Blessed be the Lord God of Israel!" and our singers rendered it so well that the prophetic words "unto us a Child is born!" and following sentences were deeply impressed upon the auditors. The Hymn *Adeste Fideles!* was very sweetly sung to the air so widely known, though

the name of him who composed it is lost. Though dead to fame himself his melody still speaks to us.

The service was read by our Chaplain, the Rev. E. Champneys Irvine, who took for his subject the secret of the power of Christ. All great men had points of resemblance to Christ; and the vast influence of the greatest of them was not to be denied. But as the ages rolled on was there any one of them whose empire over the minds of men seemed to wax and not to wane? Fiery ardour reached its height in the great desert iconoclast, Mohammed. Inspired with his zeal, and blindly devoted to his creed, his warriors took the dormant world by storm. The belief "that through unbelievers' souls lies the directest path to heaven" still holds together millions of men. But Mohammed's life and teaching will bear no comparison even with lesser lights than Christ. Far wider and more lasting was the power of Buddha. His life, too, touched that of Christ in one most striking attribute. He was unselfish and devoted. Pitying the misery and sorrow of mankind, he gave up his regal state and went amongst the poor. And there was given unto him dominion and power over a third part of Earth's hosts. Nevertheless, his kingdom is not that that shall not pass away. Less wide, but deeper far than any of these is the influence of him whom even Plato called Master. Liberator of the mind from the vanity of the sophist, he was obedient to the law of his country, even unto death. If the love of truth and of friends alone could have healed the world, Socrates would now be worshipped. But no, a life higher than his, and a still sublimer death were yet to come. It is of that life we speak to-day. It was eminently simple. His boyhood was unobtrusive, a pattern boyhood, one brilliant flash alone breaks its silence. His manhood, was kindly, brave, and gentle. He furnishes wine for the poor man's feast and dines with humble men. He attends the village church on Sunday and strolls through the fields with his companions. No Sabbatarian He: no formalist. With Him benevolence is everything: religiosity nothing. But with all this liberality He is as pure as a child. A little child is with Him the chosen type of Christendom. Man reverences Him, and with reason. Woman leans upon Him, and finds the strength she needs in him. The child trusts Him, and He is worthy of that trust. Wonderful as is the mystery of His immaculate birth, still more is His stainless life a ceaseless marvel. Only this is clear, that if we hope to follow Him in His heavenward flight we must attain a purity as perfect as that of a little child.

At the close of the service a beautiful anthem, "As pants the Hart," an arrangement from Spohr, was sung with great feeling and expression. The offertory amounted to \$250.

CHRISTMAS AT THE FOREIGN SUNDAY SCHOOL.

The season of Christmas has come again, and with it the usual Sunday School festivities at the various churches and schools, foreign and native. These, owing to their number, have to be distributed over several days in advance of the usual Christmas Eve. For example, the Native Sunday School at the Sumi-yoshi Kwaicho held its celebration of Christmas on the evening of the 21st; and the Foreign Sunday School of the Union Church on the evening of the 22nd. The Schools at 120, Bluff, and 212, Bluff, held theirs respectively on the afternoons and evenings of the 24th and 25th inst.

Besides these, a number of smaller Sunday Schools have had, or are to have their festivals.

The Foreign Sunday School festival has of late years become confined to the actual scholars in attendance at the Sunday School, and while it has lost much of the old time popularity it enjoyed on the part of all classes of the community both foreign and native when it used to be held in the theatre, with a Christmas Tree and a St. Nicholas, still what has been lost in popularity has been more than compensated for by the good order and decorum manifested by the scholars, and by their very superior singing and recitation exercises. These latter would do credit to any Sunday School in more favored lands and localities than a seaport town of the Far East. Few beside parents of the scholars and friends of the School attend these enjoyable exercises. At 4 p.m. the scholars to the number of 70 or 80 marched into the Church from the lecture-room, singing a lively song, led by the organ and a choir of young ladies, consisting of the elder scholars in the School. The Church itself was decorated with Scripture inscriptions on the side walls, and over the arch above the platform, in evergreen letters, while the platform was ornamented with stands of ferns, and the table in front showed a large pile of beautifully bound books and toys; and at the sides of the table were boxes of fruit, candies and cakes, in cornucopias, and paper bags ready for distribution. Prayer was offered up by Rev. Mr. Garst, followed by singing, by the entire school, of the second hymn on the programme, "Christmas time has come again." This was followed by the reading of the Report of the Superintendent of the School, A. J. Wilkin, Esq. He reported an average attendance of 55 each Sabbath during the year, and 18 yen 12 sen as the amount of the children's contributions to support a child in one of the Mission Schools. This was a considerable falling off from previous years. He reported the Library to be in excellent order, under the care of Mr. Charles Sale, and that a number of new books were soon to be added to it. They had joined the Sunday School Union of London, and by the annual payment of a small sum they would be entitled to receive some valuable new books yearly. They had also introduced a new Hymn Book, entitled, "Children's Worship," which was meeting with acceptance. He followed his report with some bright and cheery remarks concerning the appearance of the scholars, and of how Christmas time takes us all back to the days of childhood. He looked forward also to the time when the children there assembled would be scattered throughout the various home lands. He thought some of them might become daring navigators, or Christian discoverers, as Livingstone in the "Dark Continent of Africa." The Superintendent's Report was followed by a Recitation by 15 members of the Infant Class, and that again by singing by the entire school of Hymn No. 3 on the programme, a "Christmas Carol." This was followed by a recitation by Master Fred. Sale, entitled, "Three Copecks"—A Russian child's written prayer dropped into the alms' box at Church for that amount of money to keep his little orphan sister from starvation, and which by the interested services of the good priest led to a collection of 2,000 roubles for the little petitioner's benefit. Subdued applause greeted this speaker from his appreciative school-mates. A short address was then given by the Rev. Jas. H. Ballagh, on "How Christ came into the world; how he was announced; how he was received; who first saw him; and what were some

of the results of his coming to children and to all men." This address which was attentively listened to by even the youngest of the children, was followed by a recitation entitled, "The search of the Sages," by Miss Lizzie Levy, whose creditable effort won applause from her auditors. Then followed a song by ten of the larger scholars, boys and girls, who gained applause from all. A recitation by Miss Emma Bridgens, entitled "Piccola"—a little Italian girl's Christmas, was interesting and its delivery excellent, winning very hearty commendation. Then followed an exercise of responsive reading of Psalms by three divisions of the school, and the closing hymn, "To the Lord Jesus Christ be the glory." The religious and literary part of the exercises thus concluded, the distribution of gifts to the scholars, and of fruits, cakes, nuts, and sweets, followed. As the little ones trudged out, their arms laden with good things, to the Infant Class Room, where their wraps had been left, no more happy, quiet, orderly, and better behaved class of children could have been seen. Their admirable behaviour is in no small degree owing, according to the Superintendent's testimony, to Miss C. E. Ballagh, once a pupil in the school, who besides the care of the Infant Class, and presiding at the organ, had the care of training all who took part in the exercises. Many other teachers in the School have been also pupils in the same, and so this Sunday School may be said to have become indigenous to Japan. We must not forget to mention that much of the good done in this Sunday School is due to the efforts of its zealous and kindly Superintendent, Mr. A. J. Wilkin, whose name is connected with every good work in Yokohama. The simple festival which gave so much pleasure to a host of youngsters cost the modest sum of \$50, collected by offertory at the Union Church, to which the Sunday School is affiliated.

JAPANESE IN KOREA.

When H.E. Takezoye, Minister to Söul, called at Pusan en route to Japan, the Committee of the Chamber of Commerce visited him and the following conversation ensued:—

HIS EXCELLENCY—The most important question pending, is the residence of Europeans in Japanese settlements. Mr. Aston, English Consul, spoke to me on the subject while I was in Söul and desired that English people should be allowed to live in the Japanese settlements. But I did not give him any definite answer. I should like to know what you think of the matter.

COMMITTEE—Mr. Aston came to this place and selected the Saka-no-shita (down-the-hill) for the English settlement. On that occasion, we expressed a strong opinion that the establishment of an English settlement there would endanger our interest. All the goods conveyed hither are brought through the Fusan Road, that is, the Saka-no-shita, and the occupation of that part by the British represents our throats being grasped by them. Japanese trade must suffer considerably. It would, therefore, be rather advantageous for us to live together with the English and to have with them an equal share of benefit and loss.

H.E.—In case you live together with foreigners, municipal rules for the maintenance of good order and comfort of this place must necessarily undergo some change. Thus, you would meet with trouble.

COM.—But trade interest is of far greater importance than the change of municipal rules.

We will adopt such rules as were fixed by the Consuls of foreign nations. And, as we are convinced that it would conduce to our interest to live together with foreigners, we earnestly hope that Your Excellency will exert yourself to make our interest coincident with that of foreigners.

H.E.—What do you think of allotting a portion of the settlement to them?

COM.—To make a division of the settlement, is a secondary affair that we may adopt instead of the first plan. If we do not actually live together with foreigners, we must adopt it. In this case, we have a claim which naturally occurs to us. That the settlement should have attained to its present state of importance is entirely due to Japanese exertions. If, therefore, a portion of it is to be allotted to foreigners, we demand that the Korean Government shall pay such a proportion as will compensate our labour for the last two hundred years or make special provision to reduce our land-tax for a certain number of years. We are unfortunate on this point.

H.E.—I believe that the Korean Government will not be so illiberal as to refuse this claim. Supposing we adopt this plan, what portion of the settlement will you give to foreigners?

COM.—In that case, we will give them the Western corner. But that portion being not such as even we like, they are certain to object to it. We should divide the convenient spot into two parts, taking the Riuwosan (Dragon's Tail Hill) as the centre. We will occupy the east and north and give them all south of Sakuragawa (Cherry River).

COM.—Is it true that the Korean Government entered into a contract with Chinese merchants in Söul to prevent free trade? and that Mr. Mölendorff is responsible for it?

H.E.—That report is groundless. The Korean Government recently established an office named Keisho-Kiyoku (bureau for giving protection to trade), but as they have not enough money to give protection, there is no danger of trade being tampered with.—*Mainichi Shimbun.*

IN H.B.M. COURT FOR JAPAN.

Before N. J. HANNEN Esq., Judge.—SATURDAY, 22nd December, 1883.

YOKIOKA SHORBI V. ED. WHITTALL.

This was a claim for the refund of \$10,000 said to be the purchase money for the steamer *Yumbo*, which had not been delivered to the plaintiff, and an action for the delivery of 410 bales of yarn, said to have been purchased from the defendant.

Mr. Litchfield appeared for the plaintiff, and Mr. Kirkwood for the defendant.

JUDGMENT.

After stating the pleadings, Mr. Hannen continued:—

In the view that I take of the case a great deal of the evidence and cross-examination was unnecessary. The most important points which were either admitted or proved were, that the two contracts were entered into on the same day, that they really formed one transaction, that the portion of the price for the objects brought which was to be paid in ready money, was so paid, that for the balance a deposit note of the Nito Bank was given, and that delivery of 410 bales of yarns, part of the objects purchased was refused. Counsel for the plaintiff argued that

upon the evidence the Court should find that the deposit note had been accepted in lieu of the approved bills mentioned in the contract, and further that there had been a waiver of this condition of the contract. On the other hand, Counsel for the defendant argued that the evidence showed that the deposit note had never been accepted in lieu of the approved bills and as to the waiver, he contended, as I understood him, that the point could not be raised upon the pleadings as they stand. The argument that waiver of a condition precedent should be pleaded by the plaintiff is entirely contrary to all rules of pleading, old and new. According to the old system the plaintiff alleged performance generally of all conditions precedent, the defendant specified the particular one, the non-performance of which he relied on as exonerating him from the performance of the contract, and issue was joined. Here the general allegation of the performance of all conditions has been made, and we may gather from the answer that the condition precedent relied on by the defendant is the non-payment of the balance of the purchase-money by means of an "approved bill." Under these pleadings it is manifestly quite fair to the defendant, and in accordance with all rules of pleading, to argue that although the delivery to the defendant of approved bills may have been at one time a condition precedent to the defendant's delivering the yarns, yet his conduct has been such as to preclude him from raising that defence, or shortly, that he has waived this condition precedent. The point then may in my opinion be properly raised upon these pleadings, and I am further of opinion that it is fatal to the defendant's case. The general principle is a tolerably well-known one and I am somewhat astonished that, after I had warned the defendant's Counsel that it seemed to me his great difficulty, he should not have pointed out in what way this case could be taken out of it. The principle is this: Where one party to a contract has had a substantial part of the consideration, he cannot set up the non-performance of a condition precedent as a defence. This is shown by the judgment of Chief Baron Pollock in *Graves v. Legge*, 23 L. J. Ex. 228, also by *Ellen v. Topp*, 20 L. J. Ex. 241. The judgment of Baron Bramwell (now Lord Bramwell) in *White v. Beeton*, 30 L. J. Ex. 373, shows very clearly the reason and reasonableness of this rule. The principle has been followed in a later case, *Carter v. Scargill*, L. R. Q. B. 564. The conclusion that I come to therefore is, that although the defendant might after having signed the contracts for the sale of the steamer and the merchandise have said it is a condition precedent of my carrying out this contract that you should hand me approved bills for \$32,000, he cannot after having taken what was a most substantial part of the consideration, viz., \$16,000, in cash, still insist on this as a condition precedent to his handing over the yarns. He would be clearly entitled to his cross-action against the present plaintiff for alleged breach of the contract by the non-delivery to him of approved bills. As, however, there is no cross-action, I cannot deal with this, and I must leave the parties to take such action as they may be advised. There will, therefore, be judgment for the plaintiff upon the second prayer of his petition, with costs, against which latter the defendant will be entitled to set off \$500 as assessed costs of that portion of the petition which was abandoned during the course of the suit. There will also be an enquiry, as to what damages the plaintiff has suffered by the wrongful detention of the goods.

LATEST TELEGRAMS.

[REUTER "SPECIAL" TO "JAPAN MAIL."]

London, December 23rd.

ABYSSINIA.

King John of Abyssinia is massing troops and menacing Massowah.

EXTENSION OF THE COUNTY FRANCHISE.

Mr. Gladstone, in reply to a deputation, announced the introduction of a Bill to extend the county franchise.

London, December 24th.

THE SONTAY AFFAIR.

The French Press is exultant over the capture of Sontay, deprecating mediation and recommending that hostilities be continued until the whole of the delta of the Red River is cleared of the enemy.

London, December 26th.

The fortification of Suakim has been completed.

[FROM THE "HONGKONG DAILY PRESS."]

London, 15th December.

A SUPPLEMENTARY CREDIT FOR THE TONQUIN EXPEDITION.

Monsieur Ferry, the French Premier, has asked the Chamber for a supplementary credit of twenty million francs for Tonquin.

[FROM THE SAIGON "INDEPENDANT."]

Paris, 26th November.

THE TONQUIN AFFAIR.

The Committee of the Chamber appointed to examine the Tonquin credit project has called M. Bourée, and will hear him to-morrow.

Paris, 28th November.

It is stated that in consequence of the declaration of the Marquis Tseng relative to the advance on Bac-ninh, the Government will mobilise the twelfth corps d'armée and send it to Tonquin.

Orders have been given at the ports to press forward the departure of the African troops, which comprise a battalion of Zouaves and a squadron of Chasseurs.

Important charters are said to have been concluded at Havre by the naval authorities for the transport of war matériel.

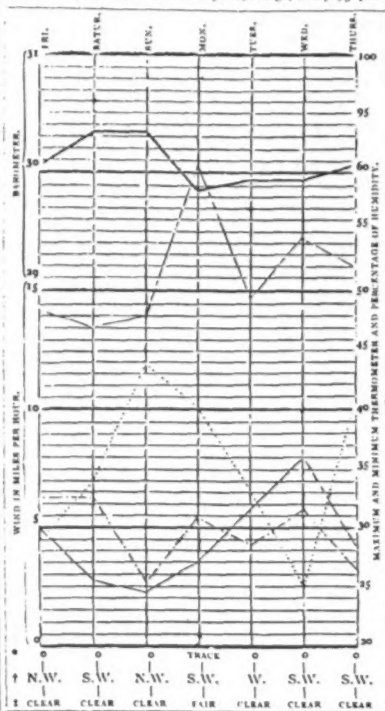
The regulations for Public Loan Bonds for industrial purposes and for Exchange Bills (*Okurasho Shoken*) will be issued in January next. The bills consist of five kinds, viz: yen 100; yen 500; yen 1,000; yen 5,000; and yen 10,000. The proposed new loan bonds are to be issued to the amount of yen 20,000,000. In consequence of this, the prices of the old bonds have begun to fall.

The Yokohama Bourse is deserted, the number of people in attendance being only ten, including boys. Street bargains are, however, carried on with unabated vigour. They amount to more than yen 1,500,000. But as these bargains are simple private agreements, they are broken whenever violent fluctuations occur. The arrest of gamblers the other day caused an uneasy feeling among operators. *Tamato Soba* (sleeve bargains, so called from the brokers putting their hands into the sleeves, and grasping the fingers of others, each manipulation meaning from one to ten thousand dollars worth of business) prevails. The police have attempted to prohibit the practice.

METEOROLOGICAL REPORT.

FOR WEEK BEGINNING FRIDAY, DECEMBER 21ST, 1883.

Observatory of Daigaku, Moto-Fujicho, Hongk, Tokiyo, Japan.



REMARKS.
Heavy line represents barometer.
Light continuous line—maximum and minimum thermometers.
Dotted line—percentage of humidity.

The barometer is reduced to the freezing point and to the level of the sea.
* Rain in inches. † Direction of Wind. ‡ Weather.
Maximum velocity of wind 34.6 miles per hour on Friday at 4 p.m.

The highest reading of the barometer for the week was 30.346 inches on Saturday at 10 a.m., and the lowest was 29.768 inches on Monday at 3 p.m.
The highest temperature for the week was 60.7 on Monday, and the lowest was 34.8 on Sunday. The maximum and minimum for the week of last year were 52.0 and 35.3 respectively.
The total amount of rain for the week was .001 inches, against .341 inches for the corresponding week of last year.

TIME TABLES.

YOKOHAMA-TOKIO RAILWAY.

The Trains LEAVE YOKOHAMA Station at 7.30, 8.45, 9.30, 10.15, and 11.30 a.m., and 1.00, 2.30, 4.00, 5.00, 6.15, 8.00, 9.15, and 10.30† p.m.

The Trains LEAVE TOKIO (Shinbashi) at 7.30, 8.45, 10.00, 10.45, and 11.30 a.m., and 1.00, 2.30, 4.00, 5.00, 6.15, 8.00, 9.15, and 10.30† p.m.

Those marked with (*) run through without stopping at Tsurumi, Kawasaki, and Omori Stations. Those with (†) are the same as above with the exception of stopping at Kawasaki Station.

UYENO-KUMAGAI RAILWAY.

The Trains leave UYENO at 7 and 11.30 a.m. and 4 p.m., and HONJO at 6.30 and 11 a.m. and 3.30 p.m.

The Fares are:—Special-class (Separate Compartment), yen 2.35; First-class, yen 1.40; Third-class, sen 70.

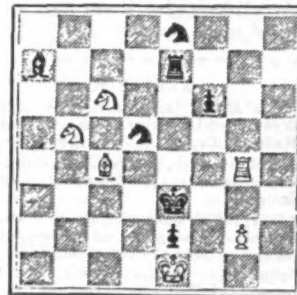
YOKOSUKA STEAMERS.

The Yokosuka steamers leave the English Hatoba daily at 8.15 and 10.45 a.m., and 12.30, 3.00, and 4.15 p.m.; and leave Yokosuka at 7.00 and 9.45 a.m., 12.15 m., and 2.00 and 4.00 p.m.

CHESS.

From J. B. Bridport's Collection of Chess Problems.

BLACK.



WHITE.

White to play and mate in 3 moves.

Solution to Chess Problem of 22nd December, by Mr. F. HEALEY.

White.

- 1.—Kt. to Q. B. 2.
- 2.—R. to Q. 2, ch.
- 3.—Mates accordingly.

- 2.—Q. to B. 6, ch.
- 3.—Q. mates.

- 2.—Q. to Kt. 5, ch.
- 3.—Kt. to K. 3, mate.

Black.

- 1.—R. takes Kt.
- 2.—Anything.

- 1.—K. to B. 5.
- 2.—K. moves.

- 1.—B. takes P.
- 2.—B. covers.

Correct answer received from "TESA."

MAIL STEAMERS.

THE NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From Shanghai, Nagasaki, & Kobe ... per M. B. Co. Monday, Dec. 31st.
From Hongkong ... per P. & O. Co. Friday, Jan. 4th.*
From Europe, via Hongkong ... per M. M. Co. Thursday, Jan. 10th.
From America ... per O. & O. Co. Friday, Jan. 11th.†

* *Africa* left Hongkong on December 27th. The *Owari Maru* (with English mail) left Hongkong on December 22nd. † *Ukianis* left San Francisco on December 22nd.

THE NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For Shanghai, Kobe, and Nagasaki ... per M. B. Co. Wednesday, Jan. 2nd.
For Europe, via Hongkong ... per M. M. Co. Saturday, Jan. 5th.
For Europe, via Hongkong ... per P. & O. Co. Saturday, Jan. 12th.

The arrival and departure of mails by the Occidental and Oriental, the Pacific Mail, and the Peninsular and Oriental Companies, are approximate only.

EXCHANGE.

Rates are almost unchanged, business having been comparatively small. There has been a little more demand for Bank Paper at quotations.

| | |
|-----------------------------------------|------------|
| Sterling—Bank Bills on demand | 3/3½ |
| Sterling—Bank 4 months' sight | 3/9½ |
| Sterling—Private 4 months' sight | 3/9½ |
| Sterling—Private 6 months' sight | 3/9½ |
| On Paris—Bank sight | 4.72 |
| On Paris—Private 6 months' sight | 4.82½ |
| On Hongkong—Bank sight | Par |
| On Hongkong—Private 10 days' sight | 1 1/2 dis. |
| On Shanghai—Bank sight | 72 |
| On Shanghai—Private 10 days' sight | 72½ |
| On New York—Bank Bills on demand | 90 |
| On New York—Private 30 days' sight | 91 |
| On San Francisco—Bank Bills on demand | 90 |
| On San Francisco—Private 30 days' sight | 91½ |

LATEST SHIPPING.

FREIGHTS.

During the past week chartering business has continued on the smallest scale; the berth, however, for all destinations is well filled with both steam and sailing tonnage.

ARRIVALS.

Hiroshima Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,862, J. Wynn, 23rd December,—Shanghai and ports, Mails and General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S. S. Co.
Dorothy, British bark, 320, A. Croal, 26th December,—Nagasaki 13th December, Coals.—A. Center.
Mark Lane, British steamer, 1,384, R. Porter, 24th December,—Shanghai via Nagasaki 21st December, General.—Adamson, Bell & Co.
Will o' the Wisp, British steamer, 166, C. H. Porrett, 24th December,—Hull via Singapore and Nagasaki 20th December, Coals and General.—Owston Snow & Co.
Hiogo Maru, Japanese steamer, 896, R. N. Walker, 25th December,—Hakodate 22nd and Ogino-hama 24th December, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S. S. Co.
Volga, French steamer, 1,583, Benois, 25th December,—Hongkong 19th December, Mails and General.—Messageries Maritimes Co.
Kamichatka, Russian steamer, 701, Ingman 26th December,—Kobe 24th December, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S. S. Co.
Kengi Maru, Japanese steamer, 236, Masuda, 26th December,—Yokkaichi 23rd December, General.—Kowyekisha.
Okame Maru, Japanese steamer, 148, Ichishima, 26th December,—Handa 23rd December, General.—Handasha.
Saikai Maru, Japanese steamer, 102, Nonaka, 27th December,—Toba 24th December, General.—Seiriusha.
Takasago Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,229, C. Young, 27th December,—Kobe 25th December, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S. S. Co.
Abreck (8), Russian gunboat, Captain Schanz, 27th December,—Hakodate 24th December.
Iceberg, American ship, 1,135, A. L. Carver, 27th December,—New York 5th July, 40,000 cases Kerosene and General.—Kosena and Japan Trading Co.
Arabic, British steamer, 2,787, W. G. Pearne, 28th December,—San Francisco 1st December, Mails and General.—O. & O. S. S. Co.

DEPARTURES.

Niigata Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,097, Hubbard, 23rd December,—Hakodate via Ogino-hama, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S. S. Co.
Onoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 104, Sugimoto, 23rd December,—Fukuda, General.—Fukudasha.
Shima Maru, Japanese steamer, 230, Okuma, 23rd December,—Yokkaichi, General.—Kiyodo Unyu Kwaisha.
Totomi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,970, James, 23rd December,—Fushiki via Kobe 8th December, General.—Kiyodo Unyu Kwaisha.
Benlarig, British steamer, 1,481, H. Clark, 24th December,—London via ports, General.—Mourilyan, Heimann & Co.
City of Tokio, American steamer, 3,128, Dearborn, 24th December,—San Francisco, Mails and General.—P. M. S. S. Co.
Seirio Maru, Japanese steamer, 459, Tamura, 24th December,—Yokkaichi, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S. S. Co.
Felix, German schooner, 58, Sternberg, 25th December,—Guam, General.—F. Retz & Co.
Hakodate Maru, Japanese steamer, 104, Inouye, 25th December,—Yokkaichi, General.—Kiyodo Unyu Kwaisha.
Kowyeki Maru, Japanese steamer, 63, Omura, 25th December,—Yokkaichi, General.—Kowyekisha.

Hiroshima Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,862, J. Wynn, 26th December,—Shanghai and ports, Mails and General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S. S. Co.
Daukai Maru, Japanese steamer, 97, Shimidzu, 26th December,—Shimoda, General.—Dzu-kaisha.
Shidzuoka Maru, Japanese steamer, 334, Narita, 26th December,—Shimidzu, General.—Seiriusha.
Taganoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 454, Matsu-moto, 26th December,—Yokkaichi, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S. S. Co.
Tokai Maru, Japanese steamer, 634, Carrew, 26th December,—Hakodate, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S. S. Co.
Hiogo Maru, Japanese steamer, 896, R. N. Walker, 27th December,—Kobe, Mails and General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S. S. Co.
Kosuge Maru, Japanese steamer, 794, Kawaoka Hikozo, 27th December,—Kobe, General.—Kiyodo Unyu Kwaisha.
Seisho Maru, Japanese steamer, 270, Isoda, 27th December,—Kobe and Osaka, General.—Seiriusha.
Shinagawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,269, J. E. Kilgour, 27th December,—Hakodate, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S. S. Co.
Okame Maru, Japanese steamer, 148, Ichishima, 28th December,—Handa, General.—Handasha.
Ben Nevis, British ship, 1,061, MacKie, 28th December,—Nagasaki, Kerosene,—Corney & Co.
Electra, German steamer, 1,162, E. Kaler, 28th December,—Havre and Hamburg via ports, General.—Simon, Evers & Co.
Kengi Maru, Japanese steamer, 236, Masuda, 28th December,—Yokkaichi, General.—Kowyekisha.
Yoritomo Maru, Japanese steamer, 612, B. E. Gall, 28th December,—Hachinohe, General.—Mitsui Bussan Kwaisha.
Arabic, British steamer, 2,787, W. G. Pearne, 29th December,—Hongkong, Mails and General.—O. & O. S. S. Co.
Kamichatka, Russian steamer, 701, Ingman, 29th December,—Kobe, General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S. S. Co.
Sooloo, British bark, 472, Baie, 29th December,—Nagasaki, Kerosene and General.—H. MacArthur.
Takasago Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,229, C. Young, 28th December,—Hakodate via Ogino-hama, Mails and General.—Mitsu Bishi M. S. S. Co.
Zambesi, British steamer, 1,540, L. H. Moule, 29th December,—Hongkong via Kobe and Nagasaki, Mails and General.—P. & O. S. N. Co.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per Japanese steamer *Kowyeki Maru*, from Yokkaichi:—40 Japanese.
 Per Japanese steamer *Hiroshima Maru*, from Shanghai and ports:—Consul General and Mrs. O. N. Denny, Mrs. O. B. Scott and child, Paymaster J. A. King, U.S.N., Mrs. Hunter and son, Mrs. Eckstrand and 2 children, Mr. and Mrs. Nishimura and child, Mr. and Mrs. Kato, Mrs. Otsune, Mrs. Omura, Messrs. F. S. Morse, H. Bush, F. W. Playfair, A. Oestmann, N. Schleser, J. Singleton, J. Kirkham, Nakajima, Tomohira, Mawija, Kawashima, Kaneko, and Hashiguri in cabin; and 2nd class Messrs. Thompson, Taylor, and Gustafsen, U.S.N., and 115 Japanese in steerage. For San Francisco: Mr. A. F. Thompson in cabin.
 Per Japanese steamer *Hiogo Maru*, from Hakodate:—Mr. and Mrs. Kato and child, Messrs. Boag, Nakayama, Tsubouchi, and Saito in cabin; and 1 European and 64 Japanese in steerage. From Ogino-hama: Messrs. Fudaichi and Kajitane in cabin; and 67 Japanese in steerage.
 Per French steamer *Volga*, from Hongkong:—M. Grinet, Secretary of French Legation, in cabin.
 Per Russian steamer *Kamichatka*, from Kobe:—Mr. Hansen and 2 Japanese in cabin; and 45 Japanese in steerage.
 Per Japanese steamer *Takasago Maru*, from

Kobe:—Mr. Goodson and 9 Japanese in cabin; and 115 Japanese in steerage.

Per British steamer *Arabic*, from San Francisco: Miss E. Hartwell, Miss Mattie M. Roberts, Messrs. M. Stonewell, John Taylor, T. H. Sumner, C. H. Comte, P. Comte, and Chas. A. Taylor in cabin; and 1 European in steerage. For Hongkong: Miss B. Emerson, Miss Emily Young, Miss May Clark, Messrs. R. Maitland, and F. C. Spooner in cabin; and 431 Chinese in steerage.

Per German steamer *Electra*, for Kobe:—Mr. H. Busch and servant, and Mr. Oestmann in cabin. For Hamburg: Captain and Mrs. Frahm and child, and Miss Eyler in cabin. For Hongkong: 1 European and 9 Chinese in steerage.

Per British steamer *Arabic*, for Hongkong:—Miss B. Emerson, Miss Emily Young, Miss May Clark, Messrs. R. Maitland, and E. C. Spooner in cabin; and 431 Chinese in steerage.

Per British steamer *Arabic*, for Hongkong via Kobe and Nagasaki:—Mr. and Mrs. Abell, child and servant, Messrs. C. Vercoe, F. S. Morse, J. Taylor, Shin Tuck Deng and servant, and P. W. Lon and servant in cabin; and 4 Chinese and 12 Japanese in steerage.

DEPARTED.

Per French steamer *Mensaleh*, for Hongkong:—Messrs. F. C. Rosenberg, John Steward, Georges Nicol, Dawson, Schutz, Albert E. Domballe, Archibald Sinclair, S. Sakamizu, S. Ishimoto, Otomo, Rin, Matsui, A. Sut, A. Mow, A. Yuen, and A. Chong in cabin; and 25 Malays in steerage.

Per American steamer *City of Tokio*, for San Francisco:—Mr. M. J. Koch, Rev. T. J. Masters, wife and 3 children, Mr. H. Andersen, Mr. Channing Verbeck, Mr. Gustave Verbeck, and Mr. Guido Verbeck in cabin; and 12 Europeans and 129 Chinese in steerage. For New York: Mr. W. R. Dunn, Mr. F. Hellyer, Mr. D. N. Denny and wife, Mrs. B. O. Scott and infant, and Mr. A. F. Thompson in cabin. For Paris: Mr. A. Pelikan, wife and 2 children in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Hiroshima Maru*, for Shanghai and ports:—H. E. Vice-Minister Kawase and 3 Secretaries, Governor Yamada, Governor Sakai, Governor Morioka, Major-General Konishi and child, Major-General Yamaji, Colonel Sato, Colonel Satake, Colonel Yamaguchi, Lieutenant Nuguma, Mr. and Mrs. Fujioka, Mr. and Mrs. Sakata, Mrs. Hellyer and child, Mrs. Kokushi, Mrs. Iwafuji, Messrs. W. Turnbull, D. B. Fearing, Fenolessa, Bigelow, P. Jaudon, N. Schleser, Ono, Nakano, Nagamada, Tanabe, Haraguchi, Fujita, Oga, Hayashi, Kitakaye, Horiuchi, Matsumoto, and Shaku in cabin.

CARGOES.

Per French steamer *Mensaleh*, for Hongkong:—Silk, for France, 777 bales; for England, 307 bales; for Switzerland, 33 bales; Total, 1,117 bales.

Per Japanese steamer *Hiroshima Maru*, from Shanghai and ports:—Treasure, \$8,690.00.

Per American steamer *City of Tokio*, for San Francisco:—

| | TEA. | | | |
|----------|----------------|-----------|---------------|--------|
| | SAN FRANCISCO. | NEW YORK. | OTHER CITIES. | TOTAL. |
| Hongkong | 330 | 217 | 195 | 742 |
| Shanghai | 374 | 755 | 694 | 1,779 |
| Hiogo | 684 | 55 | 1,315 | 2,054 |
| Yokohama | 5,084 | 142 | 449 | 5,675 |
| Total | 4,372 | 1,172 | 2,650 | 8,194 |

| | SILK. | | | |
|----------|----------------|-----------|---------------|--------|
| | SAN FRANCISCO. | NEW YORK. | OTHER CITIES. | TOTAL. |
| Hongkong | — | 162 | — | 162 |
| Shanghai | — | 174 | — | 174 |
| Yokohama | — | 159 | — | 159 |
| Total | — | 495 | — | 495 |

Per British steamer *Zambesi*, for Hongkong via Kobe and Nagasaki:—Silk for France, 200 bales; for London, 75 bales; Total, 275 bales.

REPORTS.

The Japanese steamer *Takasago Maru*, Captain John C. Young reports leaving Kobe on the 25th December, at 5 p.m. with fresh to moderate W. and N.W. winds and fine clear weather throughout the whole voyage. Arrived at Yokohama on the 27th December, at 2.15 a.m. Passage, 331 hours.

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

During the past week there is no improvement to note in Yarns and Shirtings, and business continues on but a small scale, and prices weak. Piece Goods generally are fairly enquired for, and Velvets, with small Stocks, show a further advance. All Metals are quiet, and prices easier.

COTTON YARNS.

| | PER PICUL. |
|---------------------------------|------------------|
| Nos. 16 to 24, Common to Medium | \$24.50 to 27.50 |
| Nos. 16 to 24, Good to Best | 28.25 to 29.25 |
| Bombay, No. 20, Good to Best | 25.00 to 27.00 |
| Nos. 28 to 32, Common to Medium | 29.00 to 30.00 |
| Nos. 28 to 32, Good to Best | 31.00 to 33.25 |
| Nos. 38 to 42 | 34.00 to 36.00 |

COTTON PIECE GOODS.

| | PER PICUL. |
|----------------------------------------------|----------------|
| Grey Shirtings—8½ lb, 38½ to 39 inches | \$1.70 to 2.15 |
| Grey Shirtings—9 lb, 38½ to 45 inches | 1.35 to 2.30 |
| T. Cloth—7 lb, 24 yards, 32 inches | 1.35 to 1.45 |
| Indigo Shirting—12 yards, 44 inches | 1.50 to 1.75 |
| Prints—Assorted, 24 yards, 30 inches | 1.10 to 2.40 |
| Cotton—Italians and Sateens Black, 32 inches | 0.07 to 0.09 |
| Turkey Reds—2 to 2½ lb, 24 yards, 30 inches | 1.15 to 1.45 |
| Turkey Reds—2½ to 3 lb, 24 yards, 30 inches | 1.45 to 1.60 |
| Turkey Reds—3½ lb, 24 yards, 30 inches | 1.70 to 1.85 |
| Velvets—Black, 35 yards, 22 inches | 6.50 to 7.25 |
| Victoria Lawns, 12 yards, 45 inches | 0.60 to 0.70 |
| Taffelaches, 12 yards, 43 inches | 1.75 to 2.05 |

WOOLLENS.

| | PER PICUL. |
|--------------------------------------------------|----------------|
| Plain Orleans, 40-42 yards, 32 inches | \$3.50 to 5.25 |
| Figured Orleans, 20-31 yards, 31 inches | 3.25 to 4.00 |
| Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches | 0.18 to 0.25 |
| Mousseline de Laine—Crape, 24 yards, 31 inches | 0.14½ to 0.16 |
| Mousseline de Laine—Itajine, 24 yards, 31 inches | 0.18½ to 0.25 |
| Mousseline de Laine—Yuzen, 24 yards, 31 inches | 0.30 to 0.35½ |
| Cloths—Volets, 54 & 56 inches | 0.30 to 0.40 |
| Cloths—Presidents, 54 & 56 inches | 0.40 to 0.50 |
| Cloths—Union, 54 & 56 inches | 0.30 to 0.55 |
| Blankets—Scarlet and Green, 6 to 5 lb, per lb | 0.35 to 0.40 |

IRON.

| | PER PICUL. |
|-------------------------------|----------------|
| Flat Bars, 1 inch | \$2.50 to 2.85 |
| Flat Bars, 1 inch | 2.80 to 2.90 |
| Round and square up to 1 inch | 2.80 to 2.90 |
| Nailrod, assorted | 2.35 to 2.60 |
| Nailrod, small size | 2.85 to 3.15 |

KEPOSENE.

The only sale reported during the past week has been one of 15,000 cases Stella at \$1.55. The Market remains firm at previous quotations, but dealers are too timid to operate at the advance. Deliveries during the week have been 22,000 cases. The Iceberg has arrived with 40,200 cases, making present Stocks some 692,000 cases sold and unsold Oil, after deducting the cargo per Ben Nevis which has been re-exported to Nagasaki.

| | PER PICUL. |
|--------|------------|
| Devos | \$1.72 |
| Comet | 1.69 |
| Stella | 1.55 |

SUGAR.

No change in the situation as last reported—business nil, prices nominal.

| | PER PICUL. |
|---------------|----------------|
| White, No. 1 | \$8.00 to 8.35 |
| White, No. 2 | 6.75 to 7.00 |
| White, No. 3 | 6.30 to 6.50 |
| White, No. 4 | 5.80 to 6.00 |
| White, No. 5 | 4.60 to 4.75 |
| Brown Formosa | 4.75 to 4.30 |

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

Since our last issue of this day week the usual Christmas holidays have intervened, and the amount of business passing has been restricted. Settlements are returned as 300 piculs, and the last two days have witnessed more enquiry especially for Filature kinds. The *Mensaleh*, which left here on the morning of the 22nd, took a shipment of 1,117 bales, of these 307 were for England and 810 for Continental ports. (A good portion of this cargo was on native account). The P.M. steamer *City*

of Tokio, which sailed 2 p.m. instant, took the small quantity of 159 bales, all for New York.

Prices are, on the whole, well maintained for all descriptions: occasionally a small parcel may be picked up at an advantageous price, the seller wanting money for the end of the year: but, as a rule, holders are strong in their determination to wait until after the New Year holidays. Arrivals have come in rather more freely, and Stocks are now about 4,100 piculs of all descriptions.

Hanks.—There has been something done in these at last week's prices, but the total amount settled is but small. Stocks are again heavier, and Japanese seem inclined to be conservative in their ideas, looking for more business after the turn of the year. We notice sales of Good Medium Joshi at \$470 to 472½, with good Hachoji at \$450.

Filatures.—At the beginning of the week good chops were much enquired for, and the scarcity of these caused but little business to be done. The U.S. mail took but 159 bales, including Filatures, Re-reels, and Kakedas. Recently there has been more disposition to operate in such qualities as are to be found in Stock, and some considerable parcels have been sent into godown for inspection. Among the reported sales we observe Nihonmatsu, \$635; Rokosha, \$615; Nanshinsha, \$610; Kaimeshu, \$600; with other good Shinshu sorts at \$595 to \$590. Medium Koshu and Mino filatures have been done at \$570 to \$580 according to quality.

Re-reels.—But little actually done in these, a small parcel "Five Girl" is reported settled at \$575. For good Medium Shinshu re-reels \$550 to \$560 is wanted, while *Yechigo* have been bought at \$550 and common *Zaguri* down to \$520.

Kakedas.—More business in these than for some time past: a good delivery of "Sano-musume" has been sent in at \$605, \$570, and \$530, respectively for firsts, seconds, and thirds. The chief demand has again run on sorts costing \$530 to \$540; several buyers are in the Market for these descriptions, and for the moment desirable parcels are scarce. The higher grades are still neglected, and prices given below for anything above No. 2 are more or less nominal.

Oshu.—Small daily doings in Sendai and Hamatsuki without any material change in quotations. The available Stock is very small, and but moderate supplies are expected for the present. Best Sendai still commands \$500.

Taysam Kinds.—Small purchases continue to be made on basis of *Nagahawa*, \$390; *Nambu*, \$385. Of *Sodai* kinds no Stock at present.

QUOTATIONS.

| | \$500 to 510 |
|--------------------------------|--------------|
| Hanks—No. 1 | 490 to 500 |
| Hanks—No. 2 (Shinshu) | 450 to 460 |
| Hanks—No. 2 (Joshi) | 475 to 485 |
| Hanks—No. 2 (Shinshu) | 465 to 475 |
| Hanks—No. 2 (Joshi) | 450 to 460 |
| Hanks—No. 3 | 430 to 440 |
| Hanks—No. 3½ | 620 to 630 |
| Filatures—Extra | 600 to 610 |
| Filatures—No. 1, 10/13 deniers | 600 to 610 |
| Filatures—No. 1, 14/16 deniers | 580 to 590 |
| Filatures—No. 1, 14/17 deniers | 580 to 590 |
| Filatures—No. 2, 10/13 deniers | 570 to 580 |
| Filatures—No. 2, 14/18 deniers | 540 to 550 |
| Filatures—No. 3, 14/20 deniers | 540 to 550 |
| Re-reels—No. 1, 14/16 deniers | 580 to 590 |
| Re-reels—No. 1, 14/17 deniers | 565 to 575 |
| Re-reels—No. 2, 14/18 deniers | 535 to 545 |
| Re-reels—No. 3, 14/20 deniers | 530 to 540 |
| Kakedas—Extra | 605 nominal |
| Kakedas—No. 1 | 585 to 595 |
| Kakedas—No. 2 | 535 to 545 |
| Kakedas—No. 3 | 510 to 520 |
| Oshu Sendai—No. 2½ | 465 to 475 |
| Hamatsuki—No. 1, 2 | 470 to 480 |
| Sodai—No. 2½ | 400 to 410 |

Export Tables Raw Silk to 28th Dec., 1883:—

| | SALES 1883-84. | 1882-83. | 1881-82. |
|------------------|----------------|----------|----------|
| | PICULS. | PICULS. | PICULS. |
| France and Italy | 14,762 | 9,433 | 4,143 |
| America | 6,856 | 5,515 | 2,674 |
| England | 2,311 | 2,819 | 1,948 |
| Total | 23,929 | 17,767 | 8,765 |

WASTE SILK.

In spite of the holiday season, there has been a fair daily business in Waste; Settlements for the seven days reaching fully 600 piculs. Best *Noshi* and *Kibiso* are still wanted, the Market has been almost cleared of *Mawata*; and even Medium to low *Kibiso* has had its turn at last. Arrivals from the country have not kept pace with Settlements, and the Stock list shows a falling-off both in quality and quantity.

Pierced Cocoons.—There has been absolutely no movement in these beyond the arrival of a few piculs Medium to Fair from the interior: at present these have not been sampled, and no sales have been made during the week. Further supplies are not expected in any quantity, although the Export to date is far below that of last season.

Noshi-ito.—Again the chief business has been in *Joshi* assorted, at from \$82½ to \$85 per picul. Some fine *Joshi* at \$107½, with Filature at \$130, and good *Bushu* at \$105, complete the list.

Kibiso.—More than half the total Settlements have been in this class, and the purchases made range from Filature kinds at \$115, down to *Hachoji* \$21, and *Neri* at \$12. Low grade Wastes have been rather freely dealt in at \$30 to \$40 for ordinary *Joshi*.

Mawata.—The run has continued and the Market is nearly cleared. The top price paid for some *Oshu* district, extra quality, has been \$195, tailing off to \$175 according to grade.

QUOTATIONS.

| | \$90 to 100 |
|--------------------------------|-------------|
| Pierced Cocoons—Medium to Fair | 150 |
| Noshi-ito—Filature, Best | 130 |
| Noshi-ito—Filature, Good | 110 |
| Noshi-ito—Filature, Medium | 140 to 145 |
| Noshi-ito—Oshu, Good to Best | 110 |
| Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Best | 100 |
| Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Good | 90 |
| Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Medium | 100 to 105 |
| Noshi-ito—Joshi, Best | 87½ |
| Noshi-ito—Joshi, Good | 75 |
| Noshi-ito—Joshi, Ordinary | 115 to 120 |
| Kibiso—Filature, Best selected | 110 to 105 |
| Kibiso—Filature, Seconds | 95 to 90 |
| Kibiso—Oshu, Good | 70 |
| Kibiso—Shinshu, Best | 50 to 60 |
| Kibiso—Shinshu, Seconds | 50 to 30 |
| Kibiso—Joshi, Fair to Common | 20 to 15 |
| Kibiso—Hachoji, Medium to Low | 20 to 12½ |
| Kibiso—Neri, Good to Common | 170 to 180 |
| Mawata—Good to Best | |

Export Table Waste Silk to 28th Dec., 1883:—

| | SALES 1883-84. | 1882-83. | 1881-82. |
|-----------------|----------------|----------|----------|
| | PICULS. | PICULS. | PICULS. |
| Waste Silk | 13,941 | 11,858 | 8,952 |
| Pierced Cocoons | 1,933 | 3,065 | 2,500 |
| | 15,874 | 14,923 | 11,512 |

Exchange.—Rates have not fluctuated much since the 21st instant. Banks have been closed during the holidays, and quotations may be called: London 4 m/s., Credits, 3/8; Documents, 3/9½; New York 30 d/s., 91½; 60 d/s., 92½; Paris 6 m/s., fcs. 4.83. *Kinsatsu* have been steadily maintained on the same level, and close at 109½ to 110 per \$100.

Estimated Silk Stock 28th Dec., 1883:—

| | RAW. | PICULS. | WASTE. | PICULS. |
|---------------------|-------|---------|-----------------|---------|
| Hanks | 2,000 | | Pierced Cocoons | 70 |
| Filature & Re-reels | 1,200 | | Noshi-ito | 250 |
| Kakeda | 500 | | Kibiso | 510 |
| Sendai & Hamatsuki | 300 | | Mawata | 70 |
| Taysam Kinds | 100 | | | |
| Total piculs | 4,100 | | Total piculs | 900 |

TEA.

The business since our last report has been so trifling that but little remarks upon our Tea Market. The aggregate Settlements reach only about 385 piculs, the bulk of which comprise Teas grading from Fine to Finest kinds, while Medium and Good Medium sorts have been almost neglected. The Market closes quiet, and quotations remain nominally as before. The *City* of Tokio, sailed for San Francisco on the 24th instant, took 144,711 lbs. Tea from Yokohama, viz.:—For New York, 5,008 lbs.; for Chicago, 2,120 lbs.; for California, 115,563 lbs.; and for Canada 22,020 lbs.

QUOTATIONS.

| | \$10 & under |
|-------------|--------------|
| Common | 12 to 14 |
| Good Common | 16 to 18 |
| Medium | 19 to 21 |
| Good Medium | Nominal |
| Fine | |

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